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DOCKET NO. 51023

APPLICATION OF THE CITY OF SAN \$ PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION ANTONIO TO AMEND ITS \$ CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE \$ OF TEXAS

AND NECESSITY FOR THE SCENIC §

LOOP 138-KV TRANSMISSION LINE IN BEXAR COUNTY

COMMISSION STAFF'S MOTION FOR CLARIFICATION OF ORDER NO. 1

COMES NOW the Staff (Staff) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission), representing the public interest, and files this Commission Staff's Motion for Clarification of Order No. 1 in this proceeding.

I. BACKGROUND

On July 22, 2020, the City of San Antonio, acting by and through the City Public Service Board (CPS Energy), filed an application to amend its certificate of convenience and necessity for the proposed Scenic Loop 138-kilovolt (kV) transmission line project in Bexar County, Texas.

On July 23, 2020, Order No. 1 was issued, noting that the following four issues must be addressed in all CCN dockets:

- 1. Has the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, Inc. (ERCOT) recommended the proposed transmission project as necessary to alleviate "existing and potential transmission and distribution constraints and system needs within ERCOT" in the annual report filed under Public Utility Regulatory (PURA) § 39.155(b)? If not, is there a need for the proposed transmission project?
- 2. If such a need exists, is the proposed transmission project the best option to meet the need, based on an analysis taking into account considerations of efficacy, reliability, costs, and benefits?
- 3. For utilities subject to the unbundling requirements of PURA § 39.051, is the proposed transmission project the best option when compared to employing distribution facilities to meet the specified need?
- 4. For utilities not subject to the unbundling requirements of PURA § 39.051, is the proposed transmission project the best option when compared to employing

distribution facilities, distribution generation, and/or energy efficiency to meet the specified need?

Order No. 1 provided Staff a deadline of August 5, 2020 to file recommendations or comments on CPS Energy's responses to the above issues.

II. REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION

Order No. 1 provided a deadline for Staff to file recommendations or comments on CPS Energy's responses to the above issues; however, Order No. 1 neither ordered CPS Energy to respond to the above issues nor provided a deadline for CPS Energy to file its responses. Without CPS Energy's responses, Staff has nothing to review. In addition, with the exception of this docket and Docket Nos 50910, 51016, and 50964, the standard Order No. 1 in electric CCNs typically requires the utility rather than Commission Staff to file responses to the questions related to alternatives to the project and does not typically require Commission Staff to comment on those responses. Therefore, Staff respectfully requests clarification of Order No. 1 as to whether it is the intent to have Commission Staff address the aforementioned questions in electric CCN proceedings, and if necessary, that CPS Energy be ordered to respond to the above issues by a specific date so that Commission Staff can formulate its recommendations or comments on CPS Energy's responses.

III. CONCLUSION

Staff respectfully requests clarification of Order No. 1.

Dated: July 30, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS LEGAL DIVISION

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/s/ Rustin Tawater

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DOCKET NO. 51023 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 July 30, 2020, in accordance with the Order Suspending Rules, issued in Project No. 50664.

/s/ Rustin Tawater
Rustin Tawater