

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE INVESTIGATION)	CASE NO. GNR-W-17-01
INTO WHETHER VP, INC. IS A PUBLIC)	
UTILITY SUBJECT TO REGULATION BY)	NOTICE OF INVESTIGATION
THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES)	
COMMISSION)	ORDER NO. 33929

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission has received inquiry regarding the regulatory status of VP, Inc., a private water and sewer company located near Sandpoint, Idaho. The Company has not been regulated by the Commission and does not possess a certificate of public convenience and necessity.

Initial inquiry led Staff to conclude that the Company may in fact be operating as a public utility subject to Commission regulation, and Staff requested the Commission open an investigation into the Company. *See* Idaho Code §§ 61-526, -527, -528. We find it reasonable to conduct an investigation pursuant to our statutory authority and jurisdiction under the Idaho Public Utilities Law, specifically Idaho Code §§ 61-612 and 61-501. The purpose of our investigation is to determine if VP, Inc. should be a regulated utility pursuant to Idaho Code and if any steps should be taken by the Company.

Staff investigation should include whether or not VP, Inc. is a public utility and should be issued a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, and what further steps, if any, the utility should take to comply with Idaho law.

We direct VP, Inc. to respond to discovery questions and inquiries made by Commission Staff. Once Staff completes its investigation, or at the appropriate time, it shall make a recommendation to the Commission regarding the Company's status, a requirement of a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, and any further recommendations regarding the adequacy of service, and rate setting.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Commission Staff shall conduct an investigation into the status of VP, Inc. At the appropriate time, Staff shall provide a recommendation to the Commission for further action, if any.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that VP, Inc. respond to Staff inquiries regarding compliance with Title 61 of the Idaho Code. VP, Inc. is directed to cooperate with the Commission Staff's investigation of this matter. Commission Staff is directed to issue production requests, written interrogatories or other forms of discovery as well as pursue its statutory right to examine and audit the records.

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 17th day of November 2017.



PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT



KRISTINE RAPER, COMMISSIONER



ERIC ANDERSON, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:



Diane M. Hanian
Commission Secretary

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