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DOCKET NO. 50721

APPLICATION OF CRYSTAL CLEAR § PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
WATER, INC. FOR AUTHORITY TO §
CHANGE RATES § OF TEXAS

COMMISSION STAFF'S REQUEST FOR REFERRAL

COMES NOW the Staff (Commission Staff) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission), representing the public interest, and files this response to Order No. 8, Commission Staff's Request for Referral. In support thereof, Staff shows the following:

I. BACKGROUND

On April 8, 2020, Crystal Clear Water, Inc. (Crystal Clear) filed a Class C Rate Change Application with the Commission for service provided in Bosque County under Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) No. 12997.

Order No. 8, issued September 4, 2020, established a deadline of March 8, 2021, for Commission Staff to file a final recommendation or request a hearing in this proceeding. Therefore, this pleading is timely filed.

II. REQUEST FOR REFERRAL

Order No. 8 set the effective date in this proceeding as December 1, 2020. 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 24.35(c)(2) states that "the commission will set the matter for a hearing if it receives [. . .] protests from the lesser of 1,000 or 10 percent of the affected ratepayers of the utility over whose rates the commission has original jurisdiction, during the first 90 days after the effective date of the proposed rate change." In this case, over 100 protests have currently been received, far exceeding the 10 percent threshold. Thus, Staff requests that the Commission refer the matter to the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) for an evidentiary hearing pursuant to 16 Texas Administrative Code § 24.35(c)(2).

III. CONCLUSION

Commission Staff respectfully requests that an order be issued referring this docket to SOAH for a hearing on the merits.

Dated: December 2, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS
LEGAL DIVISION**

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/s/ Rustin Tawater
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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 December 2, 2020, in accordance with the Order Suspending Rules, issued in Project No. 50664.

/s/ Rustin Tawater
Rustin Tawater