



Control Number: 44600



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DOCKET NO. 44600

APPLICATION OF ROLLING HILLS §  
WATER SERVICE, INC. FOR A RATE §  
TARIFF CHANGE §

2015 SEP 28 11:38  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
OF TEXAS  
FILED CLERK

**COMMISSION STAFF'S REQUEST FOR REFERRAL TO THE STATE OFFICE OF  
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS**

**COMES NOW** the Staff (Staff) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission), representing the public interest and files this Request for Referral to the State Office of Administrative Hearings. In support thereof, Staff shows the following:

**I. BACKGROUND**

On March 31, 2015, Rolling Hills Water Service, Inc. (Rolling Hills or Applicant) filed an Application for a Water Rate/Tariff Change (Application) for water certificate of convenience and necessity (CCN) No. 12724 in Hood County, Texas pursuant to Tex. Water Code. § 13.187 (TWC) and 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 24.22 (TAC). Rolling Hills reported an annual revenue increase of \$15,865 and proposed an effective date of June 1, 2015.

On May 1, 2015, Staff responded to Order No. 1 and recommended that Rolling Hills' application and notice be deemed administratively complete. In addition, Staff recommended that the rates proposed by Rolling Hills with an effective date of June 1, 2015, be approved and that Rolling Hills be permitted to charge the proposed rates, subject to a final Commission determination on the reasonableness of such rates. Order No. 2 deemed the application and notice administratively complete and gave Rolling Hills permission to implement the proposed rates, effective June 1, 2015, subject to a final Commission determination on the reasonableness of such rates. Order No. 3 set September 28, 2015 as the deadline for Staff to make a final recommendation or request a hearing.

**II. REQUEST FOR REFERRAL**

Pursuant to 16 TAC § 24.28, the Commission may conduct a public hearing on any application. Staff recommends that this matter be referred to the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) for a hearing on the requested rate. Staff recommends, and Rolling Hills does

not oppose, that a prehearing conference be scheduled on November 30, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. to give Rolling Hill's ratepayers adequate time to receive notice and prepare for the prehearing conference, should they wish to participate. Staff further recommends that Rolling Hills issue notice of the prehearing conference to its ratepayers in the format of the attached sample notice no later than November 9, 2015 and that proof of notice be provided to the Commission by November 16, 2015.

### III. CONCLUSION

Staff respectfully requests that an order be issued consistent with this Request.

Dated: September 28, 2015

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret Uhlig Pemberton  
Division Director  
Legal Division

Karen S. Hubbard  
Managing Attorney  
Legal Division



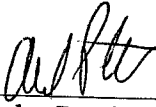
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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that a copy of this document will be served on all parties of record on September 28, 2015 in accordance with 16 TAC § 22.74.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Alexander Petak

**Donna L. Nelson**  
Chairman

**Kenneth W. Anderson, Jr.**  
Commissioner

**Brandy D. Marty**  
Commissioner

**Brian H. Lloyd**  
Executive Director



**Rick Perry**  
Governor

## *Public Utility Commission of Texas*

### **NOTICE OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE**

[Applicant Name & Water System Name]

SOAH Docket No. [SOAH ###-##-#### to be Determined]

PUC Docket No. #####

#### **Application**

[Applicant Name and Water System Name] has applied to the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) to change its water and sewer rate/tariff effective [DATE] for its service area located in [County Name(s)] Counties, Texas (Certificate of Convenience and Necessity No. #####).

#### **Prehearing Conference**

The State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) will conduct a prehearing conference on this application on:

[Date & Time]

**William P. Clements Building**  
**300 W. 15th Street, Suite # 408**  
**Austin, Texas 78701-1649**

The purpose of a prehearing conference is to name the parties, establish a procedural schedule for the remainder of the proceeding, allow an opportunity for settlement discussions, and to address other matters as determined by the judge. The evidentiary phase of the proceeding will be similar to a civil trial in state district court. The prehearing conference will be conducted in accordance with Chapter 2001 of the Texas Government Code; Chapter 13 of the Texas Water Code; the PUC's Substantive Rules, including Title 16 of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 24; and the PUC's Procedural Rules, including 16 TAC Chapter 22. More information regarding the PUC's rules and procedures can be found at <http://www.puc.texas.gov>.

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this prehearing conference and who need special accommodations at the prehearing conference should call the SOAH Docketing Department at 512-475-3445, at least one week prior to the prehearing conference. For more information on SOAH, you may visit <http://www.soah.state.tx.us> or email: [questions@soah.state.tx.us](mailto:questions@soah.state.tx.us).



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