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**SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-16-1848.WS
DOCKET NO. 44809**

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PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
FILING CLERK

**APPLICATION OF QUADVEST, L.P.
FOR A RATE/TARIFF CHANGE**

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**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF TEXAS**

**COMMISSION STAFF'S RESPONSE TO OPUC'S REQUEST TO EXTEND
INTERVENTION DEADLINE AND OBJECTION OF NOTICE**

COMES NOW the Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Staff), representing the public interest, and files this Response to OPUC's Request to Extend Intervention Deadline and Objection of Notice. In support thereof, Staff shows the following:

On December 4, 2015, Commission Staff requested that this case be referred to SOAH and, after consulting with Quadvest, LP (Quadvest or Applicant), recommended that a prehearing conference be scheduled on February 2, 2016. On January 12, 2016, this case was referred to SOAH. On January 15, 2016 SOAH Order No. 1 scheduled a prehearing conference on February 2, 2016. On January 26, 2016, Quadvest filed proof of notice of the prehearing conference, detailing that "a portion of the customer notices were sent via email on January 22, 2016 and the remaining customer notices were mailed on January 25, 2016.¹ The prehearing conference was then held on February 2, 2016 and attended by Quadvest, Commission Staff and OPUC.

The Administrative Procedure Act, Tex. Gov't Code Ann. § 2001.051 (West 2008 & Supp. 2014) (APA) requires that in a contested case, each party is entitled to an opportunity for hearing after reasonable notice of not less than ten days. In addition, Tex. Admin. Code § 22.54(a) requires that notice be provided in accordance with the APA and that ten days notice shall be given of the initial prehearing conference in a proceeding. Quadvest provides evidence that the last notices were sent out on January 25, 2016, seven days before the prehearing conference. While Staff does not contend another prehearing conference is necessary at this time, Staff does contend it is in the public interest to give customers additional time to intervene in this case. Staff requests that customers be given 10 days from the date that Quadvest issues the notice to intervene.

After a conversation with OPUC and Quadvest on February 10, 2016, the parties agree that this additional notice can be issued with the next bill, which Quadvest represented would go out on or about February 20, 2016. Included in this insert would be an explanation of the intervention

¹ Proof of Ratepayer Notice of Prehearing Conference, (Jan. 26. 2016).

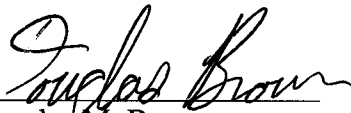
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deadline extension, language detailing how to intervene, and the procedural schedule agreed upon at the February 2, 2016 prehearing conference. The parties will be exchanging drafts of the proposed notice to determine exactly what language it should include. Staff requests that Quadvest submit proof of notice to the Commission once it has been issued.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret Uhlig Pemberton
Division Director
Legal Division

Stephen Mack
Managing Attorney
Legal Division

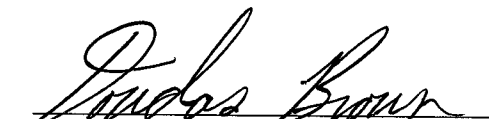


Douglas M. Brown
Attorney- Legal Division
State Bar No. 24048366
(512) 936-7203
(512) 936-7268 (facsimile)
Public Utility Commission of Texas
1701 N. Congress Avenue
P.O. Box 13326
Austin, Texas 78711-3326

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this document will be served on all parties of record February 10, 2016, in accordance with 16 TAC § 22.74.



Douglas M. Brown