# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Missouri-American	)	
Water Company for Certificates of	)	
Convenience and Necessity Authorizing	)	
it to Install, Own, Acquire, Construct,	)	File No. SA-2021
Operate, Control, Manage and Maintain	)	
Sewer Systems in and around the City of	)	
Trimble, Missouri.	)	

## APPLICATION AND MOTION FOR WAIVER

**COMES NOW** Missouri-American Water Company ("MAWC") pursuant to Sections 393.140, and 393.170 RSMo, and 20 CSR 4240-2.060, 20 CSR 4240-3.305, and 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1)(D), and for its Application and Motion for Waiver, states as follows to the Missouri Public Service Commission:

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 1. This Application is being filed by MAWC to obtain certificates of convenience and necessity to install, own, acquire, construct, operate, control, manage and maintain sewer systems in and around the City of Trimble, Missouri.
- 2. MAWC is a Missouri corporation, active and in good standing with the Missouri Secretary of State, with its principal office and place of business at 727 Craig Road, St. Louis, Missouri 63141. Pursuant to Commission regulation 20 CSR 4240-2.060(1)(G), MAWC incorporates by reference the certified copies of its articles of incorporation and its certificate of good standing previously filed in File No. WO-2020-0190.
- 3. MAWC currently provides water service to the public in and around the cities of St. Joseph, Joplin, Brunswick, Mexico, Warrensburg, Parkville, Riverside, Jefferson City, and parts of Cole, St. Charles, Warren, Jefferson, Morgan, Pettis, Benton, Barry, Stone, Greene,

Taney, Christian, Clay, Ray, and Platte Counties, and most all of St. Louis County, Missouri. MAWC currently provides water service to approximately 470,000 customers. MAWC provides sewer service to approximately 15,000 customers in Callaway, Jefferson, Pettis, Cole, Morgan, Platte, Taney, Stone, Christian, St. Louis, Clinton, Clay, Ray, and Warren Counties, Missouri. MAWC is a "water corporation," a "sewer corporation" and a "public utility" as those terms are defined in Section 386.020 and is subject to the jurisdiction and supervision of the Commission as provided by law. MAWC has no overdue Commission annual reports or assessment fees. There is no pending action or final unsatisfied judgment or decision against MAWC from any state or federal agency or court which involves customer service or rates, which action, judgement or decision has occurred within three years of the date of this Application, other than any cases pending before this Commission.

4. Communications respecting this Application should be addressed to the undersigned counsel and:

### **Missouri-American Water Company:**

#### Ms. Nikki Pacific

Manager Business Development – Proposal and Integration Missouri-American Water Company 727 Craig Road Creve Coeur, Missouri 63021 Direct Dial 314-996-2215 Nikki.pacific@amwater.com

### CERTIFICATES OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY (CCN)

5. MAWC proposes to purchase substantially all of the sewer assets of the currently unregulated system of the City of Trimble, Missouri ("Trimble"), and requests permission, approval and a CCN to own, acquire, construct, operate, control, manage and maintain the sewer system for the public in an area in and around the City of Trimble, Missouri. MAWC also

proposes to purchase substantially all of the sewer assets of the currently unregulated system of Centennial Acres Association, Inc. ("Centennial Acres"), and requests permission, approval and a CCN to own, acquire, construct, operate, control, manage and maintain the sewer system for the public in or near Trimble, Missouri.

#### **Trimble Transaction**

- 6. To provide service to the proposed area, MAWC will purchase the sewer system and lagoon treatment plant from Trimble. Trimble is a Fourth-Class City located in Clinton County. Trimble serves about 280 sewer accounts which are primarily residential customers with a small number of commercial and industrial customers.
- 7. The Trimble sewer system consists of approximately 24,200 linear feet of sewer line, five pumping stations and a three-cell treatment lagoon.
- 8. On January 26, 2020, the Trimble Board of Aldermen passed Ordinance No. 20-293, An Ordinance Calling For An Election In The City Of Trimble, Missouri To Be Held On April 7, 2020 For the Purpose Of Submitting To The Qualified Voters Of The City A Proposition To Sell Certain Assets Associated With The City's Wastewater System To Missouri American Water ("Ordinance"). A copy of the Ordinance is attached hereto as Appendix A. Section 2 of the Ordinance provided notice of an election to be held on April 7, 2020, to vote on whether the wastewater utility owned by Trimble should be sold. Section 3 provided:

