BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Request for Increase in Annual Sewer Operating Revenues by R.D. Sewer Company, L.L.C.)))	File No. SR-2012-0263
In the Matter of the Rate Increase for Lakeland Heights Water Company, Inc.))	<u>File No. WR-2012-0266</u>
In the Matter of the Rate Increase of Oakbrier Water Co.))	File No. WR-2012-0267

ORDER SETTING LOCAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

Issue Date: October 10, 2012

Effective Date: October 10, 2012

On January 31, 2012,¹ R. D. Sewer Co., L.L.C., Lakeland Heights Water Co., Inc., and Oakbrier Water Company, Inc., ("the companies") initiated small company rate increase actions pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-3.050. On August 28, the Staff of the Commission (hereafter "Staff") and the companies filed Disposition Agreements that included comprehensive accounting schedules, a review of customer service and business operation and example tariffs designed to implement the agreed upon revenue requirements.

On September 5, the companies filed revised tariff sheets reflecting certain rate and language changes to bring the tariffs into full conformity with the Agreements. The tariff sheets bear an effective date of October 22.²

The Office of the Public Counsel (hereafter "OPC") did not join in the Agreements. Instead, on October 4, OPC filed motions requesting the Commission to

¹ Calendar dates are in 2012.

 $^{^{2}}$ In a separate order, the Commission suspended the tariffs until December 31.

suspend the tariff and schedule local public hearings. OPC claims that the Disposition Agreements would grant the companies excessive revenue, and that the companies' customers should be given an opportunity to comment. This is sufficient for the grant of a public hearing.

Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.110(1) requires the Commission to set the time and place for hearings and serve notice as required by law. Section 536.067(4), RSMo 2000, and Section 386.390.5, RSMo 2000, require at least ten days notice be given prior to a hearing.

In complying with its statutory mandate, and taking into consideration the expedited nature of the small company rate increase procedure, the Commission shall set the dates for two local public hearings to be held on October 29 and 30. The hearings will be convened jointly, meaning any customer of any of the companies may attend and testify at either hearing.

At the hearings, the Staff of the Commission will hold an informal question-andanswer session before the Commission receives testimony. The hearings will begin after the question-and-answer session, and will conclude when every person who wishes to testify has done so.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Commission gives notice that it shall hold a local public hearing on October 29, 2012, beginning at 6:00 p.m. A question-and-answer session will be held before the hearing beginning at 5:30 p.m.

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The local public hearing ordered in paragraph 1 shall be held at: Room 203,
E.K. Porter Building, Three Rivers Community College, 2080 Three Rivers
Boulevard, Poplar Bluff, Missouri.

3. The Commission gives notice that it shall hold a local public hearing on October 30, 2012, beginning at 12:00 p.m. A question-and-answer session will be held before the hearing beginning at 11:30 a.m.

4. The local public hearing ordered in paragraph 3 shall be held at: Bootheel Regional Planning Commission, Old Armory, 105 East North Main Street, Dexter, Missouri.

5. No later than October 17, 2012, the companies shall mail notice of the hearings consistent with this order, said notice being approved by the Staff of the Commission and the Office of the Public Counsel before it is mailed, as required by Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-3.050(18). Staff shall file a copy of the notice in these cases no later than October 20, 2012.

6. Customers wishing to make written comments or secure additional information may contact the Office of the Public Counsel, Post Office Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, telephone (573) 751-4857. Comments may also be registered in this case using the Internet Electronic Filing System at http://psces/mpsc/. Use the link to the Public Comment section and fill in all required fields on the comment page.

7. The local public hearings shall be held in facilities that meet the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Any person who needs additional accommodation to participate in the hearings should call the Public Service

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Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 prior to the hearings.

8. The Data Center of the Missouri Public Service Commission shall serve a copy of this order upon the county commissions of Butler, Stoddard and Wayne Counties, Missouri.

9. The Public Information Office of the Missouri Public Service Commission shall make notice of this order available to members of the General Assembly representing the residents in the service area of the companies, and to the news media serving the residents of that service area.

10. No later than November 6, 2012, the Staff of the Commission shall file a pleading as required by Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-3.050(19).

11. No later than November 14, 2012, the Office of the Public Counsel shall file a pleading as required by Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-3.050(19).

12. This order shall become effective immediately on issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION

Steven C. Reed Secretary

Ronald D. Pridgin, Senior Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 10th day of October, 2012.