

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
CHRISTI WATER SYSTEM, INC. FOR AN
INCREASE IN RATES AND CHARGES.

CASE NO. 20-1428-WW-AIR

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on April 15, 2021

{¶ 1} Christi Water System, Inc. (Christi or Applicant) is a waterworks company as defined by R.C. 4905.03(G) and a public utility as defined by R.C. 4905.02, and, as such, is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission pursuant to R.C. 4905.04, 4905.05, and 4905.06.

{¶ 2} An application for an increase in rates is governed by, and must meet, the requirements of R.C. 4909.17, 4909.18, 4909.19, and 4909.42.

{¶ 3} On August 24, 2020, and amended on September 24, 2020, Applicant filed an abbreviated application to increase its rates for water service, pursuant to R.C. 4909.18.

{¶ 4} On October 1, 2020, Staff filed a review and recommendation in which Staff concluded that Applicant's abbreviated application substantively conforms to the Standard Filing Requirements for Rate Increases (SFR) as described in Ohio Adm.Code 4901-7-01.

{¶ 5} On November 4, 2020, the Commission determined (1) that the application was accepted as of the amended filing date of September 24, 2020, (2) that the application conforms to the SFR, (3) that the test period for the application is July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020, (4) that the date certain for the application is December 31, 2019, and (5) that Applicant's requested waiver of R.C. 4909.18(A) through (E) is reasonable and should be granted.

{¶ 6} Pursuant to R.C. 4909.19, Staff conducted an investigation of the facts, exhibits, and matters relating to Christi's application and filed its report (Staff Report) on April 7, 2021.

{¶ 7} Pursuant to R.C. 4909.19 and Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-28(B), all objections to

the Staff Report must be filed within 30 days after the filing of such report, and all objections must be specific. Any objection that is not specific enough to convey what is actually being placed at issue will be struck pursuant to the above-cited rule.

{¶ 8} Direct expert testimony and motions to intervene in this case should be filed by May 7, 2021, in accordance with Ohio Adm.Code 4901-1-29.

{¶ 9} Motions to strike objections to the Staff Report should be filed by May 14, 2021; memoranda contra motions to intervene, as well as memoranda contra motions to strike objections to the Staff Report, should be filed by May 21, 2021. Unless an objection is struck or withdrawn, each objection must be discussed in the initial post-hearing brief of the objecting party. If an objection is not discussed in the initial brief, the objection will, without further action, be deemed withdrawn.

{¶ 10} A prehearing conference will be held on June 14, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 emergency measures, the prehearing conference will be conducted using remote technology. Instructions for participation in the prehearing conference will be sent by email to parties in the case. The purpose of the conference will be to discuss procedural aspects of the case and to provide an opportunity for the parties to conduct settlement discussions.

{¶ 11} The evidentiary hearing will begin on July 6, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 emergency measures, the evidentiary hearing will be conducted using remote technology. A subsequent entry will address the scheduling of the local public hearing and publication of notice of the hearing.

{¶ 12} It is, therefore,

{¶ 13} ORDERED, That all objections to the Staff Report be filed by May 7, 2021. It is, further,

{¶ 14} ORDERED, That all direct expert testimony be filed by May 7, 2021. It is,

further,

{¶ 15} ORDERED, That motions to intervene be filed by May 7, 2021. It is, further,

{¶ 16} ORDERED, That motions to strike objections to the Staff Report be filed by May 14, 2021, and memoranda contra motions to intervene, as well as memoranda contra motions to strike objections to the Staff Report, be filed by May 21, 2021. It is, further,

{¶ 17} ORDERED, That a prehearing conference be scheduled on June 14, 2021, in accordance with Paragraph 10. It is, further,

{¶ 18} ORDERED, That the evidentiary hearing will begin on July 6, 2021, in accordance with Paragraph 11. It is, further,

{¶ 19} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all parties of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/Lauren L. Augostini

By: Lauren L. Augostini
Attorney Examiner

SJP/hac

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Case No(s). 20-1428-WW-AIR

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry ordering the following: all objections to the Staff Report be filed by May 7, 2021; all direct expert testimony be filed by May 7, 2021; motions to intervene be filed by May 7, 2021; motions to strike objections to the Staff Report be filed by May 14, 2021, and memoranda contra motions to intervene, as well as memoranda contra motions to strike objections to the Staff Report, be filed by May 21, 2021; a prehearing conference be scheduled on June 14, 2021, in accordance with Paragraph 10; and, the evidentiary hearing will begin on July 6, 2021, in accordance with Paragraph 11 electronically filed by Heather A Chilcote on behalf of Lauren L. Augostini, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio