



Control Number: 44322



Item Number: 4

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REQUEST OF YES PREP PUBLIC §
SCHOOLS FOR EMERGENCY ORDER §
TO OBTAIN WATER SERVICE FROM §
SUNBELT FRESH WATER SUPPLY §
DISTRICT §

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF TEXAS

COMMISSION STAFF'S PRELIMINARY RESPONSE TO ORDER NO. 1

COMES NOW the Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Staff), representing the public interest, and files this Response to Order No. 1.

I. Background

On January 15, 2015, YES Prep Public Schools (YES Prep) filed an application with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) which requests the Commission issue an emergency order pursuant to 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.14. Yes Prep requests an emergency order for its charter school in Aldine (YES Prep's North Central Campus) to receive emergency water service from Sunbelt Fresh Water Supply District, rather than from Suburban Water Company, the entity that is Yes Prep's current water provider and holds the certificate of convenience and necessity (CCN No. 10835) for the area in which the YES Prep campus is located. In addition, YES Prep requests the Commission issue this emergency order without a hearing as permitted by 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.14. Yes Prep's North Central Campus services over 1000 students and faculty.

On January 16, 2015, the Commission Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) issued Order No. 1, requiring Staff to file a response to the application by January 22, 2015, including comments regarding sufficiency of the application and propose a procedural schedule for processing this application. This response is timely filed.

II. Discussion

YES Prep requests the Commission issue an order pursuant to 16 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 24.14 (Emergency Orders). YES Prep's application consists of a letter requesting the action, and a recent *Houston Chronicle* news article detailing the ongoing struggles faced by the school to manage their water needs while dealing with persistent service interruptions. YES Prep notes that

water interruptions have intensified over the past three months.¹ YES Prep specifically requests that the Commission issue an emergency order that would enable the campus to immediately obtain the necessary water service from Sunbelt Fresh Water Supply District (Sunbelt FWSD). Sunbelt FWSD currently has a water connection to the campus solely to ensure adequate water in case of fire.²

Staff is in contact with YES Prep and Sunbelt FWSD and is working to ascertain additional details of the situation, and better understand YES Prep's request and the proposed remedies. Recognizing the immediacy of YES Prep's requested action, Staff will file a complete response to Order No. 1 as soon as a practicable.

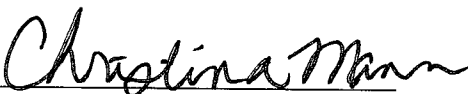
III. Conclusion

Staff recommends that an order be issued consistent with the above discussion.

Respectfully Submitted,

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DATED: January 22, 2015

¹ See *Request of Yes Prep Public Schools for Emergency Order to Obtain Water Service from Sunbelt Fresh Water Supply District*, P.U.C. Docket No. 44322, January 15, 2015.

² *Id.*

DOCKET NO. 44322
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this document will be served on all parties of record on January 22, 2015, in accordance with P.U.C. Procedural Rule 22.74.


Christina Mann