

Order No. 2605

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMPTROLLER OF WATER RIGHTS

IN THE MATTER OF

the *Water Utility Act* and the *Utilities Commission Act*

and

Corix Multi-Utility Services Inc.

**For Approval of Application to acquire
Columbia Ridge Waterworks Inc.
Water Utility Assets**

BEFORE:

Jesal Shah, Deputy Comptroller of Water Rights
PO Box 9340 STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC V8W 9M1

ORDER 2605

Dated this 4th day of March 2022

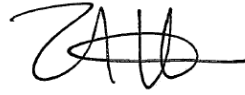
WHEREAS:

1. Corix Multi-Utility Services Inc. (Corix) submitted its application to purchase the water utility assets (the “Water Utility”) from Columbia Ridge Waterworks Ltd. (“CRWL”) on January 5, 2022. Corix requests approval from the Comptroller of Water Rights for an amended Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN), pursuant to section 45 of the *Utilities Commission Act*, for the transfer of the Water Utility from CRWL to Corix.
2. Corix also requests the following:
 - a. Approval to change the rate setting mechanism of the Water Utility from the Operating Margin methodology to a Rate Base methodology
 - b. Approval of Water Tariff No. 3 reflecting the ownership change of the Water Utility at Columbia Ridge to Corix Multi-Utility Services Inc. and the proposal for a new Schedule I: Untreated Irrigation Service Flat Rates pursuant to section 61 of the UCA.
 - c. Approval to recover the costs associated with the due diligence and consultation for the Water Utility acquisition as outlined in Section 9.2.2. of the Application, pursuant to Sections 59 to 61 of the UCA.
3. CRWL provided to customers a Customer Notification Letter on January 14, 2022. The Customer Notification included CRWL and Corix’s contact information should customers have questions or concerns. Customers had until February 15, 2022 to provide comments to the Comptroller’s office. The Comptroller’s office received several letters of support for the Application, both as part of the Application and separately, and they will form part of the review considerations.

NOW THEREFORE, the Deputy Comptroller orders as follows:

1. The establishment of a Written Hearing Process for the review of the Application according to the Regulatory Timetable that is attached as Appendix A to this Order.
2. CRWL customers shall be provided with the Notice of Written Hearing Process attached as Appendix B to this Order on or around March 18, 2022.
3. Persons wishing to participate as Interveners, as described in Appendix B, should register with the Secretary to the Comptroller of Water Rights (“Secretary”) by March 31, 2022.

Dated at the City of Victoria, in the Province of British Columbia, this 4th day of March 2022.



Jesal Shah, P.Eng., MBA
Deputy Comptroller of Water Rights

Attachments

**An Application by Corix Multi-Utility Services Inc. (“Corix”)
for Approval of Application to acquire
Columbia Ridge Waterworks Inc. (“CRWL”)**

REGULATORY TIMETABLE

<u>ACTION</u>	<u>DUE DATE</u>
Notices to be mailed to all CRWL customers	March 18, 2022
Intervener Registrations	March 31, 2022
Comptroller Information Request (IR) No. 1	March 31, 2022
Intervener IR No. 1	April 8, 2022
Corix Response to Comptroller and Intervener IR No. 1	April 15, 2022
Intervener Final Submission	April 22, 2022
Corix Final Submission	April 29, 2022

Note: If another round of Information Requests is required, the Deputy Comptroller will issue another Order/Revised Regulatory Timetable during this hearing process.

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMPTROLLER OF WATER RIGHTS
IN THE MATTER OF
the Water Utility Act and the Utilities Commission Act
and
Corix Multi-Utility Services Inc.
**For Approval of Application to acquire
Columbia Ridge Waterworks Inc.
Water Utility Assets**

NOTICE OF WRITTEN HEARING PROCESS

THE APPLICATION

Corix Multi-Utility Services Inc. (Corix) submitted its application to purchase the water utility assets (the “Water Utility”) from Columbia Ridge Waterworks Ltd. (“CRWL”) on January 5, 2022. Corix requests approval from the Comptroller of Water Rights for an amended Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN), pursuant to section 45 of the *Utilities Commission Act* (UCA), for the transfer of the Water Utility from CRWL to Corix.

Corix has requested approval to change the rate setting mechanism of the Water Utility from the Operating Margin methodology to a Rate Base methodology. In addition, Corix seeks: 1) approval of Water Tariff No. 3 reflecting the ownership change and proposed new Schedule I: Untreated Irrigation Service Flat Rates pursuant to section 61 of the UCA, and 2) approval to recover the costs associated with the due diligence and consultation for the Water Utility acquisition as outlined in Section 9.2.2. of the Application, pursuant to Sections 59 to 61 of the UCA.

On March 4, 2022, by Order No. 2605 the Deputy Comptroller established a Written Hearing Process for the review of the Application according to the Regulatory Timetable that is attached as Appendix A to this Order.

THE REGULATORY PROCESS

Order 2605, Appendix A, establishes a Regulatory Timetable for the review of the Application by way of a written hearing process. The Order and detailed Regulatory Timetable can be reviewed on Corix's website as noted in the Notice to be mailed to all customers by March 18, 2022 along with a copy of this Notice.

REGISTERING TO PARTICIPATE

Persons wishing to actively participate in this proceeding should register as Interveners in writing with the Secretary by March 31, 2022. An email address should be provided if available. Interveners' Information Requests of the Utility are due April 8, 2022.

PUBLIC INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS

This Application and supporting material will be made available for inspection by Corix on its website as noted in its Notice to be mailed to all customers.

All submissions and/or correspondence received from active participants or the general public relating to the Application is to be placed on the Corix's website.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information, please contact me or Corix directly.



Chris McMillan
Secretary to the Comptroller of Water Rights
Water Utility Act

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