STATE OF MISSOURI **PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION** 

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 4th day of

March, 2009.

In the Matter of WPC Sewer Company's

File No. SR-2008-0388

Small Company Rate Increase

Tariff No. YS-2009-0334

ORDER APPROVING UNANIMOUS DISPOSITION AGREEMENT

Issue Date: March 4, 2009

Effective Date: March 14, 2009

**Syllabus:** This order approves the parties' Unanimous Disposition Agreement.

Procedural History

On June 9, 2008, WPC Sewer Company (hereafter "WPC Sewer") initiated a small

company rate case. WPC Sewer requested a rate increase intended to generate an annual

increase of \$19,207.56 in sewer system operating revenues.

On November 6, 2008, the Staff of the Commission (hereafter "Staff") and WPC

Sewer entered into an Agreement Regarding Disposition of Small Sewer Company

Revenue Increase Request. Staff and WPC Sewer agreed that WPC Sewer should receive

an annual rate increase of \$5,357. On that same day, WPC Sewer also filed a tariff sheet

to implement that rate increase, which was to become effective December 22, 2008. The

Commission denominated that sheet Tariff No. YS-2009-0334.

On December 9, 2008, the Office of the Public Counsel (hereafter "OPC") requested

a local public hearing regarding the agreement between Staff and WPC Sewer. Therefore,

the Commission suspended the tariff sheet until January 21, 2009. The local public hearing

was held on January 5, 2009.

On January 21, 2009, OPC requested an evidentiary hearing. On January 23, 2009, Staff recommended a new revenue requirement. Also on the same day, the Commission further suspended WPC's tariff sheet until May 9, 2009. After further negotiation, WPC Sewer, Staff and OPC arrived at a Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement, which was filed on February 25, 2009.

## **Unanimous Disposition Agreement**

The parties agree that WPC Sewer needs an annualized operating revenue increase of \$927 to recover its cost of service. WPC Sewer has approximately 65 customers; therefore, approximately \$14.26 of additional annual revenue is needed from each customer. As is shown in Attachment E to the Agreement, WPC Sewer would be able to increase its rates as follows:

The current monthly customer charge is \$23.88. The proposed monthly charge is \$25.04. The increase in a customer's bill would be \$1.15, which would be a 4.83% increase.

Upon review of the Unanimous Disposition Agreement and the proposed rates, the Commission finds the proposed rates to be just and reasonable. The Commission also finds the depreciation rates proposed by Staff, attached to the Agreement as Attachment F, to be just and reasonable and will direct WPC Sewer to implement them.

## THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The following tariff sheet filed by WPC Sewer Company, which the Commission denominated Tariff No. YS-2009-0334, is rejected:

P.S.C.MO No. 1

3<sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 4, Canceling 2<sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 4

2. The Unanimous Agreement Regarding Disposition of Small Sewer Company Revenue Increase Request entered into among the Staff of the Commission, the Office of the Public Counsel and WPC Sewer Company is approved.

3. The parties to this matter are directed to comply with the terms of the Unanimous Agreement Regarding Disposition of Small Sewer Company Revenue Increase Request.

4. WPC Sewer Company shall implement the depreciation rates attached to the Agreement Regarding Disposition of Small Water Company Revenue Increase Request.

5. WPC Sewer Company is authorized to file a tariff sheet identical to the example tariff sheet listed as Attachment A to the Unanimous Agreement Regarding Disposition of Small Sewer Company Revenue Increase Request.

6. This order shall become effective on March 14, 2009.

BY THE COMMISSION

Colleen M. Dale Secretary

(SEAL)

Clayton, Chm., concurs.
Murray and Gunn, CC., concur, with separate concurring opinion attached.
Davis, C., dissents.
Jarrett, C., dissents, with separate dissenting opinion to follow.

Pridgin, Senior Regulatory Law Judge