

Control Number: 42862



Item Number: 42

Addendum StartPage: 0

House Bill (HB) 1600 and Senate Bill (SB) 567 83<sup>rd</sup> Legislature, Regular Session, transferred the functions relating to the economic regulation of water and sewer utilities from the TCEQ to the PUC effective September 1, 2014.



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SOAH

SOAH DOCKET NO. 582-08-2571 TCEQ DOCKET NO. 2008-0507-UCR

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PETITION BY OUTSIDE RATEPAYERS APPEALING RATES ESTABLISHED BY THE TOWN OF WOODLOCH BEFORE THE STATE OF TO THE STATE OF TO THE STATE OF THE S

## TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

# ORDER NO. 2 DOCUMENTING PRELIMINARY HEARING; ESTABLISHING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE; AND NOTICES OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE AND HEARING ON THE MERITS

#### I. Documenting Preliminary Hearing

A preliminary hearing convened in this case on June 3, 2008. Exhibits ED-A, ED-B, EC-C, and ED-D were admitted into evidence for jurisdictional purposes, and the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) took official notice that jurisdiction was established.

The ALJ designated that following as parties:

	PEPRESENTATIVES :
Town of Woodloch	Robert L. Ferguson, Mayor <sup>1</sup>
Executive Director (ED), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)	Stefanie Skogen, attorney, TCEQ Environmental Law Division
Office of Public Interest Counsel (OPIC)	Eli Martinez, attorney, OPIC
Cathy Lewkowski and Petitioning Ratepayers (See Ex. ED-A)	Cathy Lewkowski
Wendy Hamrick	Wendy Hamrick

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Mr. Ferguson did not attend the preliminary hearing but contacted the SOAH Docketing office afterwards, stating that he went to the wrong location. Based on prior filings by Mr. Ferguson as Mayor of the Town of Woodloch, he is designated as its representative.

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> SOAH Dkt. No. 582-07-2751 TCEQ Dkt. No. 2008-0507-UCR

#### ORDER NO. 2

Page 2

Ms. Hamrick requested to act as representative of other ratepayers residing on Woodhollow Drive. In order to do so, she must file written authorization from such persons on or before June 30, 2008.

#### II. Procedural Schedule

The following procedural schedule is adopted and shall govern this case:

ACTIVITY
Deadline for mediation at the State Office of Administrative Hearings.
Discovery begins.
Discovery ends.
Town of Woodloch to prefile testimony.
Ratepayers and OPIC to prefile testimony.
ED to prefile testimony.
Deadline for objections to all parties' prefiled testimony.
Deadline for responses to objections to prefiled testimony.
Prehearing Conference, if needed
Hearing on the merits (1 day)

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SOAH Dkt. No. 582-07-2751 TCEQ Dkt. No. 2008-0507-UCR ORDER NO. 2

Jun 10 2008 12:17pm

Page 3

#### III. Notice of Prehearing Conference

Notice is hereby given that a prehearing conference will be held in this case, if needed, as follows:

January 5, 2009, 9:00 a.m.
State Office of Administrative Hearings
William Clements State Office Building, 4th Floor
300 W. 15th Street
Austin, Texas

Depending on the scope of the matters pending at the time, the prehearing conference may be held by telephonic conference call.

#### IV. Notice of Hearing on the Merits

Notice is hereby given that a hearing on the merits will be held in this case as follows:

January 7, 2009, 9:00 a.m.
State Office of Administrative Hearings
William Clements State Office Building, 4th Floor
300 W. 15th Street
Austin, Texas

SIGNED June 10, 2008.

THOMAS H. WALSTON

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARIN



#### **AUSTIN OFFICE**

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AGENCY:

Environmental Quality, Texas Commission on (TCEQ)

STYLE/CASE:

TOWN OF WOODLOCH

SOAH DOCKET NUMBER:

582-08-2571

REFERRING AGENCY CASE: 2008-0507-UCR

STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

HEARINGS

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ALJ THOMAS H. WALSTON

REPRESENTATIVE / ADDRESS

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xc: Docket Clerk, State Office of Administrative Hearings

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REGARDING:

ORDER NO. 3 - GRANTING AGREED REQUEST FOR MEDIATED SETTLEMENT

CONFERENCE

DOCKET NUMBER:

582-08-2571

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PETITION BY OUTSIDE RATEPAYERS APPEALING RATES ESTABLISHED BY THE TOWN OF WOODLOCH

BEFORE THE STATE OF § OF **ADMINISTRATIVE HEARI** §

#### ORDER NO. 3 GRANTING AGREED REQUEST FOR MEDIATED SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE

At the preliminary hearing held in this case held on June 3, 2008, the parties jointly requested that a mediated settlement conference be conducted by the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH). The request for a mediated settlement conference has merit.

#### Therefore, it is ORDERED that:

- The case is referred to the SOAH Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Team Leader, 1. Rence M. Rusch, for appointment of a mediator and a period of mediation. With the issuance of this Order, the official file in this case is transferred to Judge Rusch.
- The mediator will schedule a mediated settlement conference on or before July 15, 2. 2008, in consultation with the parties. The actual date will be set by the mediator after consultation with the parties. The parties request that mediation be held in either Conroe or Houston.
- The case will be returned to the presiding Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) on July 16, 2008, 3. unless extended by order of the undersigned presiding ALJ
- Each party is ordered to appear at the mediated settlement conference with a party 4. representative, in addition to counsel, who has full settlement authority for this matter.
- If the mediation is successful, the parties shall file a motion to remand this case to the TCEQ **5**. ED and to dismiss this case from the SOAH docket.

SIGNED June 10, 2008.

THOMAS H. WALSTON

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE BEARINGS



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ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

ALJ THOMAS H. WALSTON

HEARINGS

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