BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Ozark Meadows, Aqua Development Company, d/b/a Aqua Missouri, Inc. Request for Increase in Annual Sewer System Operating Revenues MPC Sewer Utility Small Company Rate Increase Procedures))) <u>File No. SR-2010-0023</u>)
In the Matter of Aqua RU, Inc. d/b/a Aqua Missouri Request for Increase in Annual Water System Operating Revenues MPSC Water Utility Small Company Rate Increase))
In the Matter of Aqua Missouri, Inc. (CU) Request for Increase in Annual Sewer System Operating Revenue MPSC Sewer Utility Small Company Rate Increase Procedures))
In the Matter of Aqua Missouri, Inc. (CU) Request for an Increase in the Annual Water System Operating Revenues MPSC Water Utility Small Company Rate Increase Procedures)) <u>File No. WR-2010-0027</u>))

ORDER SUSPENDING EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS

Issue Date: February 25, 2010

Effective Date: February 25, 2010

These matters were filed pursuant to the Commission's Small Utility Rate Case Procedure Rule (4 CSR 240-3.050) on July 15, 2009. On December 16, 2009, the Commission's Staff and Aqua Development Company, d/b/a Aqua Missouri, Inc., Aqua RU, Inc., d/b/a Aqua Missouri, and Aqua Missouri, Inc. (collectively "Aqua Missouri") filed disposition agreements, and on December 17, Aqua Missouri filed tariffs designed to implement those agreements. The Office of the Public Counsel ("Public Counsel") did not join those agreements.

On December 24, 2009, Public Counsel requested the Commission to reserve tentative dates for evidentiary hearings if the parties failed to settle these actions. On

January 6, 2010, the Commission suspended Aqua Missouri's tariffs and reserved dates for evidentiary hearings. The hearings were set for March 1, 2010 through March 12, 2010.

Between the dates of February 10 and 22, 2010, the Commission held six local public hearings. Following those hearings Public Counsel filed its position statements indicating that while it had concerns about certain quality of service issues, and while it would not join the disposition agreements between Staff and Aqua Missouri, it would also not oppose those agreements. On February 24, 2010, Staff filed a joint status report on behalf of all the parties indicating that it and Aqua Missouri had no changes for the submitted agreements. The jointly filed status report confirmed that no party is seeking evidentiary hearings in these matters.

Because the parties no longer have material issues in dispute that require a trial-type evidentiary hearing, the Commission will suspend the schedule for evidentiary hearings. The Commission will thoroughly examine the parties' pleadings, the proposed disposition agreements and the testimony from the local public hearings to determine if it wishes to convene an on-the-record proceeding before making a final decision in these matters.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The schedule for evidentiary hearings is suspended.

2. This order shall become effective immediately upon issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION

Steven C. Reed Secretary

Harold Stearley, Senior Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 25th day of February, 2010.

(SEAL)