STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 2nd day of March, 2011.

In the Matter of the Small Company Rate Increase of Tri-States Utility, Inc.

File No. WR-2011-0037 Tariff No. YW-2011-0365

ORDER SUSPENDING TARIFF AND SCHEDULING A LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING

Issue Date: March 2, 2011 Effective Date: March 2, 2011

This case began on August 13, 2010, when Tri-States Utility, Inc. filed a request for a rate increase under the Commission's small utility rate case procedure. In compliance with the Commission's regulation, the Commission's Staff conducted an investigation of the utility's request. On January 11, 2011, Staff and Tri-State filed a disposition agreement regarding the utility's request for a rate increase. On January 18, Tri-State filed a tariff that would implement the disposition agreement. That tariff carries an effective date of March 4. On February 24, the Office of the Public Counsel filed a request for a local public hearing.

The Commission will not be able to schedule a local public hearing before the effective date of Tri-State's tariff. Therefore, the Commission will suspend Tri-State's tariff for 45 days.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The tariff sheet issued on January 18, 2011, by Tri-State Utility, Inc. and assigned Tariff No. YW-2011-0365, is suspended beyond March 4, 2011 to April 18, 2011, or until otherwise ordered by this Commission. The tariff sheet suspended is:

¹ Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-3.050 establishes the small utility rate case procedure.

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- 2. A local public hearing is scheduled for March 15, 2011, at Branson City Hall, City Council Chambers, 110 West Maddux Street, Branson, Missouri 65616. An information / question and answer session will begin, at 6:00 p.m. The local public hearing and the taking of sworn testimony will follow the information / question and answer session. The facility where the local public hearing will be held meets accessibility standards required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need additional accommodations to participate in this hearing, please call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 before the hearing.
 - 3. This order shall become effective immediately upon issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION

(SEAL)

Steven C. Reed Secretary

Gunn, Chm., Clayton, Davis, Jarrett, and Kenney, CC., concur.

Woodruff, Chief Regulatory Law Judge