

Commissioners

ROBERT M. CLAYTON III Chairman

CONNIE MURRAY

JEFF DAVIS

TERRY M. JARRETT

KEVIN GUNN

Missouri Public Service Commission

POST OFFICE BOX 360 JEFFERSON CITY MISSOURI 65102 573-751-3234 573-751-1847 (Fax Number) http://www.psc.mo.gov WESS A. HENDERSON Executive Director

DANA K. JOYCE Director, Administration and Regulatory Policy

ROBERT SCHALLENBERG Director, Utility Services

NATELLE DIETRICH Director, Utility Operations

COLLEEN M. DALE Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

> KEVIN A. THOMPSON General Counsel

Information Sheet Regarding Mediation of Commission Formal Complaint Cases

Mediation is a process where the parties work together to try to resolve their dispute with the aid of a neutral party, the mediator. The mediator's role is help the parties talk to each other. The mediator may offer suggested solutions, but the mediator has no authority to tell the parties what they must do or to determine who "wins." Instead, the mediator simply works with both parties to help them reach an agreement.

Typically, at a mediation session the parties meet for an off-the-record discussion. The mediation session is not a formal proceeding like a hearing and no attorney is required to participate. The Regulatory Law Judges at the Public Service Commission are trained mediators and this service is offered to parties who have formal complaints pending before the Public Service Commission at no charge. If mediation is agreed to by the parties, the Commission will send notice of who the mediator will be and that person will set up the first meeting.

There cannot be a mediation unless both parties to the complaint agree to try in good faith to resolve the dispute. If both parties agree to mediate the complaint, the only information about the mediation that will be disclosed to the Commission is (a) whether the case has been settled and (b) whether the mediation effort was considered to be helpful. The Commission will not ask what was discussed during the mediation.

If the dispute is settled at the mediation, the Commission will require a signed release from the party filing the complaint before the formal complaint case can be dismissed. If the dispute is not resolved through the mediation process, neither party will be penalized for having taken part in the mediation and the formal complaint case will simply pick up where it left off.

Colleen M. Dale Secretary