BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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In the Matter of a Small Company Rate Increase for Franklin County Water Company, Inc.

Case No. WR-2007-0103

NOTICE OF AGREEMENT REGARDING DISPOSITION OF SMALL COMPANY RATE INCREASE REQUEST

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff"), by and through Counsel, and for its <u>Notice of Agreement Regarding Disposition of Small Company Rate</u> <u>Increase Request</u> ("Agreement Notice") states the following to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission").

1. On September 15, 2006 (unless noted otherwise, all dates herein refer to calendar year 2006), Franklin County Water Company, Inc. ("Company") submitted to the Commission revised tariff sheets to implement increases in its water service rates and charges, and other tariff changes, and the instant case was established.

2. As is noted in the Company's tariff filing transmittal letter, the changes contained in the subject revised tariff sheets are based upon a *Unanimous Agreement Regarding Disposition of Small Water Company Rate Increase Request* ("Unanimous Agreement") entered into by the Company, the Staff and the Office of the Public Counsel. As is also noted in the Company's tariff filing transmittal letter, the Unanimous Agreement pertains to the small company rate increase request that the Company submitted to the Commission on December 12, 2005, and which was assigned Tracking File No. QW-2006-0005.

3. Included in Appendix A attached hereto, which is incorporated herein by reference, are copies of the above-referenced Unanimous Agreement and related attachments.

4. Included as a part of the Unanimous Agreement is acknowledgement of agreements between the Company and the Staff regarding extensions of the 150-day tariff filing period that normally applies to small company rate increase requests. (See the last paragraph on Page 3 of the agreement.) Additionally, copies of the extension agreements are included in the abovereferenced tracking file for the Company's rate increase request as item Nos. 4 and 5.

5. Consistent with established internal procedures regarding small company rate increase requests, the Staff intends to file its recommendation in this case by the end of business on October 2.

WHEREFORE, the Staff respectfully submits this Agreement Notice for the Commission's information and consideration in this case.

Respectfully Submitted,

<u>/s/ Keith R. Krueger</u>

Keith R. Krueger Deputy General Counsel Missouri Bar No. 23857

Attorney for the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102 573-751-4140 (telephone) 573-751-9285 (facsimile) <u>keith.krueger@psc.mo.gov</u> (e-mail)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of this Agreement Notice have been mailed with first class postage, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or transmitted via e-mail to all counsel and/or parties of record this 20th day of September 2006.

/s/ Keith R. Krueger

APPENDIX A

DISPOSITION AGREEMENT & ATTACHMENTS

CASE NO. WR-2007-0103

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Company/Staff/OPC Disposition Agreement

UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT REGARDING DISPOSITION OF SMALL WATER COMPANY RATE INCREASE REQUEST FRANKLIN COUNTY WATER COMPANY, INC. MO PSC TRACKING FILE NO. QW-2006-0005

BACKGROUND

Franklin County Water Company, Inc. ("Company") initiated the small company rate increase request ("Request") for water service that is the subject of the above-referenced Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") tracking file by submitting a letter to the Secretary of the Commission in accordance with the provisions of Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-3.635, Water Utility Small Company Rate Increase Procedure ("Small Company Rate Increase Procedure").

In its request letter, which was received at the Commission's offices on December 12, 2005, the Company set forth its request for an increase of \$24,000 in its total annual water service operating revenues. In its request letter, the Company also stated its understanding that the design of its customer rates, its service charges, its customer service practices, its general business practices and its general tariff provisions would be reviewed during the Commission Staff's review of the rate increase request, and could thus be the subject of Staff recommendations at the conclusion of the rate increase process. The Company provides service to approximately 175 residential customers.

