## **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 a General Rate Increase for Water Service Provided in Missouri Service Areas

File No. WR-2010-0131

## AMENDED APPLICATION TO INTERVENE OF CITY OF JOPLIN, MISSOURI

**COMES NOW** the City of Joplin, by and through counsel, pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.075, and applies to intervene and become a party in the above-referenced case, and for its Amended Application to Intervene states as follows:

1. The City of Joplin (Joplin) is a municipality located in Jasper County, Missouri.

2. Missouri American Water Company (hereinafter MAWC) operates within the City of Joplin under a franchise granted by the City, and various parts of its plant occupy City right-ofway. The City has a police power interest in MAWC's exercise of its franchise that is different from the interest of the general public. As grantor of MAWC's franchise, Joplin has an interest in an allocation of joint and common costs to MAWC's Joplin district that is reasonable. Joplin has an interest in insuring sufficient investment in capital and efficient operation and maintenance of the system to provide safe and adequate service and to prevent damage to City infrastructure. Joplin has a governmental interest in MAWC's providing adequate and efficient water service for fire protection and adequate water infrastructure to support the municipal economy. In addition, the City also has an interest in the welfare of its citizens who receive their water service from MAWC that is different from the interest of the general public. No other party represents these interests, and such interests may be detrimentally affected absent Joplin's participation in this case.

3. The Missouri Public Service Commission has previously recognized Joplin's interest in proceedings affecting the rates for water service in the MAWC Joplin District in permitting Joplin's intervention in prior MAWC rate-related proceedings.

4. On October 30, 2009, MAWC filed proposed tariffs reflecting an annual revenue increase of over \$48 million, an increase of 22.5% in revenues. Additionally, the proposed tariffs raise rates on Joplin District ratepayers by more than 19%. These proposed tariffs, as they impact Joplin ratepayers, appear to the City to be unjust, unreasonable and unduly discriminatory, in violation of law.

5. On November 18, 2009, the Missouri Public Service Commission issued an Order suspending the proposed rates and tariffs and directing an investigation of the proposals, setting an intervention deadline, scheduling a hearing, and setting a pre-hearing conference. This Amended Application to Intervene is timely under that Order.

6. Joplin states, pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.075(2), that it is opposed to any unreasonable or unjust increase in water rates or an increase in rates that would create financial hardship or undue discrimination to its citizens and businesses, and to the City of Joplin itself.

7. The granting of the proposed intervention would serve the public interest by providing the Commission with a more complete record on the issues..

8. Correspondence, communications, orders and decisions in this matter should be addressed to:

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Marc H. Ellinger Thomas R. Schwarz, Jr. Blitz, Bardgett & Deutsch, L.C. 308 East High Street, Suite 301 Jefferson City, MO 65101 Telephone No.: (573) 634-2500 Facsimile No.: (573) 634-3358

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, the Intervenor City of Joplin respectfully requests

that the Commission grant this Application to Intervene in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

BLITZ, BARDGETT & DEUTSCH, L.C.

By:

Marc H. Ellinger, #40828 Thomas R. Schwarz, Jr., #29645 308 East High Street Suite 301 Jefferson City, MO 65101 Telephone No.: (573) 634-2500 Facsimile No.: (573) 634-3358 E-mail: mellinger@blitzbardgett.com E-mail: tschwarz@blitzbardgett.com

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that true copies of the foregoing Amended Application to Intervene were sent to each of the following parties of record via electronic transmission this 30<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2009:

Lewis Mills	opcservice@ded.mo.gov
Office of General Counsel	GenCounsel@psc.mo.gov
Dean Cooper	dcooper@brydonlaw.com
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A. Michael Evans	mevans@hammondshinners.com

Thomas R. Schwarz, Jr.

## **VERIFICATION**

COUNTY OF COLE ) ) ss. STATE OF MISSOURI )

**COMES NOW** Thomas R. Schwarz, Jr., and upon his oath states that he is a licensed attorney in good standing in Missouri, that he is familiar with the matters set forth in the City of Joplin's Application to Intervene in Case No. WR-2010-0131, and that the matters alleged are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief. Mr. Schwarz further states that he has been authorized to sign and file this Verification on behalf of the City of Joplin.

Thomas R. Schwarz, Jr.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2009.

iniberly R. Williams

My Commission Expires: <u>1-19-2011</u>



KIMBERLY R. WILLIAMS My Commission Expires July 19, 2011 Cole County Cemmission #07507473