

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of I.H. Utilities, Inc.,)
Small Company Rate Increase)

File No. WR-2010-0048
Tracking No. YW-2010-0068

ORDER GRANTING AMENDMENT OF TIMELINE AND DIRECTING FILING

Issue Date: August 19, 2009

Effective Date: August 19, 2009

The Missouri Public Service Commission is granting the motion to amend timeline (“the motion”) filed by the Office of the Public Counsel (“OPC”) and ordering OPC to file a proposed scheduling order.

I.H. Utilities, Inc. (“the company”) filed a letter asking for small water company rate relief on August 25, 2006. On August 3, 2009, the Commission’s staff (“Staff”) filed a notice of disposition agreement between Staff and the company, with a copy of the disposition agreement and a tariff.¹ On August 4, 2009, the Office of the Public Counsel (“OPC”) filed a motion for a local public hearing. On August 10, 2009, Staff filed a motion asking the Commission to approve an attached proposed timeline, which included proposed dates for an order suspending the tariff and notice of a local public hearing. OPC supported the timeline.² On August 14, 2009, the Commission granted the motion for local public hearing suspended the tariff, and approved the timeline.

The timeline provisions at issue in the motion are the following:

¹ The tariff carried an effective date of September 30, 2009. On August 10, 2009, the company filed a substitute tariff sheet, also bearing a September 30, 2009, effective date.

² [OPC]’s *Status Report* (filed August 13, 2009), paragraph 10.

Calendar Due Date	Case Activity	Responsible "Party"
08/20/09	Commission Issues Order Establishing Local Public Hearing and Suspending Tariff Sheet(s) ^[3]	Commission
08/21/09	Second Customer Notice and Notice of Local Public Hearing (if necessary) Mailed to Customers (must be approved by Case Coordinator prior to mailing; includes a 25-day response period; copy sent to Data Center for placement in EFIS tracking file(s); copy also sent to Case Coordinator & OPC)	Company

Thus, the timeline provides that the Commission will issue an order no later than August 20, 2009, setting the date, time and place for the local public hearing ("scheduling order"). Such information goes into the Second Customer Notice and Notice of Local Public Hearing ("notice") that the company mails to its customers.

But the timeline also requires the Case Coordinator's prior approval. Approval and mailing of the notice will likely take more than one day after the scheduling order is due. Hence, OPC filed the motion on August 19, 2009, asking that the Commission amend the timeline to provide that the notice shall be due on August 28, 2009. The motion states that the other parties do not oppose such relief, so the Commission will grant the motion.

Further, the Commission will order OPC to file a proposed scheduling order. The proposed scheduling order shall propose the local public hearing's date, time and place. In proposing the place, OPC shall give priority to sufficient physical capacity over webcasting capacity. OPC shall coordinate the content of the proposed scheduling order with Commission personnel. The Commission will adjust the timeline accordingly.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The timeline is amended by replacing the following provisions:

³ The Commission already suspended the tariff in its August 14, 2009, order.

Calendar Due Date	Case Activity	Responsible "Party"
08/20/09	Commission Issues Order Establishing Local Public Hearing and Suspending Tariff Sheet(s) ^[4]	Commission
08/21/09	Second Customer Notice and Notice of Local Public Hearing (if necessary) Mailed to Customers (must be approved by Case Coordinator prior to mailing; includes a 25-day response period; copy sent to Data Center for placement in EFIS tracking file(s); copy also sent to Case Coordinator & OPC)	Company

with the following provisions:

Calendar Due Date	Case Activity	Responsible "Party"
08/21/09	OPC files Proposed Scheduling Order.	OPC
08/24/09	Commission Issues Order Setting Local Public Hearing	Commission
08/28/09	Second Customer Notice and Notice of Local Public Hearing (if necessary) Mailed to Customers (must be approved by Case Coordinator prior to mailing; includes a 25-day response period; copy sent to Data Center for placement in EFIS tracking file(s); copy also sent to Case Coordinator & OPC)	Company

2. This order shall become effective immediately upon issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION



Steven C. Reed
Secretary

(S E A L)

Daniel Jordan, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 19th day of August 2009.

⁴ The Commission has already suspended the tariff under its August 14, 2009, order.