PRESS RELEASE

COMMISSIONERS Chris Brown, Chairman Northern District, Chairman

De'Keither A. Stamps Central District

Wayne Carr Southern District



KATHERINE COLLIER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CONTACT: RACHAEL RING DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS (601) 540-6611 rachael.ring@psc.ms.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Commissioners Announce Next Steps Following Court's TRO Decision Affecting Holly Springs Utility Investigation

JACKSON, MS (January 7, 2025)— Despite a recent victory in the Mississippi Supreme Court, the Mississippi Public Service Commissioners express their profound disappointment in today's Hinds County Circuit Court decision granting a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) to the City of Holly Springs, resulting in the delay of a crucial Show-Cause hearing originally set for this morning in the Commission's hearing room.

The Commissioners believe the Show-Cause hearing to be integral to ensure cooperation from the City of Holly Springs in obtaining necessary information to aide in its investigation as previously requested. Despite the Commission's transparent approach and willingness to work with the City of Holly Springs to find a resolution as swiftly as possible, the City has continued to use delay tactics through the court system, to hinder the Commission's ability to address growing concerns promptly and thoroughly. Therefore, the Commission will use every avenue available to seek enforcement and fulfill the <u>oversight duly granted</u> by the Mississippi Legislature in 2024.

"While we respect the judicial process, we believe that the delay caused by the TRO is not in the best interest of those suffering in the Holly Springs Utility District despite the best efforts of this Commission to obtain cooperation from the City," stated the Commissioners. "The Commission will set the hearing after the 2025 Regular Legislative Session in order to expedite a resolution and avoid further delay tactics and exhaustive legal battles which contribute nothing to providing relief."

As Chairman Brown stated following the Commission's Open Meeting, "This issue is not and should not be political. Rather it's about providing services necessary for everyday life," adding that, "I want the people to know that we will stay the course as a group because we care about you, we will not forget about you, and we will continue to be your voice here at the Mississippi Public Service Commission in this fight for reasonable and adequate service as all Mississippians have the right to expect."

###