

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

In the Matter of the Joint Application of Confluence)
Rivers Utility Operating Company, Inc.; Hillcrest)
Utility Operating Company, Inc.; Elm Hills Utility) **Case Nos. WM-2021-0412**
Operating Company, Inc.; Osage Utility Operating)
Company, Inc.; Raccoon Creek Utility Operating)
Company, Inc.; and Indian Hills Utility Operating)
Company, Inc. for Approval of a Merger Whereby)
Confluence Rivers Will Be the Surviving)
Corporation, and of Related Transactions.)

In the Matter of the Joint Application of Confluence)
Rivers Utility Operating Company, Inc.; Hillcrest)
Utility Operating Company, Inc.; Elm Hills Utility) **Case Nos. SM-2021-0413**
Operating Company, Inc.; Osage Utility Operating)
Company, Inc.; Raccoon Creek Utility Operating)
Company, Inc.; and Indian Hills Utility Operating)
Company, Inc. for Approval of a Merger Whereby)
Confluence Rivers Will Be the Surviving)
Corporation and of Related Transactions.)

RECOMMENDED DATE OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Staff”) and for its *Recommended Date of Staff Recommendation*, respectfully states:

1. Confluence Rivers Utility Operating Company, Inc., Hillcrest Utility Operating Company, Inc., Elm Hills Utility Operating Company, Inc., Osage Utility Operating Company, Inc., Raccoon Creek Utility Operating Company, Inc., and Indian Hills Utility Operating Company, Inc. filed a *Joint Application and Motion for Waiver* seeking to merge certain water and sewer assets of the above-referenced entities. The Commission ordered Staff to file a pleading no later than July 16, 2021, suggesting a date by which to file its recommendation in the matter.

2. Staff is in the process of conducting a full investigation of the *Application* filed by the entities, and will compile its filings into a Staff recommendation. Staff suggests that this recommendation should be filed no later than September 14, 2021. This will permit Staff to conduct a full investigation and multiple rounds of discovery as necessary.

WHEREFORE, Staff prays that the Commission will accept this *Recommended Date of Staff Recommendation*; order Staff to file its recommendation no later than September 14, 2021; and grant such further and other relief as is just in the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Whitney Payne

Whitney Payne

Senior Counsel

Missouri Bar No. 64078

Attorney for the Staff of the

Missouri Public Service Commission

P. O. Box 360

Jefferson City, MO 65102

(573) 751-8706 (Telephone)

(573) 751-9285 (Fax)

whitney.payne@psc.mo.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by electronic mail, or First Class United States Postal Mail, postage prepaid, on this 16th day of July, 2021, to all counsel of record.

/s/ Whitney Payne