

Acting Public Coulise

Office of the Public Counsel Governor Office Building 200 Madison, Suite 650 P.O. Box 7800 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 Telephone: 573-751-4857 Facsimile: 573-751-5562 Web: http://www.mo-opc.org Relay Missouri 1-800-735-2966 TDD 1-800-735-2466 Voice

June 6, 2002

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

Re: Case NO. WC-2002-155 (Consolidated with SC-2002-160)

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced case please find the original and eight copies of Response of the Office of the Public Counsel to Staff's Motion to Reopen Case for the Taking of Additional Evidence. Please "file" stamp the extra-enclosed copy and return it to this office.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely Mull Weil

M. Ruth O'Neill

**Assistant Public Counsel** 

MRO:jb

cc: Counsel of Record

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

Office of the Public Counsel,	)	
Complainant,	)	
	)	
V.	)	Case No. WC-2002-155
	)	
Warren County Water and Sewer	)	
Company and Gary L. Smith,	)	
Respondents,	)	

## RESPONSE OF THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL TO STAFF'S MOTION TO REOPEN CASE FOR THE TAKING OF ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

COMES NOW, the Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel), and responds to the motion of the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) to reopen the record in this case for the taking of additional evidence. Public Counsel has reviewed the proposed additional exhibit, and concurs with the Staff that it would be appropriate for the Commission to consider the proposed exhibit along with all of the other evidence in this case, in reaching its decision on Public Counsel's complaint.

Upon review of the Staff's motion, and the proposed exhibit, it appears that it would be appropriate for the Commission to allow this exhibit into evidence in order to complete the record in this case. This is especially relevant, given that Mr. Smith, during re-direct, introduced an incomplete statement of his financial obligations to the Commission. His testimony regarding the amounts of assessments owed by the Respondent Company was designed to rebut prior testimony of Commission staff witnesses in this regard. Neither the Staff nor

Public Counsel had the opportunity to cross examine Mr. Smith about whether the amounts set forth in the letter admitted as Exhibit 20 represented his complete outstanding financial obligation to the Commission. Neither the Staff nor Public Counsel had the opportunity to recall witnesses at the time of the hearing to refute Mr. Smith's implication, under oath, that Exhibit 20 set forth the total amount of his company's unpaid Commission assessments.

WHEREFORE, Public Counsel joins in Staff's Motion to Reopen Case For the Taking of Additional Evidence, to the extent that the Motion relates to the proposed exhibit concerning the Respondent Company's past due Commission assessments, and asks that the Commission make this proposed exhibit part of the record.

Respectfully submitted,

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL

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M. Ruth O'Neill

(#49456)

**Assistant Public Counsel** 

P O Box 7800

Jefferson City, MO 65102

(573) 751-5565

(573) 751-5562 FAX

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered to the following this 6<sup>th</sup> day of June 2002:

GENERAL COUNSEL
Missouri Public Service Commission
P O Box 360
Jefferson City MO 65102

PAUL S DEFORD Lathrop & Gage 2345 Grand Boulevard Suite 2500 Kansas City MO 64108-2684

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