Exhibit No.: Issue: Witness: Exhibit Type: Sponsoring Party: Case No.: Date:

Sale of Sewer Systems Stephen Kadyk, PE Direct Missouri American Water Company SM-2025-0067 March 19, 2025

## MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

### CASE NO. SM-2025-0067

### DIRECT TESTIMONY

## OF

# **STEPHEN KADYK**

### **ON BEHALF OF**

## MISSOURI AMERICAN WATER COMPANY

### DIRECT TESTIMONY STEPHEN KADYK MISSOURI AMERICAN WATER COMPANY CASE NO.: SM-2025-0067

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. INTRODUCTION	3
II. MAWC	4
III. SYSTEMS TO BE SOLD	4
IV. PUBLIC INTEREST	6

# **DIRECT TESTIMONY**

# **STEPHEN KADYK**

1		I. INTRODUCTION
2	Q.	Please state your name and business address.
3	A.	Stephen Kadyk. and my business address is 727 Craig Road, St. Louis, MO, 63141.
4	Q.	By whom are you employed and in what capacity?
5	A.	I am employed by Missouri-American Water Company ("MAWC", "Missouri-American"
6		or the "Company") as the Engineering Manager of Customer Development.
7	Q.	Please summarize your educational background and business experience.
8	A.	I received a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Missouri – Rolla,
9		now known as Missouri S&T, in 1999. After graduation, I have worked for both public
10		and private agencies in the fields of development, planning, construction, and acquisitions.
11	Q.	What are your current employment responsibilities?
12	A.	My responsibilities as Engineering Manager include the following: Coordinating the
13		application and transaction process for partner communities that are interested in joining
14		Missouri-American and for divestitures of assets from the Company to both public and
15		private entities.
16	Q.	What is the purpose of your Direct Testimony in this proceeding?
17	A.	The purpose of my direct testimony is to support MAWC's proposed sale of nineteen (19)
18		small wastewater systems, all of one of which is located in Callaway County, Missouri, to
19		Confluence Rivers Utility Operating Company, Inc. ("Confluence Rivers").

1		<u>II. MAWC</u>
2	Q.	Please describe MAWC.
3	A.	MAWC is a Missouri corporation with its principal office and place of business at 727
4		Craig Road, St. Louis, Missouri 63141. It currently provides water service to
5		approximately 484,000 customers and sewer service to approximately 24,000 customers in
6		several counties throughout the state of Missouri. MAWC is a "water corporation," a
7		"sewer corporation," and a "public utility" as those terms are defined in Section 386.020
8		and 393.1000(7), RSMo.
9		III. SYSTEMS TO BE SOLD
10	Q.	Did MAWC negotiate a Purchase Agreement with Confluence Rivers to sell certain
11		sewer systems to Confluence Rivers?
12	A.	Yes. MAWC entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement ("Agreement") to sell the
13		systems on October 19, 2023.
14	Q.	Please describe the systems that MAWC proposes to sell.
15	A.	MAWC seeks to sell nineteen (19) wastewater systems in Callaway and Morgan Counties. As of
16		April 2024, these systems had total connections of approximately 606 and are detailed below:
-		

No.	Facility Name	Permit #	Connections	Plant Type Detail	County
1	Big Sky Subdivision WWTP	MO0122106	30	Extended Aeration	Callaway
2	Calley Trail	MOGD00471	11	Recirculating Sand Filter	Callaway
3	Cedar Hills Subdivision WWTF	MO0121061	19	Recirculating Sand Filter	Callaway
4	Dogwood Lake	MOGD00487	18	Extended Aeration	Callaway
5	Evergreen Drive Acres WWTF	MO0138517	25	Extended Aeration	Callaway

