

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

In the Matter of a Rate Increase Request  
of House Springs Sewer Company

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**File No. SR-2012-0399**

## **ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING AND SUSPENDING TARIFF**

Issue Date: November 2, 2012

Effective Date: November 2, 2012

On May 30, 2012, House Springs Sewer Company, Inc. initiated a small company rate increase action pursuant to Commission rule 4 CSR 240-3.050. After the Staff of the Commission completed a full audit of the company, the company and Staff agreed that the company's annualized operating revenue should be increase by \$149,929.

In October, Staff notified the Commission that Staff and the company had reached an agreement. And, on November 1, the company filed a tariff sheet reflecting that agreement. The sheet bears an effective date of December 17, 2012.

The Office of the Public Counsel did not join in the agreement but instead filed a request for a local public hearing. Public Counsel has concerns with the calculated revenue requirement and believes that the return on equity is too high for current economic conditions. Public Counsel points out that Commission rules<sup>1</sup> require the company to send notice to its customers of the proposed rate increase within 5 days of the tariff filing. If a public hearing is held, the company must send an additional notice to its customers. Public Counsel therefore request that the Commission waive the 5-day notice requirement for the tariff filing and direct the company to send a combined notice instead.

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<sup>1</sup> Commission rule 4 CSR 240-3.050(14).

The Commission has reviewed Public Counsel's request and finding it reasonable will suspend the tariff, set by separate order a local public hearing, and waive the company's obligation to within 5 days notify customers of the proposed tariff filing.

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:**

1. The Office of the Public Counsel's request for a local public hearing is granted.
2. Commission rule 4 CSR 240-3.050(14) is waived and the company need not, within 5 days, send notice to its customers of the proposed tariff.
3. The following revised tariff sheet filed by House Springs Sewer Company and assigned Tariff File No. YS-2013-0219, is suspended until March 2, 2013 or until otherwise ordered by the Commission:

P.S.C. MO No. 3

1<sup>st</sup> Revised Sheet No. 4, Cancelling Original Sheet No. 4

4. This order shall become effective upon issuance.

**BY THE COMMISSION**



Steven C. Reed  
Secretary

( S E A L )

Kennard L. Jones, Senior Regulatory  
Law Judge, by delegation of authority  
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,  
on this 2nd day of November, 2012.