Upon receipt of the Company's request letter, personnel in the Commission's Data Center entered the letter into the Commission's electronic filing and information system (EFIS) and Tracking File No. QW-2006-0005 was established for the Request. The Request was then routed to the Commission's Water & Sewer Department for processing under the Small Company Rate Increase Procedure.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Small Company Rate Increase Procedure, and related internal operating procedures, the Staff of the Commission ("Staff") initiated an audit of the Company's books and records, a review of certain of the Company's general business practices, an inspection of the Company's

Small Company Rate Case Disposition Agreement MO PSC Tracking File No. QW-2006-0005 Franklin County Water Company, Inc. – Page 2 of 5 Pages

facilities and a review of the Company's operation of its facilities. (Hereafter, these activities will be collectively referred to as the Staff's "investigation" of the Company's Request.)

Upon completion of its investigation of the Company's Request, the Staff provided the Company

and the Office of the Public Counsel ("OPC") various information regarding the results of the investigation,

as well as its initial recommendations for resolution of the Company's Request.

RESOLUTION OF THE COMPANY'S RATE INCREASE REQUEST

Pursuant to negotiations held subsequent to the Company's and the OPC's receipt of the above-

referenced information regarding the Staff's investigation of the Company's Request, the Staff, the Company

and the OPC hereby state the following agreements.

(1) That for the purpose of implementing the agreements set out herein, the Company will file tariff revisions with the Commission containing the rates, charges and language set out in the example tariff sheet attached hereto as Attachment A.

(2) That the ratemaking income statement attached hereto as Attachment B accurately reflects the Company's annualized revenues generated by its current customer rates, the Company's total annualized cost of providing service and the agreed-upon annualized operating revenue increase of \$4,342, which is required to recover the Company's cost of service.

(3) That the rates set out in the attached example tariff sheet, the development of which is shown on the rate design worksheet attached hereto as Attachment C, are designed to generate revenues sufficient to recover the Company's total annualized cost of service, and that the provisions of the attached example tariff sheet also properly reflect all other agreements set out herein, where necessary.

(4) That the rates included in the attached example tariff sheet are just and reasonable.

(5) That the depreciation rates set out on Attachment D hereto should be the prescribed water plant depreciation rates for the Company, as these were the depreciation rates used by the Staff in its revenue requirement analysis.

(6) That the Company will implement a ten-year replacement program for existing meters.

(7) That the Company will maintain a separate checking account to be used exclusively for its water utility business.

(8) That the Company will maintain its accounting records in conformity with the Uniform System of Accounts.

(9) That the Company will correct its billing program to make the delinquent date appearing on the bills consistent with the provisions of 4 CSR 240-13.020 and the Company's tariff.

(10) That the Company will take the actions necessary to be in compliance with the provisions of 4 CSR 240-13.040(2), which require qualified personnel to be available at all times during normal business hours.

(11) That the Company will develop an information brochure in compliance with the provisions of 4 CSR 240-13.040.

(12) That the Company will develop and maintain a record of customer inquiries and complaints as required by the provisions of 4 CSR 240-13.040.

(13) That the above agreements satisfactorily resolve all issues identified by the Staff, the Company and the OPC regarding the Company's Request, except as otherwise specifically stated.

ADDITIONAL MATTERS

Since this Disposition Agreement is between the Staff, the Company and the OPC, the Small

Company Rate Increase Procedure does not require that the Company send a notice to its customers

regarding the rates and charges that would result from implementation of the provisions of the agreement,

nor does it provide for a local public hearing, unless the Commission orders otherwise.

Other than the specific conditions agreed upon and expressly set out herein, the terms of this Disposition Agreement reflect compromises between the Staff, the Company and the OPC, and none of the parties have agreed to any particular ratemaking principle in arriving at the amount of the annual operating revenue increase specified herein.

The Company and the Staff acknowledge that they have previously agreed to two extensions of the normal 150-day deadline for executing an agreement regarding the disposition of a small company rate increase request, in order to allow the Company additional time to propose modifications to the Staff's recommendations regarding the disposition of the Company's Request. Copies of these extension agreements have been submitted to the EFIS Tracking File for the Request.

