

**PUBLISHED ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS RELATED TO
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)**

Mississippi Public Service Commission

Docket No. 2020-AD-129

To prevent a respondent from gaining an unfair advantage through the acquisition of information unknown to other respondents, answers to the following timely-submitted, written questions are hereby published by the Commission on this the 28th day of October, 2020, at or before 4:00 p.m., CDT, in accordance with the RFQ for the project briefly identified below:

Project Name: Hidden Hills Sinkhole Assessment
Project

Project Location: Hidden Hills Subdivision in Rankin
County, Mississippi

County: County of Rankin

Questions and Answers

1. Is there a page limit to the SOQ?

Answer: While there is page limit on the description of Respondent's approach to the project (limit 2 pages) set out in the RFQ under Section E, the Commission has not placed an overall page limit on the Statement of Qualifications.

2. The opening paragraph talks about the ultimate contract would not be with the PSC but rather "some or all of the participants in this docket...". Who are the other participants?

Answer: This information is currently unknown. The Commission is, however, in the process of securing commitments from those entities voluntarily participating in this Docket.

3. I am confused as how the Commission is selecting the contractor but will not be the contracting party. Could you elaborate on this process more?

Answer: The Commission will select, but not retain, an independent, qualified, civil forensic engineering firm for an unbiased expert opinion and report. The engineering firm is being selected by the Commission to guard against partiality in any ultimate findings of the expert. As many of the parties to the dispute are not under the jurisdiction of the Commission, docket participation is

voluntarily, but all must agree to submit to the Commission's selection of the engineering firm and pledge to sign a retention contract with the engineer upon being selected by the Commission.

4. If PSC or staff is not to be the contracting entity, who will be? Does this involve outside attorneys or other lawsuits that you are aware of?

Answer: The exact contracting entities are currently unknown. The Commission is, however, in the process of securing commitments from those entities voluntarily participating in this Docket. Some or all of the parties will certainly be represented by outside attorneys or in-house counsel in this Docket. The selected engineer should expect attorney involvement. While there are no currently filed lawsuits related to this dispute, future litigation is anticipated absent resolution herein. Any report(s) prepared by the selected engineering firm may be used by any of the parties in such litigation.

5. Can a complete copy of the mentioned docket be provided to interested parties? It said Docket No 2020-AD-129 filed on September 22, 2020. I looked in the dockets for Nov, Oct and Sep and could not find the referenced docket.

Answer: To locate any and all filings in this Docket, please go to the Mississippi Public Service Commission website, www.psc.state.ms.us. Then scroll to the bottom of the webpage to "Case Files" and click. Type in the Case Year (2020) and the Case No. (129). Click Search. Thereafter, all filings will appear.

Due to the brevity of the Docket, however, copies of all filings as of this date are attached hereto as Exhibit A, for ease of reference.

Answers Prepared by:

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Mississippi Public Service Commission

BEFORE THE MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

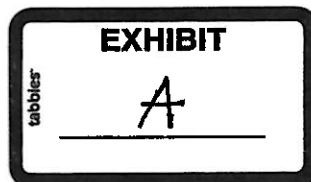
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

Docket No. '20 -AD- 129

IN RE: COMMISSION INVESTIGATION INTO THE CAUSE OF AND MEASURES TO REPAIR SINKHOLES IN HIDDEN HILLS SUBDIVISION THREATENING DAMAGE TO THE FACILITIES OF CERTAIN JURIDITIONAL PUBLIC UTILITIES, AMONG OTHERS, AND CREATING POTENTIAL SERVICE DISRUPTION AND FUTURE RATE INCREASES TO CUSTOMERS BEING SERVED BY THOSE REGULATED UTILITIES

ORDER

The Mississippi Public Service Commission ("Commission"), on its own motion, establishes this docket, in accordance with RP 15.102.1 of the *Public Utilities Rules of Practice and Procedure* ("Commission Rules"), to investigate the causation of sinkholes in the area designated as Hidden Hills Subdivision located in Rankin County, Mississippi, and to conduct hearings and issue orders, if any, but only as to its regulated utilities involved in this matter. The Commission institutes this investigation in accordance with the policies and purposes set out in *Miss. Code Ann.* §77-3-2, in particular for the promotion of economic, adequate, and reliable service. Specifically, the Commission will investigate the actions and/or inactions which caused or contributed to the sinkholes and consider the repairs or corrective measures which may be necessary to protect the public and existing utility infrastructure in the area. The Commission and its staff will investigate and pursue any such measures as are necessary and available to protect the public interest.



This Order shall be deemed issued on the day it is served upon the party herein by the Executive Secretary of this Commission who shall note the service date in the file of this Docket.

Chairman Dane Maxwell voted aye; Commissioner Brent Bailey voted aye; and Commissioner Brandon Presley voted aye

SO ORDERED, this the 22nd day of September, 2020.

MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Dane Maxwell
DANE MAXWELL, CHAIRMAN

Brent Bailey
BRENT BAILEY, COMMISSIONER

Brandon Presley
BRANDON PRESLEY, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST: A True Copy
Katherine Collier
Katherine Collier, Executive Secretary

EFFECTIVE this the 22nd day of September, 2020.

BEFORE THE MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

Docket No. '20-AD-129

IN RE: COMMISSION INVESTIGATION INTO THE CAUSE OF AND MEASURES TO REPAIR SINKHOLES IN HIDDEN HILLS SUBDIVISION THREATENING DAMAGE TO THE FACILITIES OF CERTAIN JURIDITIONAL PUBLIC UTILITIES, AMONG OTHERS, AND CREATING POTENTIAL SERVICE DISRUPTION AND FUTURE RATE INCREASES TO CUSTOMERS BEING SERVED BY THOSE REGULATED UTILITIES

ORDER REFERRING THIS MATTER FOR HEARING

The Mississippi Public Service Commission hereby refers this matter to Commissioner Brent Bailey, for hearing, report and recommendation of an appropriate Order, or any other action necessary, pursuant to *Miss. Code Ann.* § 77-3-40(6).

Chairman Dane Maxwell voted aye; Commissioner Brent Bailey voted aye; and Commissioner Brandon Presley voted aye.

SO ORDERED, this the 22nd day of September, 2020.



MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Dane Maxwell
DANE MAXWELL, CHAIRMAN

Brent Bailey
BRENT BAILEY, COMMISSIONER

Brandon Presley
BRANDON PRESLEY, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST, A True Copy



KATHERINE COLLIER
Executive Secretary

This Order is effective this the 22nd day of September, 2020.