



Control Number: 44010



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**SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-15-2123.WS  
PUC DOCKET NO. 44010**

2015 JUL 30 AM 9:03  
PENDING CLERK

<b>PETITION OF RATEPAYERS OF THE FORMER RIVER PLACE WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS APPEALING THE RETAIL WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN</b>	§ § § § § §	<b>BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE  OF  ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS</b>
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**SOAH ORDER NO. 8  
GRANTING MOTION FOR ABATEMENT**

On July 28, 2015, the City of Austin (City) filed a motion for abatement. The City requests that this case be abated, effective from July 23 to August 27, 2015, and indicates that it will provide a status report no later than August 27, 2015. It is unclear from the motion whether the Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) agrees to the City's motion for abatement: the City states that Commission Staff is opposed to a change of the scheduled hearing, which is set for February 16-19, 2015. However, it appears that the Ratepayers of the River Place Water and Wastewater Systems (Petitioners) agree to the motion. The City also notes there are two pending discovery disputes.<sup>1</sup> The City seeks an order on its motion for abatement as soon as possible.

The undersigned Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) notes it is the Commission's policy to encourage settlement. Accordingly, the ALJ finds that the City's motion to abate is reasonable and it is GRANTED. All deadlines set out in the previous order are abated. Discovery is abated, including deadlines to respond to discovery. The hearing on the merits is abated.<sup>2</sup>

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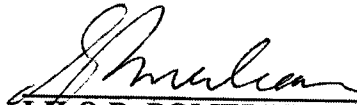
<sup>1</sup> The City did not request a ruling pending discovery disputes in its motion for abatement.

<sup>2</sup> The ALJ acknowledges that Commission Staff may be opposed to any continuation of the hearing dates.

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The City shall file a status report on or before August 27, 2015. If a settlement has not been finalized, the parties shall provide three possible dates for a prehearing conference in the status report.

**SIGNED July 29, 2015.**



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**LILLO D. POMERLEAU**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE**  
**STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS**