STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a Session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 29th day of March, 1991.

In the matter of Rocky Ridge Ranch Utilities)

Company of Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, for)

authority to file tariffs to increase water)

rates pursuant to the Commission's informal)

rate procedure.)

ORDER APPROVING STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT

This case was commenced on October 10, 1990, when Rocky Ridge Ranch
Utilities Company of Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, (Company) requested a revenue increase
of \$31,000 on an annual basis pursuant to the Commission's informal small company
rate procedure.

As a result of a Staff audit and discussions with the Company, an annual revenue increase of \$14,204 was agreed to between Company and Staff. On February 20, 1991, the Company submitted a tariff to implement that amount of increase effective April 1, 1991.

On February 21, 1991, a public meeting was held at Rocky Ridge, Missouri, to permit the Company's customers to offer comments about their rate increase and to ask questions. Most of the questions and comments express concerns about the possible inclusion of expenses of the affiliated investment company as operating expenses of the water company. As a result of some of the concerns expressed at the public meeting, the Staff has proposed some further disallowances which would result in an annual revenue increase of \$11,405. The presently proposed rates would result in a monthly bill for a residential customer using 4,000 gallons of water to be \$19.30.

As a result of the most recently proposed disallowances of operating expenses the Company, the Commission Staff and the Office of the Public Counsel have entered into a Stipulation and Agreement providing for the adoption of the currently proposed rates. Under the Stipulation the proposed increase would be as follows:

	Current_Bill	Company Request	Proposed Bill	<pre>% Increase</pre>
Customer using 4,000 gallons	\$ 16.39	\$23.39	\$ 19.30	17.74%

In the Commission's opinion the Stipulation and Agreement should be approved since it has resulted in extensive negotiations between the parties and an extraction from the Company's operating expenses of items not reasonably related to the water company's operations.

In arriving at the decision to approve the Stipulation in this matter, the Commission has considered the Staff's response to service problems described at the meeting in Rocky Ridge as well as the answers furnished to the questions posed. In the Commission's opinion a copy of this Order, along with the answers to the questions at the public meeting, should be furnished to those persons requesting the information.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 1. That the Stipulation and Agreement filed herein on March 22, 1991, representing an agreement between Rocky Ridge Utilities Company, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission and the Office of the Public Counsel be approved and the tariffs attached hereto may be effective for service rendered on and after April 1, 1991.
- 2. That copies of this Order, with attachments, shall be furnished as described herein.

3. That this Order shall become effective on the date hereof.

BY THE COMMISSION

Breat Stewart

Brent Stewart Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

Steinmeier, Chm., Mueller, Rauch, and McClure, CC., Concur. Letsch-Roderique, C., Absent.

FILED

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

MAR 22 1991

In the matter of Rocky Ridge Ranch		PUBLIC	SERVICE COMMISSION
Utilities Company of Ste. Genevieve,)		
Missouri, for authority to file)	Case No. WR-91-271	
tariffs to increase water rates)		
pursuant to the Commission's)		
informal rate procedure.)		

STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT

As a result of extensive negotiation, the Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel), the Staff of the Public Service Commission (Staff), and the Rocky Ridge Ranch Utilities Company (Company) have reached an agreement and stipulate to the following:

- 1. On October 10, 1990, Company requested a revenue increase of \$31,000 pursuant to Public Service Commission (Commission) informal rate procedures. This request would have increased the monthly bill for the average residential customer using 4,000 gallons of water from \$16.39 to \$23.39.
- 2. On February 19, 1991, Staff proposed a revenue increase of \$14,204, which would have raised the average monthly water bill to \$19.93.
- 3. On February 20, 1991, Company submitted a tariff which would have implemented Staff's recommended water rates, effective April 1, 1991.
- 4. On February 21, 1991, a local public hearing was held in Rocky Ridge, Missouri, where Company's customers testified in opposition to a rate increase.

