# **BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

## **OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

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In the Matter of the Application of Big Island Water & Sewer Company for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity Authorizing It to Construct, Install, Own, Operate, Control, Manage and Maintain a Water and Sewer System for the Public Located in an Unincorporated Area in Camden County, Missouri

) Case No. WA-2006-0480, et al.

### ORDER APPOINTING SPECIAL MASTER FOR TAKING OF DEPOSITIONS

Issue Date: January 19, 2007

Effective Date: January 19, 2007

On January 17, 2007, the Applicant, Big Island Water & Sewer Company, filed a motion, pursuant to Missouri Rule of Civil Procedure 57.06, asking the Commission to appoint a special master to assist in a scheduled deposition. The motion indicates that the Applicant has scheduled the deposition of a representative of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources for January 30, 2007. Due to the large number of pro se parties in this case, Applicant requests that the Commission appoint a special master to preside at the deposition to determine all objections to evidence and to exclude evidence not properly within the scope of discovery.

The Commission believes that the appointment of a special master will be helpful to all parties and will allow for the prompt resolution of any disputes that may arise during the scheduled deposition.

#### IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. Regulatory Law Judge Harold Stearley is appointed as Special Master for the purpose of assisting the parties in the taking of depositions of representatives of the Department of Natural Resources.

2. The Special Master is given authority to rule on any objections that may be made during the course of the deposition and may take any other actions he believes necessary to assist the parties in the completion of the deposition.

3. After the completion of the taking of the depositions, the Special Master shall file a written report to the Commission regarding any rulings on evidence, as provided in Missouri Rule of Civil Procedure 57.06(c).

4. This order shall become effective on January 19, 2007.

### BY THE COMMISSION

Colleen M. Dale Secretary

(S E A L)

Morris L. Woodruff, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 19th day of January, 2007.