

Control Number: 50806



Item Number: 24

Addendum StartPage: 0

SOAH NO. 473-20-3633 PUC DOCKET NO. 50806

APPLICATION OF EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY TO REVISE ITS ENERGY EFFICENCY COST RECOVERY FACTOR AND ESTABLISH A REVISED COST CAP **BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE**

OF

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

DECLARATION OF NORMAN J. GORDON

\$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$\$ \$

THE STATE OF OHIO)) COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA)

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared NORMAN J. GORDON, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed hereto, and being by me duly sworn, upon his oath, stated as follows:

1. My name is Norman J. Gordon. My business address is PO Box 8, El Paso, Texas, 79940. I am over eighteen years of age and I am not disqualified from making this Declaration. I declare under penalty of perjury that the information in this declaration provided under Chapter 132 Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code is true and correct.

2. I am an attorney licensed in the States of Texas and Illinois, and numerous federal courts. I received my undergraduate degree and law degree from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. I have been in private practice of law in El Paso since completing my military obligation with the Judge Advocate General's Corps of the United States Army in 1974. I am board certified in Civil Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization and have been so certified since 1983. One of the areas of my practice is in the area of utility regulation. Since 1978, I have been lead counsel for parties in many major rate cases, rule making proceedings, and other administrative dockets before City Councils, the Railroad Commission of Texas, the Public Utility Commission of Texas, State District Courts, United States Bankruptcy Court, and Texas Appellate Courts, including the Supreme Court of Texas. I have filed testimony and testified as an expert witness on rate case expenses in cases before the Public Utility Commission of Texas, so regulation to members of the Public Utility Regulation Board of the City of El Paso, an advisory board on utility matters.

3. I became a sole practitioner in February 2019. Prior to February 2019, I was a shareholder in the El Paso firm of Mounce, Green Myers, Safi, Paxson & Galatzan, A

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Professional Corporation, from October 2003 until February 2019. Prior to that time my private practice was with the El Paso law firm of Diamond Rash Gordon & Jackson, P.C., for 29 years where I was a shareholder.

4. The City of El Paso ("City") engaged me to act as outside counsel for it in EPEC's prior EECRF case, PUC Docket 49496 SOAH No. 473-19-4223

5. In connection with the case, I billed a total of \$5,495.00 in fees. I also charged expenses in the amount of \$129.24 for a total of \$5,664.24. The description of services is provided in the attached invoices, by day, attorney and services performed. The invoices and support are attached to this Affidavit as Attachment "A" and incorporated herein. The only expenses charged were copy expenses, overnight delivery for filings at the Commission. There were no charges for first class travel or hotel expense. There is no markup on the expenses. The expenses were reasonable. Although I billed for the services of ReSolved Energy Consulting, and its statements are attached to mine, ReSolved Energy Consulting fees are not included in the above total.

6. The total for. ReSolved Energy Consulting was \$4,590.00. I am familiar with the work performed by Mr. Nalepa in general and in connection with the case and his hours, hourly rate and total cost are reasonable. Mr. Nalepa's Declaration is attached as Attachment "B".

7. The total of fees and expenses is \$10,277.14.

8. I am familiar with the hourly rates charged by others in Texas with similar or less experience for similar work, through the cases in which I have acted as counsel and through the cases in which I have filed testimony. The hourly rates charged by me of \$350.00 was reasonable.

9. All of the work done by me was necessary and reasonable with respect to both time and amount considering the nature, extent, and difficulty of the work, the originality of the issues presented including the nature of the issues raised and addressed by the City in this proceeding, and the amount of time spent by and charges by others for work of a similar nature in this and other proceedings. The expenses incurred were all reasonable and necessary for the presentation and prosecution of the City's case.

Further Declarant Says Not.

Dated July 2, 2020

Norman J. Gordon

ATTACHMENT A TO DECLARATION OF NORMAN J. GORDON

NORMAN J GORDON ATTORNEY AT LAW PO Box 8 EL PASO, TEXAS 79940 (915) 203-4883

STATEMENT

Statement Date:	July 1, 2020
Statement No.	152
Account No.	1.10
	Page: 1

City of El Paso 300 N. Campbell Attn: Office of the City Attorney PO Box 1890 El Paso, TX 79950-1890 El Paso TX 79901

