## **BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

## OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Tariff Filing of Aqua Missouri, Inc., to Implement a Rate Increase for Water Service Provided to Customers in its Missouri Service Areas.

Case No. WR-2007-0020 Tariff No. JW-2007-0014

## ORDER DIRECTING FILINGS AND ADDING A PARTY

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Issue Date: July 14, 2006

Effective Date: July 14, 2006

On July 12, 2006, Aqua Missouri, Inc., filed a tariff proposing to increase water service rates. The tariff carries an effective date of August 26, 2006. Along with the tariff, Aqua Missouri filed a letter indicating that it has reached an agreement in this matter with the Commission's Staff. The Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission has not yet filed the agreement. The Commission will direct Staff to file the agreement, as well as its recommendation and memorandum in this matter.

Subsection (1)(D) of Commission rule 4 CSR 240-3.635, which establishes the procedure for consideration of small water company rate increases, requires the company to notify its customers in writing of the proposed rates resulting from the agreement with Staff. That notice must inform the customers that they have 20 days in which to respond to the Commission or to the Public Counsel. Aqua Missouri will be directed to send the required notice to its customers.

The Commission has also determined that it would like additional information from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Specifically, the Commission will direct DNR to file a pleading indicating whether Aqua Missouri is in compliance with DNR's requirements regarding water service. If the company is not in compliance with DNR's requirements, DNR shall outline what steps the company has taken to come into compliance. The Commission will also add DNR as a party in this case.

Finally, in accordance with 4 CSR 240.3.330(E), the Office of the Public Counsel shall file any request for a local public hearing no later than 20 days after the tariff sheets were filed. Public Counsel must then file a pleading indicating whether it objects to the tariff within seven days after any local public hearing or, if no hearing is held, within 25 days of the tariff filing.

## **IT IS ORDERED THAT:**

1. No later than July 21, 2006, Aqua Missouri, Inc., shall send written notice to its customers informing them of the proposed increased rates that would result from its agreement with the Staff of the Commission. The notice must inform the customers that they may send responses to the notice to Staff or to the Office of the Public Counsel within 20 days of the date shown on the notice. Aqua Missouri, Inc., shall file a copy of the notice in this case.

2. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources is added as a party to this case.

3. The Commission's Data Center is directed to serve a copy of this order on the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, and to add that agency to the service list.

4. No later than July 28, 2006, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources shall file a pleading as directed above.

5. The Commission's Staff shall file the disposition agreement no later than July 21, 2006.

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6. The Commission's Staff shall file its recommendation and memorandum no later than August 4, 2006.

7. Any responses to Staff's recommendation and memorandum shall be filed no later than August 11, 2006.

8. The Office of the Public Counsel shall file any request for a public hearing no later than August 1, 2006.

9. The Office of the Public Counsel shall file a pleading indicating whether it agrees or disagrees with the tariff within seven days after any local public hearing or, if no hearing is held, no later than August 4, 2006.

10. This order shall become effective on July 14, 2006.

BY THE COMMISSION

Colleen M. Dale Secretary

(SEAL)

Nancy Dippell, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 14th day of July, 2006.