



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

March 29, 2022

Ms. Paige L. Bailey  
City of League City  
300 West Walker Street  
League City, Texas 77573

OR2022-09154

Dear Ms. Bailey:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Public Information Act (the "Act"), chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 939833 (ORR# 22-029).

The City of League City (the "city") received a request for a list of addresses where water services were shut off during a specified period of time. The city claims the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.101 of the Government Code. We have considered the claimed exception and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.1331 of the Government Code is applicable to the submitted information.<sup>1</sup> This section provides, in part, the following:

(a) In this section:

(1) "Advanced metering system" means a utility metering system that collects data at regular intervals through the use of an automated wireless or radio network.

(2) "Government-operated utility" has the meaning assigned by Section 182.051, Utilities Code.

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<sup>1</sup> The Office of the Attorney General will raise a mandatory exception on behalf of a governmental body. *See* Open Records Decision Nos. 481 at 2 (1987), 480 at 5 (1987).

(b) Except as provided by Subsection (c) of this section and Section 182.052, Utilities Code, information maintained by a government-operated utility is excepted from the requirements of Section 552.021 if it is information that:

(1) is collected as part of an advanced metering system for usage, services, and billing, including amounts billed or collected for utility usage; or

(2) reveals whether:

(A) an account is delinquent or eligible for disconnection; or

(B) services have been discontinued by the government-operated utility.

Gov't Code § 552.1331(a)-(b). We understand the city is a government-operated utility for purposes of section 552.1331. *See* Util. Code § 182.051(3) (providing a “government-operated utility” is a governmental body or entity that, for compensation, provides water, wastewater, sewer, gas, garbage, electricity, or drainage service). The city represents the information at issue reveals whether utility services have been discontinued by the city. Upon review, we conclude the city must withhold the submitted information under section 552.1331(b)(2)(B) of the Government Code.<sup>2</sup>

This letter ruling is limited to the particular information at issue in this request and limited to the facts as presented to us; therefore, this ruling must not be relied upon as a previous determination regarding any other information or any other circumstances.

This ruling triggers important deadlines regarding the rights and responsibilities of the governmental body and of the requestor. For more information concerning those rights and responsibilities, please visit our website at <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/open-government/members-public/what-expect-after-ruling-issued> or call the OAG's Open Government Hotline, toll free, at (877) 673-6839. Questions concerning the allowable charges for providing public information under the Public Information Act may be directed to the Cost Rules Administrator of the OAG, toll free, at (888) 672-6787.

Sincerely,

James L. Coggeshall  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

JLC/be

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<sup>2</sup> As our ruling is dispositive, we do not address the argument of the city to withhold this information.

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Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)