Attn: Karla M. Nieman

RE EECRF 2020

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<u>⊢ees</u>

04/02/2019	NJG To City Hall for Executive Session presentation and return	Rate 350.00	Hours 1.10	385.00
04/28/2019	NJG Review Energy Efficiency Report for Discussion with Council	350.00	1.10	385.00
06/12/2019	NJG Prepare backup material for rate case expense affidavit, Drafting of affidavit.	350.00	2.20	770.00
06/13/2019	NJG Complete affidavit of RC expenses, review filing for issues related to Residential programs and issues related to request for cost cap. Tel K. Nalepa	350.00	3.00	1,050.00
06/19/2019	NJG Review of Nalepa Draft Testimony, affidavit, prepare and finalize testimony for filing.	350.00	2.10	735.00
06/25/2019	NJG Tel. B. Slocum re: possible suspension of procedural schedule.	350.00	0.10	35.00
06/26/2019	NJG Tel. K. Nalepa and B. Slocum (2) re settlement potential.	350.00	0.40	140.00
06/28/2019	NJG Tel. B. Slocum (2) and K. Nalepa re: settlement proposal and resolution.	350.00	0.50	175.00
07/01/2019	NJG E-mails telephone re: settlement proposals.	350.00	0.30	105.00
07/03/2019	NJG Preparation of Motion for Council consideration.	350.00	0.40	140.00
07/05/2019	NJG Preparation for Council presentation.	350.00	0.60	210.00
07/08/2019	NJG Retrieve data for Council presentation, To City Hall for Council presentation and return.	350.00	1.50	525.00
10/10/2019	NJG Review Commissioner Memo/Tel. B. Slocum	350.00	0.30	105.00
10/11/2019	NJG Review EPE response to Commissioner Memo/Monitor PUC Open meeting for action on proposed order.	350.00	0.80	280.00
10/23/2019	NJG Review EPE revised calculations for change in expenses and			

EECRF 2020

					Rate	Hours	
		bonus/compare changes in rates by clas Motion/cover, E-mail to B. Slocum	s, Identify change in		350.00	0.60	210.00
11/13/2019	NJG	Review Revised Final Order in Commiss	ioner Memo		350.00	0.30	105.00
11/14/2019	NJG	Monitor Final Order Meeting for Action			350.00	0.20	70.00
11/21/2019	NJG	Receipt and Review of Final Order as sig	ned, transmit to client.		350.00	0.20	70.00
		For Current Services Rendered				15.70	5,495.00
			Recap				
			Timekeeper	Rate		Total	
	Norman	J Gordon	15.70	\$350.00	\$5,	495.00	
		E	penses				
		E	(penses				
0528/2019		Courier Charges (UPS) to PUCT					21.65
06/19/2019`		Photocopy charges Testimony to be filed	1				84.95
06/06/2019		ReSolved Energy Consulting					1,980.00
06/19/2019		UPS to PUCT					62.64
07/03/2019		ReSolved Energy Consulting					2,610.00
		Total Advances					4,759.24
		Total Current Work					10,254.24
		Balance Due					\$10,25424

Please make checks payable to "Norman J. Gordon"

ReSolved Energy Consulting, LLC

11044 Research Blvd, A-420 Austin, TX 78759

Invoice

DATE	INVOICE NUMBER
6/6/2019	4402

BILL TO]			
Norman Gordon Law Norman Gordon 221 N. Kansas St., Suite 700 El Paso, TX 79901				
			PROJECT	
		EPE	19 EECRF 49490	5
DESCRIPTION	HOURS		RATE	AMOUNT
Consulting (Nalepa) Consulting (Cromleigh) Total Labor		2 8	270.00 180.00	540.00 1,440.00 1,980.00
Work Completed thru - May 31, 2019	I	тот	AL DUE	\$1,980.00

Karl Nalepa

Date	Task	Hours
May 3, 2019	Download and review filing.	0.80
May 6, 2019	Continue to review filing.	0.80
May 23, 2019	Call with N. Gordon to discuss procedural schedule and scope of testimony.	0.20
	lay 29, 2019 Call with N. Gordon to discuss issues and draft procedural schedule.	0.20
		2.00

Erin Cromleigh

Date	Task	Hours
May 16, 2019	Review filing.	2.60
May 17, 2019	Review filing and identify issues. Work on discovery.	2.00
May 20, 2019	Review Direct Testimony of Perea and expenses.	2.20
	Review expenses and program summaries.	1.00
	Review RFI responses to Staff.	0.20
		8.00

ReSolved Energy Consulting, LLC

11044 Research Blvd, A-420 Austin, TX 78759

Invoice

DATE	INVOICE NUMBER
7/3/2019	4421

BILL TO]			
Norman Gordon Law Norman Gordon 221 N. Kansas St., Suite 700 El Paso, TX 79901				
			PROJECT	
		EPE	E 19 EECRF 4949	6
DESCRIPTION	HOURS		RATE	AMOUNT
Consulting (Nalepa) Consulting (Cromleigh) Total Labor		74	270.00 180.00	1,890.00 720.00 2.610.00
Work Completed thru - June 30, 2019		тот	AL DUE	\$2,610.00

