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APPLICATION OF SOUTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY TO AMEND ITS CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO CONVERT HARRINGTON GENERATING STATION FROM COAL TO NATURAL GAS BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE OF

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT UNDER SECTION 4 OF THE PROTECTIVE ORDER

The undersigned attorney for Southwestern Public Service Company ("SPS" or the "Company") submits this statement under Section 4 of the protective order entered in this case and has reviewed the information provided in SPS's response to Sierra Club's sixth set of RFIs sufficiently to state in good faith that the information is exempt from disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act ("PIA") and merits the Highly Sensitive or Protected Materials designation.

In response to Sierra Club RFI 6-6, SPS provided confidential trade secret information in the following exhibits: Exhibit SPS-SC 6-6(A)(V)(CONF)(USB), which includes cost modelling data and excel files. The information provided in these responses is not publicly available and is the proprietary, trade secret information of SPS. The information is protected under Section 552.110(b) of the PIA because the information explicitly meets the definition of "trade secret."¹ That definition includes "scientific, technical, economic, or engineering information, and any formula, design, prototype, pattern, plan, compilation, program device, program, code, device, method, technique, process, procedure, financial data" such as the information described above. Moreover, the information is a trade secret because (1) SPS has taken reasonable measures under

¹ Tex. Gov't Code Ann § 552.110(a).

the circumstances to keep the information secret and (2) the information derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable through proper means by, another person who can obtain economic value from the disclosure or use of the information.²

Moreover, the material contains commercially sensitive information, and could be used by competitors to gain an advantage or replicate SPS analyses and processes for their own purposes. Public release of the information, therefore, would cause substantial competitive harm to SPS and third parties that are not parties to this proceeding. The information is therefore exempt from disclosure under Section 552.110(c) of the PIA.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark A. Santos State Bar No. 24037433 Kate Norman State Bar No. 24051121 C. Glenn Adkins State Bar No. 24103097 COFFIN RENNER LLP 1011 West 31st Street Austin, Texas 78705 (512) 879-0900 (512) 879-0912 mark.santos@crtxlaw.com kate.norman@crtxlaw.com

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 April 26, 2022, in accordance with the Order Suspending Rules, issued in Project No. 50664.

C. Glenn Adkins