6	Golden Ponds Lagoon WWTF	MO0118800	30	Facultative Lagoon	Callaway
7	Halifax Road WWTF	MO0116947	38	Extended Aeration	Callaway
8	Hidden Valley	MOGD00472	20	Recirculating Sand Filter	Callaway
9	Hillers Creek Lagoon WWTF	MO0119407	43	Facultative Lagoon	Callaway
10	Hunter's Creek	MOGD00488	67	Extended Aeration	Callaway
11	Lee Street	MOGD00116	34	Extended Aeration	Callaway
12	Maple Leaf WWTF	MO0120022	15	Facultative Lagoon	Callaway
13	Ozark Meadows	MOGD00251	26	Extended Aeration	Morgan
14	Ryan's Lake Subdivision WWTP	MO0121096	85	Recirculating Sand Filter	Callaway
15	Southwind Meadows	MOGD00064	29	Extended Aeration	Callaway
16	Sterling Ridge	MOGD00255	20	Extended Aeration	Callaway
17	Stoney Creek	MOGD00264	23	Recirculating Sand Filter	Callaway
18	Summit View	MOGD00240	44	Extended Aeration	Callaway
19	The Highlands WWTF	MO0039012	29	Facultative Lagoon	Callaway

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#### 2 Q. How did MAWC acquire these assets?

A. The assets to be sold by MAWC were among the assets MAWC acquired from Aqua
Missouri, Inc., Aqua Development, Inc., and Aqua/RU, Inc. d/b/a Aqua Missouri, Inc.
pursuant to approval granted by the Commission in Case No. WO-2011-0168. At that time,
MAWC acquired water and sewer systems located in Cole, Callaway, Pettis and Morgan
Counties, as well as water systems located in Barry, Benton, Christiaan, Greene, Stone and
Taney Counties. The transaction was associated with the decision by Aqua to largely exit
the state of Missouri as a regulated utility. This included approximately 52 sewer systems

1		in Cole and Callaway Counties, as well as Maplewood in Pettis County, and Ozark
2		Meadows in Morgan County.
3	Q.	Does MAWC intend to retain the balance of those former Aqua systems located in
4		Cole and Callaway Counties?
5	A.	Yes
6	Q.	What has MAWC's experience with owning and operating these systems been?
7	A.	MAWC has been successful in providing high quality customer service while exceeding
8		the regulatory standards through prudent capital investments.
9	Q.	What rates are currently paid by the customers of the subject systems?
10	A.	MAWC's current rate for these customers is \$65.36 (\$68.56, when WSIRA is included).
11	Q.	Will those rates likely change prior to the conclusion of this case?
12	A.	Yes. MAWC currently has a base rate case before the Commission (Case No. WR-2024-
13		0320). The operation of law date in that rate case is May 28, 2025.
14		IV. PUBLIC INTEREST
15	Q.	Do you believe that the sale of the subject wastewater systems to Confluence Rivers
16		is detrimental to the public interest?
17	A.	No. Approval of the underlying transaction and the proposed transfer will result in the
18		continuation of regulated sewer services provided to the current and future residents of the
19		subject service areas. The systems would be acquired by Confluence Rivers, a Missouri
20		public utility, and be subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission to own and operate the
21		sewer systems for which approval is sought. Confluence Rivers is an existing and
22		experienced owner and operator of wastewater systems in the State of Missouri.

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**Q**.

#### Are there benefits associated with the sale of these systems?

A. Yes. MAWC believes these very small systems (which have from 11 to 83 customers per
system) will be more efficiently serviced by Confluence Rivers' service model than the
full-time employees utilized by MAWC. Moreover, by divesting these smaller wastewater
facilities that do not overlap with its water service areas, MAWC can concentrate more
effectively on its main operational strengths and large-scale facilities. This should benefit
MAWC's remaining customers.

#### 8 Q. Are there benefits for the customers served by the subject wastewater systems?

9 A. Yes. Confluence Rivers specializes in running and rehabilitating small systems. We
10 believe its focus on small, geographically dispersed systems gives Confluence Rivers an
11 advantage in managing the unique challenges that come with these types of operations.
12 Moreover, Confluence Rivers already has several small wastewater systems in the vicinity
13 of these systems.

#### 14 Q. What do you ask the Missouri Public Service Commission to do in this case?

- 15 A. To approve the Application before it.
- 16 Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?
- 17 A. Yes.

#### **AFFIDAVIT**

I, Stephen Kadyk, under penalty of perjury, and pursuant to Section 509.030, RSMo, state that I am the Engineering Manager of Customer Development for Missouri-American Water Company, Inc., that the accompanying testimony has been prepared by me or under my direction and supervision; that if inquiries were made as to the facts in said testimony, I would respond as therein set forth; and that the aforesaid testimony is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Stephen Kadyk