
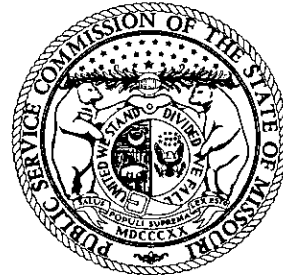


Notice of *Ex Parte* Contact

TO: Records Department: All Parties in Case No. **WR-2000-281**
All Commissioners

FROM: Chair Sheila Lumpe 

DATE: May 17, 2000



On May 12, 2000, I received a letter from Jada M. McGuire regarding Missouri American Water Company. The Commission is currently considering the same issues as to those set out in this document in Case No. **WR-2000-281**. The Commission is bound by the same *ex parte* rule as a court of law.

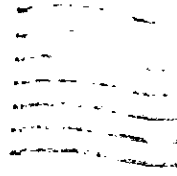
Pursuant to 4 CSR 240-4.020(4) it is improper for any person to attempt to sway the judgement of the Commission by undertaking, directly or indirectly, outside the hearing process, to bring pressure or influence to bear upon the Commission, or the Regulatory Law Judge assigned to the proceeding.

Whenever such contact might occur 4 CSR 240-4.020(a) states: as *ex parte* communications (either oral or written) may occur inadvertently, any member of the Commission or Regulatory Law Judge who received the communication shall immediately prepare a written report concerning the communication and submit it to the Chair and each member of the Commission. The report shall identify the person(s) who participated in the *ex parte* communication, the circumstances which resulted in the communication, the substance of the communication, and the relationship of the communication to a particular matter at issue before the Commission.

Therefore, out of an abundance of caution, I think it appropriate to submit this notice of *ex parte* contact pursuant to the standards set out in 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

711 GLENVIEW PL.
JOPLIN, MO. 64801



CHAIRMAN
MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMM.
P. O. BOX 360
JEFFERSON CITY, MO.
65102



I will be unable to attend the hearing in Joplin May 18 concerning the request of Missouri-American Water Co. for a rate increase of 53.97 per cent. I am, therefore, writing this means to voice my strong opposition to this request.

I feel it would be utterly ridiculous for the PSC to grant this request and increase water rates in the Joplin area when the capital raised will be used to build, expand or renovate facilities in the St. Joseph area.

It seems that most of the requests by utility companies are approved, or at least a large percentage of their requests. I think the PSC is in being not only to favor the utilities when justified, but also is set up to protect consumers.

While the information we received stated the average household increase would be \$8.92 a month, it is a sizable increase and, if granted, proof that other increases will follow. They always do.

For people on fixed income - and I am one - I respectfully urge a much lesser bite than 53.97 per cent.

Respectfully, Jack M. McQuire