If a majority of the votes cast on the proposal by the qualified voters voting thereon are in favor of the proposal, then the sale contemplated in this section shall be affected. If a majority of the votes cast by the qualified voters voting are opposed to the proposal, then City of Trimble's Board of Aldermen shall not proceed forward with the sale contemplated in this section unless and until the Board of Aldermen resubmits a proposal to authorize the Board of Aldermen to proceed forward with a sale authorized by this section and such proposal is approved by a majority of the qualified voters voting thereon.

- 9. There was a public meeting held in Trimble on March 17, 2020 and there was a virtual public meeting held on May 27, 2020 to discuss the proposed sale. MAWC representatives attended these public meetings and were available to answer any questions.
- 10. Due to the novel coronavirus, the April 7, 2020 election was postponed and held on June 2, 2020, with a majority of votes cast in favor of the sale of the Trimble wastewater system to Missouri-American Water Company.
- 11. On July 10, 2020, MAWC entered into a *Purchase Agreement* with Trimble. A copy of the *Purchase Agreement* is attached as **Appendix B-C**. Appendix B-C has been identified as Confidential in accordance with Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.135(2)(A)(3) and (6) as it contains market specific information and information representing strategies employed in contract negotiations.
- 12. MAWC proposes to purchase all the sewer utility assets of Trimble, as specifically described in, and under the terms and provisions of the *Purchase Agreement*. A legal description of the area sought to be certificated is attached hereto as **Appendix C**. A map of the area sought to be certificate is attached to this Application as **Appendix D**. MAWC proposes that the area to be certificated for sewer service be described as: "The City of Trimble and the surrounding area."
- 13. Attached hereto and marked as **Appendix E-C** is a list of ten residents or landowners within the proposed service area. **Appendix E-C** has been identified as Confidential in accordance with Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.135(2)(A)(1), as it contains customer-specific information.

#### **Centennial Acres Transaction**

- 14. To provide service to the proposed area, MAWC will purchase the sewer system from Centennial Acres. Centennial Acres is a residential development of single family lots located near Trimble, Missouri. The sewer system serves approximately 13 homes and has the ability to serve additional undeveloped lots.
- 15. On August 19, 2020, MAWC entered into an Agreement For Purchase of Wastewater System ("Agreement for Purchase") with Centennial Acres. A copy of the Agreement for Purchase is attached as **Appendix F-C**. **Appendix F-C** has been identified as Confidential in accordance with Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.135(2)(A)(3) and (6) as it contains market specific information and information representing strategies employed in contract negotiations.
- 16. MAWC proposes to purchase all the sewer system assets of Centennial Acres, as specifically described in, and under the terms and provisions of the *Agreement for Purchase*. A legal description of the area sought to be certificated is attached hereto as **Appendix G**. A map of the area sought to be certificated is attached to this Application as **Appendix H**. MAWC proposes that the area to be certificated for sewer service be described as "Centennial Acres."
- 17. Attached hereto and marked as **Appendix I-C** is a list of ten residents or landowners within the proposed service area. **Appendix I-C** has been identified as Confidential in accordance with Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.135(2)(A)(1), as it contains customerspecific information.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

18. Attached hereto and marked as **Appendix J-C** is a feasibility study for the Trimble sewer system for which MAWC seeks a CCN, containing plans and specifications for

the utility system and estimated cost of the construction of the utility system during the first three (3) years of ownership; proposed rates and charges; and estimates of the number of customers and estimated expenses and revenues during the first three years of operation by MAWC. No external financing is anticipated. **Appendix J-C** has been identified as "Confidential" in accordance with Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.135(2)(A)(3) and (6) as it contains market specific information and information representing strategies employed in contract negotiations.

