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**SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-17-0249.WS
PUC DOCKET NO. 45510**

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PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
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APPLICATION OF HOE WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION AND HARRIS COUNTY MUD NO. 480 FOR SALE, TRANSFER, OR MERGER OF CERTIFICATE RIGHTS IN HARRIS COUNTY	§ § § § § §	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
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COMMISSION STAFF'S UNOPPOSED MOTION TO ABATE

COMES NOW the Staff (Staff) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission), representing the public interest, and files this Unopposed Motion to Abate.

I. Background

On January 11, 2016, HOE Water Supply Corporation (HOE WSC) and Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 480 (Harris County MUD) filed an application for approval of a sale, transfer, or merger of facilities and certificate of convenience and necessity (CCN) rights in Harris County (Application). HOE WSC seeks approval to transfer a portion of its water service area to Harris County MUD. On September 20, 2016, the Commission referred this proceeding to SOAH. On September 30, 2016, the SOAH Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) issued SOAH Order No. 1 setting a prehearing conference for November 2, 2016. Therefore, this Motion to Abate is timely filed.

II. Unopposed Motion to Abate

Staff files this Unopposed Motion to Abate to allow time for the parties to gather the necessary documentation to avoid incurring potentially unnecessary expenses related to a prehearing conference. Staff recommended referral of this matter to SOAH to determine whether the sale contemplated in the application is in the public interest. Since referring this matter to SOAH, the parties have been in discussion regarding the potential of acquiring Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ) approval of facility and distribution plans for the new water system. Staff has discussed the abatement with all parties and all parties are unopposed to an abatement of the proceeding to allow time for Harris County MUD to acquire TCEQ's approval. The parties will file monthly status reports to ensure the continued advancement of this docket beginning on November 30, 2016.

III. Conclusion

Staff respectfully requests that ALJ issue an order abating this proceeding.

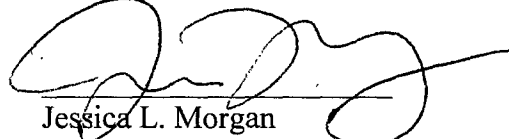
Dated: October 26, 2016

Respectfully Submitted,

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS
LEGAL DIVISION**

Margaret Uhlig Pemberton
Division Director

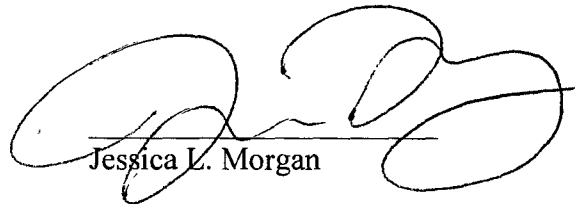
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**DOCKET NO. 45510
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that a copy of this document will be served on all parties of record on this October 26, 2016 in accordance with 16 TAC § 22.74.



Jessica L. Morgan