

**STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service  
Commission held at its office in  
Jefferson City on the 8th day of  
July, 2020.

In the Matter of Missouri-American	)	
Water Company's Request for	)	<b><u>File No. WR-2020-0344</u></b>
Authority to Implement General Rate	)	Tracking No. YW-2020-0220
Increase for Water and Sewer Service	)	Tracking No. YS-2020-0221
Provided in Missouri Service Areas	)	

**NOTICE OF CONTESTED CASE AND ORDER SUSPENDING TARIFF  
AND DELEGATING AUTHORITY**

Issue Date: July 8, 2020

Effective Date: July 8, 2020

On June 30, 2020, Missouri-American Water Company (Missouri-American) submitted tariff sheets designed to implement a general rate increase for water and sewer services. The tariff sheets bear a July 30, 2020 effective date.

A. Suspension

Section 393.150, RSMo 2016, authorizes the Commission to suspend the effective date of proposed tariff sheets for 120 days, plus an additional six months to allow for a hearing. Accordingly, in order to provide sufficient time to determine if Missouri-American's proposed tariff sheets are just and reasonable,<sup>1</sup> the Commission will suspend the tariff sheets for 120 days beyond the effective date. Additionally, the Commission's experience demonstrates that a hearing cannot be concluded within 120 days, so the Commission will suspend the tariff sheets for an additional six months.<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Section 393.190.1, RSMo 2016.

<sup>2</sup> Section 393.150, RSMo 2016.

## B. Notice of Contested Case

Suspension of the tariff may occur only pending a “full” hearing and decision on the tariff’s propriety.<sup>3</sup> The provision for a full pre-decision hearing signifies that this action is now a “contested case.”<sup>4</sup> A contested case is a formal hearing procedure, but it allows for waiver of procedural formalities<sup>5</sup> and a decision without a hearing,<sup>6</sup> including by stipulation and agreement. This order and notice does not require any party to file an answer. The Commission’s discovery regulations may be found at 20 CSR 4240-2.090.

## C. Delegation as to Discovery

The Commission may delegate any adjudicative authority to the regulatory law judge assigned to this action.<sup>7</sup> To ensure that all discovery disputes are ruled upon expeditiously, the Commission will delegate its authority to the regulatory law judge assigned to this action to rule on discovery disputes and to rule on all motions to compel discovery. The Commission will set forth further provisions for discovery by separate order when setting a full procedural schedule.

### **THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:**

1. The tariff sheets assigned Tracking Nos. YW-2020-0220 and JS-2020-0221 are suspended for 120 days plus six months from July 30, 2020, until May 27, 2021.
2. The regulatory law judge assigned to this action shall have full authority to rule on any discovery dispute, including any motion to compel.

---

<sup>3</sup> Section 393.150.1, RSMo 2016.

<sup>4</sup> Section 536.010(4), RSMo 2016.

<sup>5</sup> Section 536.060(3), RSMo 2016.

<sup>6</sup> 20 CSR 4240-2.115.

<sup>7</sup> Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

3. This order shall be effective when issued.



**BY THE COMMISSION**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff  
Secretary

Silvey, Chm., Kenney, Rupp, Coleman, and  
Holsman CC., concur.

Dippell, Senior Regulatory Law Judge