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APPLICATION OF ANDERSON § BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE WATER COMPANY, INC. FOR § OF

AUTHORITY TO CHANGE RATES § ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

SOAH ORDER NO. 6 GRANTING JOINT MOTION TO ABATE AND REFER TO MEDIATION

On April 9, 2020, Anderson Water Company, Inc. (Anderson) and the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) Staff filed a joint motion to abate this case and refer it to mediation. The parties request that the procedural schedule be abated for a period of 60 days while they attempt to reach a mediated settlement. Anderson represents in the motion that it will agree to a day-for-day extension of the suspension period of the proposed rates' effective date while the case is abated.

The Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) finds that this motion should be **GRANTED**. IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that the procedural schedule is **ABATED** for a period of 60 days from the date of this order, and that:

- 1. This case is referred to the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) Alternative Dispute Resolution Team Leader for appointment of a mediator and a period of evaluation and/or mediation. The mediator/evaluator will be contacting the parties directly.
- 2. If the mediator/evaluator determines mediation should be tried, the mediator will schedule a mediation in consultation with the parties.
- 3. If the mediator/evaluator schedules a mediation, the parties are ordered to appear at the mediation with a party representative who has full authority to settle this case on behalf of that party.
- 4. The mediation process shall be concluded and this case returned to the presiding (undersigned) ALJ no later than 60 days from the date of this order, unless extended by order of the presiding ALJ.

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It is further **ORDERED** that the parties shall submit a status report informing the ALJ if an agreement is reached, or if no agreement is reached between the parties during the mediation, Staff will confer with Anderson and will submit an updated proposed procedural schedule and status report by the conclusion of the abatement period.

SIGNED April 16, 2020.

DANIEL WISEMAN

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS