

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

In the Matter of the Application of Central)	
Jefferson County Utilities, Inc. for an Order)	
Authorizing the Transfer and Assignment)	
of Certain Water and Sewer Assets to)	<u>Case No. SO-2007-0071</u>
Jefferson County Public Sewer District)	
and in Connection Therewith, Certain)	
Other Related Transactions.)	

PUBLIC COUNSEL’S REQUEST FOR LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING

COMES NOW the Office of the Public Counsel and for its Request for Local Public Hearing states as follows:

1. On August 15, 2006, Central Jefferson County Utilities, Inc. (Central Jefferson) filed an application with the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission), seeking the Commission’s authorization to transfer and assign certain assets of its water and sewer operations to the Jefferson County Public Sewer District (Sewer District).

2. Previously, on July 27, 2006, Public Counsel filed two separate water and sewer overearnings complaints against Central Jefferson County Utilities, Inc. The Commission consolidated these complaints into Case No. WC-2007-0038.

3. Both the present case (Sale Case) and Case No. WC-2007-0038 (Overearnings Case) are interrelated in that Public Counsel has a concern that the current excessive rates will be carried over to the new Sewer District owner over which the Public Service Commission has no regulatory oversight.

4. Public Counsel requests that a local public hearing for the Sale Case be held concurrently with a local public hearing for the Overearnings Case. Both cases, for

the most part, affect the same customers. The ratepayers should have an opportunity to be heard regarding the transfer and assignment of the water and sewer operations to the Sewer District. These comments may be used to determine if there is any detriment or disadvantage to customers. The ratepayers also should have an opportunity to comment on the current rates, especially if the proposed transfer results in the adoption of these rates or even higher rates. It may be that ratepayers (and property owners that have been unable to connect to the Central Jefferson system) are more interested in quickly consummating the sale than they are in addressing the excessive rates. A local public hearing will allow Public Counsel and the Commission to assess the public sentiment and determine the public interest.

5. Public Counsel requests that the local public hearing be held expeditiously, consistent with adequate notice to customers and the Commission's schedule.

WHEREFORE, Public Counsel respectfully requests that the Commission schedule a local public hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

OFFICE OF THE Public Counsel

/s/ Christina L. Baker

By:_____

Christina L. Baker (#58303)

Assistant Public Counsel

P O Box 2230

Jefferson City, MO 65102

(573) 751-5565

(573) 751-5562 FAX

christina.baker@ded.mo.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, emailed or hand-delivered to the following this 20th day of September 2006:

Missouri Public Service Commission
200 Madison Street, Suite 800
PO Box 360
Jefferson City MO 65102
GenCounsel@psc.mo.gov
Keith.Krueger@psc.mo.gov

Central Jefferson County Utilities
William R. England III
312 East Capitol Avenue
P.O. Box 456
Jefferson City, MO 65102
dadams@brydonlaw.com

Central Jefferson County Utilities
Kenneth McClain
1519 McNutt Road
Herculaneum, MO 63048

Central Jefferson County Utilities
Dean Cooper
312 East Capitol Avenue
P.O. Box 456
Jefferson City, MO 65102
dcooper@brydonlaw.com

County of Jefferson, Missouri
County Commission Clerk
729 Maple, Jefferson County Admin. Bldg.
P.O. Box 100
Hillsboro, MO 63050

Jefferson County Public Sewer
Legal Department
P.O. Box 632
Hillsboro, MO 63050

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Duane E. Schreimann
Schreimann, Rackers, Francka & Blunt, L.L.C.
2316 St. Mary's Blvd, Ste. 130
Jefferson City, MO 65109
des@srfblaw.com

/s/ Christina L. Baker
