

Control Number: 47662



Item Number: 23

Addendum StartPage: 0

SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-18-0847.WS PUC DOCKET NO. 47662

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PETITION OF TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT APPEALING A DECISION BY THE CITY OF GOLIAD TO CHANGE WATER AND SEWER RATES

BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE O FILL: 53

OF

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

SOAH ORDER NO. 2 ADOPTION OF PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

I. INTRODUCTION

On October 2, 2017, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) filed a petition appealing the decision of the City of Goliad to increase water and wastewater rates for the Goliad State Park and Historic Site, which TPWD owns and manages. Goliad State Park is a customer of the City of Goliad but is located outside the corporate limits. The City of Goliad announced the rate increase in a letter dated June 29, 2017, with an effective date in August 2017. TPWD represents at least 10 percent of those ratepayers whose rates have been changed and is therefore eligible to appeal the change to the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission), which has jurisdiction to hear the appeal and set the rates, under Texas Water Code § 13.043.

The Commission issued an Order of Referral on November 6, 2017, referring the case to the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) for assignment of an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) to conduct a hearing. The Commission adopted a preliminary order in open meeting on December 14, 2017, setting out the issues to be addressed in the SOAH proceeding.

II. ADOPTION OF PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

The parties submitted a joint proposed procedural schedule on December 18, 2017. The ALJ adopts the proposed schedule as follows:



Event	Deadlines
City of Goliad's Direct Case	May 14, 2018
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Direct Case	June 28, 2018
Staff Direct Case	August 15, 2018
Objections to Direct	September 5, 2018
City of Goliad's Rebuttal Case	September 25, 2018
Objections to City of Goliad's Rebuttal	October 13, 2018
Prehearing Conference	October 24, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.
Hearing on the merits	October 25-26, 2018, at 9:00 a.m.

II. REQUIRING STATEMENT REGARDING COURT REPORTER

As noted in the procedural schedule laid out above, the parties estimate that the hearing on the merits will last longer than one day. Under 1 Texas Administrative Code § 155.423(b),¹ for any proceeding set to last longer than one day, a court reporter is required. No later than October 24, 2018, the parties shall confirm that a court reporter will be provided at the hearing and address how the court reporter's fees will be paid. The ALJ notes that in proceedings before the Commission, Kennedy Reporting Services, Inc. is typically used.

SIGNED December 19, 2017.

JÖANNE SUMMERHAYS ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

¹ This SOAH procedural rule is not inconsistent with 16 Texas Administrative Code § 22.204.