



Control Number: 45570



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**SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-16-2873.WS
PUC DOCKET NO. 45570**

RECEIVED

**APPLICATION OF MONARCH
UTILITIES I, L.P. TO CHANGE RATES
FOR WATER AND SEWER SERVICE**

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BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
OF FILING CLERK
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

**SOAH ORDER NO. 4
CONFIRMING INTERVENORS;
GRANTING MOTION TO LIFT ABATEMENT;
SETTING NEW SCHEDULE AND HEARING DATES**

On June 24, 2016, Monarch Utilities I, L.P. (Monarch) filed a motion to lift the period of abatement, adopt a proposed procedural schedule, and grant interim rates. The Administrative Law Judges (ALJ) find merit in the motion, which is GRANTED as set out below.

The ALJs have reviewed the service list and Order No. 2 and found that three ratepayers requesting intervention were added to the service list (and therefor received Order Nos. 2 and 3) but were not listed as intervenors in Order No. 2. These are ratepayers are added to the list: Jerry Batt, David Norris, and Douglas Penland.

Lifting Abatement and Adopting Procedural Schedule

Deadline	Action
August 8, 2016	Deadline for objections to Monarch direct
August 10, 2016	Mandatory settlement conference
August 17, 2016	Deadline for Intervenor direct or statement of position (mandatory or Intervenor shall be dismissed)
August 17, 2016	Deadline for discovery on Monarch direct
August 22, 2016	Deadline for objections to Intervenor testimony
August 24, 2016	Deadline for PUC Staff direct
August 29, 2016	Deadline for objections to Staff direct

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Deadline	Action
August 31, 2016	Deadline for discovery on Intervenor and Staff direct
August 31, 2016	Deadline for replies to objections to Intervenors' direct
August 31, 2016	Deadline for Monarch rebuttal and workpapers
September 2, 2016	Deadline for replies to objections to Staff direct
September 5, 2016	Deadline for discovery on Monarch rebuttal (response of 3 working days)
September 7-13, 2016	Hearing on the merits
October 5, 2016	Initial post-hearing briefs
October 19, 2016	Reply briefs

Notice of Settlement Conference

A mandatory settlement conference will convene on:

August 10, 2016, at 10:00 a.m.
State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH)
William P. Clements Office Building
300 West 15th Street, Fourth Floor
Austin, Texas

Subject to the mediator's directives, attendance is mandatory for all parties. The parties, however, are not required to settle and may send a representative to the mediation with authorization to settle on their behalf. In the event the parties want a SOAH mediator, the Staff of the Public Utility Counsel of Texas shall file a request for the assignment of a SOAH mediator **no later than July 11, 2016**. It is the ALJs' understanding that, absent a SOAH mediator, Staff will be conducting the mediation at SOAH. If this is incorrect, the ALJs shall be notified by July 11, 2016.

Notice of Hearing

The hearing on the merits in this matter will convene on:

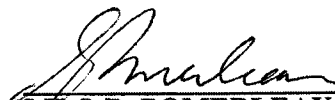
September 7, 2016, at 9:00 a.m.
State Office of Administrative Hearings
William P. Clements Office Building
300 West 15th Street, Fourth Floor
Austin, Texas

The hearing will continue from day to day and is currently set for five full days. Those attending the hearing are advised that they must check in with building security personnel in the lobby of the William P. Clements Building and be issued visitor badges before proceeding to the hearing room. The parties should allow sufficient time for the check-in procedure.


Granting Interim Rates

No party objected to Monarch's motion for interim rates. Accordingly, Monarch's motion is GRANTED. Effective September 1, 2016, Monarch's current water and wastewater rates will be set as interim rates pursuant to Texas Water Code § 13.187(l) until the Commission sets final rates. Monarch SHALL timely file its interim tariff pages with the Commission's docket clerk.

SIGNED July 1, 2016.



LILLO D. POMERLEAU
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS



TRAVIS VICKERY
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS