

BEFORE THE TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

October 13, 2026

IN RE:

JOINT APPLICATION OF LIMESTONE WATER
UTILITY OPERATING COMPANY, LLC AND THE
CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION, FOR APPROVAL OF
THE ACQUISITION OF AND TO OPERATE THE
SAULSBURY DISTRIBUTION WATER SYSTEM,
AND TO TRANSFER OR ISSUE A CERTIFICATE OF
PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

DOCKET NO.
26-00036

ORDER GRANTING LIMESTONE WATER UTILITY OPERATING COMPANY, LLC'S
MOTION TO AMEND PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

This matter is before the Administrative Judge of the Tennessee Public Utility Commission (“Commission” or “TPUC”) on *Limestone Water Utility Operating Company, LLC’s Motion to Amend Procedural Schedule* (“*Motion*”) filed by Limestone Water Utility Operating Company, LLC (“Limestone” or “Company”) on October 9, 2026. The *Motion* seeks to amend the Procedural Schedule in this matter to postpone the dates for the filing of the Company’s Rebuttal Testimony, the Settlement Agreement Filing Deadline, and Target Hearing date. The *Motion* also requests that the Parties be provided an opportunity to develop and submit a proposed revised procedural schedule. The *Motion* states that the Consumer Advocate Division of the Office of the Attorney General, (“Consumer Advocate”) does not oppose the *Motion*.¹

As a basis for its *Motion*, Limestone states that the postponement is necessary due to conflicting regulatory schedules across several states. Limestone proposes that the Parties be permitted to develop and file a proposed revised procedural schedule on or before October 20, 2026.

¹ *Motion*, p. 1 (October 9, 2026).

Limestone also asserts that granting the *Motion* will provide more time for the Parties to explore settlement of this matter.²

Commission Rule 1220-04-14-.08(1) requires the Commission to approve or deny an application for acquisition within 120 days of the filing of a complete application by the filing utility. The Commission or Hearing Officer may extend the deadline for an additional 60 days for good cause shown.³ Commission Rules also permit a party to waive the benefits or rights expressed in any rule but does not permit the waiver of a party's duty.⁴ In addition, the Commission may waive the requirements of any of its rules for good cause.⁵

The Administrative Judge previously considered these rules in the ruling on the *Motion for Procedural Schedule* filed by Limestone. The Parties were unable to agree upon a hearing date for this docket and disagreed as to whether the *Joint Application of Limestone Water Utility Operating Company, LLC, and the City of Grand Junction, for Approval of the Acquisition of and to Operate the Saulsbury Distribution Water System, and to Transfer or Issue a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity* (“*Joint Application*”) was complete at its filing. Counting from the date of filing, without regard to whether the *Joint Application* was complete at its filing, Limestone's proposed hearing date was beyond the 120-day deadline and the Consumer Advocate's proposed hearing date was beyond the extended 180-day deadline. Finding sufficient good cause, the extended 180-day extended deadline was waived and this matter scheduled for hearing on November 2, 2026.⁶

The Administrative Judge finds that the deadline for adjudication of acquisition matters is a procedural deadline established by Commission Rule 1220-04-14-.08(1) rather than being a jurisdictional deadline established by statute. The purpose of the deadline is to ensure the timely

² *Id.* at Att. at 102.

³ Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 1220-04-14-.08(1).

⁴ Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 1220-01-01-.05(2).

⁵ Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 1220-01-01-.05(1).

⁶ *Order on June 20, 2026, Status Conference, Consumer Advocate's Motion for Entry of a Procedural Schedule, and Consumer Advocate's Motion to Extend Time for Hearing* (July 2, 2026).

adjudication of acquisition matters. This procedural safeguard benefits the applicant in an acquisition matter. Limestone's *Motion* serves as a waiver of the benefit of expedient adjudication of its proposed acquisition of the Saulsbury system. In addition, Limestone has presented sufficient good cause to extend the procedural schedule in this matter, citing scheduling conflicts in regulatory schedules across multiple states. Therefore, the Administrative Judge finds sufficient cause to grant Limestone's *Motion*.

For the foregoing reasons, Limestone's *Motion* is granted. The Parties are directed to develop and file a proposed revised procedural on or before October 20, 2026.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Aaron J. Conklin
Administrative Judge
By Commission Delegated Authority