BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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IN THE MATTER OF VEOLIA WATER IDAHO, INC.'S APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF FIRE HYDRANT CONVEYANCE, INSTALLATION, AND OPERATION AGREEMENT CASE NO. VEO-W-23-04 NOTICE OF APPLICATION NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE ORDER NO. 36006

On October 20, 2023, Veolia Water Idaho, Inc. ("Company") applied for Commission approval of a Fire Hydrant Conveyance, Installation, and Operation Agreement between the Company and Whitney Fire Protection District ("District") (collectively, "Parties"). The Company requested that the Commission process the Application through modified procedure.

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 the Company stated that it and the District each own fire hydrants within the Company's service area in the City of Boise ("Boise") and Ada County. The Company further stated that many fire hydrants owned by the District need maintenance—a process which burdens the District's fire protection responsibilities.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company stated an agreement was reached between the Company and the District that included the conveyance of the District's fire hydrants to the Company ("Agreement"). The Agreement is subject to Commission approval. If such approval is granted, the Agreement will go into effect thirty days after a final order is issued.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company proposed a process whereby ownership of the District's fire hydrants within the Company's service area would be transferred to the Company over a five-year period—with 1/5 of the District's fire hydrants conveyed to the Company each year. The Company would then have unified ownership and maintenance responsibilities over all the fire hydrants that the District uses in Boise and Ada county within its service territory. The Company stated that it had the financial ability to maintain these fire hydrants.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE ORDER NO. 36006 YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company explained that the Agreement also allows the Company to install new fire hydrants in locations where the existing fire hydrants are too distant from each other to comply with the fire code.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED the Company stated that there are approximately 70 private fire hydrants in the District. If the Agreement is approved, the Company intends to begin billing the owners of these hydrants as allowed by Commission approved tariffs.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Application and supporting materials 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 January 18, 2024, to file written comments**. Comments must be filed through the Commission's website or by e-mail unless computer access is 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

NOTICE OF APPLICATION NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE ORDER NO. 36006 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:

Preston N. Carter Morgan D. Goodin Givens Pursley LLP 601 West Bannock Street P.O. Box 2720 Boise, ID 83701-2720 prestoncarter@givenspursley.com morgangoodin@givenspursley.com

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Parties must file any reply comments by February 1, 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 January 18, 2024. The Parties must file any reply comments by February 1, 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.

DONE by Order of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission at Boise, Idaho this 22nd day of November 2023.

ERIC ANDERSON, PRESIDENT

HN R. HAMMOND JR., COMMISSIONER

EDWARD LODGE, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST: Monica Barrios-Sanche Interim Commission Secretary

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