

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of WPC Sewer Company's)	
Small Company Rate Increase)	Case No. SR-2008-0388
)	
)	
In the Matter of West 16 th Sewer Company's)	
Small Company Rate Increase)	Case No. SR-2008-0389

STAFF'S RESPONSE TO THE LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff), through counsel, and files this Response with the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission).

For its Response, Staff respectfully states the following:

1. On December 17, 2008, the Commission issued its Order Setting Local Public Hearing, giving notice that on January 5, 2009, a local public hearing in this matter would be held in Sedalia, Missouri.
2. Also, the Commission's Order directed Staff, by January 12, 2009, to file a pleading as required by 4 CSR 240-3.050(19). As state offices in Cole County were closed on January 12th for inaugural purposes, Staff's Response is being filed at this time.
3. Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-3.050(19) requires Staff to indicate whether "...any material information not previously available was provided at the local public hearing and stating whether that information might result in changes to the utility/staff disposition agreement."
4. During the January 5th public hearing, several customers gave testimony regarding plant maintenance and billing issues. Staff is currently investigating these issues and hereby states the results might change its position in the utility/staff disposition agreement.

5. Staff intends to file its findings before the Office of the Public Counsel is required, pursuant to 4 CSR 240-3.050(19), to state its position regarding the utility/staff disposition agreement.

WHEREFORE, Staff submits its Response To The Local Public Hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jennifer Hernandez

Jennifer Hernandez

Legal Counsel

Missouri Bar No. 59814

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, or transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail to all counsel of record this 13th day of January 2009.

s/ Jennifer Hernandez