

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

In the Matter of the General Rate Increase)	
for Water and Sewer Service Provided)	Case No. WR-2007-0216
by Missouri-American Water Company.)	SR-2007-0217

**MOTION TO MODIFY NOTICE PROVISIONS
AND RECOMMENDATION AS TO LOCAL HEARINGS**

Comes now Missouri-American Water Company (MAWC or Company), and, as its Motion to Modify Notice Provisions, states as follows to the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission):

BACKGROUND

1. On December 15, 2006, MAWC filed proposed tariff sheets initiating the subject general rate case. On January 3, 2007, the Commission issued its Suspension Order and Notice, Order Setting Hearings and Order Directing Filing in both Case No. WR-2007-0216 and Case No. SR-2007-0217. These cases were consolidated by a Commission order issued on January 17, 2007.

2. The Suspension Orders, among other things, required that MAWC provide its customers with notice of the local public hearings, evidentiary hearings and true-up hearings by either an on-bill message, a bill insert or a separate mailing. These notices were to be sent at least ten days, but not more than 45 days prior to each of the three events, unless by going outside this period, the notice may be included on or with a regular billing.

3. The Suspension Orders also required the parties to provide recommendations as to the times, dates and locations for local public hearings in this case on or before February 14,

2007.

MOTION TO MODIFY

4. Because of the timing of the evidentiary hearing (originally scheduled late June – early July) and true-up hearing (originally scheduled late July to early August) and the likely schedule for local public hearings, MAWC would have been required to provide three separate notices to its customers. MAWC estimates that this notification process would cost approximately \$331,000 (See Appendix A attached hereto).

5. MAWC moves that the Commission modify its Suspension Order and Notice to allow MAWC to provide a single notice to customers that would contain the dates for the local public hearing, evidentiary and true-up hearing on a single document. This document would be provided to customers in the St. Louis District at least ten days, but not more than 45 days prior to the local public hearing to be conducted in their area (but not necessarily within the 10/45 day period as to the evidentiary and true-up hearings). In all other districts, the document could be provided as an insert with regular billings.

6. MAWC believes that consolidating the notices in this fashion provides the following advantages:

- a) Consolidating the dates on one document provides a better reference tool for customers and should make the process somewhat more understandable;
- b) The separate notice can utilize a larger, and more readable, format; and,
- c) This approach can lead to significant cost savings.

7. MAWC proposes to provide the notice in a time frame most relevant to the local public hearings. This maintains current notice for the proceeding most relevant to the gathering

of customer comments and would be less confusing than providing three separate notices for three separate proceedings.

8. If this Motion is granted, MAWC would propose to follow the following procedure for the notification of customers:

- **St. Louis County District** (customers billed quarterly) – Direct mail a full calendar of hearings to customers on a 6” x 9” postcard, 10 to 45 days in advance of the St. Louis County public hearing(s) . The consolidated notice would show the St. Louis County public hearing(s) information and the evidentiary and true-up hearings information.
- **All other locations** (customers billed monthly). Include 7”x7” bill insert. The bill insert would show the public hearing date in the customer’s community, plus the evidentiary and true-up hearing information.
- The MAWC web site address would also be added to the notice. A full schedule of the hearings would be available by utilizing a link provided on the Company home page.

9. It is estimated that this process would provide a savings of approximately \$190,000 in savings as compared to three mailings to each customer (See **Appendix A** attached hereto).

10. MAWC has circulated this proposal to the counsel in this case and no party has indicated that they object to the modification of the Suspension Orders, and notification process, as described herein.

RECOMMENDATION AS TO LOCAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

11. A prehearing conference was held on February 7, 2007, at which time the parties discussed possible local public hearing places and dates. As a result of these discussions, the parties recommend that local public hearings be held at the following locations between the dates of June 5, 2007 and June 15, 2007, if possible depending upon available facilities and the

Commission's schedule:

Brunswick

Jefferson City

Jefferson County

Joplin

Mexico

Parkville

St. Charles County

St. Joseph

St. Louis County (2 locations)

Warren County (Incline Village)

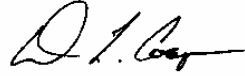
Warrensburg

12. The time period identified by the parties would be after the filing of direct testimony and before the conduct of the settlement conference and the filing of rebuttal testimony. This timing is advantageous from a case processing stand point as it would allow the initial positions of parties to be known by the public prior to their comments. It would also allow the parties to take those comments into account in the settlement conference and/or the following rounds of testimony.

WHEREFORE, MAWC respectfully requests the Commission to issue its order granting the

Motion to Modify that is described herein and establishing local public hearings as described herein.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been sent by electronic mail this 14th day of February, 2007, to:

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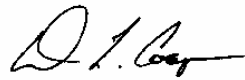
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