

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

In the Matter of the Water Rate)	
Increase Request of Hillcrest)	
Utility Operating Company, Inc.)	
)	
Consolidated with,)	<u>Case No. WR-2016-0064</u>
)	
In the Matter of the Sewer Rate)	
Increase Request of Hillcrest)	
Utility Operating Company, Inc.)	

STAFF REPORT ON LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff), by and through the undersigned counsel and files its *Report on Local Public Hearing*. Staff states the following in support thereof:

1. On September 15, 2015, Hillcrest Utility Operating Company, Inc. (Hillcrest) filed a letter with the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) requesting that the Commission approve increases in its annual water and sewer operating revenues, which resulted in the Commission opening two cases, Case Nos. WR-2016-0064 and SR-2016-0065. On October 9, 2015, Staff filed a *Motion to Consolidate*, which the Commission granted on October 21, 2015, consolidating both cases under Case No. WR-2016-0064. Hillcrest and Staff filed a joint *Motion for Extension* to extend the requirement to file an executed disposition under Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-3.050(11), by 10 days. The Commission granted that extension and set as the new filing date February 26, 2016. The Office of the Public Counsel (OPC) filed a Request for a Local Public Hearing, which was set for Wednesday March 9, 2016.

2. The local public hearing was held March 9, wherein a question and answer session was conducted prior to the on-the-record portion of the local public hearing.

3. Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-3.050(19) states that if a local public hearing is held, “the staff shall file a pleading no later than five (5) working days after the hearing indicating whether any material information not previously available was provided at the local public hearing and stating whether that information might result in changes to the utility/staff disposition agreement.”

4. Staff participated in the question and answer session conducted between the parties and customers who attended prior to the on-the-record local public hearing, remained for the duration of the on-the-record session and was available after the local public hearing for discussion with the customers. Staff will conduct any necessary follow-up discussions to statements made during both the question and answer session and the on-the-record local public hearing as is appropriate. However, pursuant to Rule 4 CSR 240-3.050(19), Staff states that it obtained no material information at the local public hearing that would result in any change to the disposition agreement entered into in this cases between Staff and Hillcrest.

WHEREFORE, Staff submits this *Report on Local Public Hearing* for the Commission’s information and consideration in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Whitney Payne

Whitney Payne

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by electronic mail, or First Class United States Postal Mail, postage prepaid, on this 18th day of March, 2016, to all counsel of record.

/s/ Whitney Payne