

**IN THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

**IN RE:**

**PETITION OF TENNESSEE  
WASTEWATER SYSTEMS, INC., TO  
AMEND ITS CERTIFICATE OF  
CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY**

**DOCKET NO. 23-00073**

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**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF MATTHEW NICKS**

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**Q1. What is your name and business address?**

A. My name is Matthew Nicks, and my business address is 851 Aviation Parkway, Smyrna TN, 37167.

**Q2. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?**

A. I am the President of Tennessee Wastewater Systems, Inc. ("TWSI").

**Q3. What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?**

A. The purpose of my testimony is to support the petition filed by TWSI to amend its CCN to include the Wyelea Farms subdivision in Williamson County, Tennessee, describe the proposed development, and attest to the financial, managerial, and technical capabilities of TWSI to properly own, operate, and maintain the wastewater treatment and collection system for Wyelea Farms.

**Q4. Please describe TWSI's service territory.**

A. In 1994 the Public Service Commission (predecessor to the TPUC) granted TWSI (then called On-Site Systems, Inc.) its initial CCN. Since that time, TWSI has been granted over 100 CCNs and provides wastewater service to almost 5500 customers in 23 Tennessee counties.

**Q5. Does a public need exist for wastewater services in the proposed service area?**

A. Yes. The property is not currently served by any wastewater provider and neither Williamson County or the City of Franklin will provide service. (See Exhibits 12A and 12B) Exhibit 11 is the letter from the developer to the utility requesting service.

**Q6. Please describe the proposed Wyelea Farms project.**

- A. The Wyelea Farms subdivision is located in Williamson County, Tennessee. The subdivision is proposed to have 69 single family homes which will be built in one phase. There will also be an equestrian center on-site. The wastewater system for the subdivision and equestrian center is designed for 33,600 gpd of wastewater flow.

**Q7. What type of wastewater collection and treatment system is proposed for the Wyelea Farms subdivision?**

- A. The proposed system consists of watertight effluent pressure collection system, utilizing STEP/STEG tanks and a recirculating media filter treatment system. The treated effluent will be land applied for disposal.

**Q8. Does TWSI have the managerial and technical ability to own, operate, and maintain the treatment system for Wyelea Farms?**

- A. Yes. The treatment and collection system proposed for use at Wyelea Farms is similar to the majority of systems already owned, operated, and maintained by TWSI. TWSI's system operators and maintenance personnel will be responsible for ensuring the system is maintained and operated in compliance with TDEC regulations.

In addition to the operations and maintenance personnel, TWSI will continually monitor the system through remote telemetry and the HAWKMS system. HAWKMS gives the operators the ability to remotely monitor and control their plants. Utilizing this technology not only allows TWSI to operate and maintain sites more efficiently, but also more economically as it cuts down on the need for additional personnel, equipment, and allows the utility to optimize energy consumption based on plant conditions. Including TWSI owned systems, there are over 300 wastewater facilities using this technology.

**Q9. How will the construction of the Wyelea Farms Treatment Facility be managed and funded?**

- A. The wastewater treatment system and facility will be constructed by the developer and conveyed to TWSI as a contribution in aid of construction. At the time of this filing, a contractor has not been awarded the contract to construct the system. That information will be filed in this docket as soon as it is available. Once construction is complete and the system is approved and accepted by the utility, TWSI will be granted all necessary easements and deeded ownership of the system and land upon which the system and drip disposal areas are constructed.

**Q10. What rates and charges will be used for Wyelea Farms customers?**

- A. Wyelea Farms customers will be charged consistent with Rate Class 1 of TWSI's Residential Rate tariff and the Commercial Rate Tariff. (Exhibit 30 of the Petition).

**Q11. Does TWSI have the financial resources to provide service to the Wyelea Farms subdivision?**

A. Yes. TWSI currently has in place a \$300,000 bond approved by the Commission. Further the utility has almost 5500 customers in Tennessee which makes adding a new territory less of a financial burden to the company. The Company is also able to offset initial operations and maintenance costs through the monthly access fees paid to TWSI by owners of empty lots. A copy of the 5-year projection for the development has been included with the Petition as Exhibit 31.

**Q12. Will TWSI abide by the orders and rules of the Commission, including the Affiliate Transaction Rule, and Rule 1220-04-13-.09(7) concerning the completion of the construction of the wastewater system within three years of TPUC's written approval of the CCN if applicable?**

A. Yes.

**Q13. Does this complete your testimony?**

A. Yes.

### AFFIDAVIT

My name is Matthew Nicks and I affirm that all the information contained in the petition and in the testimony of Matthew Nicks filed in this Docket are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.



Matthew Nicks

County of Rutherford           )  
State of Tennessee           )

On this 2nd day of November 2023, personally appeared before me, Jordan Johnson, a notary public, the above-named Matthew Nicks, known to me personally who was duly sworn and on oath executed the above Affidavit.

  
Notary

My commission expires:

3/20/2027

