

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
JEFFERSON CITY
October 5, 2000**

CASE NO: SR-2000-556

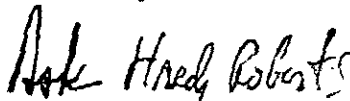
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Enclosed find certified copy of an ORDER in the above-numbered case(s).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dale Hardy Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script.

**Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Osage Water Company's)
Request for a Rate Increase for Sewer)
Service Pursuant to the Public Service)
Commission's Small Company Rate Increase)
Procedure)

Case No. SR-2000-556

ORDER DIRECTING STAFF RESPONSE

Osage Water Company (Osage), on October 12, 1999, filed a request for a rate increase pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.200. On August 8, 2000, Osage filed a motion to compel the Commission's Staff to complete its investigation into the amount of any rate increase justified for Osage. On October 4, 2000, Osage filed a second motion to compel the Staff to complete its investigation. In its second motion, Osage notes that Staff, on the record at a prehearing conference held September 14, 2000, stated that it had all the information that it needed to complete its investigation. Staff also stated on the record that it could "probably prepare a recommended stipulation within a couple of weeks." According to Osage, as of the date of Osage's second motion (three weeks after Staff's statement that it could have a recommendation within a couple of weeks, and very nearly a year since Osage first requested relief), Staff had not yet provided Osage with a recommendation as to rates. The Commission will direct Staff to file a pleading explaining why it is taking so long to prepare a recommended stipulation, and to advise the Commission of the date on which it will provide a recommended stipulation to Osage. The Commission will also direct Staff to describe what additional information it received from Osage between August 23, 2000, when it stated that it

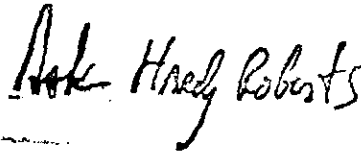
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needed additional information and September 14, 2000, when it stated that it had all the information it needed. If no additional information was received, Staff will explain the basis for the statement in its August 23, 2000, pleading that it needed additional information.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the Staff of the Commission shall file a pleading as described herein no later than October 6, 2000.
2. That this order shall become effective on October 5, 2000.

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Lewis Mills, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law
Judge, by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 5th day of October, 2000.

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and
I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City,
Missouri, this 5th day of Oct. 2000.



Dale Hardy Roberts

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge