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Governor

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November 1, 2001

Mr. Dale H. Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

FILED<sup>3</sup>
NOV 0 1 2001

Missouri Public Service Commission

Re:

City of Hannibal, MO and PWSD #1 Ralls County, MO

Case No. WO-2002-17

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced case please find the original and eight copies of **REVISED PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE AND REQUEST TO ACCEPT LATE FILING OF THE PROPOSED SCHEDULE.** Please "file" stamp the extra-enclosed copy and return it to this office.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

M. Ruth O'Neill

**Assistant Public Counsel** 

MRO:jb

cc: Counsel of Record

FILED<sup>3</sup>
NOV 0 1 2001

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

Missouri Public Service Commission

In the Matter of the Application of the City of Hannibal,	)	
Missouri, and Public Water Supply District No. 1 of	)	
Ralls County, Missouri, for Approval of a Territorial	)	Case No. WO-2002-17
Agreement Concerning Territory Encompassing Part	)	
of Ralls County, Missouri.	)	

# REVISED PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE AND REQUEST TO ACCEPT LATE FILING OF THE PROPOSED SCHEDULE

COMES NOW, the Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel), on its own behalf and on behalf of the City of Hannibal, Missouri (City), the Public Water Supply District No. 1 of Ralls County, Missouri (District), and the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff), and submits to the Missouri Public Service Commission the revised Proposed Procedural Schedule of the parties to this matter. Public Counsel further respectfully requests that the Commission accept this proposed procedural schedule filed on November 1, 2001, which is one day after the Commission order the Schedule to be filed, for the reason that Ms. O'Neill of the Public Counsel's office was designated by the parties to prepare this schedule for filing, and, due to illness, was absent from her office on October 31, 2001, the date that the schedule was due. No prejudice will be suffered by any party due to the filing of this schedule one-day late.

In support of the acceptance of this schedule, Public Counsel states the following:

1. On or about July 2, 2001, the City and the District filed a Joint Application with this Commission, requesting approval of a Territorial Agreement entered into by the parties. A copy of the agreement was attached to the application.

- 2. On August 29, 2001, the parties filed a proposed procedural schedule in this matter, as directed by the Commission. At that time, the parties advised the Commission that they believed a stipulation and agreement would be possible.
- 3. Subsequent to the filing of the agreement, the parties became aware that the United States Department of Agriculture, a secured creditor of the District, had substantial concerns about the terms of the territorial agreement. The then-known details of this complication were set forth in the parties' second motion to suspend the procedural schedule in this matter, filed on October 19, 2001.
- 4. The Commission issued an order canceling the procedural schedule and extending decision deadline, and directing filing on October 25, 2001. At that time, the Commission directed the parties to submit a new proposed procedural schedule on or before October 31, 2001, designed to complete this case by January 7, 2001.
- 5. The parties had discussions regarding the proposed procedural schedule in light of the pending USDA objections to the agreement. Public Counsel contacted the attorney for the District on Monday, and was advised that the Board of the District was meeting Monday night. Following return from sick leave, the attorney for Public Counsel contacted the attorney for the District, and the attorneys for Staff and the City and it was determined that the parties to the agreement had decided to meet and attempt to address the USDA concerns in a time frame which would still allow the Commission to address this issue by the January 7, 2002 completion date set out in the Commission's October 25 order. However, the parties are not certain of whether there will be sufficient time to address all of the USDA concerns in a manner which will allow the Agreement to go forward in its present form, or with minor modifications.

6. The parties have discussed the various possibilities and unanimously agree that they will make all reasonable efforts to resolve these issues within the time allotted. The parties further agree that if the issues cannot be resolved within the time allotted, or if extensive revisions must be made to the agreement, that it would be in the best interests of the parties to voluntarily withdraw the agreement and dismiss the matter, and file a new application after a new agreement is reached. Therefore, the parties propose the following procedural schedule:

Parties File Stipulation and Agreement or Motion to Voluntarily Dismiss this Case December 21, 2001.

WHEREFORE, the parties respectfully request that the Commission issue an order establishing the proposed procedural schedule as set forth above.

Respectfully submitted,

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL

By: ∕∕∕

M. Ruth O'Neill

(#49456)

**Assistant Public Counsel** 

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered to the following this 1<sup>st</sup> day of November 2001:

#### VICTORIA L KIZITO

Associate General Counsel Missouri Public Service Commission PO Box 360 Jefferson City MO 65102

#### JEFFREY H BLAYLOCK

Ford Parshall & Baker LLC 609 East Walnut Street PO Box 1097 Columbia MO 65205-1097 Attorneys for City of Hannibal, MO

#### **RODNEY RODENBUAGH**

423 South Main Street PO Box 466 New London MO 63459 Attorney for PWSD #1, Ralls County, MO

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