

**BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**IN THE MATTER OF GEM STATE WATER ) CASE NO. GSW-W-19-01**  
**COMPANY, LLC’S APPLICATION FOR )**  
**APPROVAL OF ACQUISITION OF THE ) NOTICE OF COMMENT**  
**ASSETS OF THE WATER BUSINESS OF ) DEADLINES**  
**HAPPY VALLEY WATER SYSTEM INC. )**  
**AND BITTERROOT WATER CO., INC. ) ORDER NO. 34579**  
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On November 18, 2019, Gem State Water Company, LLC (“Gem State Water” or “Company”) applied to the Commission for approval of its acquisition of the water business assets of Happy Valley Water System, Inc. (“Happy Valley”) and Bitterroot Water Co., Inc. (“Bitterroot”). The Company also asked for approval to transfer Happy Valley and Bitterroot’s certificates of public convenience and necessity to Gem State Water.

On December 27, 2019, the Commission issued a Notice of Application and a Notice of Modified Procedure, setting a February 19, 2020 comment deadline and a February 26, 2020 reply comment deadline. Commission Staff filed comments that supported the Company’s Application as being in the public interest. Gem State Water filed reply comments that concurred with Staff’s analysis and recommended the Commission approve the Application.

On March 4, 2020, the Commission deliberated on the fully submitted case. During the deliberation, the Commission noted Happy Valley and Bitterroot had not yet notified their customers about the proposed acquisitions. The Commission declined to issue a final order until the record reflected that the customers of Happy Valley and Bitterroot had been notified of the proposed acquisitions and been given an opportunity to comment on them.

On March 5, 2020, notice of the proposed acquisitions was mailed by Gem State Water to the customers of Happy Valley and Bitterroot.

**NOTICE OF COMMENT DEADLINES**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Application and other filings in this case are available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Commission’s office. These documents are also available on the Commission’s web site at [www.puc.idaho.gov](http://www.puc.idaho.gov). Click on the “WATER” icon, select “Open Cases,” and then click on the case number shown in the caption to this document.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that any person desiring to state a position on this Application **must file a written comment in support or opposition with the Commission by March 23, 2020.** The comment must contain a statement of reasons supporting the comment. Persons desiring a hearing must specifically request a hearing in their written comments. Written comments concerning this Application shall be mailed to the Commission and the Company at the addresses reflected below:

**For the Idaho Public Utilities  
Commission**

Commission Secretary  
Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

Street Address for Express Mail:

11331 W. Chinden Blvd.  
Building 8, Suite 201-A  
Boise, Idaho 83714

**For Gem State Water:**

Preston N. Carter  
Givens Pursley LLP  
601 W. Bannock St.  
Boise, ID 83702  
Email: [prestoncarter@givenspursley.com](mailto:prestoncarter@givenspursley.com)  
[charliebaser@givenspursley.com](mailto:charliebaser@givenspursley.com)  
[kendrah@givenspursley.com](mailto:kendrah@givenspursley.com)

Eric W. Nelsen  
Senior Regulatory Attorney  
NW Natural  
220 NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave.  
Portland, OR 97209  
Email: [Eric.Nelsen@nwnatural.com](mailto:Eric.Nelsen@nwnatural.com)

These comments should contain the case caption and case number shown on the first page of this document. Persons desiring to submit comments via email may do so by accessing the Commission's home page located at [www.puc.idaho.gov](http://www.puc.idaho.gov). Click the "Consumers" tab then click the "Case Comment Form" and complete the comment form using the case number as it appears on the front of this document.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company must file any reply comments **by March 27, 2020.**

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if no written comments or protests are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider this matter on its merits and enter its Order without a formal hearing. If written comments are received within the time limit set, the Commission will consider them and, in its discretion, may set the same for formal hearing.

**ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that persons interested in submitting written comments on the Company's Application must do so by March 23, 2020. The Company must file any reply comments by March 27, 2020.


DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

  
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PAUL KJELLANDER, PRESIDENT

  
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KRISTINE RAPER, COMMISSIONER

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ERIC ANDERSON, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

  
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Diane M. Hanian  
Commission Secretary

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