BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

)

)

)

)

)

)

)

)

)

)

IN THE MATTER OF VALIANT IDAHO, INC./TIC UTILITIES, LLC'S APPLICATION TO INCREASE ITS RATES AND CHARGES FOR WATER SERVICE IN THE STATE OF IDAHO CASE NO. VID-W-25-02 NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE NOTICE OF CUSTOMER HEARING NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC WORKSHOP ORDER NO. 36632

On March 4, 2025, TIC Utilities, LLC, an entity affiliated with Valiant Idaho, Inc., a public utility providing water service under Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity No. 554, ("Company") applied to increase the rates and charges for the Company's water service. The Company requests a July 1, 2025, effective date for the proposed rate increase.

On March 20, 2025, the Idaho Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") issued a Notice of Application and Notice of Intervention Deadline, setting a deadline for interested persons to intervene. Order No. 36520. The Commission also suspended the Company's proposed July 1, 2025, effective date for the proposed rate increase for 30 days and 5 months under *Idaho Code* § 61-622(4).

At the Commission's May 20, 2025, Decision Meeting, Staff presented a Decision Memorandum recommending the Commission issue a Notice of Modified Procedure, setting an August 6, 2025, public comment deadline and a Company reply deadline of September 3, 2025. Staff further recommended the Commission hold a customer hearing before deliberating the requested rate increase and direct Staff to hold a virtual public workshop as soon as reasonably practicable.

With this Order, we establish public comment and company reply deadlines and schedule a customer hearing at which customers and interested members of the public may testify before the Commission. We also provide notice of a virtual public workshop.

NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE NOTICE OF CUSTOMER HEARING NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC WORKSHOP ORDER NO. 36632 1

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 review the case through written submission under the Commission's Rules of Modified Procedure Rules 201-204 of the Idaho Public Utilities Commission's Rules of Procedure, IDAPA 31.01.01.201-204, in addition to testimony at the customer hearing. 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 they support or oppose the Application. Persons who would like a hearing must specifically request a hearing in their written comments. **Persons shall have until August 6, 2025, 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 website 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, persons must e-mail the comments to the Commission Secretary and all parties at the e-mail addresses listed below. Persons submitting a comment by e-mail must provide their name, address, and the Case Number under which they are commenting. Persons submitting a comment by e-mail also acknowledge that submitting a comment in an open case constitutes a public record under *Idaho Code* § 74-101(13), and all information provided by such person is available for public and media inspection.

If computer access is unavailable, then comments may be mailed to the Commission and the Parties at the addresses below. Persons submitting a comment by mail must provide their name, address, and the Case Number under which they are commenting. Persons submitting a comment by mail also acknowledge that submitting a comment in an open case constitutes a public record under *Idaho Code* § 74-101(13), and all information provided by such person is available for public and media inspection.

NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE NOTICE OF CUSTOMER HEARING NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC WORKSHOP ORDER NO. 36632 2

For the Idaho PUC:

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

Street Address for Express Mail:

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

For Valiant Idaho, Inc.:

William Haberman TIC Utilities, LLC 151 Clubhouse Way Sandpoint, ID 83864 wh@theidahoclub.com

Taylor Brooks McConnell Wagner Sykes & Stacey PLLC 827 E. Park Blvd., Ste. 201 Boise, Idaho 83712 <u>brooks@mwsslawyers.com</u>

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Company must file any reply comments no later than September 3, 2025.

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 technical 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 a formal technical hearing.

NOTICE OF CUSTOMER HEARING

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Commission will conduct an in-person customer hearing in this matter on <u>Thursday, August 14, 2025, starting at 4:00 P.M. (local time)</u> and ending at 7:00 P.M. (local time), or after all customer testimony has been taken, whichever comes first. The customer hearing will be held at <u>James E. Russell Community</u> <u>Room, 2016 Pine St., Sandpoint, ID 83864 (The James E. Russell Sports Center)</u>. The purpose of the customer hearing is to take testimony from customers of the Company. Those planning to testify are encouraged to arrive at the hearing location by 3:45 P.M. (local time) as the hearing will conclude when it appears all customer testimony has been received.

For those who wish to call-in and listen only, please call 1-415-655-0001 and enter meeting number 2862 375 2996 when prompted (customers will not be allowed to testify telephonically).

NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC WORKSHOP

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that Staff will hold a virtual, public, informational workshop for customers taking service from the Company on **THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2025, AT 5:30 PM (PDT)**. The purpose of the workshop is to provide customers with an overview of the Application and Staff's analysis of the Company's proposed rate increase and the potential impact on customers. During the workshop, customers may ask Staff about the Application and how customers may further participate in the proceeding. Representatives of the Company may also be available. To participate online, please visit idahogov.webex.com, and enter meeting number 2861 693 3809 (no spaces between numbers). Then, click on the green "Join" button. At the next window, please enter this password: Valiant. Next, please click on the green "Join Webinar" button. At the next window, please enter your name and e-mail address, and then click on the "Next" button. Then click on the green "Join Webinar" button.

To participate over the phone, please call 1-415-655-0001 and enter meeting number 2861 693 3809 when prompted.

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Company's application be processed by Modified Procedure. Persons interested in submitting written comments must do so by August 6, 2025, and the deadline for the Company to file a reply, if any, is September 3, 2025.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that an in-person public customer hearing will be held at the James E. Russell Community Room, 2016 Pine St., Sandpoint, ID 83864 (The James E. Russell Sports Center) on Thursday, August 14, 2025, starting at 4:00 P.M. (local time) and ending at 7:00 P.M. (local time), or after all customer testimony has been taken, whichever comes first.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Commission Staff hold a virtual, public, informational, customer workshop on Thursday, July 10, 2025, at 5:30 PM (PDT).

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 9th day of June 2025.

w

EDWARD LODGE, PRESIDENT

R. HAMMOND JR., COMMISSIONER JO

DAYN HARDLE, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

Mo ca Barric 2

Commission Secretary

 $I:\label{eq:limit} I:\label{eq:limit} I:\label{eq$

NOTICE OF MODIFIED PROCEDURE NOTICE OF CUSTOMER HEARING NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC WORKSHOP **ORDER NO. 36632** 5