

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

In the Matter of Missouri-American Water Company )  
for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity )  
Authorizing it to Install, Own, Acquire, Construct, ) Case No. WA-2012-0066  
Operate, Control, Manage, and Maintain Water and )  
Sewer Systems in Christian and Taney Counties, )  
Missouri. )

**THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL’S REQUEST FOR  
CUSTOMER NOTICE AND LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING**

COMES NOW the Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel) and for its Request for Customer Notice and Local Public Hearing states as follows:

1. On August 26, 2011, Missouri-American Water Company (MAWC) filed an Application with the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) requesting that the Commission grant it permission, approval and a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) authorizing MAWC to: a) install, acquire, build, construct, own, operate, control, manage and maintain water and sewer systems for the public within the areas referred to in its Application; b) acquire the assets identified in the Application of Saddlebrooke; and, c) take such other actions as may be deemed necessary and appropriate to accomplish the purposes of the Agreement and the Application and to consummate related transactions in accordance with the Agreement. The Application contained proposed rates for water and sewer service for customers within the area referred to in the Application

2. On March 27, 2012, MAWC filed the direct testimony of Mr. Brian LaGrand and Mr. Dennis R. Williams. Mr. Williams' direct testimony included proposed revisions to MAWC's approved tariffs which contain proposed rates for water and sewer service for customers within the area referred to in the Application.

2. The newly proposed rates are different than the rates requested by MAWC in its original Application filed on August 26, 2011, and are significantly higher than the rates currently paid by these customers for water and sewer service. Customers should be provided notice of MAWC's request and an opportunity to comment on the proposed acquisition and requested rates for water and sewer service. Therefore, Public Counsel requests that the Commission require MAWC to provide notice to the affected customers of the proposed acquisition and the newly requested rates for water and sewer service.

3. Public Counsel also requests that the Commission schedule a local public hearing in this matter. Affording customers the opportunity to speak to the Commission at a hearing is a critical part of any acquisition and resultant ratemaking process. Public Counsel believes that a local public hearing will allow the Commission and its Staff the opportunity to gather information which may be crucial in determining if the proposed acquisition is in the public interest and in the setting of just and reasonable rates.

4. Public Counsel does not object to the Commission scheduling the hearing promptly, as long as customers are given sufficient notice.

**WHEREFORE**, Public Counsel respectfully submits its Request.

Respectfully submitted,

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC COUNSEL

**/s/ Christina L. Baker**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, emailed or hand-delivered to the following this 28<sup>th</sup> day of March 2012:

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**/s/ Christina L. Baker**