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Item Number - 53

PUC Docket No. 57957

BEFORE THE

STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE

HEARINGS

Suffix: PUC

APPLICATION OF CENTERPOINT ENERGY HOUSTON ELECTRIC, LLC TO AMEND ITS CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO REBUILD A 138-KV TRANSMISSION LINE IN GALVESTON COUNTY

SOAH ORDER NO. 10

DISMISSING INTERVENORS; CANCELING HEARING ON THE MERITS AND FINAL PREHEARING CONFERENCE; ADMITTING EVIDENCE; DISMISSING FROM SOAH DOCKET AND REMANDING TO COMMISSION

I. DISMISSING INTERVENORS

CenterPoint Houston Electric, LLC's, unopposed motion to dismiss intervenor parties for failure to file testimony or statement of position is GRANTED.¹ Accordingly, intervenors Irwin Dreyfus, Sandra Bucaram, Charles D. Litton, Stephen Miller, Margaret Stroud, Melanie Ekblad, and Eva Maximous are each DISMISSED from this proceeding under 16 Texas Administrative Code §§ 22.124 and 22.161.

In the meantime, the remaining intervenor party, Hijo de Playa, LLC, has withdrawn its intervention and given notice that it does not oppose CenterPoint Houston's Application. Accordingly, Hijo de Playa, LLC, is also DISMISSED from this proceeding. This ruling also renders moot Hijo de Playa's pending objections to CenterPoint Houston's direct testimony.

II. CANCELING HEARING ON THE MERITS AND FINAL PREHEARING CONFERENCE

The sole remaining parties, CenterPoint Houston and Commission Staff, have both filed direct testimony supporting the Application. As there are no contested issues, CenterPoint and Staff have filed a joint motion requesting that the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) cancel the hearing on the merits previously scheduled for July 2-3, 2025, as well as the final prehearing conference on July 1, 2025. The motion is **GRANTED**; said hearing on the merits and prehearing conference are **CANCELED**.

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¹ See SOAH Order No. 9 (June 23, 2025); 16 Tex. Admin. Code § 22.71(h) (3 p.m. filing deadline).

III. ADMITTING EVIDENCE, DISMISSING FROM SOAH DOCKET, AND REMANDING TO COMMISSION

The joint motion also requests that the ALJ admit certain evidence and remand this matter to the Commission. This requested relief is also **GRANTED**. As requested by CenterPoint Houston and Staff, the following are **ADMITTED** into evidence:

- 1. CenterPoint Houston's Application (filed April 30, 2025; Interchange Item No. 2);
- 2. the direct testimonies and exhibits of CenterPoint Houston witnesses Bradley J Diehl, Denise M. Williams, Lucas Suelflow, and Heather Crowley Caramanica (filed April 30, 2025; Interchange Nos. 4-7);
- 3. CenterPoint Houston's Actions to Aid in Commission Review (filed April 30, 2025; Interchange No. 3);
- 4. CenterPoint Houston's Affidavit Attesting to the Provision of Notice (filed May 20, 2025: Interchange No. 13);
- 5. Commission Staff's Recommendation on the Sufficiency of the Application and Notice (filed May 21, 2025: Interchange No. 14);
- 6. SOAH Order No. 2 Finding CenterPoint Houston's Application and Notices Sufficient (filed May 23, 2025; Interchange No. 18);
- 7. the direct testimony of Commission Staff witness Michael Noth, P.E. (filed June 23, 2025; Interchange No. 46); and
- 8. Errata to the Direct Testimony of Commission Staff Witness Michael Noth, P.E. (filed June 27, 2025; Interchange No. 51).

Additionally, the joint motion contains a joint proposed notice of approval for informal disposition² with proposed findings of fact, conclusions of law, and ordering paragraphs. CenterPoint Houston and Staff request the Commission ALJ issue a notice of approval no later than July 19, 2025, which is the 80th day after CenterPoint Houston filed its application.³ To allow for review of the joint proposed notice of approval, this case is **DISMISSED** from the docket of the State Office of Administrative Hearings and **REMANDED** to the Commission. CenterPoint Houston **SHALL** email a Word version of the proposed notice of approval as soon as practicable to the Commission at cadmorders@puc.texas.gov.

Signed June 27, 2025

ALJ Signature:

Robert Pemberton

ALT H PLATE

Presiding Administrative Law Judge

² 16 Texas Administrative Code § 22.35(a), (b)(1).

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³ 16 Texas Administrative Code § 22.35(b)(3)(c).