Small Company Rate Case Disposition Agreement MO PSC Tracking File No. QW-2006-0005 Franklin County Water Company, Inc. – Page 4 of 5 Pages

The Company and the OPC acknowledge that the Staff will be making an additional filing with the Commission regarding this matter, with that filing including the following: (a) the Staff's recommendation for approval of the subject tariff revisions, and any other related recommendations; (b) background information regarding the Company's Request and the Staff's investigation thereof; (c) the Staff's audit workpapers; (d) a general overview of the Company, including an overview of the Company's customer service procedures and practices; (e) information regarding the status of the Company's payment of its Commission annual reports; (g) information regarding the status of the Company's submission of its Commission annual statement of operating revenues; (h) information regarding any other pending cases that the Company may have before the Commission; (i) information regarding any recent Notices of Violations issued to the Company by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources; and (j) information regarding the status of the Company for the Company is company information regarding the status of the Company for the Company have before the Commission; (i) information regarding any recent Notices of Violations issued to the Company by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources; and (j) information regarding the status of the Company for the Company is corporate standing with the Missouri Secretary of State.

Additionally, the Company and the OPC agree that the Staff shall have the right to provide whatever oral explanation the Commission may request regarding the rate case that will be created when the Company files the tariff revisions called for in this agreement, at any agenda meeting at which that case is noticed to be considered by the Commission. To the extent reasonably practicable, the Staff will provide the Company and the OPC with advance notice of any such agenda meeting so that they may have the opportunity to also be represented at the meeting.

Small Company Rate Case Disposition Agreement MO PSC Tracking File No. QW-2006-0005 Franklin County Water Company, Inc. – Page 5 of 5 Pages

EFFECTIVE DATE AND SIGNATURES

This Disposition Agreement shall be considered effective as of the date that the Company files the

tariff revisions required herein with the Commission.

Agreement Signed and Dated:

Dale W. Johansen

<u>9/12/06</u> Date

Manager – Water & Sewer Department Missouri Public Service Commission Staff

Lewis Mills Public Counsel Office of the Public Counsel

T. Burco

-1-06 Date

- 7-C

John T. Brisco Vice President Franklin County Water Company, Inc.

List of Attachments

Attachment A – Example Tariff Sheets

Attachment B - Ratemaking Income Statement

Attachment C - Rate Design Worksheet

Attachment D – Schedule of Depreciation Rates

Agreement Attachment A

Example Tariff Sheets

P.S.C. MO No. 2

1st Revised Sheet No. 4

Canceling Original Sheet No. <u>4</u>

Franklin County Water Company, Inc Name of Issuing Company For: <u>Lake St. Clair, MO.</u> Certificated Service Area

Rules & Regulations Governing the Rendering of Water Service

SCHEDULE OF RATES

Availability:

This rate is available in the service area to single family residences or campers for domestic water usage only.

Rate:

Customer Charge:	\$ 5.70	per month	+
Water Usage Charge:	\$ 2.61	per 1,000 gallons	+
te Charges			*

Late Charges:

Billings will be made and distributed at monthly intervals. Bills will be rendered net, bearing the last date on which payment will then be considered delinquent. The period after which payment will then be considered delinquent is 21 days after rendition of the bill. A charge of \$5.00 or three percent (3%) per month times the unpaid balance, whichever is more, will be added to delinquent amounts.

* Indicates New Rate or Text

+ Indicates Changed Rate or Text

Issue Date:

Month/Day/Year

Effective Date:

Month/Day/Year

Issued By: <u>LaVerne Faulkenberry, President</u> Name & Title of Issuing Officer P. O. Box 586 St. Clair MO 63077 Company Mailing Address

