



Control Number: 49351



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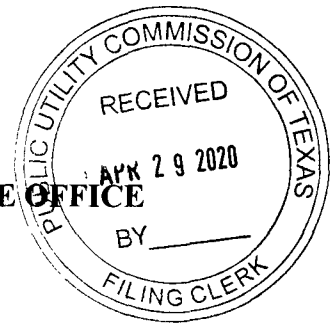
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**SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-19-674.WS
PUC DOCKET NO. 49351**

**RATEPAYERS' APPEAL OF THE
DECISION BY BEAR CREEK
SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT TO
CHANGE RATES**

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**BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
OF
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS**



COMMISSION STAFF AND RATEPAYERS' JOINT STATUS REPORT

COMES NOW the Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Staff), representing the public interest and files this Joint Status Report on behalf of Staff and Deborah G. Fato and Michaelangelo Dillon, the representatives of the ratepayers (the "Ratepayers") of Bear Creek Special Utility District (the "District") . In support thereof, the Parties shows the following:

On August 14, 2019, a preliminary hearing was held in this proceeding, during which the Parties expressed interest in mediation. On August 15, 2019, SOAH Order No. 3 was issued, referring this case to mediation and suspending the procedural scheduled adopted in SOAH Order No. 2. Staff, the Ratepayers, and Bear Creek Special Utility District (collectively, "the Parties") filed a Joint Status Report and Request for Extension on October 28, 2019, requesting that the abatement of the proceeding be extended an additional 90 days. On November 4, 2019, SOAH Order No. 4 was issued, extending the abatement and directing the Parties to file a status report by January 30, 2020. The Parties filed a Joint Status Report and Request for Extension on January 30, 2020, requesting the abatement of the proceeding be extended for an additional 90 days. SOAH Order No. 5, issued on February 3, 2020, extended the abatement and directed the Parties to file "a motion to dismiss this proceeding; a status report regarding the status of the resolution; or an agreed proposed procedural schedule" no later than April 29, 2020. Therefore, this pleading is timely filed.

Staff has continued to work with the District and Ratepayers to facilitate mediation and pursue settlement of this proceeding. Staff and the Ratepayers have agreed to request an additional 30 days to carry on informal efforts to resolve this matter. In addition, Staff and the Ratepayers jointly request that formal mediation with SOAH be scheduled for the week of June 29, 2020 to July 3, 2020, if possible, and that this case be abated for an additional 30 days. If the

Parties cannot informally reach a settlement within the next 30 days, Staff will work with the parties to propose and file an agreed procedural schedule to facilitate the continued processing of this docket should mediation at SOAH also fail to result in a resolution. Staff attempted to contact counsel for the District via phone and email regarding this proposal and was unsuccessful.

Date: April 29, 2020

Respectfully Submitted,

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS
LEGAL DIVISION**

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s/ Kourtnee Jinks
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that, unless otherwise ordered by the presiding officer, notice of the filing of this document was provided to all parties of record via electronic mail on April 29, 2020, in accordance with the Order Suspending Rules, issued in Project No. 50664.

s/ Kourtnee Jinks

Kourtnee Jinks