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MAY 1 6 2000 May 12, 2000

> Missouri Public Service Commission

The Secretary of the Missouri Public Service Commission P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO. 65102

Case #5 Tariff #5 ST-2000-694 - 200000092 WT-2000-695 - 200000891

RE: JOINT MOTION TO SUSPEND WCWS TARIFF #200000891 & TARIFF #200000892

Dear Sirs.

In response to your order to suspend the new tariffs proposed by Warren County Water & Sewer, we the Board of Trustees of Incline Village wish to state our opinion and offer our suggestions and comments on the matter.

- 1) We the Trustees do not wish to debate how much WCWS should be allowed to charge a new customer to tap on to the water and sewer lines, but we believe that if WCWS is required to provide the meter and tap-on equipment, perform the tap-ons, and run the water and sewer lines to the property line of the new customer, including road boring, then WCWS should receive the appropriate dollars to carry out these tasks. Currently, WCWS is charging \$450 for tap-on fees, but I believe that we can all agree that there is no way to do all the work required for \$450. WCWS has proposed a new tap-on fee of \$1,250 in order to cover the cost of taping on and running the lines to the property line. If WCWS and the PSC can agree that this is a more realistic dollar amount to cover all costs, then we believe that WCWS should be granted the ability to charge said amount.
- 2) We the Trustees want to make sure that if the PSC decides that WCWS should be responsible for carrying out the tap-on's and running the lines up to the property line, then WCWS should be responsible for repairing any damage to streets and soil that may have occurred during the tap-on process. We believe that the street and soil should be returned to it's previous state that existed prior to the work being done. For example, paved streets should be repaved or patched properly and soil that had grass on it, that was part of someone's yard, should be replanted, and hopefully sodded if the situation is warranted. If this damage repair requires that WCWS be allowed to collect more than the proposed \$1,250 for the tap-on fee, then we suggest that that amount of money required to make these repairs, on average, be included in the tap-on fee. The bottom line is that we believe the utility company should be responsible for making any and all repairs, not the customer.
- 3) Since WCWS has begun to bore under the streets in Incline Village 100% of the time, we hope that some language can be drafted to ensure that this policy continues. Mr. Smith, owner and president of WCWS, has made every effort to keep from damaging our streets, so we want to assist however possible to make sure that this continues.

- 4) The new tariffs proposed by WCWS do not include any language about work that may need to be done on a water or sewer main, outside of new tap-ons. For example, if ever there is a water main that freezes and breaks, one would assume that WCWS will have to do some excavation to get to the break and repair the pipe. In this instance, we the Board of Trustees would like to be assured that the street and soil is returned to it's previous condition. Since no one is paying a tap-on fee, the cost of the work will be borne out of WCWS' expense account. We simply would like to see language stating that the street and soil be returned to the original condition.
- 5) Regarding "Lift Stations", we want to make sure that the proper language is included in the Tariff and/or the Contract that the new customer signs when requesting water and sewer service. Currently, WCWS requires that all "Lift Stations" be purchased thru this company, and installed by the customer. If a "Lift Station" is not approved by or purchased from WCWS, then WCWS will not maintain that "Lift Station". We agree that it is in the best interest of the customers of WCWS to purchase "Lift Stations" from the company, if for no other reason than to receive service to the unit in the years to come, but we want to make sure that the customer is granted the ability to purchase their unit from whatever source they desire, and then receive subsequent service from the seller. As long as the language is explicit, then no customer should have any complaints.

In conclusion, we the Board of Trustees hope that when the Public Service Commission carries out it's investigation concerning the matters of the proposed tariffs, it will consider the above mentioned thoughts and concerns, so as to specify exactly what WCWS is responsible to do and what the costumer is responsible to do. As long as everyone knows what is expected, and as long as the appropriate dollars are allocated for specific tasks, we believe that a good working relationship can and will exist between the customer and the company.

If you have questions about any of the above mentioned comments, please feel free to call or write.

On Behalf of the Board of Trustees,

Don Kassebaum

Trustee

CC:

Warren County Water and Sewer Company
Office of the Public Counsel