

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANSFIELD, TEXAS TO THE TEXAS STATE LEGISLATURE IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION THAT PROHIBITS ELECTRICITY PROVIDERS FROM SELECTIVELY TURNING OFF POWER SUPPLY TO OTHER CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE SUCH AS REGIONAL WATER DISTRICTS, WATER TREATMENT PLANTS, SEWER TREATMENT PLANTS, PUMP STATIONS, AND SEWER LIFT STATIONS

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the importance of protecting the infrastructure that generates and delivers power to homes and businesses in Texas, which may from time to time require the implementation of rolling blackouts across the region and/or the State; and,

WHEREAS, the City also recognizes the importance of maintaining public health and safety to the community it serves, which simply cannot happen without the provision of safe drinking water and adequate sanitary sewer services; and,

WHEREAS, the City wishes to express its disbelief and disappointment that the Energy Reliability Council of Texas (hereinafter referred to as “ERCOT”), ONCOR Electric Delivery (hereinafter referred to as “ONCOR”), or any other service provider would so much as consider discontinuing electric service to critical water and sewer infrastructure during a global pandemic, particularly when proper hygiene has proven to be one of the most effective methods of preventing the spread of a deadly virus; and,

WHEREAS, the City is acutely aware that many of the water suppliers that serve the Dallas Fort Worth area were forced to issue Boil Water Notices as a result of an interruption in electric service; and,

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that almost all of the methods of communicating the need to boil water prior to using it for hygiene or consumption require access to electricity and that boiling water also requires access to electricity; and,

WHEREAS, the City wishes to request the passage of legislation that prohibits ERCOT, ONCOR, or any other service provider from interrupting or discontinuing electric service to critical water and sewer infrastructure as a means of reducing load on the system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANSFIELD, TEXAS:

SECTION 1.

That the Texas Legislature immediately pass legislation that prohibits ERCOT, ONCOR, or any other electric service provider from discontinuing electric service to critical water and sewer infrastructure.

SECTION 2

That the City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to make this Resolution available to all members of the Senate and House of Representatives on behalf of the City of Mansfield, Texas.

SECTION 3

The resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS 22nd DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2021.

Michael Evans, Mayor

ATTEST:

Susana Marin, City Secretary