BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Confluence Rivers)
Utility Operating Company, Inc.'s,)
Request for a Water Rate Increase) <u>Case No. WR-2020-0053</u>
And) Tariff Nos. YW-2020-0155 and
In the Matter of Confluence Rivers) YS-2020-0156
Utility Operating Company, Inc.'s,)
Request for a Sewer Rate Increase)

STAFF NOTICE

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, and for its *Notice* in this matter hereby states:

- 1. Confluence Rivers Utility Operating Company (Confluence), the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) and the Office of the Public Counsel (OPC) filed a *Unanimous Disposition Agreement* in this matter February 10, 2020. An On the Record presentation of the *Agreement* was held March 18, 2020. At that presentation, Staff was asked questions by the regulatory law judge regarding its Attachment B depicting two tables showing bill comparisons. Staff also referenced a table which depicts a breakdown of the new rates reached as a result of the *Unanimous Disposition Agreement*. Staff now files updated versions of the Attachment B tables and the table referenced at the presentation.
- 2. One of the questions asked by the regulatory law judge at the hearing was why the numbers included in the Attachment B tables were different than those numbers reflected in the body of the *Unanimous Disposition Agreement*. This is due to the attachments reflecting a different increase than the Disposition Agreement because the rate calculations do not assume that Confluence will continue to receive miscellaneous revenues included in the test year. Miscellaneous revenues vary significantly from year

to year based on whether new customers are being connected, if customers are doing renovations or repairs on their home, how many customers are paying their bills on time, etc. These variations are affected by the health of the economy, age of the homes, whether a service area is in a location experiencing growth, and other factors which are all out of the control of the utility itself. The amount in the Disposition Agreement removes these miscellaneous revenues.

3. The tables originally included in Attachment B and the table referenced in Staff's verbal responses at the presentation, have both been updated to reflect current and accurate depictions of the final agreement reached by the parties and are included with this *Notice*.

WHEREFORE, Staff prays that the Commission will accept this *Notice*; and grant such other and further relief as the Commission considers just in the circumstances.

/s/ Whitney Payne

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by electronic mail, or First Class United States Postal Mail, postage prepaid, on this 24th day of March, 2020, to all counsel of record.

/s/ Whitney Payne