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### SOAH DOCKET NO. 473-22-04394 PUC DOCKET NO. 53719

ENTERGY TEXAS, INC.'S STATEMENT	§	BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE
OF INTENT AND APPLICATION FOR	§	
<b>AUTHORITY TO CHANGE RATES</b>	§	$\mathbf{OF}$
	§	
	§	ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

# ENTERGY TEXAS, INC.'S TWELFTH PETITION FOR REVIEW OF MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES AND MOTION TO CONSOLIDATE

Pursuant to PURA<sup>1</sup> § 33.051, Entergy Texas, Inc. ("ETI" or the "Company") hereby submits this Twelfth Petition for Review of Municipal Ordinances, appealing the decisions adopted by the cities listed in Exhibit A to deny ETI's Statement of Intent and Application for Authority to Change Rates. ETI also moves to consolidate this appeal with the above-captioned proceeding. This Petition is timely because it is filed within 30 days of each City's final decision.<sup>2</sup> In support of this Petition and Motion, ETI shows the following:

#### I. JURISDICTION

The Public Utility Commission of Texas ("Commission") has jurisdiction over this Petition and Motion pursuant to PURA §§ 32.001, 33.051, 33.053, 33.054, and 36.001.

### II. REQUEST FOR REVIEW AND CONSOLIDATION

On July 1, 2022, ETI filed with the Commission a Statement of Intent and Application to change its electric utility rates ("Application"). ETI concurrently filed the Application with the cities in ETI's service territory that had retained original jurisdiction over ETI's rates within their municipal boundaries. In the ordinances identified in Exhibit A and attached to this Petition as Exhibit B, the Cities declined to approve ETI's requested rate changes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Public Utility Regulatory Act, Tex. Util. Code §§ 11.001-66.016 ("PURA").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> While ETI endeavors to file each ordinance within 30 days in accordance with PURA § 33.053(b), ETI is including with this petition ordinance from the City of West Orange issued on October 10, 2022. ETI received this ordinance on January 19, 2023 and has filed it as expediently as possible.

ETI therefore requests that the Commission exercise its appellate jurisdiction to conduct a *de novo* review of the listed actions denying ETI's Application, consolidate this appeal with Docket No. 53719, and establish the final rates that the cities would have set by approving ETI's Application. This appeal involves issues of law and fact common to those involved in Docket No. 53719. Further, separate hearings on this appeal and Docket No. 53719 would result in unwarranted expense, delay, and substantial injustice.<sup>3</sup>

### III. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, ETI respectfully requests that the Commission grant this Petition for review of the municipal actions set forth in Exhibit B, Motion to Consolidate, and the relief requested in ETI's Application.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 22.34(a).

Dated: January 19, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

BANG.

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ATTORNEYS FOR ENTERGY TEXAS, INC

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of January 2023, a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was served on all parties of record in this proceeding.

George G. Hoyt

# EXHIBIT A LIST OF CITIES AND DATES OF ORDINANCES

Date of Municipal Action	City
October 10, 2022	West Orange

# EXHIBIT B CITY ORDINANCES

## **ORDINANCE NO. 473**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEST ORANGE. TEXAS DENYING **ENTERGY** TEXAS. INC.'S STATEMENT OF INTENT AND APPLICATION FOR **AUTHORITY TO CHANGE RATES FILED ON JULY 1.** 2022; FINDING THAT THE MEETING COMPLIES WITH THE **OPEN MEETINGS** ACT: **MAKING** OTHER FINDINGS AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE SUBJECT: AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

**WHEREAS**, on or about July 1, 2022, Entergy Texas, Inc. ("Entergy") filed its Statement of Intent and Application for Authority to Change Rates with the City of West Orange ("City") to increase electric rates in the Entergy Service Area by approximately \$131.4 million per year; and

**WHEREAS**, Cities have exclusive original jurisdiction over the rates, operations and services of an electric utility in areas in the municipality pursuant to the Public Utility Regulatory Act §33.001(a); and

WHEREAS, Public Utility Regulatory Act § 33.021 requires a local regulatory authority to make a reasonable determination of rate base, expenses, investment and rate of return and retain the necessary personnel to determine reasonable rates; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of West Orange suspended the effective date of Entergy's rates within its jurisdictional limits until at least November 3, 2022, and hired the Lawton Law Firm, P.C. to review the Entergy's rate change request and proposed tariffs; and

**WHEREAS**, the expert utility rate consultants retained to review the Entergy's rate increase on behalf of the City proposed adjustments to Entergy's requested profit levels, depreciation recoveries, and other cost of service items, and concluded that Entergy has not justified the need for a rate increase; and

**WHEREAS**, Entergy has failed to justify increasing the rates previously determined to be reasonable and necessary by this City and other Texas regulatory authorities; and

WHEREAS, the statutory deadline to act on Entergy's rate increase request is November 3, 2022.

# NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST ORANGE, TEXAS, that:

<u>Section 1.</u> That the statement and findings set out in the preamble to this Ordinance are hereby in all things approved and adopted.

<u>Section 2.</u> The City of West Orange hereby denies the rate increase and proposed tariff revisions requested in Entergy's Statement of Intent.

<u>Section 3.</u> Entergy is hereby ordered to continue operating under its existing approved rates.

<u>Section 4.</u> The meeting at which this Ordinance was approved was in all things conducted in strict compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

Section 5. This ordinance shall become effective from and after its passage.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by vote of the City Council of the City of West Orange, Texas, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2022.

**CITY OF WEST ORANGE, TEXAS** 

Randy Branch, Mayor

ATTEST:

Theresa Van Meter, City Secretary

APPROVED:

Christophe Leavins, City Attorney