

Control Number: 48697



Item Number: 41

Addendum StartPage: 0

## **SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-20-1117.WS PUC DOCKET NO. 48697**

APPLICATION OF ANDERSON § PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

WATER COMPANY, INC. FOR §

AUTHORITY TO CHANGE RATES § OF TEXAS

## JOINT STATUS REPORT AND REQUEST TO CANCEL PREHEARING CONFERENCE

**COMES NOW** the Staff (Staff) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission), representing the public interest, and Anderson Water Company, Inc. (Anderson) (collectively, the Parties) and file this Joint Status Report and Request to Cancel Prehearing Conference. In support thereof, the Parties would show the following.

#### I. BACKGROUND

On October 1, 2018, Anderson filed an application with the Commission for a water rate/tariff change with an effective date of November 28, 2018, under Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) No. 11675 in Grimes County.

On December 13, 2019, Anderson filed a document requesting "an extension of the jurisdictional deadline which is currently set for January 16, 2020." On December 18, 2019, the State Office of Administrative Hearings Administrative Law Judge (SOAH ALJ) issued SOAH Order No. 2, stating that, under Texas Water Code (TWC) § 13.1871(g) and 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 24.33(a)(2), the Commission, and, by delegation, the SOAH ALJ are authorized to suspend the effective date of the requested rate for 265 days. The SOAH ALJ noted that the statutes reference a suspension deadline, not a jurisdictional deadline, and that neither the Commission, nor, by delegation, the SOAH ALJ, have the authority to suspend the effective date beyond 265 days from the proposed effective date. The SOAH ALJ stated that applicants in similar dockets can, and often do, agree to extend the effective date. In SOAH Order No. 2, the SOAH ALJ required that the Parties submit a status report on the issue of the suspension deadline no later than January 10, 2020.

#### II. STATUS REPORT ON THE SUSPENSION DEADLINE

The Parties have conferred regarding the suspension deadline, its effects, and the possibility of setting a new effective date. After reviewing the amount of time required for a

4

hearing on the merits, post-hearing briefing, the 60 days necessary for the SOAH ALJ to write a proposal for decision, and the need for the matter to be considered at an open meeting of the Commission, the parties have reached an agreement. The Parties would respectfully request that a new effective date of December 1, 2019 be set for Anderson's rates.

### III. REQUEST TO CANCEL PREHEARING CONFERENCE

As the Parties have reached an agreement regarding the effective date, and there are no other issues currently outstanding in this docket, the Parties would respectfully request that the SOAH ALJ issue an order cancelling the prehearing conference for January 22, 2020.

### IV. CONCLUSION

The Parties would respectfully request that the new effective date of December 1, 2019be set for Anderson's rates, and that the prehearing conference on January 22, 2020 be cancelled.

Dated: January 10, 2020

Respectfully Submitted,

# PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS LEGAL DIVISION

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### ANDERSON WATER COMPANY

Jessica Sechelski

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Representative

Anderson Water Company

## **SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-20-1117.WS PUC DOCKET NO. 48697 CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that a copy of this document will be served on all parties of record on this the 10th of January 2020 in accordance with 16 TAC § 22.74.