

Control Number: 50664



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PROJECT NO. 50664

**ISSUES RELATED TO THE STATE OF
DISASTER FOR THE CORONAVIRUS
DISEASE 2019**

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**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF TEXAS**

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SECOND ORDER SUSPENDING RULES

On March 13, 2020, in response to the growing threat of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), Governor Greg Abbott issued a Declaration of State of Disaster for all counties in Texas. In each subsequent month, and most recently on July 10, 2020, Governor Abbott has renewed the disaster declaration for all Texas counties.

On March 16, 2020, the Commission issued an order under the authority found in 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 22.5(a) finding that there existed a public emergency and imperative public necessity for suspending certain rules. The abilities of the Commission and regulated entities to operate under the limitations resulting under this state of disaster and to meet the filing deadlines has improved and suspension of filing deadlines is no longer required. However, the need to continue electronic filings for non-confidential matters remains. Accordingly, the Commission revokes its previous order issued on March 16, 2020 and suspends the following rules:

Any provision in chapters 22, 24, 25, and 26 of title 16 of the Texas Administrative Code requiring that pleadings and documents in any Commission proceeding be physically filed with the Commission, and any rule that specifies the form or manner of such physical filings or requires that pleadings or documents be served on any party by a method other than email. This provision does not apply to confidential filings.

Such suspension will best serve the public interest and will not prejudice the rights of any party.

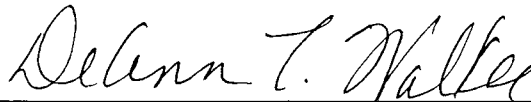
Accordingly, it is ordered that, until modified by a subsequent Commission order, in any Commission proceeding that has been assigned a docket number, tariff number, or project number, all parties must file any pleading or document with the Commission solely through the Interchange on the Commission's website and provide notice, by email, to all other parties that the pleading or

document has been filed with the Commission, unless otherwise ordered by the presiding officer. It will be incumbent upon all other parties to obtain a copy of the pleading or document by accessing the Interchange.

It is further ordered that confidential filings must comply with the requirements of 16 Texas Administrative Code §§ 22.71 and 22.72 but must be delivered to the Commission through the United States mail or a commercial carrier, such as FedEx or UPS.

Signed at Austin, Texas the 16th day of July 2020.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS



DEANN T. WALKER, CHAIRMAN



ARTHUR C. D'ANDREA, COMMISSIONER



SHELLY BOTKIN, COMMISSIONER