

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the application of Branson Cedars)
Resort Utility Company LLC for Certificates of) File No. WA-2015-0049
Convenience and Necessity Related to Water and)
Sewer Systems.)

**BRANSON CEDARS RESORT UTILITY COMPANY, LLC'S
RESPONSE TO STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION**

COMES NOW Branson Cedars Resort Utility Company, LLC, by and through undersigned counsel, and for its Response to Staff's Recommendation in which it approves the Staff's recommendation of March 31, 2015, states as follows:

1. On August 15, 2014, The Tranquility Group, LLC d/b/a Branson Cedars Resort (Tranquility) filed Applications with the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) requesting that the Commission grant Tranquility a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) to own, operate, control, manage and maintain water and sewer systems in Taney County, Missouri, and such Applications were refiled with the Commission on or about August 21, 2014 by legal counsel for Tranquility per the Commission's Order.

2. On October 29, 2014, Tranquility filed its First-Amended Applications substituting Branson Cedars Resort Utility Company LLC as the entity requesting a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) to own, operate, control, manage and maintain water and sewer systems in Taney County, Missouri.

3. On November 6, 2015, the Applications, originally denoted under File No. WA-2015- 0049 and. File No. SA-2015-0107, were consolidated under File No. WA-20015-0049 for future consideration by the Commission.

4. On March 31, 2015, the Staff of the Public Service Commission (Staff) filed its Recommendation requesting that the Commission issue an Order granting Branson Cedars Resort Utility's CCN request subject to the conditions contained in Appendix A - Official Case File Memorandum, attached to Staff's Recommendation.

5. On April 1, 2015, the Commission issued its Order Directing Filing requiring each party other than Staff to file a response to the Staff Recommendation no later than April 13, 2015.

6. On April 13, 2015 Branson Cedars Resort Utility Company, LLC submitted a response supporting Staff's recommendation and disagreeing with the Office of Public Counsel's objections.

7. On April 30, 2015 a prehearing conference was held to discuss the parties' positions regarding the CCN.

8. On June 5, 2015 Staff submitted a Status Report informing the Commissioner of the status and disposition of the case.

9. On August 3, 2015, Staff filed its Revised Recommendation requesting the that Commission issue an Order granting Branson Cedars Resort Utility's CCN request subject to the revised conditions contained in Appendix A - Official Case File Memorandum, attached to Staff's Recommendation.

10. On August 4, 2015, the Commission issued its Order Directing Filing requiring each party other than Staff to file a response to the Staff Revised Recommendation no later than August 14, 2015.

11. Staff's modifications to its original Recommendation are based on updated information that affects revenue and water rate design.

12. Branson Cedars Resort Utility accepts Staff's Revised Recommendation that the Commission approve monthly residential flat rates of \$56.29 for water service and \$48.26

for sewer service, which results in monthly bills of \$104.55 combined for water service and sewer service, as Branson Cedars Resort Utility agrees that the proposed rate for water service and sewer service in the area is acceptable and reasonable.

13. Branson Cedars Resort Utility accepts Staff's Revised Recommendation that the Commission approve service charges to include a \$5.00 optional late charge applicable to either a water bill or combined water and sewer bill, a \$25 trip charge for turn-on, turn-off, or service/investigative work undertaken by Branson Cedars Resort Utility, and actual cost of emergency or requested repair work to a customer-owned sewer STEP unit undertaken by Branson Cedars Resort Utility or a contractor hired by Branson Cedars Resort Utility.

14. Branson Cedars Resort Utility accepts Staff's Revised Recommendation that the Commission require Branson Cedars Resort Utility to install a master meter on each of its two wells, and water meters for all of the commercial customers, within six (6) months after the effective date of an order approving a CCN, read the meters monthly, retain meter plant records, and maintain meter read records for each metered customer.

15. Branson Cedars Resort Utility accepts Staff's Revised Recommendation that the Commission require Branson Cedars Resort Utility to submit new complete tariffs for water service and sewer service, as 30-day filings, within 20 days after the effective date of an order approving a CCN.

16. Branson Cedars Resort Utility accepts Staff's Revised Recommendation that the Commission authorizes Branson Cedars Resort Utility to utilize and apply water and sewer depreciation rates as included with Staff's recommendation of March 31, 2015.

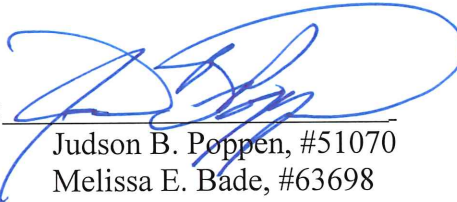
17. Branson Cedars Resort Utility accepts Staff's Revised Recommendation that the Commission require Branson Cedars Resort Utility to keep its financial books and records for plant-in-service and operating expenses in accordance with the NARUC Uniform System of

Accounts.

18. Branson Cedars Resort Utility accepts Staff's Revised Recommendation that the Commission require Branson Cedars Resort Utility to keep operations records including those for customer complaints/inquiries, vehicle, equipment and telephone use records, maintenance activity, service calls and customer account records.

WHEREFORE, Branson Cedars Resort Utility Company, LLC respectfully submits this Response to Staff's Recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted,

By: 
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ATTORNEYS FOR BRANSON CEDARS
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, emailed or hand-delivered to the following this 11th day of August 2015:

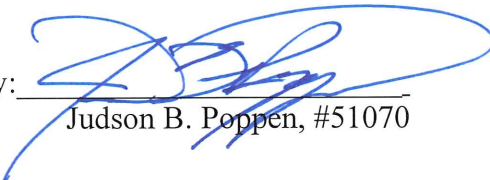
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