Karl Nalepa

Date	ate Task	
June 3, 2019	Review responses to Staff discovery.	0.60
June 11, 2019	Call with N. Gordon to discuss case issues.	0.20
June 13, 2019	Call with N. Gordon to discuss case issues.	0.40
June 14, 2019	Review EECRF rates history.	0.40
June 18, 2019	Revise draft testimony and prepare rate case expense affidavit.	2.00
June 19, 2019	Complete testimony and affidavit. Send to N. Gordon for review. Review completed filing package.	1.60
	Review responses to Staff discovery.	0.40
	Call with N. Gordon to discuss program recommendations.	0.40
June 28, 2019	Emails with N. Gordon regarding settlement proposal.	0.20
		7.00

Erin Cromleigh

Date	Task	Hours
June 6, 2019	Work on draft testimony.	1.00
June 7, 2019	Work on draft testimony.	1.70
June 13, 2019	Research EECRF rate history by class.	0.80
June 14, 2019 Research EECRF rate history by class.	0.50	
		4.00



Delivery Service Invoice Invoice Date June 1, 2019

Invoice Date June 1, 2019 Invoice Number 000087FR50229 Shipper Number 87FR50

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Outbound

UPS Internet Shipping

Pickup			ZIP			Published	Incentive	Billed
Date	Tracking Number	Service	Code	Zone	Weight	Charge	Credit	Charge
05/28	1Z87FR500100062628	Next Day Air Commercial Letter	78701	106	Letter	40.11	-20.06	20.05
		Customer Weight			05			
		Fuel Surcharge				3.21	-1 61	1.60
		Total				43.32	-21 67	21.65
	1st ref: 49496		ι	JserID:	Njgordon2			
	Sender : Norman Gord	on		Rec	eiver: Cer	ntral Records		
	Norman J Go	rdon			Pub	lic Utility Com	mission of T	
	25864 Fairmo	unt Blvd			170	1 N Congress		
	BEACHWOO	D OH 44122			AUS	STIN TX 78701		
Total for Interne	t-ID: Njgordon2					43 32	-21.67	21.65
Total UPS Internet Ship	ping			1 Pack	age(s)	43.32	-21 67	21.65
Total Outbound	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			1 Pack	age(s)	43.32	-21.67	21.65

Filing Motion at PUC

Ups

Delivery Service Invoice Invoice Date June 22, 2019

Invoice Date June 22, 2019 Invoice Number 000087FR50259 Shipper Number 87FR50

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Outbound

Pickup			ZIP			Published	Incentive	Billed
Date	Tracking Number	Service	Code	Zone	Weight	Charge	Credit	Charge
06/18	1Z87FR500103820839	Next Day Air Commercial	78701	106	1	66.65	-33.33	33.32
		Letter						
		Customer Weight			0.7			
		Fuel Surcharge				4.50	-2.25	2.25
		Total				71.15	-35.58	35.57
	1st ref: 49395		1	UserID:	Njgordon2			
	Sender : Norman Gord	on		Rec	eiver: Cer	ntral Records		
	Norman J Go	rdon			Put	olic Utility Comm	nission of T	
	25864 Fairmo	unt Blvd			170	1 N Congress		
	BEACHWOO	D OH 44122			AU	STIN TX 78701		
06/19	1Z87FR500113071648	Next Day Air Commercial	78701	106	8	117.36	-58.68	58.68
		Fuel Surcharge				7.92	-3.96	3.96
Charge is for DN 49496		Total				125.28	-62.64	62.64
Testimony Filed at PUC	1st ref: 49395			UserID:	Njgordon2			
	Sender : Norman Gord	on		Rec	eiver: Cer	ntral Records		
	Norman J Go	rdon			Put	olic Utility Comm	nission of T	
25864 Fairmount Blvd				170	1 N Congress			
	BEACHWOO	D OH 44122			AU	STIN TX 78701		
Total for Interne	et-ID: Njgordon2					196.43	-98.22	98.21
Total UPS Internet Ship	pping			2 Pack	age(s)	196.43	-98.22	98.21
					age(s)		-98.22	