	P.S.C. MO No. 2	<u>1</u>	<u>st</u> Revised Sheet No. <u>5</u>					
		Canceling	Original Sheet No. 5					
	ounty Water Company, Inc. ing Company		St. Clair, MO. cated Service Area					
Rules & Regulations Governing the Rendering of Water Service								
_	SCHEDULE OF SI	ERVICE CHARGES						
Returned C	Check Charge:		*					
	check charge of \$20 per check will be returned from the bank for insufficient f							
Connection	n Fee:	\$600.00	+					
charged pe	n fees for new customers shall be payab r residence or camp site, in addition to o ction under Rule 14, if applicable.	-						
<u>Delinquent</u>	t shut-off reconnection charge:	\$ 15.00	+					
	New Rate or Text Changed Rate or Text							
sue Date:	Month/Day/Year	Effective Date:	Month/Day/Year					
sued By:	LaVerne Faulkenberry, President Name & Title of Issuing Officer	<u>P. O. Box 586 St.</u> Company Mailing A						

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Agreement Attachment B

Ratemaking Income Statement

FRANKLIN COUNTY WATER COMPANY, INC. Rate Making Income Statement

	Operating Revenues at Current Rates					
1	Tariffed Rate Revenues	\$	30,974			
2	Other Operating Revenues	\$	-			
3	Total Operating Revenues	\$	30,974			

	Cost of Service				
	Item	l l	Amount		
1	Electricity-Pumping	\$	2,391		
2	Water Treatment -Testing/Laboratory Fees	\$	200		
3	Maintenance Expense-Parts/Equipment	\$	7,680		
4	Maintenance Expense-Outside Labor	\$	2,100		
5	Meter Reading	\$	1,566		
6	Administration & General - Salaries	\$	6,000		
7	Billing Service	\$	1,800		
8	Accounting	\$	250		
9	Office Rent	\$	1,800		
10	Legal	\$	200		
11	Telephone & Pagers	\$	718		
12	Postage	\$	624		
13	Insurance	\$	1,257		
14	Regulatory Commission Expense	\$	139		
15	Miscellaneous General Expenses	\$	430		
16	Sub-Total Operating Expenses	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$	27,155		
17	Property Taxes	\$	455		
18	MO Franchise Taxes	\$	-		
19	Employer FICA Taxes	\$	718		
20	Federal Unemployment Taxes	\$	-		
21	State Unemployment Taxes	\$	-		
22	State & Federal Income Taxes	\$	-		
23	Sub-Total Taxes	\$	1,173		
24	Depreciation Expense	\$	8,492		
25	Amortization of CIAC	\$	(4,958)		
26	Sub-Total Depreciation/Amortization	\$	3,534		
27	Return on Rate Base		3,454		
28	Total Cost of Service	\$	35,316		
29	Overall Revenue Increase Needed	\$	4,342		

Agreement Attachment C

Rate Design Worksheet

FRANKLIN COUNTY WATER COMPANY, INC.

Development of Tariffed Rates

Agreement is to increase currently tariffed rates by a percentage equal to the agreed-upon overall revenue increase divided by the revenues generated by the currently tariffed rates.

Revenues Generated by Current Tariffed Rates	\$	30,974
Agreed-Upon Overall Revenue Increase	\$	4,342
Percentage Increase Needed	14.017%	

Metered Customer Rates								
	Cı	urrent	Pro	posed	С	urrent	Pr	oposed
Meter	Se	ervice	Se	ervice	ι	Jsage	ι	Jsage
Size	CI	harge	C	harge		Rate		Rate
5/8"	\$	5.00	\$	5.70	\$	2.290	\$	2.611

Agreement Attachment D

Schedule of Depreciation Rates

Franklin County Water Company DEPRECIATION RATES (WATER) QW-2006-0005

ACCOUNT		DEPRECIATION	AVERAGE SERVICE	NET
NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	RATE	LIFE (YEARS)	SALVAGE
311	Structures & Improvements	2.5%	40	
314	Wells & Springs	2.0%	50	
325	Electric Pumping Equipment	10.0%	10	
342	Distribution Reservoirs & Standpipes	2.5%	40	
343	Transmission & Distribution Mains	2.0%	50	
345	Services	2.5%	40	
346	Meters	10.0%	10	
347	Meter Installations	2.5%	40	