

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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| In the Matter of Missouri-American Water |) | |
| Company's Tariff Sheets Designed to Implement |) | Case No. WR-2000-281 |
| General Rate Increases for Water and Sewer |) | Tariff No. 200000366 |
| Service Provided to Customers in the Missouri |) | Tariff No. 200000367 |
| Service Area of the Company. |) | |

ORDER MODIFYING SUSPENSION ORDER

On October 15, 1999, Missouri-American Water Company (Company) submitted to the Commission proposed tariff sheets intended to implement a general rate increase for water and sewer service provided to customers in the Missouri service area of the Company. The proposed tariffs bear a requested effective date of November 15, 1999. The proposed water service tariffs are designed to produce an annual increase of approximately 53.97 percent (\$16,446,277) in the Company's revenues. The proposed sewer service tariffs are designed to produce an annual increase of approximately 5.0 percent (\$2,363) in the Company's revenues.

On October 28, 1999, the Commission issued its Suspension Order and Notice, suspending the proposed tariffs until September 14, 2000. In that Order, the Commission set certain procedural dates intended to permit resolution of this matter within the interval allowed by law. On November 9, 1999, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) and the Office of the Public Counsel (OPC) filed their joint motion to modify the dates set by the Commission in the Suspension Order.

The movants state that the Commission has not allowed a sufficient interval between the date on which Company must file its direct testimony, November 29, 1999, and the first day of the evidentiary hearing, May 9, 2000. The movants pray that the Commission require Company's direct testimony by November 19, 1999, excepting testimony as to rate design, which they suggest be required by November 29, 1999. The movants state that Company does not oppose this modification. The movants further suggest that the evidentiary hearing be reset to begin on May 30, 2000 or on May 22, 2000. Movants state that Company is agreeable to this modification as well. The movants further state that, according to the "generic" rate case timeline employed by Staff, the hearing should start on June 5, 1999, but that they prefer to start it on May 30 because of the MARC Conference during the week of June 11, 2000. The movants state that their proposed modification will allow 193 days between the filing of Company's direct testimony and the start of the evidentiary hearing, rather than the 162 days presently set by the Suspension Order. The movants note that the "generic" rate case timeline calls for 203 days.

The Commission has considered the joint motion of the parties and will grant it, with modifications. Rather than November 19, Company's direct testimony shall be due by November 24. The evidentiary hearing shall commence on June 5 and finish on June 9, 2000. The Commission would note that the briefing schedule may, in consequence, need to be accelerated.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the Suspension Order and Notice previously issued in this matter is modified as set out below.

2. That Missouri-American Water Company shall file fifteen (15) copies of its prepared direct testimony and schedules with the Secretary of the Commission on or before November 24, 1999, shall provide eleven (11) additional copies to Staff, and shall serve two (2) copies upon the Office of the Public Counsel and upon every party that has filed a timely application to intervene. Testimony, and any attachments to testimony, shall be marked and filed only in the manner prescribed by Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.130.

3. That Missouri-American Water Company shall file its direct testimony relating to rate design on or before November 29, 1999. This filing shall comply in all respects with the directives set out in Ordered Paragraph 2, above.

4. That Missouri-American Water Company shall file, on or before November 24, 1999, a pleading stating its recommendation concerning the proper test year for use in this case.

5. That Missouri-American Water Company shall file any request for a true-up audit and hearing in a separate pleading on or before November 24, 1999.

6. That an evidentiary hearing is hereby scheduled for this case beginning June 5, 2000, and continuing through June 9, 2000, if needed. The hearing will commence at 9:00 a.m. on June 5, 2000, and be held in the Commission's hearing room, Room 520B, Harry S Truman State Office

Building, 301 West High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. Any person(s) with special needs as addressed by the Americans With Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing at one of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline -- 1-800-392-4211, or TDD Hotline -- 1-800-829-7541.

7. That this order shall become effective on November 18, 1999.

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Kevin A. Thompson, Deputy Chief
Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation
of authority pursuant to 4 CSR
240-2.120(1), (November 30, 1995)
and Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 18th day of November, 1999.