#### Notice of Ex Parte Contact

TO:

Data Center

All Parties in Case No. WR-2000-281

All Commissioners

FROM:

Chairman Kelvin Simmons

Commissioner Connie Murray

Commissioner Sheila Lumpe

Commissioner Steve Gaw

Commissioner Bryan Forbis

DATE:

May 20, 2002



On May 9, 2002, the attached letters were received from customers of Public Water Supply District #2 in Brunswick, Missouri. The envelope containing twenty-three letters was mailed from the Public Water District #2, RR2, Box 30, Brunswick, Missouri. Copies of the same letter were also received from William E. Gann and Levi Swanegan. Additionally, a letter pertaining to the same subject matter was received from Gerald Kruse. The Commission is currently considering the issues discussed in these letters in Case No. WR-2000-281 and is bound by the same *ex parte* rule as a court of law.

Although communications from members of the public are always welcome, those communications must be made known to all parties to a contested case so that those parties have the opportunity to respond. According to the Commission's rules (4 CSR 240-4), when a communication (either oral or written) occurs outside the hearing process, any member of the Commission or the Regulatory Law Judge who received the communication shall prepare a written report concerning the communication and submit it to each member of the Commission and parties to the case. The report shall identify the person(s) who participated in the *ex parte* communication, the substance of the communication and the relationship of the communication to a particular matter at issue before the Commission.

Therefore, this report is submitted pursuant to the rules cited above. This will ensure that any party to this case will have notice of the attached information and a full and fair opportunity to respond to the comments contained therein.

cc:

**Executive Director** 

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

General Counsel

Public Service Commission C/o Steve Gaw Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Commission Members:

The rate increase granted to MO American Water Company by the PSC in September 2000 resulted in a 234.9% increase to our district's water purchase rate. Jeff Gard, representative of MO American Water Co, told PWSD #2 that the increase they requested was only 54%. We question how the 234.9% increase was justified.

The increase to our water district resulted in a 45% increase to our water rates as customers. The price for 5,000 gallons in our district is \$61.60 compared to an average of \$22.28 for other water districts in our state (information from "Rate Survey 2000" MO Rural Water Assoc.)

Please understand the hardship that this created for many of us as we are in an area where the median annual household income is around \$20,000. The current price of water restricts its use for agricultural purposes and any non-essential usage.

We ask that you reconsider this rate and make an adjustment accordingly.

Sincerely,

Warer Customer

Public Water Supply District #2

Chariton County
RR 2, Box 30

Public Service Commission C/o Steve Gaw Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102

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Hand Atible
Water Customer

Public Water Supply District #2

Chariton County

. RR 2, Box 30

Brunswick, MO 65236

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RK

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Brunswick, MO 65236

W.E. GANN RRIBOX 2429 BAUNSWICK, MO 65236

# RECEIVED

## Steve Gaw

March, 2002

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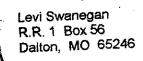
Sincerely,

Water Customer

Public Water Supply District #2

Chariton County

RR 2, Box 30



## RECEIVE D

### Steve Gaw

Rt. 1, Box 238 Brunswick, MO 65236 April 17, 2002

Public Service Commission C/o Steve Gaw Box 360 Jefferson City, M) 65102

Dear Commission Members:

Concerning the rate increase granted to Missouri American Water Company by the Public Service Commission in September, 2000, it has resulted in a 235% increase in the water purchase rate for our Public Water Suppy District No. 2, Brunswick, MO. The rate increase requested by Missouri American Water Company was only 54%. The increase granted here puts the water at a premium so it can not be used for anything other than necessary household use.

I had been on the board of Public Water Supply District No. 2 since its inception in 1967 with the intent of providing potable water not only for household use, but for confinement livestock use to further the economy of this area. At these rates it is no longer feasible to use in livestock operations and we believe the district will suffer from lack of customers if this rate increase is allowed.

We would very much appreciate your reconsideration of this rate increase. Certainly we need to assist the rural area in whatever endeavor we can and to have a safe water supply. Thank you for your reconsideration.

Sincerely,

Gerald Kruse

Former Board Member

Gerald Truse

(30 Years)

