

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

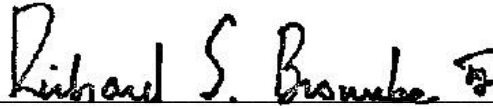
In the Matter of a Working Regarding)	
Amendments to the Commission's Ex Parte)	Case No. AW-2016-0312
and Extra-Record Communications Rule)	

**INITIAL COMMENTS OF
MISSOURI SCHOOL BOARDS' ASSOCIATION**

COMES NOW, the Missouri School Boards' Association ("MSBA"), by and through counsel, and for its Initial Comments in the above captioned docket, respectfully states as follows:

The Missouri School Boards' Association Natural Gas Consortium (MSBA) represents 267 schools in the state of Missouri as their aggregate purchaser and provider of natural gas. In the course of providing said service MSBA is often required to communicate concerns or concepts regarding regulatory or legislative issues which might impact the operation of the consortium in some fashion. To most efficiently and effectively complete such obligations on behalf of the participating schools, MSBA must have clear and open lines of communication with PSC staff and, on occasion, PSC commissioners. These communications often times involve the provision of specific information using examples and scenarios to illustrate how an action may impact the MSBA Natural Gas Consortium and the participating schools. The focus is to make certain that decision-makers are educated with accurate data and information so as to ensure that the statutorily enabled consortium can continue to function as a cost saving opportunity as was originally intended. MSBA believes that no rule or regulation should have a chilling effect upon the opportunity for information and data sharing with the PSC staff or commissioners, individually or collectively.

Respectively submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Richard S. Brownlee III", followed by a horizontal line.

Richard S. Brownlee III, Bar #22422

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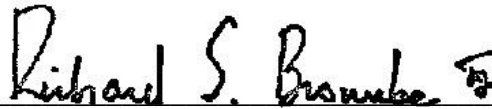
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Attorney for Missouri School Boards' Association

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been served electronically this 22nd day of August, 2016, via the Commission's EFIS system.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Richard S. Brownlee III", followed by a horizontal line.

Richard S. Brownlee III, Attorney