

1230 Golden Pheasant Dr. Redmond, OR 97756 www.swwc.com

September 30, 2020

Public Utility Commission of Oregon Attn: Filing Center 201 High Street, S.E. P.O. Box 1088 Salem, OR 97308-1088

RE: Docket No. UW 182 - Application to Change Rates

Attached for filing in the above-captioned docket is Oregon Water Utilities – Cline Butte, Inc.'s Motion for a General Protective Order, expedited consideration requested.

Please contact me at bbahr@swwc.com or (626) 543-2552 with any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

/s/ Brian Bahr

Brian Bahr Director, Regulatory Affairs SouthWest Water Company

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

UW 182

In the Matter of

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OREGON WATER UTILITIES – CLINE BUTTE, INC.

Application for a General Rate Revision.

MOTION FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER

(Expedited Consideration Requested)

Pursuant to ORCP 36(C)(1) and OAR 860-001-0080, Oregon Water Utilities – Cline Butte, Inc. ("OWU") moves for the entry of the Public Utility Commission of Oregon's ("Commission") general protective order in this proceeding. Good cause exists to issue a protective order to protect commercially sensitive and confidential business information related to the OWU's general rate case. Because OWU has filed its rate case today, OWU requests that the general protective order be entered on an expedited basis.

In support of this Motion, OWU states:

- 1. The Commission's rules authorize OWU to seek reasonable restrictions on discovery of trade secrets and other confidential business information. See 860-001-0080; ORCP 36(C)(1) (providing protection against unrestricted discovery of "trade secrets or other confidential research, development, or commercial information"). See also In re Investigation into the Cost of Providing Telecommunication Service, Docket No. UM 351, Order No. 91-500 (1991) (recognizing that protective orders are a reasonable means to protect "the rights of a party to trade secrets and other confidential commercial information" and "to facilitate the communication of information between litigants").
- 2. On September 30, 2020, OWU filed its application for a general rate case. Certain documents related to the filing include confidential material. Public disclosure of the confidential information could be detrimental to OWU and its customers.

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- 3. It is substantially likely that Commission Staff and others in this proceeding will seek to discover confidential business information. "The Commission's standard blanket protective order is designed to facilitate discovery in cases involving discovery of large numbers of documents." See In re Portland Extended Area Service Region, Docket UM 261, Order No. 91-958 (1991). Issuance of a protective order will facilitate the production of relevant information and expedite the discovery processes.
- 4. OWU requests consideration of this Motion to allow parties who execute the protective order to obtain prompt access to the confidential information that will be submitted in support of the OWU's request for a general rate increase and to expedite discovery in this proceeding.

For the foregoing reasons, OWU requests entry of a standard protective order in this docket.

Dated Sept 30, 2020

/s/ Brian D. Bahr

Brian Bahr Director, Regulatory Affairs SouthWest Water Company 1325 N. Grand Ave, Suite 100 Covina, CA 91724 (503) 626-2552 bbahr@swwc.com