## Robin Carnahan

Secretary of State **Administrative Rules Division** 

**RULE TRANSMITTAL** 

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RECEIVED Missouri Public Service Commission

August 2, 2013

AUG 0 1 2013

SECRETARY OF STATE ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Rule Number 4 CSR 240-13.025

Use a "SEPARATE" rule transmittal sheet for EACH individual rulemaking. Name of person to call with questions about this rule: 573-751-2849 FAX 573-526-6010 Content Morris Woodruff Phone Email address morris.woodruff@psc.mo.gov Data Chris Koenigsfeld Phone 573-751-4256 FAX 573-526-6010 Entry Email address christine.koenigsfeld@psc.mo.gov Interagency mailing address Public Service Commission, 9th Fl, Gov.Ofc Bldg, JC, MO TYPE OF RULEMAKING ACTION TO BE TAKEN Emergency rulemaking, include effective date Proposed Rulemaking Withdrawal Rule Action Notice In Addition Rule Under Consideration Order of Rulemaking Effective Date for the Order Statutory 30 days OR Specific date

> Small Business Regulatory Fairness Board (DED) Stamp

SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY FAIRNESS BOARD

Does the Order of Rulemaking contain changes to the rule text? NO

YES—LIST THE SECTIONS WITH CHANGES, including any deleted rule text:

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JOINT COMMITTEE OF

AUG 1 2013

administrative alle



Commissioners
ROBERT S. KENNEY
Chairman

TERRY M. JARRETT

STEPHEN M. STOLL

WILLIAM P. KENNEY

## Missouri Public Service Commission

POST OFFICE BOX 360 JEFFERSON CTTY, MISSOURI 65102 573-751-3234 573-751-1847 (Fax Number) http://www.psc.mo.gov JOSHUA HARDEN General Counsel

MORRIS WOODRUFF
Secretary

WESS A. HENDERSON Director of Administration and Regulatory Policy

CHERLYN D. VOSS
Director of Regulatory Review

KEVIN A. THOMPSON Chief Staff Counsel

August 1, 2013

Jason Kander Secretary of State Administrative Rules Division 600 West Main Street Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Re: 4 CSR 240-13.025 Billing Adjustments

Dear Secretary Kander,

#### CERTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULE

I do hereby certify that the attached is an accurate and complete copy of the proposed rulemaking lawfully submitted by the Missouri Public Service Commission.

The Public Service Commission has determined and hereby certifies that this proposed rulemaking will not have an economic impact on small businesses. The Public Service Commission further certifies that it has conducted an analysis of whether there has been a taking of real property pursuant to section 536.017, RSMo 2000, that the proposed rulemaking does not constitute a taking of real property under relevant state and federal law, and that the proposed rulemaking conforms to the requirements of 1.310, RSMo Supp. 2012, regarding user fees.

The Public Service Commission has determined and hereby also certifies that this proposed rulemaking complies with the small business requirements of 1.310, RSMo Supp. 2012, in that it does not have an adverse impact on small businesses consisting of fewer than fifty full or part-time employees or it is necessary to protect the life, health, or safety of the public, or that this rulemaking complies with 1.310, RSMo Supp 2012, by exempting any small business consisting of fewer than fifty full or part-time employees from its coverage, by implementing a federal mandate, or by implementing a federal program administered by the state or an act of the general assembly.

Statutory Authority: section 393.140, RSMo 2000

Woodruff August 1, 2013 Certification of Administrative Rule

If there are any questions regarding the content of this proposed rulemaking, please contact:

Morris L. Woodruff, Chief Regulatory Law Judge Missouri Public Service Commission 200 Madison Street P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102 (573) 751-2849 morris.woodruff@psc.mo.gov

Morris L. Woodruff

Chief Regulatory Law Judge

**Enclosures** 

#### **AFFIDAVIT**

### **PUBLIC COST**

STATE OF MISSOURI	)
COUNTY OF COLE	)

1, Mike Downing, Acting Director of the Department of Economic Development, first being duly sworn, on my oath, state that it is my opinion that the cost of proposed rule, 4 CSR 240-13.025, is less than five hundred dollars in the aggregate to this agency, any other agency of state government or any political subdivision thereof.

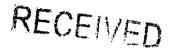
Mike Downing

Acting Director

Department of Economic Development

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of July , 2013, I am commissioned as a notary public within the County of 6th , State of Missouri, and my commission expires on 17th July 205.

ANNETTE KEHNER
Notary Public - Notary Seal
State of Missouri
Gommissioned for Cole County
My Commission Expires: July 17, 2015
Commission Number: 11492656



## Title 4--DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Division 240--Public Service Commission

AUG 0 1 201 SECRETAL ADMINISTR

Chapter 13--Service and Billing Practices for Residential Customers of Electric, Gas, Sewer and Water Utilities

### **Proposed Amendment**



**4 CSR 240-13.025 Billing Adjustments** The Commission is amending the title of the chapter, purpose statement, sections (1), (1)(C), (1)(D), (1)(E), and the Authority section; and adding section (C).

