

As the complainant, OPC has the burden of proof.¹ Further, the Commission is mindful of the rate case Respondents must file by April 2017. If the Commission finds in favor of Respondents' schedule but ultimately finds in favor of OPC on the merits of the case, any change in rates due to that decision would have very little effect. Thus, the Commission will adopt OPC's proposed timeline.²

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The following procedural schedule is established:

OPC Direct Testimony	October 12, 2016
Laclede Rebuttal Testimony	December 1, 2016
OPC Surrebuttal Testimony	December 30, 2016
Issues List, Order Cross, Etc.	January 5, 2017
Position Statements	January 12, 2017
Evidentiary Hearing	January 23-27, 2017
Post-Hearing Briefs	February 23, 2017

2. The hearing shall be held beginning at 8:30 a.m. each day at the Commission's office at the Governor Office Building, Room 310, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. This building meets accessibility standards required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need additional accommodations to participate in this hearing, please call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 before the hearing.

¹ Section 386.270, .430, RSMo.

² The Commission notes OPC's earlier request that the Commission relieve Staff from participation in this case. See OPC Reply to Staff's "Response to Respondents' May 31 Pleadings", ¶¶ 4, 7 (filed June 17, 2016). While the Commission denied that request, by this Order, the Commission is setting a schedule for only OPC and Respondents. Further participation by Staff in this matter is left to Staff's discretion unless later ordered otherwise by the Commission.

3. Unless otherwise ordered by the Commission, Staff is permitted, but not required, to participate further in this case.

4. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Hall, Chm., Stoll, Kenney,
Rupp, and Coleman, CC., concur.

Pridgin, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

**WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission,
at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 31st day of August 2016.**




Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

August 31, 2016

File/Case No. GC-2016-0297

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Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,



**Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary**

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.