- 5. On March 7, 1991, Public Counsel expressed their disagreement with Staff's recommended accounting. During the following week Staff and Public Counsel entered negotiations concerning the costs within Staff's recommendation which were contested, and as a result, produced the agreement specified herein.
- 6. Company shall submit a new tariff which reflects the rates indicated within Attachment A, allowing a revenue increase of \$11,405 and increasing the monthly bill for a residential customer using 4,000 gallons of water to \$19.30.
- 7. In recognition of Company's annual water loss rate of 56%, the negotiated revenue increase is considered to include an increase in salary expense to be used by Company for the purpose of repairing leaks, and also to include a reduction in the allowable purchased power expense and chemical expense which can be attributed to water loss upon Company's system which was in excess of 40% of total water pumped through Company's system.
- 8. Company agrees to maintain on-going records of salary expense which is utilized for the purpose of reducing Company's water loss rate, and agrees to supply an annual report to Public Counsel, on July 1 of each year, which will include a breakdown of the hours spent by Company's maintenance personnel for the purpose of repairing the water system and hours spent on other functions as well as a calculation of Company's water loss rate for the year.
- 9. None of the signatories below shall be deemed to have approved or acquiesced in any ratemaking principle or any method or cost determination or cost allocation underlying or allegedly underlying

this Stipulation and Agreement other than that which is specifically mentioned herein.

10. The terms of this Stipulation and Agreement are interdependent and in the event the Commission does not approve and adopt it in total, this Stipulation and Agreement shall be void, and no signatory shall be bound by any of the agreements or provisions hereof.

WHEREFORE, Staff and Public Counsel respectfully request that the Commission issue its order approving this Agreement and the new tariff to be submitted by Company as explained herein.

Respectfully submitted,

STAFF OF THE MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL

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Βv

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ROCKY RIDGE WATER COMPANY

Susan Eckenfels

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Highway O

Ste. Genevieve, Missouri 63670

 MINIMUM CHARGE CALCULATION	METER BIZE 5/8 IN.	FLOW 1	CHARGE \$4.98	COST PER 2000 GALL \$7.1	.ON CHARGE 16 \$12.14		
	2 IN. 4 IN.	25 25	\$4.98 \$4.98 \$4.98	\$7.1 \$7.1	6 647.03		
 COMMODITY CHARGE	\$ 54,546 1	DIVIDED BY	15, 242	M GALLONS	\$3.58	PER 1000	
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	CURRENT RATE				PROPOSED RATE		
MINIMUM_CHARGE_5/8_IN.	\$9.69				\$12.14		
 COMMODITY CHARGE	\$6.70	\$3.35 PER	1,000 GALS		\$7.15	\$3.58 PER 1,000 GALS	
 TOTAL AVERAGE BILL	\$16.39				\$19.30		
)IFFERANCE INCREASE	\$2.91 17.74%				

M NO. 13	P.S.C.MO. No	1 3r	rd	Revised	SHEET No
Cance	elling P.S.C.MO, No	1 2	2nd		SHEET No.
ky Ridge Ra	anch Utilities Company Issuing Corporation	For-	Rocky	Ridge Deve	lopment Cown or City
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	RATI	SCHEDULES :	}		
	SCHEDULI	E OF RATES			
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	Monthly Me	etered Rate	<u>es</u>		
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2" 4"	•	7.03 l.75			
Commodity (Charge \$ 3.	.58 per 100	00 gal.		
(all usag	ge above 2000 gal.)				
Any applica shall be ac	able taxes (sales or ot ided in addition to the	ther as des above cha	scribed larges.	nerein)	
	•				
	3				
*Indicates n +Indicates c	ew rate or text				

DATE OF ISSUE March 1, 1991

month day year

| March 1, 1991 | DATE EFFECTIVE April 1, 1991 | month day year

| ISSUED BY Arthur E. Collins, President, Route 3, Box 1, Ste. Genevieve, MO 63670 | name of officer title address

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