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

**APPLICATION OF
QUADVEST, LP
FOR RATE/TARIFF CHANGE**

§ **BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE**
§
§ 2016 FEB 29 PM 2:23
§ OF
§ PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
§ FILING CLERK
§ **ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS**

**SOAH ORDER NO. 2
EXTENDING DEADLINE TO INTERVENE,
ADOPTING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE, ISSUING PROTECTIVE ORDER,
AND NOTICE OF HEARING ON THE MERITS**

On February 2, 2016, an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) for the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) convened a prehearing conference in Austin, Texas. The ALJ makes the following rulings on the pending matters.

1. Office of Public Utility Counsel's (OPUC) Motion to Extend Intervention Deadline and Objections to Notice.

On February 3, 2016, OPUC filed a motion seeking to extend the time for interventions. OPUC also objected to the adequacy of the notice for the February 2, 2016 prehearing conference because Quadvest, LP did not provide the notice to its customers at least 10 days before the hearing and the notice did not provide an explanation on how to intervene or participate in the proceeding.

On February 5, 2016, Quadvest responded to OPUC's motion. Quadvest argued that OPUC waived its objections by not asserting them at the February 2, 2016 prehearing conference. Quadvest also stated that the February 2, 2016 hearing was set on January 15, 2016, and it issued the notice as quickly as it could.

On February 10, 2016, Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) filed a response to OPUC's request. Staff points out that 16 Texas Administrative Code § 22.54(a) requires 10-days' notice of a prehearing conference. Although Staff concedes that Quadvest's notice was issued only seven days before the hearing, Staff does not contend that another prehearing conference is necessary. However, Staff does argue that in the public interest, Quadvest's customers should have additional time to intervene in this case.

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The ALJ grants OPUC's request to extend the deadline to intervene and the deadline to intervene is **March 15, 2016**.

2. Adopting Procedural Schedule

At the February 2, 2016 prehearing conference, Quadvest, Staff, and OPUC agreed to a procedural schedule, and the ALJ adopts the following schedule that will govern this proceeding.

Date	Action
June 5, 2015	Application filed
February 22, 2016	Quadvest prefiles its direct testimony and updated rate case expense testimony, including exhibits
March 1, 2016	Deadline for objections to Quadvest's direct evidence
March 8, 2016	Deadline for responses to objections
10 Days from date last notice was sent	Deadline to submit Proof of Notice (Sample Notice and Affidavit of Notice)
March 15, 2016	Deadline for requests to intervene
April 6, 2016	Intervenors prefile their direct testimony and exhibits.
April 11, 2016	Settlement conference
May 6, 2016	Staff prefiles its direct testimony and exhibits
May 10, 2016	Deadline for objections to Intervenors' and Staff's direct evidence
May 13, 2016	Quadvest prefiles its rebuttal testimony and exhibits.
May 13, 2016	Deadline for responses to objections to Intervenors' and Staff's direct evidence
At hearing on the merits	Deadline for objections to Quadvest's rebuttal evidence

Date	Action
At hearing on the merits	Deadline for responses to objections to Quadvest's rebuttal evidence
May 24-26, 2016	Hearing on the merits at 9:00 a.m.

In addition, all responses to requests for information (RFIs) or other discovery requests served on Quadvest are due **10 calendar days** after the requesting party serves the RFIs or discovery requests on Quadvest. All responses to RFIs served on Staff or the Intervenors are due **10 business days** after the requesting party serves the RFIs or discovery requests on those parties. Any objections to RFIs or other discovery requests must be made **within 10 calendar days** of the request. Motions to compel are due **5 business days** after the objections, responses to motions to compel are due **2 business days** after the motion, and replies are due **2 business days** after the response.

3. Issuance of Protective Order


On February 5, 2016, Quadvest filed a proposed protective order. No party objected to the proposed order. Accordingly, the ALJ adopts and issues Quadvest's protective order attached to its February 5, 2016 request.

4. Notice of Hearing on the Merits

The ALJ will convene the hearing on the merits on:

May 24-26, 2016, at 9:00 a.m.
State Office of Administrative Hearings
300 W. 15th Street, Fourth Floor
Austin, Texas

SIGNED February 29, 2016.


KERRIE JO QUALTROUGH
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS