Application of Grandview Mountain Estates LLC for Exemption

DOCKET NO. 22-2633-01

# ORDER GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM REGULATION

ISSUED: March 15, 2022

### BACKGROUND

On February 16, 2022, Grandview Mountain Estates LLC ("Grandview") filed an Application for Public Service Commission Exemption ("Application"). The Application explains that Grandview intends to serve 26 residential lots, and will serve members only and not the public generally.

On March 9, 2022, the Division of Public Utilities (DPU) filed a memorandum ("DPU Recommendation"), recommending the PSC grant the Application. DPU states that Grandview is a new water company and confirms that Grandview plans to serve 26 residential lots in a proposed subdivision located in Sanpete County near Fountain Green, Utah. DPU states that according to records of the Utah Division of Corporations, Grandview is listed as an "[a]ctive" and "[c]urrent" domestic LLC. DPU further states that Grandview is working with an engineer at the Utah Department of Environmental Quality, Utah Division of Drinking Water. <sup>2</sup>

### DISCUSSIONS, FINDINGS OF FACT, AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Utah Code Ann. § 54-4-1 vests the PSC with the power and jurisdiction to regulate public utilities, including water corporations. Utah Code Ann. § 54-2-1(38) defines a water corporation as "every corporation and person, their lessees, trustees, and receivers, owning, controlling,"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> DPU Recommendation, at 2.

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$  Id

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operating, or managing any water system for public service within this state." It specifically states that a water corporation "does not include private irrigation companies engaged in distributing water only to their stockholders, or towns, cities, counties, water conservancy districts, improvement districts, or other governmental units created or organized under any general or special law of this state." *Id*.

As represented in the Application and DPU Recommendation, Grandview intends to only serve its members. The Application and DPU Recommendation confirm Grandview will not provide water service to the public generally. Based on these representations, the PSC finds and concludes that Grandview does not meet the definition of a water corporation under Utah Code Ann. § 54-2-1(38). Therefore, it is not subject to the PSC's jurisdiction and is thus exempt from regulation.

### **ORDER**

Because Grandview will serve only its members, and will not otherwise serve the general public, the PSC concludes Grandview is exempt from the PSC's regulation and grants the Application in accordance with Utah Code Ann. § 54-2-1(38). The letter of exemption is attached to this Order as Exhibit A.

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DATED at Salt Lake City, Utah, March 15, 2022.

/s/ Yvonne R. Hogle Presiding Officer

Approved and confirmed March 15, 2022, as the Order of the Public Service Commission of Utah.

/s/ Thad LeVar, Chair

/s/ David R. Clark, Commissioner

/s/ Ron Allen, Commissioner

Attest:

/s/ Gary L. Widerburg PSC Secretary DW#322968

### Notice of Opportunity for Agency Review or Rehearing

Pursuant to Utah Code Ann. §§ 63G-4-301 and 54-7-15, a party may seek agency review or rehearing of this order by filing a request for review or rehearing with the PSC within 30 days after the issuance of the order. Responses to a request for agency review or rehearing must be filed within 15 days of the filing of the request for review or rehearing. If the PSC fails to grant a request for review or rehearing within 30 days after the filing of a request for review or rehearing, it is deemed denied. Judicial review of the PSC's final agency action may be obtained by filing a Petition for Review with the Utah Supreme Court within 30 days after final agency action. Any Petition for Review must comply with the requirements of Utah Code Ann. §§ 63G-4-401, 63G-4-403, and the Utah Rules of Appellate Procedure.

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# Exhibit A



# State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX Governor

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON Lieutenant Governor

## **Public Service Commission**

THAD LeVAR *Chair* 

DAVID R. CLARK Commissioner

RON ALLEN Commissioner

# LETTER OF EXEMPTION NO. 244

March 15, 2022

Christopher L. Cook Grandview Mountain Estates, LLC 2649 West Eagle Nest Lane Lehi, UT 84043

Dear Mr. Cook,

The Public Service Commission (PSC) has reviewed the proposed application for exemption for a new water company, filed on behalf of Grandview Mountain Estates, LLC ("Grandview") on February 16, 2022.

On March 9, 2022, the Division of Public Utilities (DPU) recommended the PSC grant the request for exemption because Grandview "is a new water company planning to serve 26 residential lots in a proposed subdivision located in Sanpete County near Fountain Green, Utah" and will be "serving members only." Utah Code Ann. § 54-2-1(38) excludes water corporations from PSC regulation that distribute water only to their stockholders or members. Thus, it appears an exemption for Grandview is appropriate.

Please be advised that this Letter of Exemption No. <u>244</u> is granted pursuant to the representations contained in the Application and on the basis of DPU's confirmation that Grandview will serve only its members and not the public generally. Grandview has a continuing obligation to update the PSC within 30 days of any change.

This Letter of Exemption No. <u>244</u> is revocable for cause at any time. Please refer to this letter number in any future correspondence with either the PSC or DPU.

Sincerely,

/s/ Gary L. Widerburg PSC Secretary DW#322968

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> DPU Recommendation, at 2 (March 9, 2022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> *Id.*, at 2.

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I CERTIFY that on March 15, 2022, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served upon the following as indicated below:

# By Email:

Christopher L. Cook (<a href="mailto:cook0426@hotmail.com">cook0426@hotmail.com</a>) Grandview Mountain Estates, LLC

Patricia Schmid (<u>pschmid@agutah.gov</u>) Justin Jetter (<u>jjetter@agutah.gov</u>) Assistant Utah Attorneys General

Madison Galt (<u>mgalt@utah.gov</u>)
Division of Public Utilities

Administrative Assistant