## STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 20th day of September, 2012.

In the Matter of Meramec Sewer Company	)	File No. SR-2012-0309
Rate Increase Request	)	Tariff No. YS-2013-0087

# ORDER APPROVING DISPOSITION AGREEMENT AND APPROVING TARIFF AND WAIVING COMMISSION RULES

Issue Date: September 20, 2012 Effective Date: October 7, 2012

On March 20, 2012, Meramec Sewer Company, Inc., filed with the Missouri Public Service Commission a request to increase its annual sewage operating revenues by \$140,000; a change of 74%. The company provides service to approximately 992 customers in Jefferson County. On August 17, the Staff of the Commission and the company filed an Agreement regarding the disposition of the company's request. The Office of the Public Counsel did not join in the Agreement but, with certain concerns, does not object to its approval. The Agreement provides for an increase of \$103,466, or 55%, in the company's revenues. Under the Agreement, the following monthly rates will be applied.

	Current Rates	Proposed Rates
Single Family Residential	\$16.76	\$26.33
Mobile Home Service	\$15.08	\$23.70
Multi-Family Residential	\$13.41	\$21.07
Commercial		\$52.67

On August 22 the company filed tariff sheets that mirror the example tariffs filed with the Agreement. The tariff sheets bear an effective date of October 7, 2012.

### **PUBLIC COUNSEL'S POSITION STATEMENT**

Public Counsel filed its position statement on August 22. With concerns regarding Meramec's failure to pay \$72,000 in past-due property taxes owed to Jefferson County, Public Counsel states that this concern is beyond the issues of this small-company rate case and does not oppose the Agreement.

Public Counsel also requests that the Commission waive certain customer notice requirements. Commission rule 4 CSR 240-3.050(14) requires written customer notice of the proposed tariff within 5 working days after the tariff is filed. And, subsection (22) requires a final written notice of Commission approval of any tariff revisions resulting from this case. Public Counsel opines that it would be burdensome to both Meramec and its customers if the company is required to send these notices. Hence, Public Counsel requests that the Commission waive these notice requirements. No party has opposed Public Counsel's request for a waiver.

#### Discussion

Upon review of the Agreement, the Commission finds that the terms and obligations set out in the Agreement are reasonable. The Commission will therefore approve the Agreement and direct the parties to abide by the terms set out therein. The Commission will also grant Public Counsel's requests to waive customer notice as required by Commission rules 4 CSR 240-3.050(14) and (22). Finally, the Commission will approve the tariff sheets to become effective on October 7, 2012.

#### THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

 The Agreement Regarding Disposition of Small Company Rate Increase Request is approved.

- 2. The signatories to the Agreement shall comply with the terms set out therein.
- 3. The Office of the Public Counsel's request for a waiver of Commission rule is granted and Commission rules 4 CSR 240-3.050(14) and (22) are waived.
- 4. The proposed revised tariff sheets, filed by Meramec Sewer Company, Inc. on August 22, 2012, and assigned Tariff No. YS-2013-0087, are approved to become effective on October 7, 2012.
  - 5. This order shall become effective on October 7, 2012.
  - 6. This case shall be closed on October 8, 2012.

BY THE COMMISSION

Steven C. Reed Secretary

(SEAL)

Gunn, Chm., Jarrett, and Kenney, CC., concur. Stoll, C., abstains.

Jones, Senior Regulatory Law Judge