Adjustments & Other Charges

Shippi	ng Charge Corrections	s Learn how to avoid future	shipping ch	arge co	rrections.	Visit www.ups	s.com/avoidch	arges.	
Pickup		Original Service/	ZIP			Published	Incentive	Billed A	djustmen
Date	Tracking Number	Corrected Service	Code	Zone	Weight	Charge	Credit	Charge	Amoun
06/19	1Z87FR500113071648	Next Day Air	78701	106	8	117.36	-58.68	58.68	
		Next Day Air	78701	106	9.0	118.18	-59.09	59.09	
		Fuel Surcharge				0.06	-0.03	0.03	0.44
	1st r	ef: 49395							
	Send	er: NORMAN GORDON			Receiv	ver: Central Re	cords		
NORMAN J GORDON ATTORNEY KANSAS			Public Utility Commission of T						
			1701 N Congress						
		EL PASO TX 79901				AUSTIN T	X 78701		
Total S	hipping Charge Corre	ections			1 Pa	ckage(s)			0.44
Total A	djustments & Other C	harges							0.44

49496

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002 038201 (017) T1 \$ 0.24 Machine Stapling QTY 12	
Reg Unit Price \$ 0.02 003 010060 (002) T1 \$ 3.85 12 x 12 x 6 box	
004 030181 (016) ****\$**** TO \$ 2.61 12x12x6 Serv Std	
SubTotal \$ 78.85	
COUNTY (T1) \$ 6.10 Total \$ 84.95	
CHASE VISA \$ 84.95 ACCOUNT NUMBER * **********************************	
ENTRY METHOD: ChipRead MODE: Issuer AID: A0000000031010 TVR: 0080008000 TSI: F800 AC: B810A48F5240B321 ARC: 00	
Receipt (D 83106653486151888675 1457 Items CSH: LOPA Tran: 8696 Reg: 001	
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ATTACHMENT B TO DECLARATION OF NORMAN J. GORDON

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SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-20-3633 PUCT DOCKET NO. 50806

APPLICATION OF EL PASO	§
ELECTRIC COMPANY TO ADJUST	§
ITS ENERGY EFFICIENCY COST	§
RECOVERY FACTOR AND	§
ESTABLISH REVISED COST CAP	§

BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE

OF

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

DECLARATION OF KARL J. NALEPA CONCERNING RESOLVED ENERGY CONSULTING EXPENSES FOR THE EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY 2019 EECRF PROCEEDING

I, Karl J. Nalepa, state the following facts upon my oath.

- 1. My name is Karl J. Nalepa. My business address is 11044 Research Blvd., Suite A-420, Austin, Texas 78759. I am over eighteen years of age and am not disqualified from making this Declaration. I declare under penalty of perjury that the information in this declaration provided under Chapter 132 Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code is true and correct.
- 2. I am the President of ReSolved Energy Consulting, LLC, ("REC") and independent utility consulting company.
- 3. I was retained by the City of El Paso in El Paso Electric Company's 2019 Energy Efficiency Cost Recovery Factor ("EECRF") proceeding before the Public Utility Commission of Texas, Docket No. 49496.
- 4. I am providing this declaration to address the necessity for, and reasonableness of, REC's actual expenses incurred in Docket No. 49496.
- 5. REC's actual fees and expenses incurred in Docket No. 49496 related to time spent to review and evaluate the filing, review responses to discovery and assist counsel in settlement negotiations. The hours charged are set forth in Table 1, and the corresponding invoices are attached to this affidavit.

<u>Consultant</u>	Hourly Rate	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Actual</u>
Karl Nalepa	\$270	9.0	\$2,430.00
Erin Cromleigh	\$180	12.0	\$2,160.00
Total Actual		21.0	\$4,590.00

Table 1

- 6. My billing rate was \$270 per hour. This was the normal billing rate that I charged for services provided to both regulated and non-regulated entities. This rate was reasonable for a consultant providing these types of services before utility regulatory agencies in Texas. My hourly rate was especially reasonable given I have more than 30 years of utility rate regulatory experience. Assisting me in this proceeding was Erin Cromleigh. Ms. Cromleigh is a Consultant with REC and has over 10 years of government and regulatory experience. Her billing rate was \$180 per hour. Ms. Cromleigh works under my direction and supervision. Part of the basis for my opinion is a review of the hourly rates charged by other consultants to perform similar services.
- 7. No REC personnel billed in excess of 12 hours on any given day to this case. No REC personnel incurred any airline, lodging, or meal expenses. No REC personnel charged for any luxury items. There are no instances of double billing for REC's services.
- 8. Based on the novelty of the issues in the case, my extensive experience relating to analysis of a variety of rate proceeding matters, and the requirements regarding support for rate case expenses before the Public Utility Commission of Texas, I conclude that: (1) REC's hourly rates are reasonable; and (2) the 21.0 actual hours in this case are both reasonable and necessary.

Executed in Travis County, State of Texas, on the 2nd day of July, 2020.

Karl J. Nalera

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