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APPLICATION OF EAST HOUSTON UTILITIES INC. FOR AUTHORITY TO CHANGE RATES

BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE

OF

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

COMMISSION STAFF'S STATUS REPORT

I. INTRODUCTION

On July 29, 2021, East Houston Utilities Inc. (East Houston) filed a request for a rate increase for its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) No. 12042.

On June 12, 2023, a hearing on the merits was held at the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH). During the hearing, the Staff (Staff) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) made an oral motion for interim rates and an oral motion for abatement of these proceedings. SOAH Order No. 7, granted the abatement and ordered interim rates. Order No. instructed Staff to file a status report by September 18, 2023.

II. STATUS REPORT

East Houston and the intervenors have filed multiple documents on the agency interchange but the parties remain unable to reach a settlement agreement. Staff respectfully requests that a hearing on the merits be scheduled for a date on or after the week of November 6, 2023. Staff also respectfully requests that the deadline for direct testimony be set for 2 weeks prior to the date of the hearing on the merits.

III. CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated above, Staff respectfully requests that the ALJs enter an order setting a hearing on the merits for a date on or after the week of November 6, 2023 and a deadline for direct testimony 2 weeks prior to date of hearing on the merits. Date: September 19, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS LEGAL DIVISION

Marisa Lopez Wagley Division Director

<u>/s/ Marisa Lopez Wagley</u> Marisa Lopez Wagley State Bar No. 00788597 1701 N. Congress Avenue P.O. Box 13326 Austin, Texas 78711-3326 (512) 936-7216 (512) 936-7268 (facsimile) Marisa.wagley@puc.texas.gov

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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 September 19, 2023 in accordance with the Second Order Suspending Rules, issued in Project No. 50664.

<u>/s/ Marisa Lopez Wagley</u> Marisa Lopez Wagley