

SUPPLEMENTAL PUBLIC NOTICE OF HEARING ON THE SALE OF GRAHAM COUNTY UTILITIES INC.'S GAS DIVISION ASSETS TO THE CITY OF SAFFORD AND FOR APPROVAL OF AN EXTENSION OF GRAHAM COUNTY UTILITIES INC.'S WATER DIVISION CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY.

(DOCKET NOS. G-02527A-21-0060 and W-02527A-21-0060)

Summary

On March 31, 2021, Graham County Utilities Inc. (“GCU” or “Company”) filed an application with the Arizona Corporation Commission (“Commission”) for approval of the sale or transfer of its Gas Division assets to the City of Safford, and for approval of an extension and modification to the Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (“CC&N”) for its Water Division. GCU and the City of Safford have entered into a Service Area Exchange Agreement whereby a portion of the service territory and assets of GCU’s Gas Division will be transferred to the City of Safford, and in exchange, the City of Safford will transfer portions of its water service territory and water utility assets to GCU’s Water Division. GCU also requests approval to extend its water CC&N to include the customers to be acquired from City of Safford. The water service area to be acquired by GCU from the City of Safford, the proposed CC&N extension area, is in portions of Sections 3, 4, and 9 of Township 7 South, Range 25 East, and portions of Sections 27, 28, 32, 33, and 34 of Township 6 South, Range 25 East, of the Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, Graham County, Arizona.

On August 27, 2021, Commission Staff filed a Staff Report recommending approval of the transfer and extension with recommended conditions. Pursuant to the Staff Report recommendations, GCU hereby provides this supplemental notice of a potential rate change. Based on Staff’s analysis of the information provided by GCU regarding customer usage and gas and water rates, the water customers now served by the City of Safford using an average of 13,322 gallons per month would receive a \$5.68 higher monthly charge when transferred to GCU. The 34 GCU gas customers being transferred from GCU to the City of Safford would see a rate decrease of approximately \$4.22 monthly.

How You Can View or Obtain a Copy of the Application

Copies of the Application are available from Graham County Utilities Inc. at 9 W Center St, Pima, AZ 85543 or www.gce.coop; at the Commission’s Docket Control Center at 1200 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona; and the Commission’s office at 400 West Congress Street, Suite 218, Tucson, Arizona, during regular business hours, and on the Commission website (www.azcc.gov) using the e-Docket function.

Arizona Corporation Commission Public Hearing Information

The Commission will hold a hearing on this matter beginning **September 15, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.**, at the Commission’s Tucson offices, Room 222, 400 West Congress Street, Tucson, Arizona 85701. **The hearing will be held via videoconference with telephonic public comment.**

Public comment will be taken telephonically at the beginning of the first day of hearing. To provide telephonic public comments, **call 1-888-450-5996 and enter this code: #457395, by 10:00 a.m. on the date of the hearing.**

Written public comments may be submitted by mailing a letter referencing **Docket No. G-2527A-21-0060 and W-02527A-21-0060** to Arizona Corporation Commission, Consumer Services Section, 1200 West Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007, or by submitting comments on the Commission's website (www.azcc.gov) by clicking on "Cases and Open Meetings" and "Make a Public Comment in a Docket." If you require assistance, you may contact the Consumer Services Section at 602-542-4251 or 1-800-222-7000.

ADA/Equal Access Information

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to its public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, as well as request this document in an alternative format, by contacting the ADA Coordinator, Carolyn Buck, E-mail ADACoordinator@azcc.gov, voice phone number 602-542-2247. Requests should be made as early as possible and no later than 48 hours in advance of the event to allow time to arrange the accommodation.