

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

In the Matter of Missouri-American Water)
Company’s Request for Authority to Implement)
General Rate Increase for Water and Sewer)
Service Provided in Missouri Service Areas.)

File No. WR-2022-0303

SUGGESTIONS REGARDING LOCAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Staff”), through counsel, and files its suggestions regarding the local public hearings (“LPHs”).

1. On August 17, 2022, the Commission ordered that the LPHs in this matter be held between January 18 and January 31, 2023.

2. On September 7, 2022, the Commission ordered Staff and Missouri-American Water Company to file suggestions regarding the LPHs, either jointly or separately, by September 22, 2022.

3. Staff suggests that the Commission hold a total of six LPHs, with in-person LPHs in St. Louis, St. Joseph, and Joplin. Staff suggests that the other three LPHs be virtual, not limited by city. Staff further suggests that the in-person LPHs be held in the evening, two virtual LPHs be held in the evening, and the third virtual LPH be held at noon.

4. Staff leaves the dates of the LPHs to the Commission’s discretion.

5. Staff acknowledges that the Commission stated a preference for virtual LPHs. However, Staff believes that some in-person LPHs will facilitate participation from individuals who prefer in-person hearings and/or who have difficulty accessing WebEx.

This suggestion is consistent with the Commission's recent decision in the Spire rate case to hold two in-person LPHs and one virtual LPH.¹

WHEREFORE, Staff files these suggestions for the Commission's information and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Karen E. Bretz

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been electronically mailed to all parties and/or counsel of record on this 22nd day of September, 2022.

/s/ Karen E. Bretz

¹ *Order Setting Local Public Hearings*, GR-2022-0179 (Aug 17, 2022).