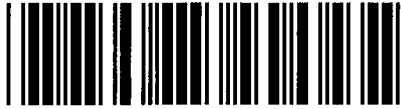




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DOCKET NO. 52226

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PETITION BY OUTSIDE CITY § PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
RATEPAYERS APPEALING THE §  
WATER RATES ESTABLISHED BY § OF TEXAS  
THE CITY OF MELVIN §

**ORDER NO. 1  
REQUIRING RESPONSES AND  
ADDRESSING OTHER PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

**I. Petition**

On June 10, 2021, certain ratepayers (Petitioners) of the City of Melvin filed, under Texas Water Code § 13.043(b)(3) and 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 24.101(c)(3), an appeal of Melvin's rates approved by the Melvin City Council on January 18, 2021, under city ordinance number 314 and effective with the February 2021 billing cycle.

**II. Requiring Comments on the Administrative Completeness of Appeal**

Commission Staff must file comments on the administrative completeness of the petition by July 12, 2021.<sup>1</sup>

**III. Response to Petition by Melvin**

Melvin must file a response to the petition by July 12, 2021.

**IV. Requesting Procedural Schedule**

By July 19, 2021, Melvin, Petitioners, and Commission Staff must confer and file comments on how this proceeding should be processed and propose a procedural schedule.

**V. Certificate of Service Required**

**In all future filings, Petitioners must include a certificate of service in compliance with 16 TAC § 22.74(e). Service of pleadings is typically governed by 16 TAC § 22.74. However, the Commission has issued a Second Order Suspending Rules,<sup>2</sup> which has suspended certain service requirements found in 16 TAC § 22.74. Accordingly, a filing party must provide**

<sup>1</sup> 16 TAC § 24.8(a) and 16 TAC § 22.4(a).

<sup>2</sup> *Issues Related to the State of Disaster for the Coronavirus Disease*, Docket No. 50664, Second Order Suspending Rules (July 16, 2020).

notice by e-mail of any pleading or document filed. It will be incumbent upon all other parties to obtain a copy of the pleading or document by accessing the Interchange.

## VI. Filings

Unless otherwise specified, an original and ten copies of documents relating to this proceeding must be filed with the Commission's filing clerk in accordance with 16 Texas Administration Code (TAC) § 22.71. **In light of the Commission's Second Order entered in Docket No. 50664, this requirement will be considered satisfied if pleadings are filed with the Commission through the Interchange on the Commission's website as long as the Commission's Second Order is in effect.**<sup>3</sup>

Service of pleadings is typically governed by 16 TAC § 22.74. However, as long as the Commission's Second Order remains in effect, all parties must file any pleading or document with the Commission solely through the Interchange on the Commission's website and provide notice, by email, to all other parties that the pleading or document has been filed with the Commission, unless otherwise ordered by the presiding officer. It will be incumbent upon all other parties to obtain a copy of the pleading or document by accessing the Interchange at: <https://interchange.puc.texas.gov>.

All parties are required to provide their current addresses, **e-mail addresses**, telephone and fax numbers, if available, to all other parties and to the Commission by filing and serving all parties with such information. Each party must provide the Commission and all parties with updated address, **e-mail address**, telephone, and fax information if such information changes. The **e-mail addresses**, telephone and fax numbers will be included on the service list for the convenience of the parties. Parties are responsible for updating their own service lists to reflect changed information and the addition of any other parties.

## VII. Ex Parte Communications

*Ex parte* communications with the administrative law judge (ALJ) are prohibited under 16 TAC § 22.3(b)(2). Parties must communicate with the ALJ only through written documents filed with the Commission's filing clerk and served on all parties. Questions concerning this Order

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<sup>3</sup> *Id*

or any other order must be submitted in writing, filed with the Commission, and served on all parties of record.

**Signed at Austin, Texas the 11th day of June 2021.**

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christina Denmark", written over a horizontal line.

**CHRISTINA DENMARK  
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE**

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