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APPLICATION OF SUBURBAN
UTILITY COMPANY, INC. FOR
RATE/TARIFF CHANGE

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PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

2017 JAN 19 PM 12:01

OF TEXAS

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
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**SUBURBAN UTILITY COMPANY, INC.'S MOTION TO PERMIT
SERVICE OF PLEADINGS AND DOCUMENTS BY ALTERNATIVE METHOD**

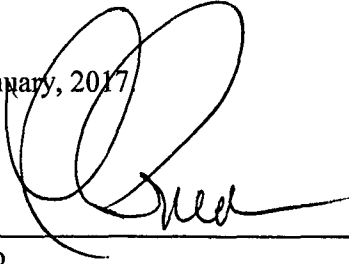
Pursuant to Texas Administrative Code ("TAC"), §22.74 (c), which is a section of the procedural rules of the Texas Public Utility Commission's ("Commission") governing the procedures in this case, SUBURBAN UTILITY COMPANY, INC. ("SUBURBAN") requests that it and all parties to this case be permitted to serve all pleadings, responses, motions, correspondence and other documents on other parties to this case by the alternate method of email service. In an effort to minimize costs and time in the service of pleadings and documents between the parties to this proceeding, SUBURBAN requests that the Presiding Officer issue an order permitting the parties to serve all pleadings, motions, documents, exhibits, and other documents in the course of this proceeding by the means of email. SUBURBAN would respectfully note to the Presiding Officer in this case that in the Order adopting the amendments to Commission's rules issued by the Commission On November 10, 2016, the Commission considered numerous objections submitted by the Office of Public Utility Commission the use of emails for the service of pleadings and documents in a case pending before the Commission and the State Office of Administrative Hearings. The Commission in this Order while adopting the amendments to TAC §22.74(c) rejected all of the OPUC's arguments against the use of email service of pleadings in a case. In the Order adopting the amendments to the Commission's rules, the Commission found that email service of pleadings in a case is sufficiently secure to protect the information contained therein, and was a preferred means of service of pleadings and other documents in a case. SUBURBAN also submits that permitting service of pleadings and documents by email in case assures the timely service of such documents to the other parties and greatly reduces the cost of having to make numerous and oft-time voluminous copies of pleadings and documents in a case, particularly in cases that become contested where there numerous discovery documents, motions and pre-filed testimony and exhibits have to be filed in the case. In addition, permitting service of pleadings in this case will not only save all

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parties the cost of making potentially voluminous copies but it also minimizes the postage cost to parties which can be quite expensive in large contested cases.

Accordingly, based on the preference stated by the Commission in its Order of November 10, 2016 when it adopted the amendments to its procedural rules in favor of permitting service of pleadings and documents by email, and given the benefits and reduction in costs to all parties in this case by utilizing this method to serve such documents, SUBURBAN requests that the Presiding Officer in this case issue an order that permits the service of pleadings, documents, materials and other documents between the parties through the means of email pursuant to TAC §22.74(c). SUBURBAN also requests such other and further relief as the Presiding Officer may deem just and proper.

Respectfully submitted this 19th day of January, 2017

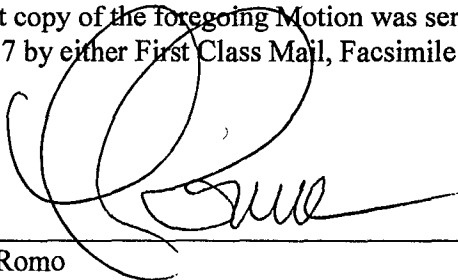


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ATTORNEY FOR SUBURBAN UTILITY COMPANY, INC.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Motion was served on the known parties to date on the 19th day of January, 2017 by either First Class Mail, Facsimile Transmission or hand delivery.



Les Romo