



Idaho Public Utilities Commission

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Brad Little, Governor

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John R. Hammond, Jr., Commissioner

Edward Lodge, Commissioner

Case No. GNR-W-24-01

Order No. 36312

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NEWS RELEASE: Commission determines northern Idaho water utility should be regulated.

BOISE (Sept. 10, 2024) – The Idaho Public Utilities Commission has determined a northern Idaho water utility is operating as a public utility and has directed it to work with commission staff to complete a process to become regulated.

Valiant Idaho, Inc. owns and operates a water supply and distribution system that serves customers in a development and golf club called the Idaho Club in the Bonner County, Idaho, area. Valiant Idaho obtained the water system assets, an undeveloped portion of the Idaho Club and land comprising the golf course in a 2016 sheriff sale.

Commission staff believed Valiant Idaho should be regulated under Title 61 of the Idaho Code and recommended the commission issue it a certificate of public convenience and necessity. In an order issued Sept. 6, Valiant Idaho was issued the certificate.

The determination that Valiant Idaho was operating as a public utility and the issuance of the certificate occurred after the commission's review of the record and the nature and manner of control exercised by Valiant Idaho in the operation and management of the water system. The commission found it reasonable to assert formal regulatory jurisdiction by finding that Valiant Idaho operates its water system as a public utility. Accordingly, the commission has jurisdiction over Valiant Idaho.

In addition to issuing the certificate of public convenience and necessity, the order directed Valiant Idaho to submit a full and accurate legal description of the company's service territory to ensure that Valiant Idaho does not overlap with that of another public utility, adopt the commission's Utility Customer Relations Rules and Utility Customer Information Rules. The order also directed Valiant Idaho to use an accounting system consistent with information required by the commission's annual report for small water companies. These companies submit their annual reports to the commission.

Valiant Idaho also is directed to submit information required under the Utility Customer Relations Rules for commission review and approval. This information includes a tariff, various customer notices and an annual rules summary.

The order also directs commission staff to open a separate docket to evaluate whether Valiant Idaho's rates are fair, just and reasonable.

Additional information is available at: puc.idaho.gov/case/Details/7301.