

DECISION MEMORANDUM

TO: COMMISSIONER KJELLANDER
COMMISSIONER RAPER
COMMISSIONER ANDERSON
COMMISSION SECRETARY
COMMISSION STAFF
LEGAL

FROM: JOHN R. HAMMOND JR.
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

DATE: DECEMBER 18, 2020

SUBJECT: CDS STONERIDGE UTILITIES, LLC'S APPLICATION TO CHANGE RATES FOR NON-REFUNDABLE HOOK-UP FEE FOR A NEW WATER CONNECTION; CASE NO. SWS-W-20-01.

On November 30, 2020, Staff of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission ("Staff") moved the Commission to extend the period of suspension in this case by 60 days. The Company did not file a written response.

BACKGROUND

On June 4, 2020, CDS Stoneridge Utilities, LLC ("Company") sought authority to increase the hook-up fee for a new customer to physically connect to the Company's water system from \$1,200 to \$9,735. *See Application* at 1. The Company requested an effective date of July 27, 2020. On June 25, 2020, the Commission ordered the Application to be processed by Modified Procedure and suspended the Company's proposed effective date from July 27, 2020 to January 26, 2021. *See Order No. 34702.*

On June 29, 2020, Staff served Production Requests Nos. 1-19 on the Company. Staff also served Production Requests Nos. 20-23 on September 16, 2020, on the Company. For unknown reasons, the Company has been unable to timely and fully respond to these Production. The Company's last responses to these Requests for Production was delivered to Staff on November 23, 2020.

STAFF'S MOTION

Due to the Company's late and in some cases incomplete responses to Staff's Production Requests, Staff asserted it has not been able to evaluate the Company's request to

increase its hook-up fee. Further, Staff stated it may need further information from the Company on its request. Finally, Staff asserted that due to the Company's delay in providing responses to Production Requests more time is needed for Staff and the Company to file comments and reply comments.

Staff argued *Idaho Code* § 61-622(4) provides that, after a showing of good cause, the Commission may grant a request to suspend an effective date for additional 60 days. Staff submitted there is good cause to extend the suspension period due to the Company's failure to provide timely responses to Production Requests and requested that the Commission extend the suspension period by 60 days from January 26, 2021, to allow Staff and the Company time to provide comments in this case prior to the Commission issuing an order approving, modifying, or rejecting the Company's Application to increase its hook-up fee. Staff proposed that the Commission set a written comment deadline for interested persons and parties of January 26, 2021, and a reply comment deadline of February 9, 2021.


COMPANY

The Company did not file a written response to Staff's Motion.

COMMISSION DECISION

Does the Commission wish to grant Staff's Motion to Extend Suspension Period for an additional 60 days after January 26, 2021?

Does the Commission wish to issue a Notice of Comment Deadlines setting a comment deadline for interested persons and parties of January 26, 2021, and a reply comment deadline for the Company of February 9, 2021?



John R. Hammond Jr.
Deputy Attorney General