

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

The Staff of the
Missouri Public Service Commission

Complainant,

v.

Missouri Utilities Company,

Respondent.

Case No. WC-2006-0029

FOURTH PROGRESS REPORT

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff), by and through Counsel, and states the following to the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission).

1. On August 30, 2005, the Commission issued an Order Directing Staff To File A Progress Report, wherein it ordered the Staff to file a progress report detailing its efforts to identify a potential interim receiver for Missouri Utilities Company (MU), with that report to be filed no later than September 6, 2005.

2. As required by the Commission's August 30, 2005, Order, the Staff filed a Progress Report detailing its efforts to identify a potential interim receiver for Missouri Utilities Company (MU) on September 6, 2005. As a part of that report, the Staff committed to file either a weekly progress report regarding the identification of a potential interim receiver for MU, or a notice advising the Commission that it has no new information to report, with such filings to be made on Tuesday of each week until this matter is resolved.

3. Regarding the identification of a potential receiver for MU, the Staff provides the following additional/updated information. As reported in its Third Status Report, the Staff has received information from a contract operator at the Lake of the Ozarks with which it has been in contact regarding this matter, that being Lake of the Ozarks Water & Sewer, Inc. (LOWS). That information included LOWS' estimate for operating MU's water and wastewater systems, which at an estimated cost of \$2,340 per month exceeds the estimated available monthly revenues somewhere in the range of \$250 to \$550 per month. As part of its ongoing talks with LOWS regarding its acting as a receiver for MU, the Staff is setting up a conference call with the owner of LOWS to discuss options for the operation of the MU water and sewer systems that would not involve as much time for LOWS. An option now being considered is to reduce LOWS' time by having the Commission's Water and Sewer Department Staff perform some of the basic monitoring activities for MU's system.

5. The Staff is also attempting to obtain additional information from MU's owner regarding the system's billing history and accounts receivable for the last eighteen months ending June of 2005, in an effort to better identify the operating revenues that would be available for a receiver.

6. The Staff again notes that it will continue to file weekly progress reports, or will advise the Commission that additional information is not available and that a progress report will thus not be filed for a given week.

WHEREFORE, the Staff respectfully submits its Fourth Progress Report for the Commission's information.

Respectfully Submitted,

DANA K. JOYCE
General Counsel

/s/ Mary E. Weston

Mary E. Weston
Assistant General Counsel
Missouri Bar No. 54669

Attorney for the Staff of the
Missouri Public Service Commission

P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
573-751-6726 (telephone)
573-751-9285 (facsimile)
mary.weston@psc.mo.gov (e-mail)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed with first class postage, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or transmitted via e-mail to all counsel and/or parties of record this 18th day of October 2005.

/s/ Mary E. Weston