

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

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| In the Matter of Confluence Rivers Utility |) | |
| Operating Company, Inc.'s Request for Authority |) | |
| to Implement a General Rate Increase for Water |) | <u>File No. WR-2023-0006</u> |
| Service and Sewer Service Provided in Missouri |) | JW-2024-0065 |
| Service Areas. |) | JS-2024-0066 |

**MOTION FOR EXPEDITED TREATMENT
AND APPROVAL OF COMPLIANCE TARIFFS**

COMES NOW Confluence Rivers Utility Operating Company, Inc. ("Confluence Rivers"), by and through counsel, and for its Motion for Expedited Treatment pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-2.080(14) and its request for approval of its water and sewer tariff sheets being submitted pursuant to the *Report and Order* issued herein on October 25, 2023, and the *Order Approving Agreements*, issued September 27, 2023, respectfully states as follows to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"):

1. The Commission's *Report and Order* authorized Confluence Rivers "to file tariff sheets sufficient to recover revenues approved in compliance with [the] order and the *Order Approving Agreements*, issued September 27, 2023." (Report and Order, p. 75)

2. On this date, Confluence Rivers has caused to be filed with the Commission water and sewer tariff sheets designed to effectuate the decisions made by the Commission in its *Report and Order* and the *Order Approving Agreements* (Tracking Numbers JW-2024-0065 and JS-2024-0066). Confluence Rivers' compliance water and sewer tariff sheets bear an issue date of November 10, 2023, and a proposed effective date of December 10, 2023 (thirty days thereafter).

3. Although Section 393.140(11), RSMo, indicates that thirty days' notice is generally required, Section 393.140(11) specifically provides that, for good cause shown, the

Commission may allow tariff sheets to become effective on less than thirty days' notice. Confluence Rivers believes that a full thirty days between issue and effective date is not necessary in this case. On December 21, 2022, Confluence Rivers submitted water and sewer rate schedules designed to increase its gross annual water and sewer revenues, with each schedule bearing a proposed effective date of January 20, 2023. The Commission thereafter suspended those tariff sheets until November 20, 2023. In the intervening months, the parties have conducted discovery, filed prepared testimony, and conducted an evidentiary hearing concerning matters in dispute. The Commission further conducted local hearings.

4. Good cause for allowing these revised tariffs to become effective on less than thirty days' notice is shown by the following: (a) the tariff sheets are being filed in compliance with the Commission's *Report and Order* and *Order Approving Agreements*; (b) the Commission and the public have been aware of Confluence Rivers' request for a rate increase for over ten months; (c) the Commission and the parties, through the rate case process, have been able to consider all aspects of the Company's request and the possible impact of a rate increase; and, (d) the "operation of law" date herein is November 20, 2023.

5. Moreover, Confluence Rivers requests the tariff sheets go into effect on December 1, 2023, only nine (9) days before the non-expedited effective date. The importance of December 1, 2023 is that such effective date will allow the new rates to become effective at the beginning of a month (and billing cycle) and simplify the Company's billing for that initial month.

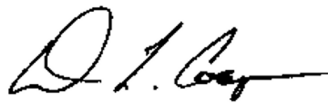
6. With the issuance of its *Report and Order*, the Commission determined that revised rate schedules should be filed by Confluence Rivers and that the revised rates are just and reasonable. As such, pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-2.080(14)(B), Confluence Rivers states that the

harm from the continuation of the current rates will be avoided and the benefits from the agreements of the parties and orders of the Commission will accrue if this motion is granted, and that the granting of this motion will not have a negative effect on Confluence Rivers customers or the public in general.

7. Confluence Rivers states that this motion is being filed as soon as the subject tariff sheets could be prepared, and, pursuant to Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.080(14)(A), requests that the Commission act on this motion as soon as possible and issue its order approving Confluence Rivers' compliance tariffs to take effect on December 1, 2023, or as soon thereafter as is practicable.

WHEREFORE, Confluence Rivers respectfully requests that the Commission issue an order approving the Company's compliance tariff sheets (*Tracking Numbers JW-2024-0065 and JS-2024-0066*) on less than thirty days' notice (on December 1, 2023) and grant such other and further relief as the Commission deems necessary or appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,



Dean L. Cooper, Mo. Bar #36592
BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND
P.C.
312 East Capitol Avenue
P.O. Box 456
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0456
Telephone: (573) 635-7166
Facsimile: (573) 635-0427
dcooper@brydonlaw.com

David L. Woodsmall, Mo. Bar #40747
CENTRAL STATES WATER
RESOURCES 1630 Des Peres Rd., Suite 140
Des Peres, MO 63131
dwoodsmall@cswrgroup.com

ATTORNEYS FOR CONFLUENCE RIVERS UTILITY OPERATING COMPANY, INC.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been sent by electronic mail this 10th day of November 2023, to all counsel of record.

