BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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In the Matter of Missouri-American Water) Company's Request for a Variance From Certain Requirements Set Forth in 4 CSR 240-2.050.

File No. WE-2010-0136

THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL'S RESPONSE TO **APPLICATION FOR WAIVER**

COMES NOW the Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel) and for its Response to Application for Waiver states as follows:

1. On October 30, 2009, Missouri-American Water Company (MAWC) filed an application requesting that the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) grant it variance from the requirements of subpart (3) of 4 CSR 240-2.050 (Commission rules on Discontinuance of Service), and allow MAWC to modify the effective period of its notices of discontinuance from eleven (11) business days to twenty (20) business days.

2. On November 16, 2009, the Commission issued its Notice of Application and Order Directing Filing which required Public Counsel to file an answer to MAWC's Application no later than December 17, 2009. The Order also required the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) to file a recommendation on MAWC's Application no later than December 17.2009.

3. Public Counsel now states that it takes no position on MAWC's Application at this time. However, Public Counsel reserves the right to respond to Staff's recommendation if it deems necessary.

WHEREFORE, Public Counsel respectfully submits its response.

Respectfully submitted,

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL

/s/ Christina L. Baker

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By:_____

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, emailed or hand-delivered to the following this 17th day of December 2010:

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