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

In the matter of the tariff filing of Algonquin	)	
Water Resources of Missouri, LLC to	)	Case No. WR-2006-0425
implement a general rate increase for water	)	Case No. W K-2000-0425
and sewer service provided to customers in its	)	
Missouri service areas.	)	

## JOINTLY PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, on its own behalf and on behalf of Algonquin Water Resources of Missouri, LLC and the Office of the Public Counsel, being all of the parties in this case and, for its Jointly Proposed Procedural Schedule, states to the Commission as follows:

- 1. On May 12, 2006, the Commission issued its Suspension Order and Notice, in which it scheduled an early prehearing conference for June 19, 2006, and directed the parties to file a proposed procedural schedule on or before June 26, 2006. The Commission also directed the parties to file recommendations as to the dates and locations for local public hearings in this case by no later than June 26, 2006.
- 2. On June 19, 2006, the parties attended the prehearing conference and discussed numerous issues, including the issue of the most appropriate test year and a proposed procedural schedule. The parties noted that Algonquin acquired the assets of Silverleaf Resorts, Inc. in a transaction that closed on August 14, 2005. The parties sought to minimize Algonquin's rate case expense and to establish a procedural schedule that would enable the parties to give the Commission the most current information possible concerning the operating costs of providing water and sewer service to Algonquin's newly acquired properties. The parties agreed that this

can best be accomplished by using a test year for the twelve months ending September 30, 2005, updated for known and measurable changes through September 30, 2006. The parties further agreed that, if data is updated through September 30, 2006, a true-up will not be required.

- 3. In its Suspension Order and Notice, the Commission reserved three weeks during January 2007 for the evidentiary hearing in this case, plus one week during February 2007 for a true-up hearing. The parties agreed that the evidentiary hearing will not require three weeks, but that one week will be sufficient, and that no true-up hearing will be needed. In order to free up time on the Commission's calendar for hearing other rate cases, the parties agreed to recommend that the evidentiary hearing be held in the week that had been reserved for the true-up hearing.
- 4. As a result of the prehearing conference and subsequent discussions, the parties agreed to recommend the following procedural schedule:

Company files case updated for known and measurable changes through September 30, 2006	November 15, 2006
Local public hearing	See Paragraph 5, below
Direct testimony on revenue requirement issues, by all parties except Algonquin	December 15, 2006
Direct testimony on class cost of service and rate design issues, by all parties except Algonquin	December 22, 2006
Staff files case reconciliation	December 29, 2006
Prehearing conference	January 4-5, 2007
Rebuttal testimony by all parties	January 18, 2007
Joint statement of issues and order of witnesses	January 26, 2007
Surrebuttal testimony by all parties	February 7, 2007
All parties file statement of position	February 9, 2007
Staff files reconciliation of issues to be heard	February 9, 2007

Evidentiary hearing

February 13-16, 2007

Operation of law date

April 2, 2007

5. Algonquin provides service in three service territories. Ozark Mountain Resort is located at Kimberling City, and Holiday Hills is located nearby, at Branson. The parties recommend that one local public hearing be held, prior to the time that the Staff and the Office of Public Counsel file their direct testimony, at a site that is near these two service territories. Timber Creek is located quite some distance away, at DeSoto, and has only one customer, Silverleaf Resorts, which has not intervened in this case. The parties do not believe that a separate local public hearing is necessary at that location.

6. The parties recommend that the briefing schedule be established at a later date, after the issues in the case and the complexity thereof become better known.

**WHEREFORE,** based on the foregoing, the Staff, on behalf of itself, Algonquin, and the Office of Public Counsel, respectfully requests that the Commission issue an order adopting the Proposed Procedural Schedule set forth in Paragraph 4, above.

Respectfully submitted,

## /s/ Keith R. Krueger

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## **Certificate of Service**

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing has been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically-mailed to all counsel of record this 26th day of June 2006.

/s/ Keith R. Krueger