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APPLICATIONS OF EAST HOUSTON	§	PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
UTILITIES INC. FOR AUTHORITY TO	§	
CHANGE RATES	§	OF TEXAS

**COMMISSION STAFF'S REQUEST FOR REFERRAL TO THE STATE OFFICE OF
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS**

On July 29, 2021, East Houston Utilities Inc. (East Houston) filed an application for authority to change rates under Texas Water Code (TWC) §§ 13.1871 and 13.1872(c)(2) for its certificate of convenience and necessity (CCN) number 12042.

On May 3, 2022, the administrative law judge (ALJ) filed Order No. 8 and set a deadline of May 25, 2022 for Staff to file a its response to Order No. 8. Therefore, this pleading is timely filed.

I. REQUEST FOR REFERRAL

Staff respectfully requests that this matter be referred to the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) for continued processing. Staff anticipates there will be questions of law and fact that may need to be developed to properly address the applications in this matter, as well as the arguments put forward by protesting ratepayers in this matter

II. CONCLUSION

For the reasons discussed above, Staff respectfully recommends that this matter be referred to SOAH for continued processing.

Dated: May 25, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

**PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS
LEGAL DIVISION**

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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 May 25, 2022, in accordance with the Order Suspending Rules, issued in Project No. 50664.

/s/ Kevin R. Bartz

Kevin R. Bartz