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

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In the Matter of Missouri-American Water Company's Request for Authority to Implement General Rate Increase for Water and Sewer Service Provided in Missouri Service Areas.

File No. WR-2022-0303

## MAWC'S SUGGESTIONS REGARDING LOCAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

**COMES NOW** Missouri-American Water Company ("MAWC") and files its suggestions regarding local public hearings ("LPHs") in this matter. In support, MAWC respectfully states as follows to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"):

1. The Commission's September 7, 2022 *Order Directing Filing* stated, in part, that MAWC and the Staff of the Commission ("Staff") shall file suggestions regarding local public hearings no later than September 22, 2022.

2. The *Order Directing Filing* also stated that "[t]he Commission will likely hold these hearings virtually[.]"

3. Staff's proposed schedule includes three in-person LPHs (in St. Louis St. Joseph and Joplin), as well as three additional virtual LPHs.

4. If in-person hearings are desired, MAWC believes Staff's proposal to be generally reasonable (including the proposed locations of St. Louis, St. Joseph, and Joplin). However, MAWC also believes the virtual LPHs used in the last MAWC general rate case provided a forum for comments, while making efficient use of time and monetary resources for all parties. Thus, MAWC would be supportive of a schedule that called for virtual LPHs only, in the time frame included in the Procedural Schedule (January 18 – 31, 2022).

5. Given these matters, under all circumstances, MAWC is opposed to any more LPHs (in-person or virtual) than the six proposed by Staff.

WHEREFORE, MAWC respectfully files these suggestions for consideration by the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

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## ATTORNEYS FOR MISSOURI-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been sent by electronic mail to all counsel of record this  $22^{nd}$  day of September 2022.

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