

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
CARROLL TOWNSHIP TREATMENT
SERVICES, INC. FOR AN INCREASE IN
RATES AND CHARGES.

CASE NO. 20-1585-ST-AIR

ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on February 25, 2021

{¶ 1} Carroll Township Treatment Services, Inc. (CTTS or Applicant) is a sewage disposal system company as defined by R.C. 4905.03(M) 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} On October 12, 2020, Applicant filed an abbreviated application to increase its rates for sewage disposal service, pursuant to R.C. 4909.18.

{¶ 3} On October 26, 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.

{¶ 4} On November 18, 2020, the Commission determined (1) that the application was accepted as of the filing date of October 12, 2020, (2) that the application conforms to the SFR, (3) that the test period for the application is September 1, 2019, to August 31, 2020, (4) that the date certain for the application is August 31, 2020, and (5) that Applicant's requested waiver of R.C. 4909.18(A) through (E) is reasonable and should be granted.

{¶ 5} Pursuant to R.C. 4909.19, Staff conducted an investigation of the facts, exhibits, and matters relating to CTTS's application, and filed its report (Staff Report) on January 13, 2021.

{¶ 6} On January 20, 2021, CTTS filed a notice of acceptance of the Staff Report.

{¶ 7} On January 25, 2021, the attorney examiner scheduled a prehearing conference on March 24, 2021, and an evidentiary hearing on April 14, 2021. Due to the ongoing

COVID-19 emergency measures, the prehearing conference and evidentiary hearing were scheduled to occur using remote technology. As part of the same Entry, the attorney examiner established a procedural schedule, which required that any (1) objections to the Staff Report, and (2) motions to intervene in the case, were due by February 12, 2021.

{¶ 8} No person filed an objection to the Staff Report or motion to intervene in this case.

{¶ 9} At this time, the attorney examiner finds that an evidentiary hearing is not necessary to determine this matter because (1) CTTS filed a notice of acceptance of the Staff Report, (2) no party has moved to intervene, and (3) no objections to the Staff Report have been filed. *See* Ohio Adm.Code Chapter 4901-7, Appendix A. Accordingly, the prehearing conference scheduled to commence on March 24, 2021, and the evidentiary hearing scheduled to commence on April 14, 2021, shall be cancelled.

{¶ 10} R.C. 4903.083 requires that the Commission hold at least one public hearing session within CTTS's service territory. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 emergency, the attorney examiner finds that the local public hearing will be held using remote technology (Webex) on March 24, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

{¶ 11} Interested persons who are not a party to the case and wish to provide testimony must pre-register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m., on March 23, 2021, at <https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-1585-st-air-public-hearing> or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826.

{¶ 12} Persons providing public testimony will be required to provide their full name, home address, telephone number, and electronic mail address, if available; state that they wish to register for the public hearing in Case No. 20-1585-ST-AIR; specify whether they plan to join the remote access event by internet or by telephone; and state that they intend to offer testimony. Individuals that plan to attend the remote access event through

internet access must have a computer or smart device with a microphone and speakers, an electronic mail address, and reliable internet service.

{¶ 13} Individuals who have registered to testify will be asked to speak beginning shortly after 6:00 p.m., so all those who have registered to testify should be prepared to speak at that time. For individuals who are speaking by telephone, the Commission's staff will contact those individuals by telephone when it is time for their testimony and connect them to the public hearing.

{¶ 14} Interested persons who merely wish to attend the hearing remotely and not offer testimony can do so by calling 1-408-418-9388 and entering the access code 179 231 7560. Additional information is available by contacting the Commission's Consumer Call Center at 1-800-686-7826.

{¶ 15} Access information for the public hearing will be provided to counsel for the parties at their electronic mail address of record. Counsel who will speak during the hearing should join the Webex event through internet access and must have a computer or smart device with a camera, microphone, and speakers; an electronic mail address; and reliable internet service.

{¶ 16} CTTS is required to publish legal notice of the public hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in all of the affected service territory once a week for two consecutive weeks prior to the scheduled date of the local hearing. The hearing notice should not appear in the legal notices section of the newspaper. CTTS shall file proof of publication of the notice with the Commission. The notice should read as follows:

LEGAL NOTICE

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio has scheduled a local public hearing in Case No. 20-1585-ST-AIR, *In the Matter of the Application of Carroll Township Treatment Services, Inc. for an Increase in Rates and Charges*. CTTS seeks a rate increase that would generate additional

base revenues of approximately \$121,512, or 144.4 percent over current revenues for the company's customers. The Staff of the Commission recommends a revenue increase of between \$26,145 and \$28,616, or between 20.19 percent and 22.1 percent over current revenues for the company's current customers. The major issues in the case are (1) the appropriate base rate, (2) the determination of test-year revenues and operating expenses or costs of service including management fees, taxes, depreciation, uncollectible expenses, and rate case expenses, and (3) the appropriate rate of return.

A public hearing is scheduled for the purpose of providing an opportunity for interested members of the public to testify in this proceeding. The public hearing will be held on March 24, 2021, commencing at 6:00 p.m. via Webex.

Interested persons who are not a party to the case and wish to provide testimony must pre-register with the Commission before 12:00 p.m., on March 23, 2021, at <https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-1585-st-air-public-hearing> or by calling the Commission at 1-800-686-7826. If individuals wish to supplement their testimony with an exhibit for the Commission's consideration, a copy of the document, along with reference to Case No. 20-1585-ST-AIR, must be provided to the Commission by March 29, 2021, if possible, but no later than April 2, 2021, by electronic mail to contactThePUCO@puco.ohio.gov or by mail to Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Interested persons who merely wish to attend the hearing remotely and not offer testimony can do so by calling 1-408-418-9388 and entering the access code 179 231 7560. Additional information is available by contacting the Commission's Consumer Call Center at 1-800-686-7826.

At this time, it is not expected that an evidentiary hearing will occur in this case, and the case will be decided based on the information in the docket, as well as the testimony at the public hearing. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215, viewing the Commission's web page at <https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-1585-st-air-public-hearing>, or contacting the Commission's hotline at 1-800-686-7826.

Public comments can be provided in writing on the Commission's website at <https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/case-no-20-1585-st-air-public-hearing> by electronic mail to contactThePUCO@puco.ohio.gov, or by mail to Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. Written comments should reference the case number for this matter.

{¶ 17} It is, therefore,

{¶ 18} ORDERED, That the local public hearing be scheduled in accordance with Paragraphs 10 through 15. It is, further,

{¶ 19} ORDERED, That the notice of the local public hearing be published by CTTS as directed in Paragraph 16. It is, further,

{¶ 20} ORDERED, That the prehearing conference scheduled on March 24, 2021, and the evidentiary hearing scheduled on April 14, 2021, be cancelled. It is, further,

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

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

/s/Michael L. Williams

By: Michael L. Williams
Attorney Examiner

SJP/hac

This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities

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in

Case No(s). 20-1585-ST-AIR

Summary: Attorney Examiner Entry ordering that the local public hearing be scheduled in accordance with Paragraphs 10 through 15; ordering that the notice of the local public hearing be published by CTTS as directed in Paragraph 16; and, ordering that the prehearing conference scheduled on March 24, 2021, and the evidentiary hearing scheduled on April 14, 2021, be cancelled electronically filed by Heather A Chilcote on behalf of Michael L. Williams, Attorney Examiner, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio