

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office
in Jefferson City on the 18th
day of May, 1995.

In the matter of the application of St. Louis County)
Water Company for approval of an agreement with Meramec)
Sewer Company providing for water service termination) Case No. WO-95-339
for unpaid sewer bills.)
)

**ORDER APPROVING SERVICE TERMINATION AGREEMENT
AND TARIFF SHEET**

On May 1, 1995, St. Louis County Water Company (SLCWC) filed an application requesting Commission approval of an agreement between SLCWC and Meramec Sewer Company (Meramec) providing for service termination by SLCWC for unpaid sewer bills of Meramec customers. Simultaneously with the application, SLCWC submitted a revised tariff sheet which reflected that the tariff provisions would cover Meramec as well as the Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD), which was previously approved. SLCWC indicates that the agreement with Meramec contains the same conditions as an agreement previously approved with MSD and the charges set out in the revised tariff sheet reflect SLCWC's actual costs for the services it is required to provide under the agreement.

On May 15, 1995, Commission Staff filed a recommendation regarding the agreement and revised tariff sheet. Staff recommends approval of the agreement and the tariff sheet. Staff states that the agreement will allow Meramec to request that SLCWC disconnect water service from one of Meramec's customers if the customer has not paid the sewer bill charged by Meramec. Staff also indicates that notice to customers is required and that Meramec will reimburse SLCWC for costs associated with disconnection of water service at the rates shown on the tariff sheet. In addition, Staff states that it understands

that Meramec will put any requests for disconnection in writing which will be provided to SLCWC. Staff requests the Commission order a copy of that written request be provided to Staff.

The Commission has reviewed the application, the proposed tariff sheet and Staff's memorandum. Based upon that review the Commission will approve the agreement and the tariff sheet. The legislature has established a policy to favor this type of agreement and where the terms of the agreement will not adversely affect the regulated water company, the Commission will approve the agreement.

The Commission finds that its approval of the agreement is based upon the statements of SLCWC that the agreement has the same terms and conditions as the one approved between SLCWC and MSD. The Commission interprets Staff's silence on this comparison as acquiescence in SLCWC's averments.

The Commission is also approving the tariff sheet which was filed simultaneously with the application. Staff indicates it believes these charges are reasonable. This simultaneous filing is not standard procedure since any problems encountered in the application would necessitate the suspension of the tariff sheet. Normally the Commission would approve the application and then authorize a company to file a tariff in compliance with the order.

In addition, the Commission has under review as tariff file number 9500716 a proposed tariff sheet filed by Meramec which was submitted prior to the filing of the application and revised tariff sheet by SLCWC. Meramec's proposed tariff sheet has an effective date of May 28, 1995. By expediting its procedure the Commission has been able to avoid the necessity to suspend the Meramec tariff sheet until the order approving the agreement is effective. As with SLCWC's proposed tariff sheet, this tariff sheet should not have been submitted until the agreement was approved, which would avoid any problems caused by a delay in approving the agreement. Under this order Meramec's proposed

tariff sheet can be made effective as requested since this order will be effective on the same date as the tariff sheet.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the agreement entered into by St. Louis County Water Company and Meramec Sewer Company for discontinuance of water service for nonpayment for sewer service is hereby approved.

2. That the revised tariff sheet submitted by St. Louis County Water Company to reflect charges for disconnection of water service under the agreement approved in Ordered Paragraph 1 is hereby approved for service on and after June 1, 1995. The tariff sheet approved is:

P.S.C. MO. No. 6

First Revised Sheet No. RT 15.0, Cancelling Original Sheet No. RT 15.0

3. That St. Louis County Water Company shall send the Commission Water and Sewer Department a copy of any document which requests disconnection of water service sent to St. Louis County Water Company by Meramec Sewer Company.

4. That this order shall become effective on the 28th day of May, 1995.

BY THE COMMISSION



**David L. Rauch
Executive Secretary**

(S E A L)

McClure, Perkins and Kincheloe,
CC., concur.
Mueller, Chm., and Crumpton, C.,
absent.

CASE NO. WO-95-339

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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 18th day of May, 1995.

David L. Rauch

 David L. Rauch
 Executive Secretary