BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT APPLICATION OF SUEZ WATER IDAHO AND EAGLE WATER COMPANY FOR THE ACQUISITION OF EAGLE WATER COMPANY CASE NOS. SUZ-W-18-02 EAG-W-18-01 NOTICE OF APPLICATION NOTICE OF INTERVENTION DEADLINE ORDER NO. 34203

On November 15, 2018, Suez Water Idaho, and Eagle Water Company, Inc. (jointly, the "Applicants"), filed a Joint Application requesting that the Commission approve a proposed acquisition of Eagle Water by Suez.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that Suez Water is a public traded global water and wastewater company. Suez Water Idaho, formerly United Water, has been operating in the Treasure Valley since 1928. Suez is a public traded company based in Paris, France. The water company serves approximately 240,000 customers in the Boise area.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that Eagle Water is a privately held Idaho water company serving approximately 4,200 customers near Eagle, Idaho. Application at 2. Eagle Water holds Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 278. *Id*.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that a third entity, H2O Eagle Acquisition, a Wyoming LLC, is also involved in the pending Application. *Id.* According to the Applicants, H2O Eagle will purchase Eagle Water for an undisclosed amount. *Id.* at 3. Simultaneously, Suez will purchase Eagle Water from H2O Eagle for \$10 million. *Id.*

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Applicants state that, if approved by the Commission, Suez would take over all ownership and operations of the Eagle Water system. The Applicants state that Suez may or may not employ certain Eagle Water employees during the transition, or make them Suez employees. *Id.* at 3-4.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that Suez proposes a three-year rate adjustment period, to take place in a future rate proceeding, whereby Eagle Water customer rates would increase until they are in parity with Suez rates. *Id.* at 2-4. According to Suez, Eagle Water Residential customers would see an approximate monthly increase of \$6.44 in their billings in year one, an increase of \$9.40 in year two, and an increase of \$9.40 in year three. Cary Direct at 12. In other words, over the three-year period, Suez proposes to raise Eagle Water's existing rates by approximately 235% (204% increase for residential customers, and 303% increase for commercial customers). *Id.* at 12-13.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Applicants claim that, for Suez customers, the acquisition will provide access to water through existing Eagle Water wells—a cost avoidance for Suez of approximately \$11.7 million. Cooper Direct at 5-6.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Applicants claim that, for Eagle Water customers, the acquisition will provide capital improvements that will benefit those customers, including upgraded pipelines and new meters. *Id.* at 10-11.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Applicants request that the Commission approve an acquisition adjustment to Suez's rate base to be amortized over forty years equal to the asset purchase price and acquisition costs through closing of the purchase. Application at 7.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Applicants request that Eagle Water's CPCN and tariffs be cancelled, and that Suez's CPCN be amended to incorporate Eagle Water's certified service area and customers. *Id.* at 8.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the applicants request that this Application be processed by modified procedure. The Applicants do not request a specific effective date. *Id.*

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Application, supporting workpapers, testimonies, and exhibits have been filed with the Commission and are available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Commission offices. The Application and testimonies are also available on the Commission's web site at www.puc.idaho.gov. Click on the "File Room" tab at the top of the page, scroll down to "Water Cases," and then click on the case number as shown on the front of this document.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this case will be held pursuant to the Commission's jurisdiction under Title 61 of the Idaho Code. The Commission may enter any final Order consistent with its authority under Title 61. YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all proceedings in this matter will be conducted pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.000 *et seq.*

NOTICE OF INTERVENTION DEADLINE

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that **persons desiring to intervene** in this matter for the purpose of presenting evidence or cross-examining witnesses at hearing **must file a Petition to Intervene** with the Commission pursuant to this Commission's Rules of Procedure 72 and 73, IDAPA 31.01.01.072 and -.073. Persons intending to participate at the hearing must file a Petition to Intervene **no later than December 28, 2018**. Persons desiring to present their views without parties' rights of participation and cross-examination are not required to intervene and may present their comments without prior notification to the Commission or the parties.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission Secretary shall issue a Notice of Parties after the deadline for intervention has passed.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that once the Notice of Parties is issued, the Commission's Staff will convene an informal prehearing conference at the Commission's offices for the parties to discuss a schedule to process this case and other issues as may be raised by the parties.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the following persons are designated as party representatives in this matter:

For Suez:

Michael C. Creamer (ISB No. 4030) Givens Pursley LLP 601 W. Bannock St. Boise, Idaho 83702 mcc@givenspursley.com

Marshall Thompson Suez Water Idaho, Inc. 8248 W. Victory Rd. Boise, Idaho 83709 marshall.thompson@suez.com For Eagle Water:

Robert DeShazo Eagle Water Company, Inc. 188 W. State St. Eagle, Idaho 83616

For H2O Eagle Acquisition, LLC:

N.L. Bangle 188 W. State St. Eagle, Idaho 83716 nbangle@h2o-solutionsllc.net YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that all hearings and prehearing conferences in this matter will be held in facilities meeting the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Persons needing the help of a sign language interpreter or other assistance in order to participate in or to understand testimony and argument at a public hearing may ask the Commission to provide a sign language interpreter or other assistance at the hearing. The request for assistance must be received at least five (5) working days before the hearing by contacting the Commission Secretary at:

> IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION PO BOX 83720 BOISE, IDAHO 83720-0074 (208) 334-0338 (Telephone) (208) 334-3762 (FAX) E-mail: <u>secretary@puc.idaho.gov</u>

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that persons desiring to intervene in this matter shall file a Petition to Intervene with the Commission no later than December 28, 2018. After that, Staff shall convene an informal conference with the parties to discuss appropriate scheduling of this case going forward.

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DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 7th day of December 2018.

PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT

RAPER, COMMISSIONER KRISTI

ERIC ANDERSON, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST: nan

Diane M. Hanian Commission Secretary

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION NOTICE OF INTERVENTION DEADLINE ORDER NO. 34203