IN THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE	
IN RE:  PETITION OF TENNESSEE  AMERICAN WATER COMPANY TO CHANGE AND INCREASE CERTAIN RATES AND CHARGES SO AS TO PERMIT IT TO EARN A FAIR AND ADEQUATE RATE OF RETURN ON ITS PROPERTY USED AND USEFUL IN FURNISHING WATER SERVICE TO ITS CUSTOMERS	DOCKET NO. 08-00039

#### JOINT MOTION TO MODIFY PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

The Consumer Advocate and Protection Division of the Office of the Attorney General and Reporter ("Consumer Advocate"), the City of Chattanooga ("Chattanooga"), and the Chattanooga Manufacturers Association ("CMA") (collectively, the "Intervenors"), jointly file this motion requesting an expansion of the time allowed for their witnesses to analyze the issues in this case and prepare prefiled direct testimony. As grounds for this motion, the Intervenors would show the following:

1. On May 1, 2008, the Hearing Officer entered his *Order Granting Petitions to Intervene and Establishing a Procedural Schedule*. The Hearing Officer's procedural schedule allows the Intervenors from May 28 to June 23, a period of only three and one-half weeks, to analyze all the issues and prepare their prefiled testimony and workpapers in this matter. And, significantly, the Intervenors have only two weeks, from June 9 to June 23, to analyze and incorporate the supplemental discovery responses of Tennessee American Water Company ("TAWC" or

"Company").

- 2. The amount of the Company's requested rate increase is substantial -- \$7.6 million per year. And, in addition to the Company's in-house witnesses, it has submitted the testimony of outside consultants relating to cost of capital, depreciation, management fees, and weatherization adjustments, all of which have a material impact on the amount of the requested rate increase. Likewise, the Intervenors have hired outside consultants to respond to TAWC's outside consultants.
- 3. Furthermore, various Intervenors' in-house witnesses are analyzing hundreds of pages of testimony and are preparing to rebut the Company's witnesses in such broad areas as revenues, salaries and wages, pensions, other operations and maintenance expenses, rate base investment, income taxes, other taxes, cost of capital, capital structure, and rate design.
- 4. Not only do the Intervenors have to rebut the Company's case in the prefiled direct testimony of their witnesses, they must also present their expert opinions on just and reasonable water rates for TAWC's customers.
- 5. Based on the preliminary investigation into the Company's petition, prefiled testimony and exhibits, and responses to the TRA staff's data requests, the Intervenors believe that this case will contain more material issues than the Authority considered in TAWC's last rate case, TRA Docket 06-00290.
- 6. The amount of time presently allowed for the Intervenors to both rebut the Company's petition and related testimony, exhibits and workpapers, as well as to formulate their own expert opinions regarding just and reasonable water rates, is inadequate in light of the number of anticipated issues in this case -- especially considering the need for coordination of in-house witnesses and outside consultants, all of whom are involved in matters other than this one.

- 7. The current two-week period between the Company's supplemental discovery responses and the due date for the Intervenors' prefiled direct testimony is especially not viable and simply cannot be met by the Intervenors should the discovery be supplemented in any meaningful way.
- 8. Unless the Intervenors have sufficient time to analyze the issues and prepare prefiled testimony and workpapers that are responsive to the Company's petition and prefiled testimony and exhibits, which have already been prepared and submitted, the Intervenors will be materially prejudiced. Moreover, the TRA will be deprived of the full benefit of the knowledge and expertise of the Intervenors' in-house witnesses, hired consultants, or others on material issues affecting the TRA's setting of just and reasonable rates in this matter.
- 9. The Intervenors propose at least a one-week expansion in the amount of time to submit their prefiled direct testimony. The Intervenors have attached a proposed procedural schedule that incorporates the Intervenors' request for that very limited additional time to prepare their case. The proposed schedule is careful to maintain the time intervals the Hearing Officer established for the Company's filings. The attached proposed schedule essentially achieves the requested one-week expansion by shortening the second round of discovery by three days and by lengthening the time for the Pre-Hearing Conference by one week. The Intervenors also allow for an extra day between the Company's filing of its rebuttal testimony and the Pre-Hearing Conference in order to give the Intervenors an opportunity to read the rebuttal testimony prior to the conference. The Intervenors submit that the Pre-Hearing Conference will be more meaningful and the hearing on the merits will proceed more orderly should this limited extra time be granted.