PURPOSE: This rule is amended to update the rule to incorporate current technology and to clarify and eliminate inconsistencies in order to improve the operation of the rule.

PURPOSE: This rule establishes **the requirements for making** billing adjustments in the event of an overcharge or an undercharge.

- (1) For all billing errors, the utility will determine from all related and available information the probable period during which th[is]e condition causing the errors existed and shall make billing adjustments for [the estimated]that period [involved] as follows:
- (C) In the event of an undercharge, the utility shall offer the customer the option to pay the adjusted bill over a period at least double the period covered by the adjusted bill.
- ([C]D) No billing adjustment [will]shall be made [where]if the full amount of the adjustment is less than one dollar (\$1);
- ([D]E) [Where]No billing adjustment shall be made if, upon test, an error in measurement is found to be within the limits prescribed by commission rules[,no billing adjustment will be made]; and
- ([E]F) [When]If evidence of tampering is found, or [there are]if the customer has made misrepresentations of the use of service[ by the customer], the utility [will]shall calculate the billing adjustment period in accordance with the applicable statute of limitations for the prosecution of such claim after determining the probable period during which such condition existed from all related and available information.

AUTHORITY: section 393.140(11), RSMo [1986]2000 as currently supplemented.\* Original rule filed Sept. 22, 1993, effective July 10, 1994.
\*Original authority 1939, amended 1940, 1967.

PUBLIC COST: This proposed rule will not cost state agencies or political subdivisions in excess of \$500.00 in total.

PRIVATE COST: This proposed rule will not cost private entities in excess of \$500.00 in total.

NOTICE TO SUBMIT COMMENTS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: Anyone may file comments in support of or in opposition to this proposed rule with the Missouri Public Service Commission, Morris L. Woodruff, Secretary of the Commission, PO Box 360, Jefferson City, MO 65102. To be considered, comments must be received at the Commission's offices on or before the public of the commission of the com

October 7, 2013, and should include a reference to Commission Case No. AX-2013-0091. If comments are submitted via a paper filing, an original and eight (8) copies of the comments are required. Comments may also be submitted via a filing using the Commission's electronic filing and information system at <a href="http://www.psc.mo.gov/efis.asp">http://www.psc.mo.gov/efis.asp</a>. A public hearing regarding this proposed rule is scheduled for October 10, 2013, at 10:00 a.m., in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison St., Jefferson City, Missouri. Interested persons may appear at this hearing to submit additional comments and/or testimony in support of or in opposition to this proposed rule, and may be asked to respond to Commission questions. Any persons with special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing at one (1) of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline 1-800-392-4211 or TDD Hotline 1-800-829-7541.

# Small Business Regulator Fairness Board Small Business Impact Statement

Date: September 28, 2012

Rule Number: 4 CSR 240-13.025

Name of Agency Preparing Statement: Missouri Public Service

Commission

Name of Person Preparing Statement: Gay Fred

Phone Number: 573-751-3160 Email: gay.fred@psc.mo.gov

Name of Person Approving Statement: Gay Fred

Please describe the methods your agency considered or used to reduce the impact on small businesses (examples: consolidation, simplification, differing compliance, differing reporting requirements, less stringent deadlines, performance rather than design standards, exemption, or any other mitigating technique).

During the MPSC's review and work on the proposed rule modifications, the MPSC solicited the involvement of small water and sewer utility businesses to participate in the working group to capture possible differences in compliance and standards. It appears there are no significant differences in compliance, reporting or any other mitigating techniques that would impact small businesses. In addition, all small regulated water and sewer companies today have filed and approved tariffs that have similar language to that of the proposed rule.

Please explain how your agency has involved small businesses in the development of the proposed rule.

During the MPSC's review and work on the proposed rule modifications over the last seven years, the MPSC solicited the involvement of electric, gas, small water and sewer utility businesses, to participate in the working group meetings to develop the proposed rule.

Please list the probable monetary costs and benefits to your agency and any other agencies affected. Please include the estimated total amount your agency expects to collect from additionally imposed fees and how the moneys will be used.

The proposed rule will have no monetary impact on the MPSC or any other state agency.

Please describe small businesses that will be required to comply with the proposed rule and how they may be adversely affected.

Small sewer utilities who currently do not fall under the proposed rule regarding residential billing and service standards of the MPSC will be required to comply with the proposed rule, however, currently these small sewer utilities have filed and approved tariffs that generally incorporate the same procedures and practices, it does not appear they will be adversely affected by this proposed rule.

Please list direct and indirect costs (in dollars amounts) associated with compliance.

There should be minimal if any direct and indirect costs associated with compliance. All small water and sewer utilities currently have filed and approved tariffs that have similar language to that found in the proposed rule.

Please list types of business that will be directly affected by, bear the cost of, or directly benefit from the proposed rule.

Regulated electric, gas, sewer and water utilities.

Does the proposed rule include provisions that are more stringent than those mandated by comparable or related federal, state, or county standards?

Yes	No	Х

If yes, please explain the reason for imposing a more stringent standard.

For further guidance in the completion of this statement, please see §536.300, RSMo.