

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

IN RE:)
)
PETITION OF TENNESSEE)
WASTEWATER SYSTEMS, INC.,) **DOCKET NO. 26-00016**
FOR APPROVAL OF A NEW)
FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH)
THE TOWN OF COOPERSTOWN,)
ROBERTSON COUNTY,)
TENNESSEE)

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRYAN BELLAR

- Q1. What is your name and business address?**
A. My name is Bryan Bellar, 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 Director of Operations and Technology 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 for approval of a new franchise agreement with the Town of Coopertown in Robertson County, Tennessee. This new franchise agreement will replace the prior agreement with the Town.
- Q4. Please describe TWSI's wastewater activities in the Town of Coopertown.**
A. TWSI presently owns and operates 3 treatment facilities in Coopertown. This includes 348 residential customers and 6 commercial customers.
- Q5. How does the new franchise agreement differ from the current franchise agreement?**
A. The 2001 Coopertown franchise agreement granted an exclusive wastewater franchise to TWSI for a twenty-five-year term, with relatively limited operational detail and a three percent (3%) franchise fee. That ordinance functioned primarily as a grant of authority, establishing exclusivity and basic economic terms, but it did not impose extensive performance, reporting, or enforcement requirements on the operator.

The new franchise ordinance replaced that earlier framework with a non-exclusive franchise governed by a comprehensive written franchise agreement. The newer ordinance increase the franchise fee to ten percent (10%), imposed detailed operational, and financial, and compliance obligations.

Q6. Explain the increase in the franchise fee.

A. The franchise fee is a pass through from the Town to the customers. The customers currently pay a three percent (3%) franchise fee. The Town, for their own financial reasons, is increasing that amount to ten percent (10%).

Q7. Who pays the fee?

A. The customer pays the fee. The fee is included on the customer's monthly bill.

Q8. What does TWSI do with the amount collected from the franchise fee?

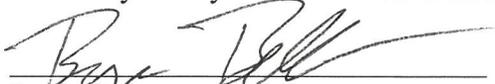
A. TWSI collects the fee and remits the amount collected to the Town each month.

Q9. Does this complete your testimony?

A. Yes.

AFFIDAVIT

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



Bryan Bellar

County of Rutherford)
State of Tennessee)

On this 26 th day of January 2026, personally appeared before me, Seneca Cordell, a notary public, the above-named Bryan Bellar, known to me personally who was duly sworn and on oath executed the above Affidavit.



Notary

My commission expires: 6/16/29