10. This motion is submitted assuming the TRA intends to accept TAWC's initial petition as adequate for the purposes of starting the period set forth in Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-5-103. The Intervenors reserve the right to challenge such conclusion.

Wherefore, the Intervenors jointly request the Hearing Officer to modify the current procedural schedule by expanding the amount of time allowed for the submission of their prefiled direct testimony by one week and by adopting the attached proposed procedural schedule.

RYAN L. McGEHEE

Assistant Attorney General

Ey / 22

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Office of the Attorney General and Reporter Consumer Advocate and Protection Division

P.O. Box 20207

Nashville, TN 37202-0207

MICHAEL A. McMAHAN (#000810)

Tomas of the Rich

Special Counsel

City of Chattanooga

801 Broad Street, Suite 400

Chattanooga, TN 37402

FREDERICK L. HITCHCOCK (#05960)

Par Could Pair C paris -

Chambliss, Bahner & Stophel, P.C.

1000 Tallan Building

Two Union Square

Chattanooga, TN 37402-2500

DAVID C. HIGNEY

Grant, Konvalinka & Harrison, P.C.

Ninth Floor, Republic Centre

633 Chestnut Street

Chattanooga, TN 37450-0900

HENRY M. WALKER

Boult, Cummings, Conners & Berry, PLC

1600 Division Street, Suite 700

Nashville, TN 37203

Dated: May 6, 2008.

permina RLM

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing is being served via U.S. Mail and/or electronic mail upon:

R. Dale Grimes, Esq. Ross Ian Booher, Esq. Bass, Berry & Sims PLC 315 Deaderick Street, Suite 2700 Nashville, TN 37238

Frederick L. Hitchcock, Esq. Harold L. North, Jr., Esq. Chambliss, Bahner & Stophel, P.C. 1000 Tallan Building Two Union Square Chattanooga, TN 37402-2500

Henry M. Walker, Esq. Boult, Cummings, Conners & Berry, PLC 1600 Division Street, Suite 700 Nashville, TN 37203 Michael A. McMahan, Esq. Valerie L. Malueg, Esq. Special Counsel City of Chattanooga 801 Broad Street, Suite 400 Chattanooga, TN 37402

David C. Higney, Esq. Grant, Konvalinka & Harrison, P.C. Ninth Floor, Republic Centre 633 Chestnut Street Chattanooga, TN 37450-0900

This the  $6^{10}$  day of  $90^{10}$ ,  $90^{10}$ ,  $90^{10}$ .

RYAN L. McGEHEE

Assistant Attorney General

#119496

## **TRA DOCKET NO. 08-00039**

# PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE (May 1, 2008)

(May 1, 2008)	
May 12, 2008	1st Round of Discovery Due
May 28, 2008	Discovery Responses and Objections Due
June 2, 2008	<b>Motions to Compel Due</b>
June 4, 2008	Status Conference
June 9, 2008	Supplemental Discovery Responses Due
June 30, 2008	Intervenors' Pre-Filed Testimony Due
July 8, 2008	2nd Round of Discovery Due
July 15, 2008	Discovery Responses and Objections Due
July 18, 2008	<b>Motions to Compel Due</b>
July 21, 2008	Status Conference (Parties will report on settlement talks)
July 25, 2008	Supplemental Discovery Responses Due
August 1, 2008	Company's Pre-Filed Rebuttal Testimony Due
August 8, 2008	Pre-Hearing Conference
August 20, 2008	Hearing (2-3 days)

# EXHIBIT A