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

Rhonda Martin,	)
Complainant,	)
V.	) File No. WC-2016-0079
Missouri-American Water Company, Legal Department 727 Craig Road St. Louis MO 63141	) ) ) )
CERTIFIED MAIL	)
Respondent.	<i>)</i>

## NOTICE OF CONTESTED CASE AND ORDER DIRECTING FILINGS

Issue Date: October 2, 2015 Effective Date: October 2, 2015

The Commission is giving notice of a complaint and contested case, and directing the parties to make certain filings.

On September 30, 2015, the Commission received the complaint, a copy of which is attached. The filing of a complaint requires the Commission to set a hearing.<sup>1</sup> The requirement of a hearing on matters in the complaint signifies a contested case.<sup>2</sup> A contested case is a formal hearing procedure, but it allows for waiver of procedural formalities and a decision without a hearing,<sup>3</sup> including by stipulation and agreement.<sup>4</sup> The Commission's regulations on discovery are at 4 CSR 240-2.090.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Section 386.390.5, RSMo 2000.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Section 536.010(4), RSMo Supp. 2013.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Section 536.060, RSMo 2000.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 4 CSR 240-2.115.

As an alternative to the formal evidentiary hearing procedure, the Commission offers mediation. Mediation is a voluntary process in which a neutral person assists the parties in exploring opportunities for settlement. Upon a request for mediation, the Commission may suspend the schedule set forth in this order.

## THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

- 1. Respondent shall file an answer to the complaint no later than November 2, 2015.
  - 2. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Morris I Wooduff

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

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2015.