

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

**The Staff of the Missouri Public Service  
Commission,** )

**Complainant,** )

**v.** )

**Missouri Utilities Company,** )

**Respondent.** )

**Case No. WC-2006-0029**

**EIGHTH PROGRESS REPORT**

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, and states to the Missouri Public Service Commission as follows.

1. On August 30, 2005, the Commission issued its Order Directing Staff to File a Progress Report, wherein it directed the Staff to file a progress report detailing its efforts to identify a potential interim receiver for Missouri Utilities Company (“MU”), with that report to be filed by no later than September 6.

2. The Staff filed a Progress Report detailing its efforts to identify a potential interim receiver for MU on September 6. As part of that Progress Report, the Staff committed to file either a weekly progress report regarding the identification of a potential interim receiver for MU, or a notice advising the Commission that it has no new information to report, with such filings to be made each Tuesday until this matter is resolved. Consistent with that commitment, the Staff has made weekly update filings in this case.

3. Regarding the identification of a potential receiver for MU, the Staff provides the following additional / updated information. The individual who was mentioned in the Staff’s

Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Progress Reports as a person who might be willing to serve as the interim receiver for MU has not yet made a final decision regarding this matter. He did inform the Staff, however, that he remains interested in serving as interim receiver and that he continues to work with one or both of his possible contract operators on coming to some type of agreement on how to do this. The possible contract operators are still studying costs, and the potential interim receiver hopes to contact the Staff to discuss a proposal within a few days. One of the possible contract operators did call Jim Merciel shortly before Christmas, and reports that he is working on an estimate of what he would charge for his services.

4. One of the individuals who had expressed interest in purchasing MU's assets, Mr. Gautreaux, has informed the Staff that he is no longer interested in acquiring those assets.

5. The Staff again notes that it will continue to file weekly progress reports, or will advise the Commission that additional information is not available and that a progress report will therefore not be filed for a given week.

**WHEREFORE,** the Staff respectfully submits its Eighth Progress Report for the Commission's information.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ Keith R. Krueger**

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### **Certificate of Service**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or e-mailed to all counsel of record as shown on the attached service list this 3rd day of January 2006.

**/s/ Keith R. Krueger**