## TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Eddie Roberson, Ph.D. Chairman



460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, TN 37243-0505

June 19, 2009

Chairman Michael A. Albert Public Service Commission of West Virginia PO Box 812 Charleston, WV 25323

Re: Multi-State Management Audit of American Water Company, Inc. and Its Subsidiaries

Dear Chairman Albert:

Tennessee American Water Company ("TAWC"), a subsidiary of American Water Company, Inc., currently provides water service in Tennessee. American Water Company, Inc. operates in your state, as well as 31 others, and its subsidiaries are regulated by state PUCs in Arizona, California, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.

Over the past several years, TAWC has filed multiple rate increase requests with the Tennessee Regulatory Authority ("Authority"), partly due to the steadily increasing expense of its service company affiliate. In order to ensure that these affiliate expenses are prudent and assist the Authority in determining the appropriate amount of management fees to be included in future rate cases, it was determined by the Authority that a management audit should be conducted.

In the latest rate case of Tennessee American Water Company (TRA Docket No. 08-00039), the Authority ordered TAWC to perform a management audit to determine whether all costs allocated to the Company from the parent (American Water Company, Inc.) were the result of prudent management decisions at the Service Company level and to assess the reasonableness of the methodology used to allocate costs to TAWC. Specifically, the Authority's order states:

The RFP for the audit shall include, but not be limited to, an investigation of AWWSC's management performance and decisions relating to internal processes and internal controls with an attestation and recommendation of any needed management changes and implementation thereof. Further, the audit shall evaluate and attest to the charges allocated to TAWC, including the efficiency of processes and/or functions performed on behalf of TAWC, as well as the accuracy and reasonableness of the allocation factors utilized.

Eddie.Roberson@state.tn.us Office (615) 741-0917 Fax (615) 741-5015 www.state.tn.us Page 2 Chairman Michael A. Albert June 19, 2009

TAWC has submitted and the Authority is in the process of reviewing a Request for Proposal ("RFP") for a comprehensive management audit performed by an independent certified public accountant. As part of this review, the Authority is contacting other state regulatory agencies regulating subsidiaries of American Water Company, Inc. to determine any interest in participating in a multi-state audit. The advantage of a multi-state audit is the potential cost savings derived from economies of scale.

If your agency is interested in discussing a multi-state audit approach please contact Darlene Standley, Chief of Utilities Division at <u>Darlene.Standley@tn.gov</u> or 615.741.2904, ext. 149. I appreciate your prompt attention to this matter and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely

Eddie Roberson

Chairman

c: Director Sara Kyle

Director Mary W. Freeman

Darlene Standley

## Tennessee American Water Company <u>Multi-State Audit Letter Mail List</u>

Chairman Kristin K. Mayes Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007

President Michael R. Peevey California Public Utilities Commission California State Building 505 Van Ness Ave San Francisco, CA 94102-3298

Chairman Carlito P. Caliboso Hawaii Public Utilities Commission 465 South King Street Kekuanao'a Building Honolulu, HI 96813

Chairman Charles E. Box Illinois Commerce Commission 160 North LaSalle Street, Suite C-800 Chicago, IL 60601

Chairman David Lott Hardy Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission National City Center 101 West Washington St., Ste. 1500 East Indianapolis, IN 46204

Chair Rob Berntsen Iowa Utilities Board 350 Maple Street Des Moines, IA 50319-0069

Chairman David Armstrong Kentucky Public Service Commission PO Box 615 Frankfort, KY 40602

Chairman Douglas R. M. Nazarian Maryland Public Service Commission 6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor Baltimore, MD 21202-6806

Chairman Orjiakor N. Isiogu Michigan Public Service Commission PO Box 30221 Lansing, MI 48909 Chairman Robert M. Clayton III Missouri Public Service Commission PO Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102

President Jeanne M. Fox New Jersey Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, CN-350 Trenton, NJ 08625

Chairman Sandy Jones New Mexico Public Regulation Commission PO Box 1269 Santa Fe, NM 87504

Chairman Garry A. Brown New York State Public Service Commission Three Empire State Plaza 295 Main Street Albany, NY 12223-1350

Chairman Alan R. Schriber Public Utilities Commission of Ohio 180 East Broad Street Columbus, OH 43215-3793

Chairman James H. Cawley Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission PO Box 3265 Harrisburg, PA 17105

Chairman Barry T. Smitherman Public Utility Commission of Texas PO Box 13326 Austin, TX 78701

Chairman Mark C. Christie Virginia State Corporation Commission PO Box 1197 Richmond, VA 23218

Chairman Michael A. Albert Public Service Commission of West Virginia PO Box 812 Charleston, WV 25323