

**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)
Authorizing it to Provide Water Service In an Area)
of Pulaski County, Missouri (Leon Travis Blevins)
a/k/a Travis Blevins and Patricia Blevins, d/b/a)
Misty Mountain PWS a/k/a Misty Water Works,)
Charity PWS, and Rolling Hills PWS))

File No. WA-2026-0054

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Public Service Commission Staff (“Staff”), by and through counsel, and recommends that the Commission grant to Confluence Rivers Utility Operating Company (“Confluence” or the “Company”) a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (“CCN”) to provide regulated water services in an area of Pulaski County, Missouri (Leon Travis Blevins a/k/a Travis Blevins and Patricia Blevins, d/b/a Misty Mountain PWS a/k/a Misty Water Works, Charity PWS, and Rolling Hills PWS) (“Blevins systems”). In support of this *Recommendation*, Staff states as follows:

1. On August 29, 2025, Confluence filed its *Application and Motion for Waiver* (“Application”) seeking a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (“CCN”) for authority to acquire the Rolling Hills and Charity water systems assets of the currently unregulated Blevin’s systems located in an area of Pulaski County, Missouri.

2. On September 2, 2025, the Commission issued its *Order Directing Notice, Setting Deadline for Intervention Requests, and Directing Filing of Staff Recommendation*, setting an intervention deadline of September 17, 2025, and ordering Staff to file its recommendation regarding Confluence’s Application no later than October 20, 2025. No intervention requests were received.

3. Pursuant to § 393.170.2, RSMo, no water or sewer corporation shall provide service to consumers without first having obtained approval from the Commission. In determining whether or not to grant such approval, the Commission has traditionally applied the following five “Tartan Criteria” established in *In the Matter of Tartan Energy Company, et al.*, 3 Mo. PSC 3d 173, 177 (1994): (1) there must be a need for the service; (2) the applicant must be qualified to provide the service; (3) the applicant must have the financial ability to provide service; (4) the applicant’s proposal must be economically feasible; and (5) the service must promote the public interest.

4. As explained in the Staff *Memorandum*, attached hereto as Appendix A, Staff conducted an investigation into Confluence’s request. Based upon its review, Staff concludes that Confluence fulfills the requirements of the Tartan Criteria.

5. Accordingly, Staff recommends approval granting the CCN, with conditions described in the Staff *Memorandum*, as granting the requested CCN would be necessary and convenient for the public service.

6. The Commission need not hold a hearing if, after proper notice and opportunity to intervene, no party requests such a hearing. *State ex rel. Rex Deffenderfer Enterprises, Inc. v. Public Service Commission*, 776 S.W.2d 494 (Mo. App. W.D. 1989). No party or individual has requested a hearing, so the Commission need not hold a hearing to grant a CCN to the Company.

WHEREFORE, Staff respectfully submits this Staff Recommendation for the Commission’s information and consideration, and requests the Commission grant Confluence Rivers Utility Operating Company a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity, with conditions, to provide water service to the requested service area.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Carolyn H. Kerr

Missouri Bar Number 45718

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Missouri Public Service Commission

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 20th day of October, 2025, to all counsel of record.

/s/ Carolyn H. Kerr