



Control Number: 49189



Item Number: 77

Addendum StartPage: 0

Mr. Brocato's Direct Line: (512) 322-5857  
Email: tbrocato@lglawfirm.com

2019 SEP 27 PM 3:33

September 27, 2019

**VIA HAND-DELIVERY**

The Honorable Christiaan Siano  
The Honorable JoAnne Summerhays  
Administrative Law Judges  
State Office of Administrative Hearings  
ATTN: CENTRAL RECORDS  
Public Utility Commission of Texas  
1701 N. Congress Ave.  
Austin, TX 78711-3326

Re: *Application of the City of Austin d/b/a Austin Water for Authority to Change  
Water and Wastewater Rates*, SOAH Docket No. 473-19-6297.WS,  
PUC Docket No. 49189

Dear Judge Siano and Judge Summerhays:

Yesterday, Austin Water proposed setting October 25 as the deadline for filing objections to Austin Water's direct testimony. Austin Water initially proposed October 18 but agreed to October 25 as a compromise with Commission Staff. Austin Water selected October 25 for the following reasons:

1. Austin Water's application has been on file since April 15. As of October 25, parties will have had the filing over six months. This is ample time to prepare any objections.
2. Austin Water will be preparing rebuttal testimony and conducting discovery after October 18. Delaying the filing of objections will impact Austin Water's ability to focus on preparing rebuttal testimony.
3. Resolving any controversy over direct testimony as early as possible will assist parties in knowing the scope of the proceeding and in the preparation of rebuttal testimony.

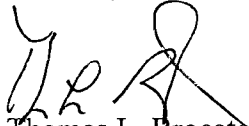
In the letter filed earlier today by the Districts, they argue that additional time is needed due to objections filed to their discovery. Respectfully, Austin Water has objected only to those questions that are legally objectionable under the law. Moreover, parties have had over five months to ask discovery. Regardless, "awaiting responses" does not justify moving the deadline for filing objections further than October 25.

September 27, 2019

Page 2

For the foregoing reasons, Austin Water requests the Administrative Law Judges revise the procedural schedule consistent with the schedule contained in Austin Water's September 26, 2019 letter. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TLB', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Thomas L. Brocato  
Attorney for Austin Water

TLB:jmc  
0749\16\

cc: All Parties of Record