BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of the Branson Cedars Resort Utility Company LLC, for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity Authorizing it to Own, Operate, Maintain, Control and Manage Water and Sewer Systems in Taney Co. MO

File No. WA-2015-0049

MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, and hereby moves the Commission for an Order granting an Extension of Time to file its Staff Recommendation in consolidated WA-2015-0049 to March 6, 2015. For its motion for an extension of time, Staff respectfully states as follows to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"):

1. On August 15, 2014 the Applicant filed an application for a certificate of convenience and necessity to operate a water utility in case no. WA-2015-0049. Subsequently, the Commission directed the Applicant to file an amended application to include a licensed attorney to represent the limited liability company. The amended application was submitted on August 21, 2014. On August 22, 2014, the Commission issued its *Order Directing Notice and Setting Date for Submission of Intervention Requests.* On December 17, 2014, Branson Cedars, Inc., sought intervention into the case, which the Commission granted. On October 29, 2014, Applicant filed its *First-Amended Application* with the Commission, correcting the entity name to list the name of the LLC which will actually operate the water utility and therefore hold the certificate of convenience and necessity.

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2. By order dated September 16, 2014, the Commission directed Staff to file a recommendation in WA-2015-0049 by October 14, 2014. Staff requested its first extension of time to file its recommendation to November 14, 2014, in anticipation and expectation that the Applicant would be filing a parallel application for a certificate of convenience and necessity to operate a sewer utility in the same location. That extension was granted by the Commission on September 30, 2014.

3. On October 29, 2014, the Applicant filed its application for sewer service in case number SA-2015-0107.

4. On November 6, 2014, the Commission consolidated the water and sewer applications into WA-2015-0049 and granted an extension of time for Staff to file its recommendation until February 2, 2015, consistent with the sewer application filing.

5. Staff is asking the Commission to grant a third extension of time until February 27, 2015, in which to file Staff's recommendation in consolidated case no. WA-2015-0049.

6. This request comes after Staff learned from company's legal counsel on January 26, 2015, that, after diligent attempts by the Applicant to obtain original plant-inservice documentation, that original documentation and cost information cannot be provided by the Applicant. Applicant had made several attempts to obtain the original records from the prior owner of the system only to encounter numerous delays and, finally, was informed by the prior owner that the documents could not be provided as they had been destroyed. Applicant had notified Staff that it was diligently working on trying to obtain records, and Staff relied on the Applicant's assertion that it would be able to obtain the records in order to appropriately calculate rate base. Staff is requesting this third extension because, having finally discovered that the original cost records no longer exist,

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Staff will have to estimate rate base.

7. Staff has approached Applicant's counsel, counsel for the Interveners and Office of the Public Counsel and none of them has an objection to this request for an additional extension of time.

WHEREFORE, Staff respectfully requests that the Commission grant an extension of time until March 6, 2015, for Staff to file its recommendation in consolidated WA-2015-0049.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/s/ Cydney D. Mayfield</u>

Cydney D. Mayfield Missouri Bar Number 57569 Senior Counsel

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served, either electronically or by First Class United States Mail, postage prepaid, to all counsel of record this **28th day of January, 2015.**

/s/ Cydney D. Mayfield