

**CHAPTER 24. SUBSTANTIVE RULES APPLICABLE TO WATER AND SEWER SERVICE PROVIDERS.**

**Subchapter I. WHOLESALE WATER OR SEWER SERVICE.**

**§24.132. Evidentiary Hearing on Public Interest.**

- (a) If the commission forwards a petition to the State Office of Administrative Hearings pursuant to §24.131(a) and (b) of this title (relating to Commission's Review of Petition or Appeal), the State Office of Administrative Hearings shall conduct an evidentiary hearing on public interest to determine whether the protested rate adversely affects the public interest.
- (b) Prior to the evidentiary hearing on public interest, discovery shall be limited to matters relevant to the evidentiary hearing on public interest.
- (c) The administrative law judge shall prepare a proposal for decision and order with proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law concerning whether the protested rate adversely affects the public interest, and shall submit this recommendation to the commission.
- (d) The seller and buyer may agree to consolidate the evidentiary hearing on public interest and the evidentiary hearing on cost of service. If the seller and buyer so agree the administrative law judge shall hold a consolidated evidentiary hearing.