

**STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service  
Commission held at its office in  
Jefferson City on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of  
May, 2012.

In the Matter of the Request of Taney )  
County Water Company for a Small )  
Company Rate Increase )

**File No. WR-2012-0163**  
Tariff No. YW-2012-0636

**ORDER APPROVING COMPANY/STAFF DISPOSITION AGREEMENT  
AND APPROVING TARIFF**

Issue Date: May 30, 2012

Effective Date: June 15, 2012

On November 28, 2011, Taney County Water Company (“Taney County”) filed a rate increase request with the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Commission”) pursuant to the small company rate case procedure.<sup>1</sup> Taney County provides service to approximately 476 residential customers in the Venice on the Lake and Lakeway Subdivision service areas located in Taney County, Missouri. On April 26, 2012, the Staff of the Commission filed a *Notice of Company/Staff Agreement Regarding Disposition of Small Company Rate Increase Request*, which included the Company/Staff Disposition Agreement (“Agreement”) signed by representatives of Staff and Taney County. Taney County and Staff agreed that Taney County’s annualized water system operating revenue should be increased by \$42,468.00, representing an increase of approximately 38%. Under this increase, an average residential customer using 6,000 gallons of water per month would experience an

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<sup>1</sup> Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-3.050. Taney County originally requested an increase of \$49,000.00 in its annual water system operating revenues, representing an increase of approximately 45%.

increase in their water bill of \$11.15 per month. The Office of Public Counsel (“Public Counsel”) did not join in the Agreement.

Taney County filed revised tariff sheets on May 1, 2012 reflecting the proposed rates agreed to by Staff and Taney County in the Agreement. On May 3, 2012, Public Counsel filed a position statement indicating that Public Counsel does not object to the Agreement or the related tariff revisions. Public Counsel did not request a local public hearing or evidentiary hearing.

The Commission has the legal authority to accept stipulations and agreements as offered by the parties pursuant to Section 536.060, RSMo 2000. The requirement for a hearing is met when the opportunity for hearing has been provided and no proper party has requested the opportunity to present evidence.<sup>2</sup> Since no party has requested a hearing in this case, the Commission may grant the relief requested based on the Agreement. Consequently, based on the Commission’s independent and impartial review of the verified filings, the Commission will approve the Agreement.

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:**

1. The Company/Staff Disposition Agreement with regard to Taney County Water Company’s request for an increase in water revenue, File No. WR-2012-0163, entered into by the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission and Taney County Water Company and filed on April 26, 2012, is approved.

2. The signatories to the agreement referenced in ordered paragraph 1 shall comply with the terms of the Company/Staff Disposition Agreement. A copy of the Agreement is attached to this order as Appendix A.

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<sup>2</sup> *State ex rel. Rex Deffenderfer Enterprises, Inc. v. Public Service Commission*, 776 S.W.2d 494, 496 (Mo. App. 1989).

3. Taney County Water Company shall implement the depreciation rates attached to the Company/Staff Disposition Agreement for File No. WR-2012-0163 as described in ordered paragraph 1.

4. The following revised tariff sheets filed by Taney County Water Company on May 1, 2012, and assigned Tariff File No. YW-2012-0636, are approved to become effective for service provided on or after June 15, 2012. The tariff sheets approved are:

**P.S.C. MO No. 2**

Original Sheet No. 1 through Original Sheet No. 35, Canceling P.S.C. MO No. 1

5. This order shall become effective on June 15, 2012.

6. This case shall be closed on June 16, 2012.

**BY THE COMMISSION**



Steven C. Reed  
Secretary

( S E A L )

Gunn, Chm., Jarrett and Kenney,  
CC., concur.

Bushmann, Regulatory Law Judge