

DK
DISSENTING OPINION OF COMMISSIONER DAVID L. RAUCH

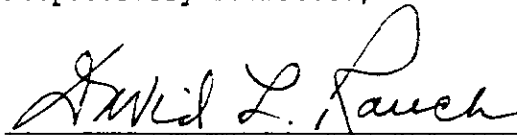
WOODLAND MANOR WATER COMPANY
CASE NO. WA-92-83

I dissent in this case simply to make the point that in my view rate increases such as those included in this order should be approved "subject to refund."

It is my contention that it is in the public interest to approve rate increases subject to refund when those increases are (1) based in part or totally on projected costs and/or other projected rate base factors; and (2) when the increased rates are to be reviewed within a specified time period in order to determine whether those rates are, in fact, appropriate. These two conditions are present in Case No. WA-92-83.

This kind of qualified approval of rates assures the customers that, if the approved rates are deemed excessive after the required review, relief will be available. It would also send a clear message to the utility company owner that, if the approved rates are based in any way on the anticipated cost of needed improvements or other expenditures, those improvements or other expenditures should be made and verified during the prescribed interim period.

Respectfully submitted,



David L. Rauch, Commissioner

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 14th day of October, 1992.