- 19. MAWC will receive a franchise from Trimble as called for by the *Purchase Agreement*.
- 20. Attached hereto and marked as **Appendix K-C** is a feasibility study for the Centennial Acres sewer system for which MAWC seeks a CCN, containing plans and specifications for the utility system and estimated cost of the construction of the utility system during the first three (3) years of ownership; proposed rates and charges; and estimates of the number of customers and estimated expenses and revenues during the first three years of operation by MAWC. No external financing is anticipated. **Appendix K-C** has been identified as "Confidential" in accordance with Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.135(2)(A)(3) and (6) as it contains market specific information and information representing strategies employed in contract negotiations.

#### TARIFFS/RATES

21. MAWC proposes to provide service to the Trimble system pursuant to the existing rates currently applicable to MAWC's Pettis County, Fenton, Hickory Hills, Temple Terrace, Anna Meadows, Jaxson Estates, Timber Springs and Clinton Estates and to utilize the rules and regulations governing sewer service currently found in MAWC's sewer tariff P.S.C. MO No. 26, until such time as the rates and rules are modified according to law.

22. For the Centennial Acres system, MAWC proposes to provide service using the \$75.00 per month rate approved by the Homeowners' Association and to utilize the rules and regulations governing sewer service currently found in MAWC's sewer tariff P.S.C. MO No. 26, until such time as the rates and rules are modified according to law.

#### **PUBLIC INTEREST**

23. The grant of the requested CCNs (and approval of the underlying transactions) is in the public interest and will result in the provision of regulated sewer service to the current and future residents of the service area. The sewer assets of Trimble and Centennial Acres would be acquired by MAWC, a Missouri public utility, and be subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission. MAWC has considerable expertise and experience in providing sewer utility services to residents of the State of Missouri and is fully qualified, in all respects, to own and operate the sewer systems currently being operated in and around the City of Trimble.

#### MOTION FOR WAIVER

- 24. Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1) provides that "(a)ny person that intends to file a case shall file a notice with the secretary of the commission a minimum of sixty (60) days prior to filing such case." A notice was not filed 60 days prior to the filing of this Application. As such, and to the extent required, MAWC seeks a waiver of the 60-day notice requirement.
- 25. Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1)(D) provides that a waiver may be granted for good cause. In this regard, MAWC declares (as verified below) that it has had no communication with the Office of the Commission (as defined by Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.015(10)) within the prior 150 days regarding any substantive issue likely to be in this case, other than those pleadings filed for record. Accordingly, for good cause shown, MAWC moves for a waiver of

the 60-day notice requirement of Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1) and acceptance of this Application at this time.

WHEREFORE, MAWC requests the Commission issue an order:

1. Granting MAWC permission, approval, and Certificates of Convenience and Necessity authorizing MAWC to install, acquire, build, construct, own, operate, control, manage

and maintain a sewer system for the public within the areas referred to above;

2. Granting MAWC permission to acquire the sewer assets identified herein of the

City of Trimble, Missouri and Centennial Acres Association, Inc.; and

3. Authorizing MAWC to take such actions as may be deemed necessary and

appropriate to accomplish the purposes of the Application, the Trimble Purchase Agreement and

the Centennial Acres Agreement for Purchase, and to consummate related transactions in

accordance with each of the agreements.

Respectfully submitted,

Q1.Com

Dean L. Cooper Mo. Bar #36592

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## ATTORNEYS FOR MISSOURI-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been sent by electronic mail this  $17^{th}$  day of September 2020, to:

General Counsel's Office staffcounselservice@psc.mo.gov

Office of the Public Counsel opcservice@opc.mo.gov

Dean L. Cooper

#### VERIFICATION

State of Missouri	)	
	)	SS
County of St. Louis	)	

I, Timothy W. Luft, under penalty of perjury, and pursuant to Section 509.030, RSMo, state that I am Vice-President - Legal of Missouri-American Water Company, that I am duly authorized to make this affidavit on behalf of MAWC, that I have knowledge of the matters stated herein, and that said matters are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. Additionally, no representative of MAWC has had any communication with the office of the Missouri Public Service Commission as defined in Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.015(10) within the immediately preceding 150 days regarding the subject matter of this Application.

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