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UTAH DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Division of Public Utilities

MARGARET W. BUSSE
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Action Request Response

To: Public Service Commission of Utah

From: Utah Division of Public Utilities

Chris Parker, Director
Brenda Salter, Assistant Division Director
Abdinasir Abdulle, Utility Technical Consultant Supervisor
Mark Long, Utility Technical Consultant
Joanna Matyjasik, Utility Analyst

Date: June 8, 2023

Re: **Docket No. 23-067-01**, In the Matter of the Application of Wanship Water Company, LLC's Request for a Rate Increase.

Recommendation (Approval)

The Division of Public Utilities (DPU) has reviewed this filing of a request for a rate increase by Wanship Water Company, LLC (Wanship). The DPU concludes that the filing is substantially complete according to Utah Administrative Code R746-700-50 and R746-700-51.

Issue

On May 26, 2023, the Public Service Commission of Utah (PSC or Commission) issued an Action Request for the DPU to review and make recommendations concerning Wanship's request for a rate increase and to provide a recommendation as to whether the Application constitutes a complete filing as defined in Utah Code Ann. § 54-7-12(1)(b)(i) and is consistent with the relevant sections of Utah Administrative Code R746-700. Per Utah Code Ann. § 54-7-12(2)(b)(ii), parties or persons have 14 days after the day on which the rate case application is received by the Commission to challenge the completeness of an

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application. This memorandum represents the DPU's response to the PSC's Action Request.

Discussion

Utah Administrative Code R746-700-50-1 and R746-700-51 list the specific filing requirements for a water company's rate increase application. The DPU looked to these rules to assess the completeness of Wanship's application as required by Utah Code Ann. § 54-7-12(2)(b)(ii). The DPU analyzed and compared the information in Wanship's application to the filing requirements and verified that it is substantially a complete filing.

In Docket No. 22-067-01, Wanship Cottages Water Company, Inc. (Wanship Cottages), owned by Ms. De Ann Geary, was sold to Mr. Grady Kohler, and renamed Wanship Water Company, LLC.

Wanship Cottages, which was operated very modestly, has not filed for a rate increase since 1988 and did not have elaborate records to offer Mr. Kohler in the sale. Mr. Kohler provided what he had available and either reconstructed documents, such as the 2021 and 2022 Water Utility Annual Reports or disclosed that such documents were non-existent.

The DPU has been in contact with Mr. Kohler and feels confident that, along with the brief history of Mr. Kohler operating Wanship Water Company, LLC, adequate records exist for the DPU to recommend just and reasonable rates.

Conclusion

The DPU recommends that the PSC consider Wanship's Application for a rate increase substantially complete.

cc: Patricia Schmid, Assistant Attorney General
Wanship Water Company, LLC
Service List