



STATE OF DELAWARE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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DOVER, DELAWARE 19904
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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Chairman and Members of the Commission

FROM: Islah Causey, Public Utilities Analyst *IC*

DATE: September 6, 2023

SUBJECT: IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ARTESIAN WATER COMPANY, INC. FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO PROVIDE WATER SERVICE PURSUANT TO 26 DEL. C. §203C (“ZOAR15.00”)
(FILED JUNE 29, 2023) - PSC DOCKET NO. 23-0874

On June 29, 2023, Artesian Water Company, Inc. (“Artesian”) filed an application (“Application”) with the Delaware Public Service Commission (the “Commission”) pursuant to 26 *Del. C.* § 203C(e)(1)(b)(2) seeking a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (“CPCN”) to provide water service to eight (8) parcels of land in Sussex County, Delaware, identified as Tax Map Parcel Nos. 234-15.00-3.20, 234-15.00-3.21, 234-15.00-9.00, 234-15.00-10.00, 234-15.00-11.01, 234-15.00-13.00, 234-15.00-14.00 and 234-15.00-15.00, also known as “Zoar15.00”, and referred to as the “Proposed Service Area”.

As required under 26 *Del. C.* § 203C(e)(1)(b)(2) and the Commission’s “Regulations Governing Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity for Water Utilities,” 26 *Del. Admin. C.* § 2002 (the “Regulations”), the Application contained the following documentation: (1) a copy of a petition signed by all landowners of record encompassed in the Proposed Service Area requesting to be included in the Proposed Service Area; (2) a copy of the United States Postal Service forms verifying that the Company sent, via certified mail, a Commission-approved notice to all landowners of record for each parcel within the Proposed Service Area; (3) a list of the County tax map parcel identification numbers of the properties and identification of all landowners of record included in the Proposed Service Area;¹ and (4) a copy of the associated map clearly

¹At Staff’s request, Artesian submitted a written certification that the Company: (i) reviewed the appropriate tax or land record documents relating to the Proposed Service Area; (ii) confirmed that the landowners identified in the parcel listing are the landowners of record; and (iii) verified that the petitions included in the Application have been signed by each landowner of record.

marking the Proposed Service Area. Additionally, the Application contained Artesian's statement that: (i) its expansion of service to the Proposed Service Area will comply with the water pressure requirements of 26 *Del. C.* § 403(a) and (b); and (ii) Artesian is not barred by any of the restrictions set forth in 26 *Del. C.* § 403(c).

In addition to the required notification to all the landowners of record, Artesian published a notice in the Delaware State News newspaper on July 2, 2023, and The News Journal newspaper on July 5, 2023. The notice advised residents that: (i) the Application may be reviewed at the Commission's office during normal business hours or on its website; (ii) a hearing on this matter would not be held unless an appropriate request was received; and (iii) the property owner may object to or "opt-out" of the Proposed Service Area. To date, Staff has received no comments regarding the Application, and no landowners of record included in the Proposed Service Area have objected to the Application or elected to "opt-out" of the Proposed Service Area.

