

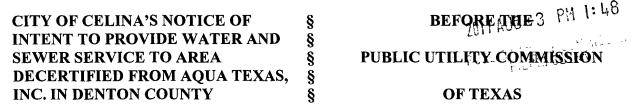
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COMMISSION STAFF'S RESPONSE TO AQUA TEXAS, INC.'S SECOND MOTION FOR REHEARING

COMES NOW the Staff (Staff) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission), representing the public interest, and files this Commission Staff's Response to Aqua Texas, Inc.'s Motion for Rehearing. In support thereof, Staff shows the following:

On April 13, 2017, the Commission issued a final order in this matter. On May 8, 2017, Aqua Texas, Inc. (Aqua) timely filed a Motion for Rehearing. The Commission issued an Order on Rehearing on June 29, 2017, which clarified certain language, but did not change the Commission's reasoning or ultimate decision. On July 19, 2017, Aqua filed a second Motion for Rehearing. Pursuant to Tex. Govt. Code § 2001.146(b), a party must file a reply to a motion for rehearing not later than the 40th day after the date the decision or order that is the subject of the motion is signed. Therefore, this reply is timely filed by August 8, 2017.

Staff continues to support the Commission's decision in this proceeding and respectfully recommends denial of Aqua's second Motion for Rehearing. The Commission's Order on Rehearing is supported by substantial evidence, is in the public interest, and is in compliance with the law. The second Motion for Rehearing filed by Aqua is indistinguishable from its first Motion for Rehearing and thereby fails to raise any new issues that were not already considered by the Commission and addressed in the Order on Rehearing. Accordingly, Aqua's second Motion for Rehearing should be denied.

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Dated: August 3, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS LEGAL DIVISION

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this document was served on all parties of record on August 3, 2017, in accordance with 16 TAC § 22.74.

Erika N. Garcia