BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Missouri-American Water Company's) Request for Authority to Implement a General Rate Increase for Water and Sewer Service Provided in **Missouri Service Areas**

File No. WR-2015-0301

ORDER DIRECTING FILING **OF STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT**

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Issue Date: March 14, 2016

Effective Date: March 14, 2016

The parties have indicated that many of the issues in this case have been settled and that a Non-unanimous Stipulation and Agreement for those issues is forthcoming. The parties need time to draft an agreement, but the Commission also needs time to consider whether the schedule needs to be adjusted to allow for a hearing on the stipulation. Therefore, the Commission will direct the parties to file their stipulation and agreement at a defined time.

Stipulations and agreements to resolve rate cases have in the past been filed as confidential or "black-box" agreements. Such "black box" settlements limit the Commission's ability to comply with its obligation under Section 393.130, RSMo to determine whether such agreements will result in just and reasonable rates. For that reason, the Commission disfavors such agreements and will examine such a settlement closely.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The parties shall file their Stipulation and Agreement resolving revenue

requirement issues no later than 12:00 p.m. on March 16, 2016.

2. This order shall be effective when issued.

BY THE COMMISSION

Morris I Woodwill

Morris Woodruff Secretary



Kennard L. Jones, Senior Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 14th day of March, 2016.