

# Taney County Utilities

P.O. Box 177  
Rockaway Beach, MO 65740  
(417) 561-4977

March 30, 2004

**FILED<sup>4</sup>**

**APR 02 2004**

**Missouri Public  
Service Commission**

Secretary of the Commission  
Attn: Data Center  
Missouri Public Service Commission  
P.O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

RE: Notice Regarding Local Public Hearing  
Case No. WR-2004-0450 (and SR-2004-0451 – consolidated)

Dear Secretary:

Enclosed for placement in the case papers for Case No. WR-2004-0450 is a copy of the customer notice regarding the upcoming Local Public Hearing that is scheduled for April 6, 2004. This notice, which was approved by Dale Johansen of the Commission Staff and Ruth O'Neill of the Office of the Public Counsel, was mailed to the Company's customers today.

Please let me know if you need anything further regarding this matter.

Sincerely, -



Honey Scott Pickren  
Vice President  
Taney County Utilities Corporation

Enclosure

Copies (w/enclosure):

Ruth O'Neill – Public Counsel  
Dale Johansen – Commission Staff

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## NOTICE OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED RATE INCREASES

Based upon a request by the Office of the Public Counsel, a state agency responsible for representing the interests of consumers before the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission), the Commission will be holding a local public hearing regarding Taney County Utilities Corporation's (Company) proposed increases in its water and sewer operating revenues and customer rates and charges. The purpose of this local public hearing is to receive customer comments about the proposed rate increases and to bring service-related problems to the Commission's attention.

**The local public hearing will be held the night of April 6, 2004 at the Reed Springs Regional Telecommunications Community Resource Center, Reed Springs High School, Highway 413 South, in Reed Springs. The night's activities will begin with an informal question-and-answer session starting at 6:00 p.m. with the local public hearing beginning at 6:30 p.m.** The facility at which this local public hearing is being held meets the accessibility standards required by the Americans With Disabilities Act. Any person that needs additional accommodations to participate in the local public hearing should call the Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 no later than the end of business on April 5. Also, for the first time, the Commission will conduct the local public hearing through an interactive video-conference link with the Commission's office in Jefferson City, and the Commissioners will take part in the hearing via the video-conference.

As the Company notified you by a letter dated March 15, 2004, the Company and the Commission Staff have agreed that increases in the Company's annual water operating revenues and annual sewer operating revenues would be appropriate, that certain new and revised service charges would be appropriate, and that an increase in the charge for service connections would be appropriate. For a residential customer using 6,000 gallons of water per month, the agreed-upon revenue increases and rate design would result in a monthly bill for water service increasing from \$21.80 to \$25.52 and a monthly bill for sewer service increasing from \$17.44 to \$31.69. A full explanation of the proposed rates and charges was included with the above-referenced March 15 letter.

Any customer that has questions about the local public hearing, or questions or comments about the proposed rate increases, should contact the Commission Staff and/or the Public Counsel no later than the end of business on April 5. To do so, please use the telephone numbers or fax numbers shown below.

Public Service Commission  
Phone: 800/392-4211  
Fax: 573/751-1847  
(Attn: Water & Sewer Department)

Office of the Public Counsel  
Phone: 573/751-4857  
Fax: 573/751-5562  
(Attn: Ruth O'Neill)