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

In the Matter of the Application of Confluence Rivers Utility Operating Company, Inc., for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity and to Acquire Certain Sewer Assets in Cass	) ) )	File No. SA-2023-0187
County, Missouri	)	

## RESPONSE TO STAFF RECOMMENDATION

**COMES NOW** Confluence Rivers Utility Operating Company, Inc. ("Confluence Rivers"), and for its *Response to Staff Recommendation* states as follows to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"):

- 1. On December 6, 2022, Confluence Rivers filed an *Application and Motion for Waiver* ("*Application*") requesting permission, approval, and a certificate of convenience and necessity ("CCN") to install, own, acquire, construct, operate, control, manage, and maintain the currently unregulated sewer system of Oasis MHP, LLC ("Oasis") in Cass County, Missouri.
- 2. On December 7, 2022, the Commission issued its *Order Directing Notice, Setting Deadline For Intervention Requests, And Directing Filing Of Staff Recommendation* that directed Staff to file its recommendation regarding the *Application*, or a request for additional time to file a recommendation, no later than January 9, 2023.
- 3. On January 9, 2023, Staff filed a *Request For Additional Time To File A Recommendation* and requested an additional sixty days, until March 10, 2023, to file a recommendation.
- 4. On January 9, 2023, the Commission issued its *Order Granting Request For Additional Time* and ordered Staff to file its recommendation no later than March 10, 2023.
  - 5. On March 10, 2023, Staff filed its Staff Recommendation and supporting

Memorandum finding that the issuance of a CCN to Confluence Rivers is necessary or convenient for the public service, and recommended the Commission grant Confluence Rivers' Application, authorize Confluence Rivers to acquire the unregulated Oasis sewer system assets, and grant Confluence Rivers a CCN to operate the sewer system assets, subject to the conditions described in Staff's Memorandum. Staff also stated it does not oppose a waiver of Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1).

6. Confluence Rivers has reviewed the proposed conditions listed on pages seven (7) and eight (8) of Staff's *Memorandum* and states that it has no objection to the proposed conditions.

**WHEREFORE**, Confluence Rivers requests the Commission issue an order approving Confluence Rivers' *Application* and granting Confluence Rivers a CCN as recommended in Staff's *Memorandum*, granting a waiver of Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1), and for such other and further relief as deemed appropriate in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

## /s/ Jennifer L. Hernandez

Dean L. Cooper, MBE #36592 Jennifer L. Hernandez, MBE #59814

BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND P.C.

312 East Capitol Avenue

P.O. Box 456

Jefferson City, MO 65102-0456

Telephone: (573) 635-7166 Facsimile: (573) 635-0427

<u>dcooper@brydonlaw.com</u> jhernandez@brydonlaw.com

David L. Woodsmall, MBE #40747 **CENTRAL STATES WATER RESOURCES** 1630 Des Peres Rd., Suite 140 Des Peres, MO 63131

dwoodsmall@cswrgroup.com

ATTORNEYS FOR CONFLUENCE RIVERS UTILITY OPERATING COMPANY, INC.

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been sent by electronic mail this 15<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023 to all counsel of record.

/s/ Jennifer L. Hernandez