## BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION	)	<b>CASE NO. VEO-W-22-02</b>
OF VEOLIA WATER IDAHO INC. FOR	)	
AUTHORITY TO INCREASE ITS RATES	)	ORDER ON REQUEST FOR
AND CHARGES FOR WATER SERVICE IN	)	REMOTE TESTIMONY
THE STATE OF IDAHO	)	
	)	ORDER NO. 35716
	)	
	)	
	)	

On September 30, 2022, Veolia Water Idaho, Inc. ("Company") filed an Application with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") requesting authorization to raise the rates it charges for water service. The Company requests an October 31, 2022, effective date.

On October 20, 2022, the Commission issued a Notice of Application, Notice of Suspension of Proposed Effective Date, and Notice of Intervention Deadline. Order No. 35569. Subsequently, the Commission granted intervention to Ada County; Sharon Ullman, pro se; Micron Technology, Inc.; and the city of Boise City. Order Nos. 35589 and 35604.

On December 15, 2022, the Commission issued a Notice of Schedule setting submission deadlines for Staff, Intervenor, and Company written testimony. Order No. 35628. On January 17, 2023, Commission Staff ("Staff") recommended the Commission issue a Scheduling Order setting a Virtual Public Workshop for January 31, 2023. On January 20, 2023, the Commission issued a Notice of Schedule and Notice of Virtual Public Workshop. Order No. 35670. On February 21, 2023, the Commission issued a Notice of Schedule, Notice of Customer Hearing, and Notice of Technical Hearing. Order No. 35683.

On March 8, 2023, the Company filed a Request for Permission for Company Witness Matt Kahn to Testify Remotely ("Motion"). The Company represented that because Mr. Kahn's testimony was not addressed in rebuttal testimony, the Company wanted to avoid the expense and logistics associated with flying Mr. Kahn to Boise to present his testimony in person during the technical hearing.

On March 14, 2023, the Commission considered the Company's Motion during the Commission's decision meeting. The Commission noted the importance of in-person attendance for technical hearings, and found that the Company did not provided sufficient justification in support of its Motion to overcome what the Commission determined was the necessity of having

an in-person opportunity to cross-examine witness by the parties and possible questioning of witnesses by the Commission. Thus, the Commission denied the Company's Motion. The Commission now enters this order in conformity with that decision.

## **ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Company's Request for Permission for Company Witness Matt Kahn to Testify Remotely is denied.

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.

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March 2023.

ERIC ANDERSON, PRESIDENT

HOHN R. HAMMOND JR., COMMISSIONER

EDWARD LODGE COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

Jan Noriyuki

Commission Secretary