

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

In the Matter of the Application of )  
Confluence Rivers Utility Operating )  
Company, Inc., to Acquire Certain Water ) **File No. WM-2020-0403**  
and Sewer Assets of Terre Du Lac Utilities )  
Corporation )

**STAFF’S RESPONSE TO NOTICE**

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Staff”) and, in response to the Commission’s *Order to File Proposed Local Public Hearing Schedule, Setting Procedural Conference, and Order for Filing*, states as follows:

1. On September 30, 2020, the Commission issued its *Order to File Proposed Local Public Hearing Schedule, Setting Procedural Conference, and Order for Filing*. In that Order, the Commission directed both Staff and the Office of the Public Counsel (“OPC”) to file replies to Confluence Rivers Utility Operating Company, Inc.’s (“Confluence Rivers”) notice response no later than October 7, 2020. Staff’s reply to Confluence Rivers’ notice is as follows:

a. In its *Staff Recommendation* filed in this docket on September 18, 2020, Staff noted that, based on discovery responses from Confluence Rivers, it was Staff’s understanding that, at the time of the filing of its Recommendation that there had been no notifications or meeting held to inform the customers of Terre Du Lac Utilities Corporation (“TDLU”) of the pending case. Staff would clarify that this language was meant to indicate that it was unaware of any notification or meetings held by Confluence Rivers. That being said, in its September 28, 2020, *Response to Order Directing Responses to Request for Notice and*

*Request for Public Hearing*, Confluence Rivers stated that, on August 12, 2020, it sent a customer letter to the current customers of TDLU providing them with notice of the joint application filed with the Commission and the proposed acquisition of the TDLU water and sewer systems by Confluence Rivers. The customer letter was attached to Confluence Rivers' response as Appendix A.

- b. Staff has reviewed the customer letter sent to the TDLU customers, and finds that the letter sufficiently notified TDLU customers of this pending action, and properly informed those customers of the process for the provision of comments to the Commission Staff and the OPC.
- c. Staff notes, however, that once a Virtual Public Hearing has been scheduled in this matter, Confluence Rivers will need to provide additional notice of the time and date of such a hearing, along with instructions detailing how interested members of the public may participate in the hearing.

**WHEREFORE**, Staff respectfully submits its *Response to Notice* for the Commission's information and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ Mark Johnson**

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**Attorney for the Staff of the  
Missouri Public Service Commission**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile, or electronically mailed to all parties and/or counsel of record on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020.

**/s/ Mark Johnson**