

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the Joint Application of Brandco)	
Investments, LLC and Hillcrest Utility Operating)	
Company, Inc., for Hillcrest to Acquire Certain Water)	<u>File No. WO-2014-0340</u>
and Sewer Assets of Brandco and, in Connection)	<u>File No. SO-2014-0341</u>
Therewith, Issue Indebtedness and Encumber Assets)	

ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO CONSOLIDATE

Issue Date: July 18, 2014

Effective Date: July 18, 2014

On May 13, 2014¹, Brandco Investment, LLC (“Brandco”) and Hillcrest Utility Operating Company, Inc. (“Hillcrest”) asked that the Commission approve Hillcrest’s agreement to purchase Brandco’s water and sewer assets. On July 7, the Staff of the Commission filed a Status Report and Motion for Consolidation (“Motion”).

In the Motion, Staff states that it needs until August 5 to file either another status report or a recommendation. Also in the Motion is Staff’s request to consolidate these applications.

Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.080(15) allows parties ten days to respond to pleadings unless the Commission orders otherwise. The Commission issued no order to the contrary, ten days have elapsed, and no party responded to the Motion. Thus, the Commission will take it up unopposed.

The Commission finds Staff’s request to file further pleadings on August 5 reasonable. Therefore, the Commission will grant the request.

¹ Calendar references are to 2014 unless otherwise noted.

Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.110(3) allows the Commission to consolidate applications when they involve related questions of law or fact. Staff pleads that the applications involve related questions of fact in that the water and sewer operations will share the same ownership. Thus, the Commission will grant the motion to consolidate.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Motion for Consolidation is granted.
2. File No. WO-2014-0340 shall be the lead file, and all pleadings concerning either File No. WO-2014-0340 and SO-2014-0341 shall be filed in File No. WO-2014-0340.
3. The Staff of the Commission shall file a pleading as referenced above no later than August 5, 2014.
4. This order shall become effective immediately upon issuance.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Ronald D. Pridgin, Deputy Chief Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of authority
Under Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 18th day of July, 2014.