



**Summit View Water Works LLC
Docket UW-240589**

Response for staff IDR #1-2 follow up

SVWW Affiliated Interest – Eagle Butte Vineyards (EBV)

SVWW and Eagle Butte Vineyards (operated by Candy Mountain LLC, “CMLLC”) share and coordinate irrigation water. The two entities have land in common with the Department of Ecology irrigation well permits. The irrigation permits were issued under “family farm permit” status, thus SVWW and CMLLC comply with State rules governing this status. EBV lands were approved for development by Benton County in the latest County Comp Plan update.

The amount of agriculture land within the common service area is decreasing, as the number of new domestic and irrigation customers served by SVWW is increasing. Currently the acreage used are Residential 579.13 and Vineyard 31.00 and are included in SVWW’s service area for both domestic and irrigation service. EBV has its own separate labor force for management and work performed in the vineyard.

EBV is located on land it purchased from CMLLC which land will be sold back to CMLLC at some point in the future, for further residential housing development. The parcels will then be sold in turn by CMLLC to Tri City Development Corp (TCDC) and developed, as has been the historic development pattern for these companies during all previous rate cases and this information has been conveyed to commission staff on multiple occasions.

The parties use the Percentage of Use (“POU”) method to determine the cost of power and water purchased. SVWW residential customers predominately use water at the same time of day. Irrigation water demand peaks between the hours of 4:00 am to 10:00 am. The company instituted a recommended water schedule in June of 2016, to distribute water use over each 24-hour period. And while the schedule is mandatory, enforcement is difficult due to the time and expense to conduct monitoring. Thus, it is not uncommon to see the affiliate Eagle Butte Vineyards discontinue irrigation during the peak usage times to make water available to SVWW residential customers.