BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

)

)

)

)

)

)

)

)

In the Matter of Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water) LLC and Ozark International, Inc., Concerning an Agreement to Acquire the Assets of Bilyeu Ridge Water Company, LLC, Midland Water Company, Inc., Moore Bend Water Utility, LLC, Riverfork Water Company, Taney County Water, LLC, and Valley Woods Utility.

File No. WM-2018-0023

MOTIONS TO SUSPEND PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE AND FOR EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION

Under authority of, and in accordance with, 4 CSR 240-2.080, Liberty Utilities (Missouri Water) LLC and Ozark International, Inc., joint applicants in the above-captioned matter, ask the Commission to suspend all or a portion of the remainder of the procedural schedule prescribed in the November 8, 2017, *Order Adopting Procedural Schedule*.

On Friday, March 16, 2018, the parties filed a *Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement*, which, if adopted by the Commission, would resolve all issues in this case. Because of that stipulation, the evidentiary hearing, currently scheduled for March 22, 2018, may not be necessary. Therefore, joint applicants request the balance of the procedural schedule – or at least the evidentiary hearing date – be suspended to allow the Commission time to fully consider the stipulation. An alternate schedule can be established if the Commission rejects the stipulation or otherwise acts in a manner contrary to its terms.

Joint applicants also request expedited consideration of their motion. Because an evidentiary hearing is scheduled within three days of the date of this motion, timely consideration is essential to inform all parties whether they will be required to present evidence

on March 22. Therefore, movants request an order granting or denying this motion by end of business on Tuesday, March 20, 2018, to allow all parties to make appropriate preparations.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons stated above, joint applicants ask the Commission to grant their motions to suspend all or part of the remaining procedural schedule and for expedited consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/L. Russell Mitten L. Russell Mitten #27881 BRYDON, SWEARENGEN & ENGLAND P.C. 312 E. Capitol Avenue P. O. Box 456 Jefferson City, MO 65102 (573) 635-7166 (573) 634-7431 facsimile rmitten@brydonlaw.com

ATTORNEYS FOR LIBERTY UTILITIES (MISSOURI WATER) LLC AND OZARK INTERNATIONAL, INC.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was sent via electronic mail this 19th day of March 2018, to all parties of record.

/s/L. Russell Mitten