

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

In the Matter of the Application of Stockton Hills Water Company for an Increase in Annual Water System Operating Revenues )  
 )  
 ) **File No. WR-2010-0202**  
 Tariff No. YW-2010-0700

## ORDER SETTING LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING

Issue Date: July 16, 2010

Effective Date: July 16, 2010

## Background

On January 7,<sup>1</sup> Stockton Hills Water Company (“Stockton Hills”) initiated a small water company rate increase action pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-3.050. On June 7, Staff and Stockton Hills filed a Disposition Agreement (“Agreement”) that included comprehensive accounting schedules, a review of Stockton Hills’ customer service and business operation and example tariffs designed to implement the agreed-upon revenue requirements. On June 11, Stockton Hills filed revised tariff sheets reflecting certain rate and language changes to bring the tariffs into full conformity with the Agreement. The tariff sheets bear an effective date of July 26. By order issued July 15, the Commission suspended the tariff effective date to December 7, 2010.

The Office of the Public Counsel (“Public Counsel”) did not join in the Agreement. Instead, on July 12, Public Counsel requested a local public hearing. Public Counsel notes that the Agreement would result in ratepayers bearing more than a 23.6% increase, and that the ratepayers should have a chance to speak to the Commission about the proposed rate increase. This is sufficient for the grant of a public hearing.

<sup>1</sup> All calendar dates are to 2010 unless otherwise noted.

Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.110(1) requires the Commission to set the time and place for hearings and serve notice as required by law. Section 536.067(4), RSMo 2000, and Section 386.390.5, RSMo 2000, require at least ten days notice be given prior to a hearing.

In complying with its statutory mandate, and taking into consideration the expedited nature of the small sewer company rate increase procedure, the Commission shall set the date for the local public hearing for Tuesday, August 10, 2010. At the hearing, the Staff of the Commission will hold an informal question-and-answer session beginning at 5:30 p.m. The hearing will begin at 6:00 p.m. and will conclude when every person who wishes to testify has done so.

#### **THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:**

1. The Commission gives notice that it shall hold a local public hearing on August 10, 2010, beginning at 6:00 p.m. A question-and-answer session will be held before the hearing beginning at 5:30 p.m.

2. The local public hearing shall be held at: Stockton Community Building, Upper Level, 209 N. North Street, Stockton, Missouri.

3. No later than July 26, 2010, Stockton Hills Water Company shall mail to its customers notice of this hearing consistent with this order, said notice being approved by the Staff of the Commission and the Office of the Public Counsel before it is mailed, as required by Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-3.050(18). Staff shall file a copy of the notice in these cases no later than July 30, 2010.

4. Customers wishing to make written comments or secure additional information may contact the Office of the Public Counsel, Post Office Box 2230, Jefferson City,

Missouri 65102, telephone (573) 751-4857. Comments may also be registered in this case using the Internet Electronic Filing System at <http://psces/mpsc/>. Use the link to the Public Comment section and fill in all required fields on the comment page.

5. The local public hearing shall be held in a facility that meets the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Any person who needs additional accommodation to participate in the hearing should call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 prior to the hearing.

6. The Data Center of the Missouri Public Service Commission shall serve a copy of this order upon the county commission of Cedar County, Missouri.

7. The Public Information Office of the Missouri Public Service Commission shall make notice of this order available to members of the General Assembly representing the residents in the service area of Stockton Hills Water Company, and to the news media serving the residents of that service area.

8. No later than August 17, 2010, the Staff of the Commission shall file a pleading as required by Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-3.050(19).

9. No later than August 24, 2010, the Office of the Public Counsel shall file a pleading as required by Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-3.050(19).

10. This order shall become effective immediately upon issuance.

**BY THE COMMISSION**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Reed', is positioned above the printed name.

Steven C. Reed  
Secretary

( S E A L )

Ronald D. Pridgin, Senior Regulatory  
Law Judge, by delegation of authority  
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,  
on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2010.