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

The Office of the Public Counsel,	)
Complainant,	)
v.	) File No. WC-2015-0290
Ridge Creek Development, LLC, Ridge Creek Water Company, LLC, Mike Stoner, Denise Stoner,	) ) ) )
Respondents.	)

### ORDER GIVING NOTICE OF CONTESTED CASE, DIRECTING ANSWER AND DIRECTING STAFF INVESTIGATION

Issue Date: May 7, 2015 Effective Date: May 7, 2015

On May 5, 2015, the Office of the Public Counsel ("Complainant") filed a complaint with the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") against Ridge Creek Development, LLC, Ridge Creek Water Company, LLC, Mike Stoner and Denise Stoner ("Respondents"). A copy of the complaint accompanies this notice. This is a contested case<sup>1</sup> pursuant to Section 386.390, RSMo 2000.

The Commission will set a deadline for Respondents to file an answer. In the alternative, the Respondents may file a written request that the complaint be referred to a neutral third-party mediator for voluntary mediation of the complaint. Upon receipt of a request for mediation, the 30-day time period shall be tolled while the Commission ascertains whether or not the Complainant is also willing to submit to voluntary mediation.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A "'[c]ontested case' means a proceeding before an agency in which legal rights, duties or privileges of specific parties are required by law to be determined after hearing." Section 536.010.4, RSMo Supp. 2013.

If Complainant agrees to mediation, the time period within which an answer is due shall be suspended pending the resolution of the mediation process. Additional information regarding the mediation process is enclosed. If Complainant declines the opportunity to seek mediation, Respondents will be notified in writing that the tolling has ceased and will also be notified of the date by which an answer or notice of satisfaction must be filed. That period will usually be the remainder of the original 30-day period.

As required by Section 536.067(2)(f), RSMo 2000, the Commission informs the parties that the Commission's provisions governing procedures before the Commission, including provisions relating to discovery, are found at Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.090. The Commission will also set a deadline for its Staff to complete an investigation and file a report.

#### THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

- 1. The Commission's Data Center shall send, by certified mail, a copy of this notice and order and a copy of the complaint to the Respondents.
- 2. The Respondents shall file an answer to this complaint or request for mediation no later than June 8, 2015, and serve a copy upon the Complainant. All pleadings (the answer, the notice of satisfaction of complaint or request for mediation) shall be mailed to:

Secretary of the Public Service Commission P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0360

or filed using the Commission's electronic filing and information service.

3. The Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission shall investigate this complaint and file a report with the Commission no later than July 8, 2015.

4. This order shall be effective when issued.

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#### BY THE COMMISSION

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Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Michael Bushmann, Senior Regulatory Law Judge by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2015.