## **BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

## **OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the Application of Hickory Hills Water & Sewer Co., Inc., the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, and the Office of the Public Counsel for Approval of Their Unanimous Stipulation and Consent Order for Appointment of Interim Receiver and Order to General Counsel to Petition the Circuit Court of Cole County for the Appointment of a Receiver.

Case No. WO-2007-0036

## ORDER GRANTING EXTENSION OF TIME AND ORDERING STAFF TO FILE PROGRESS REPORTS

Issue Date: September 1, 2006

Effective Date: September 1, 2006

On August 3, 2006, the Missouri Public Service Commission issued its Order Approving Unanimous Stipulation and Consent Order in this case. In that order, among other things, the Commission directed its Staff to file a proposed compensation agreement for Mr. Cover's services as interim receiver on or before August 18, 2006. On August 18, 2006, the Commission issued an order granting Staff an extension until August 25, 2006, to file the proposed compensation agreement.

On August 25, 2006, Staff filed a second Request for Extension of Time to File a Proposed Compensation Agreement for the Services of the Interim Receiver. Staff's request notes that Staff and Mr. Cover have been actively searching for an operator to manage the day-to-day operations of the water plant. However, they have not yet been able to find an operator willing to operate the system. Staff contends that until such operator is found and the cost of the operator is known, it would be premature for the parties to enter into a compensation agreement.

On August 31, 2006, Staff filed a third request for an extension of time to file a proposed compensation agreement. In support of its request Staff informed the Commission that it and the interim receiver, Mr. Cover, have been actively searching for an operator for the Hickory Hills system. They identified three prospective operators and asked each one to submit bids to operate the system. One of the prospective operators has declined to submit a bid, and the others have not yet submitted bids.

The Staff again stated that it will be unable to make its recommendation until an operator is found. The Staff noted that there is currently no time frame in which it can guarantee an operator will be found. Due to the possibility that the search for an operator could take a significant amount of time, Staff proposes filing monthly progress reports, on or about the 2<sup>nd</sup> of each month, until such time that an operator is found.

The Commission finds Staff's proposal reasonable.

## IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The Commission Staff will not be required to file with the Commission a proposed compensation agreement for Mr. Cover's services as interim receiver on or before September 1, 2006.

2. The Staff of the Commission shall file monthly reports regarding the progress of the search for a system operator, on or before the  $2^{nd}$  of each month, until such time that the Staff can finalize and file the proposed compensation agreement for the interim receiver, unless otherwise ordered by this Commission.

2

3. This order shall become effective on September 1, 2006.



Colleen M. Dale Secretary

(SEAL)

Cherlyn D. Voss Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2006.