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BEFORE THE
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE
HEARINGS

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

SOAH ORDER NO. 10
GRANTING MOTION TO ABATE

On February 27, 2024, East Houston Utilities, Inc. (EHU) filed a Notice of Appearance and Motion to Abate, stating that EHU had retained counsel and requesting that the hearing set for March 6, 2024, be continued and the case abated. EHU bases this request on counsel's need to familiarize himself with the case and to allow EHU to explore settlement. Commission Staff agrees with the request. The intervenors who responded are opposed to abatement, noting the already lengthy duration of this matter.

While sympathetic to the intervenors' concerns, the Administrative Law Judge finds that additional settlement negotiations, this time with counsel, would

be in the parties' best interests. However, no additional continuances will be granted to EHU, absent the parties' agreement. Accordingly, EHU's motion is **GRANTED**. The hearing set for March 6, 2024, is **CONTINUED**, and this case is **ABATED**. **No later than April 5, 2024**, the parties **SHALL** file either a status report or a proposed procedural schedule.

Signed February 29, 2024

ALJ Signature(s):

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

Daniel Wiseman,

Presiding Administrative Law Judge