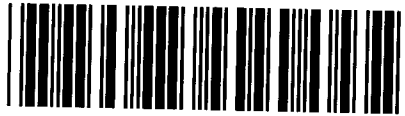


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PUC DOCKET NO. 43078

2015 JUL 20 AM 9:44

APPLICATION OF FREMONT WATER §
COMPANY FOR A WATER §
RATE/TARIFF CHANGE IN KERR §
COUNTY (37993-R) §

BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE

OF

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

SOAH ORDER NO. 2
REGARDING MEDIATION

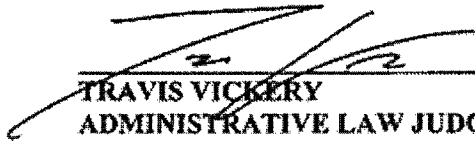
Consistent with SOAH Order No.1, a number of Protestants filed a timely request for SOAH mediation. On July 15, 2015, Staff of the Public Utility Commission (Commission or PUC) filed a timely response indicating dates it was available for mediation and that it would consider mediating this matter at the PUC. To date, Fremont Water Company has not filed a response to the request.

The Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) required the parties to file a request for mediation because some parties at the initial prehearing conference expressed an interest in mediating this matter. In an attempt to avoid unnecessary litigation costs the ALJ addressed mediation in SOAH Order No. 1. Based on Staff's assertion, in its response, that mediation could be conducted at the PUC, the ALJ seeks to clarify his position on mediating this case. The ALJ seeks only to facilitate mediation. It is irrelevant whether the mediation occurs at SOAH, with a SOAH mediator, or at the PUC, with a non-SOAH mediator.

As a result, based on the dates identified by Staff, the ALJ encourages the parties to mediate this case and for Staff to provide a status report to the ALJ on mediation results, **no later than August 25, 2015**. If the parties seek to have a SOAH mediator assigned, they shall file an agreed motion for the assignment of a SOAH mediator **no later than July 24, 2015**.

Finally, the ALJ also notes that it is possible for the parties to enter into a non-unanimous stipulation as a result of their settlement efforts.

SIGNED July 17, 2015.



TRAVIS VICKERY
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS