BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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IN THE MATTER OF CDS STONERIDGE UTLITIES, LLC'S TARRIFF ADVICE REQUESTING AUTHORITY TO INCREASE ITS NEW CONNECTION FEES CASE NO. SWS-W-23-02 NOTICE OF APPLICATION NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE ORDER NO. 36034

On November 27, 2023, CDS Stoneridge Utilities, LLC ("Company") applied for authorization to increase its hook-up fees for new customers who are connecting to the Company's system. The Company filed the case as an "Emergency Tariff Advice." Application at 1. However, the Company also asked that the case be processed by modified procedure.¹

The Commission now issues this Notice of Application and Notice of Modified Procedure establishing public comment and Company reply deadlines.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Company proposed to increase the rates that it charges for a new connection under its Tarriff # 3. Exhibit A contained proposed modifications to Tarriff # 3.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company explained it no longer had in-house contractors that were able to perform hook-ups for new customers. Accordingly, the Company had reviewed its costs, including third-party bids, for new connections from 2021-2023 and determined that certain increases would need to be made as found in Exhibit B. The Company proposed that these changes constitute Tariff # 4, if approved.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company stated that the new homes in the area typically request 1 inch service meters rather than the ³/₄ inch that has customarily been used.

¹ The Commission notes that the Company's proposed increase is too large to be considered a tariff advice. Given that the Company also asked for its case to be processed by Modified Procedure, the Commission shall build its record through comments rather than a tariff advice.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company stated that Exhibit C contained an estimate, prepared by 7B Engineering in the Spring of 2021, which estimated that the costs related to a full install are projected to be \$9,734.75.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company also included Exhibits D through I which include relevant information to the Application.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the main body of the Application does not include a request for an effective date. However, a redlined section in the footer of Exhibit A indicates that the Company desires that an order approving its requested changes be issued prior to May 21, 2024.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Application and attached exhibits are available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Commission's office. These documents are also available on the Commission's website at <u>www.puc.idaho.gov</u>. Click on the "WATER" tab, select "Open Cases," and then locate and 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 MODIFIED PROCEDURE

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission has determined that the public interest may not require a formal hearing in this matter and will proceed under Modified Procedure pursuant to Rules 201 through 204 of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission's Rules of Procedure. The Commission notes that Modified Procedure and written comments have proven to be an effective means for obtaining public input and participation.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that persons desiring to state a position on this Application may file a written comment explaining why the person supports or opposes the Application. Persons who would like a hearing must specifically request a hearing in their written comments. **Persons shall have until February 15, 2024, to file written comments**. Comments must be filed through the Commission's website or by e-mail unless computer access is

NOTICE OF APPLICATION NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE ORDER NO. 36034 unavailable. To comment electronically, please access the Commission's home page at <u>www.puc.idaho.gov</u>. Click the "Case Comment Form" and complete the form using the case number as it appears on the front of this document. To file by e-mail, the customer must e-mail the comments to the Commission Secretary and the Company at the e-mail addresses listed below. If computer access is unavailable, then comments may be mailed to the Commission and Company at these addresses:

For the Commission:

Commission Secretary Idaho Public Utilities Commission P.O. Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0074 secretary@puc.idaho.gov

Street Address for Express Mail:

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

For the Company:

Teresa Zamora Administrative Assistant CDS Stoneridge Utilities, LLC P.O. Box 298 Blanchard, ID 83804 utilities@stoneridgeidaho.com

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company must file any reply comments by February 29, 2024.

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 this case be processed by Modified Procedure. Persons wishing to file written comments must do so by February 15, 2024. The Company must file reply comments by February 29, 2024.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that parties comply with Order No. 35375, issued April 21, 2022. Generally, all pleadings should be filed with the Commission electronically and will be deemed timely filed when received by the Commission Secretary. *See* Rule 14.02. Service between parties should continue to be accomplished electronically when possible. However, voluminous discovery-related documents may be filed and served on CD-ROM or a USB flash drive.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE ORDER NO. 36034 DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 26th day of December 2023.

ERIC ANDERSON, PRESIDENT

JOHN R. HAMMOND JR., COMMISSIONER

EDWARD LODGE, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

Monica Barrios-Sanchez Interim Commission Secretary

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