

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

In the Matter of the Joint Application of)
Hickory Hills Water & Sewer Co., Inc. and)
Missouri-American Water Company, for)
MAWC to Acquire Certain Water and Sewer)
Assets of Hickory Hills and, in Connection)
Therewith, Issue Indebtedness and)
Encumber Assets.)

Case No. WA-2016-0019

STAFF'S REPLY TO OPC

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, and for its *Reply to OPC's Response to Staff*, states that its opposition to OPC's request for yet another local public hearing in this case remains unchanged. A reasonable and viable solution to the problem posed by this system is, at last, at hand. The Commission should approve the proposed transaction without delay, as quickly as possible, and thereby provide to the ratepayers of Hickory Hills the relief they have sought for some years now.

WHEREFORE, Staff again recommends that OPC's request for yet another local public hearing be denied.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Kevin A. Thompson

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served, by hand delivery, electronic mail, or First Class United States Mail, postage prepaid, to all parties of record on the Service List maintained for this case by the Data Center of the Missouri Public Service Commission, on this 23rd day of October, 2015.

/s/ Kevin A. Thompson