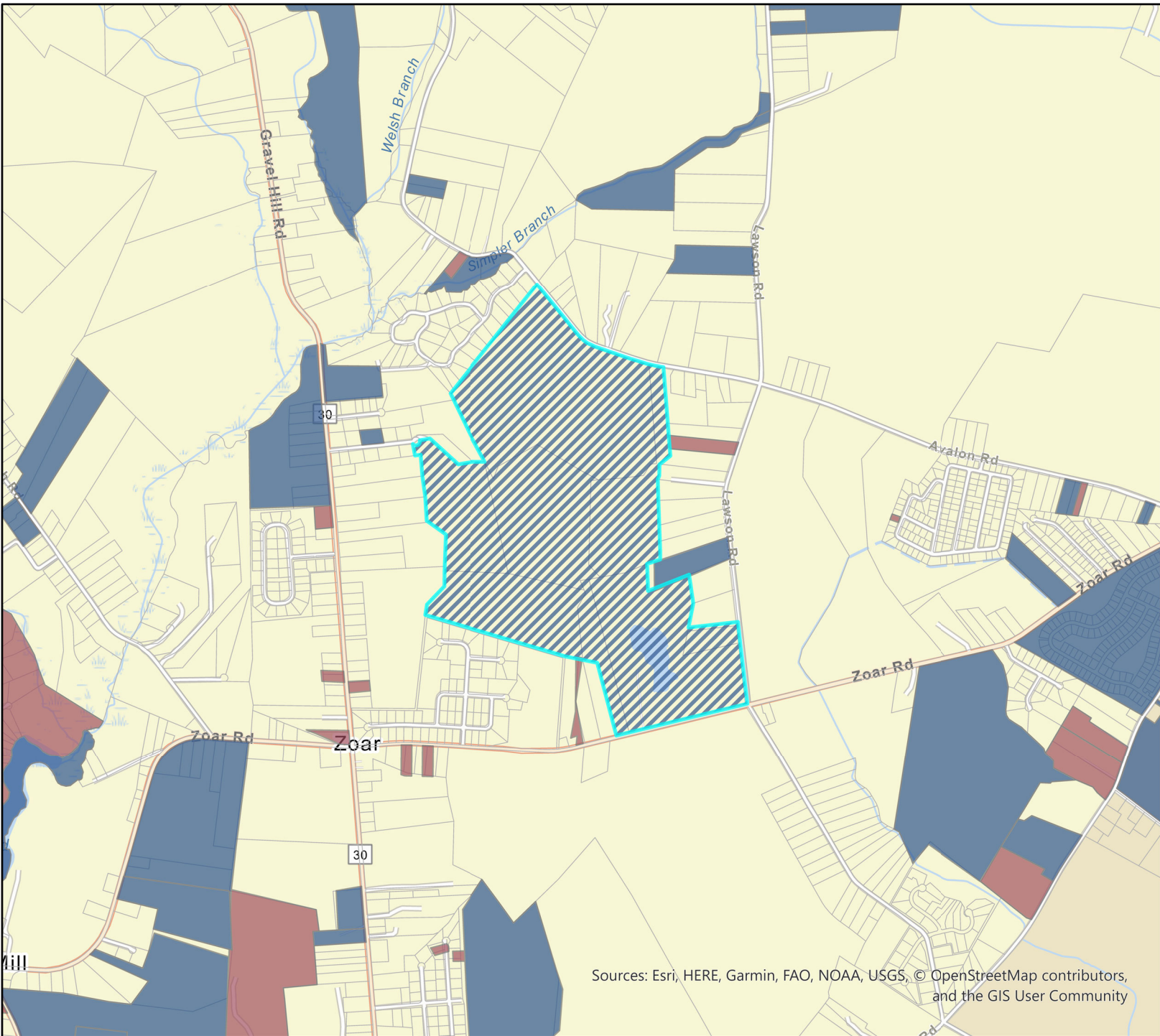
Staff reviewed the Application to ensure compliance with the statutory provisions of 26 *Del. C.* § 203C and the Regulations. No errors or omissions were found. Finally, to determine whether the Commission should deny the requested CPCN as set forth in 26 *Del. C.* § 203C(f), Staff solicited comments from the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control ("DNREC"), the Office of the State Fire Marshal ("SFM"), and the Office of Drinking Water of the Division of Public Health ("ODW"). DNREC, SFM, and ODW responded and confirmed they have no issues relating to Artesian's ability to provide safe, adequate, and reliable water services to its existing customers.

In summary, Artesian has submitted the necessary proof required under 26 *Del. C.* § 203C(e)(1), 203C(e)(1)b, 203C(e)(3), and the Regulations for CPCN issuance. In accordance with 26 *Del. C.* § 203C(f), Staff finds no basis for denial and, therefore, respectfully recommends that the Commission grant Artesian a CPCN based upon the Application.

Artesian Water Company, Inc.

Docket No. 23-0874 "ZOAR15.00"

September 13, 2023



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

Water CPCN

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <Null>,Yes | CITY OF DELAWARE CITY,Yes | LONG NECK WATER COMPANY,Yes | TOWN OF SELBYVILLE,Yes |
| Abandoned,Yes | TOWN OF DELMAR,Yes | TOWN OF MAGNOLIA,Yes | TOWN OF SMYRNA,Yes |
| ARTESIAN WATER COMPANY,No | CITY OF DOVER,Yes | TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN,Yes | SOUTHERN SHORES WATER COMPANY,Yes |
| ARTESIAN WATER COMPANY,Yes | TOWN OF FELTON,Yes | CITY OF MILFORD,Yes | SUSSEX COUNTY,Yes |
| TOWN OF BETHANY BEACH,Yes | TOWN OF FRANKFORD,Yes | TOWN OF MILLSBORO,Yes | SUSSEX SHORES WATER COMPANY,Yes |
| TOWN OF BLADES,Yes | TOWN OF FREDERICA,Yes | TOWN OF MILTON,Yes | TIDEWATER UTILITIES,No |
| TOWN OF BRIDGEVILLE,Yes | TOWN OF GEORGETOWN,Yes | NCC WATER & LIGHT COMPANY,Yes | TIDEWATER UTILITIES,Yes |
| CAMDEN-WYOMING SEWER,Yes | TOWN OF GREENWOOD,Yes | TOWN OF OCEAN VIEW,Yes | UNITED WATER DELAWARE,Yes |
| TOWN OF CLAYTON,Yes | CITY OF HARRINGTON,Yes | PICKERING BEACH WATER WR,Yes | CITY OF WILMINGTON,Yes |
| TOWN OF DAGSBORO,Yes | J.H. WILKERSON & SON,Yes | PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY COMPANY INC.,Yes | <all other values> |
| | TOWN OF LAUREL,Yes | CITY OF REHOBOTH,Yes | State Parcels |
| | LEWES BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS,Yes | CITY OF SEAFORD,Yes | |