

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its Office in Jefferson City on the 22nd day of July, 2015.

In the Matter of a Working Case to Consider)
Proposals to Create a Revenue Decoupling) **File No. AW-2015-0282**
Mechanism for Utilities)

**ORDER OPENING A WORKING CASE TO CONSIDER PROPOSALS TO
IMPLEMENT A REVENUE DECOUPLING MECHANISM FOR
MISSOURI'S UTILITIES**

Issue Date: July 22, 2015

Effective Date: July 22, 2015

On February 27, 2015, Missouri-American Water Company filed a petition in File No. WX-2015-0209, asking the Commission to promulgate a rule to allow water and sewer utilities to petition the Commission to establish a revenue decoupling mechanism. A revenue decoupling mechanism proposed by Missouri-American would allow utilities to seek a Commission order that would allow them to track actual revenues between rate cases and to true-up actual revenues against the authorized revenue requirement in a future rate case. The Commission denied Missouri-American's rulemaking petition on April 22, but indicated it would open a working case to further consider the concept of a revenue decoupling mechanism.

To that end, the Commission will direct its Staff to investigate the structure and operation of possible decoupling mechanisms for use in Missouri. The Commission will offer interested stakeholders an opportunity to submit comments in this file, but Staff may use other means to conduct its investigation if it chooses to do so. If Staff believes that an

order from the Commission scheduling a workshop or otherwise assisting Staff in its investigation is necessary it may file a motion requesting such action. Upon completion of its investigation, Staff shall offer its recommendation about implementation or further investigation of possible decoupling mechanisms.

This file shall serve as a repository for documents and comments. Using this file, anyone with an interest in this matter may view documents and may submit any pertinent responsive comments or documents. As this is not a contested case, anyone may file a comment without counsel and without *ex parte* constraints (arising from this matter). Intervention requests are not necessary to submit comments or view documents.

The public is welcome to submit comments through the Commission's electronic filing and information system (EFIS) at the Commission's website, <http://www.psc.mo.gov>. (Click on the EFIS/Case filings link on the left side of the page. Scroll down and click on the public comment link. Please refer to File No. AW-2015-0282.) Written comments in hard copy may be mailed to the Commission at P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 and should also reference File No. AW-2015-0282. The public can view the contents of the file by following the link at <http://www.psc.mo.gov>.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. This case is established as a repository for documents and comments regarding the Commission's consideration of the concept of a revenue decoupling mechanism.
2. The Commission's data center shall provide a copy of this order to the following:
 - a. All Missouri certificated electric, natural gas, water, and sewer utilities;

- b. All intervening parties in the most recent general rate cases for all certificated electric, natural gas, water, and sewer utilities, excluding general rate cases that proceeded under the Commission's small utility rate case procedures; and
 - c. The Office of the Public Counsel.
- 3. Interested stakeholders are invited to submit comments as described in the body of this order by September 1, 2015.
 - 4. Staff shall file a report regarding its investigation no later than November 2, 2015.
 - 5. This order shall be effective when issued.

BY THE COMMISSION



Morris L. Woodruff

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

R. Kenney, Chm., Stoll, W. Kenney
Hall, and Rupp, CC., concur.

Woodruff, Chief Regulatory Law Judge