

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
JEFFERSON CITY
May 22, 2001**

CASE NO: GR-2000-520, GR-2001-461

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General Counsel

Missouri Public Service Commission
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Enclosed find certified copy of an ORDER in the above-numbered case(s).

Sincerely,



**Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Missouri Public Service's)
Purchased Gas Adjustment factors to be)
reviewed in its 1999-2000 Actual Cost)
Adjustment)

Case No. GR-2000-520

In the Matter of Missouri Public Service's)
Purchased Gas Adjustment factors to be)
reviewed in its 2000-2001 Actual Cost)
Adjustment)

Case No. GR-2001-461

(Consolidated)

ORDER CONSOLIDATING CASES AND ORDER ESTABLISHING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

On May 3, 2001, in each of these cases, all of the parties filed with the Missouri Public Service Commission their joint proposed procedural schedule and motion to consolidate. This order consolidates the cases and establishes a procedural schedule.

Motion to Consolidate

Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.110(3) states:

When pending actions involve related questions of law or fact, the commission may order a joint hearing of any or all the matters at issue, and may make other orders concerning cases before it to avoid unnecessary costs or delay.

The parties point out that both cases involve common questions of law and fact since both involve UtiliCorp United Inc., d/b/a Missouri Public Service's purchased gas adjustment factors to be audited in actual cost adjustments. Case number GR-2000-520 involves UtiliCorp's purchased gas adjustment factors to be audited in its 1999-2000 actual cost adjustment. Case number GR-2001-461 involves UtiliCorp's purchased gas adjustment factors to be audited in its 2000-2001 actual cost adjustment. The parties' opinion is that the

consolidation of the cases would be beneficial and would dispose of any contested issues raised in either case.

The Commission finds that both cases involve common questions of law and fact and will thus consolidate the cases.

Procedural Schedule

The Commission has reviewed the proposed procedural schedule and finds the dates appropriate, establishes a procedural schedule, and finds that these conditions apply:

(A) The Commission requires the prefiling of testimony as defined in Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.130. All parties must comply with this rule, including the requirement that testimony be filed on line-numbered pages. The practice of prefiling testimony is designed to give parties notice of the claims, contentions, and evidence in issue and to avoid unnecessary objections and delays caused by allegations of unfair surprise at the hearing.

(B) Under Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.130(15), testimony and schedules may not be filed under seal and treated as proprietary or highly confidential unless the Commission has first established a protective order. Any testimony or schedule filed without a protective order first being established will be considered public information.

(C) The parties must agree on and the Staff must file a list of the issues to be heard, the witnesses to appear on each day of the hearing, and the order in which they will be called, and the order of cross-examination for each witness. Any issue not contained in this list of issues will be viewed as uncontested and not requiring resolution by the Commission.

(D) Each party must file a statement of its position on each disputed issue. The statement must be simple and concise, and must not contain argument about why the party believes its position to be the correct one.

(E) The Commission's general policy provides for the filing of the transcript within two weeks after the hearing. If any party seeks to expedite the filing of the transcript, the request must be tendered in writing to the law judge at least five days prior to the date of the hearing.

(F) All pleadings, briefs, and amendments must be filed in accordance with Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.080. Briefs must follow the same list of issues filed in the case and must set forth and cite the proper portions of the record concerning the remaining unresolved issues that are to be decided by the Commission.

(G) All parties are required to bring an adequate number of copies of exhibits which they intend to offer into evidence at the hearing. If an exhibit has been prefiled, only three copies of the exhibit are necessary for the court reporter. If an exhibit has not been prefiled, the party offering it should bring, in addition to the three copies for the court reporter, copies for the five Commissioners, the law judge, and all counsel.

Each party is strongly encouraged to submit to the law judge its suggested findings of fact and conclusions of law at the same time it files its statement of position. The suggested findings of fact and conclusions of law should be submitted in both paper form and electronically.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That, under Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.110(3), case numbers GR-2000-520 and GR-2001-461 are consolidated for all purposes, with GR-2001-461 being the lead case.

2. That the following procedural schedule is established:

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Company submits audit information (GR-2001-461) | November 1, 2001 |
| Company responds to DRs (GR-2001-461) | November 20, 2001 |
| Staff recommendations (both cases; may be filed separately or together) | May 15, 2002 |
| Company response | June 12, 2002 |
| Direct testimony (both cases/all parties) | July 12, 2002 |
| Rebuttal testimony (both cases/all parties) | August 13, 2002 |
| Issues list (both cases/all parties) | August 20, 2002 |
| Position statement (both cases/all parties) | August 27, 2002 |
| Surrebuttal testimony (both cases/all parties) | September 10, 2002 |

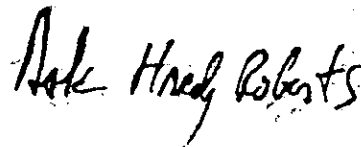
Evidentiary hearing

September 16, 2002
10:00 a.m.

3. That the evidentiary hearing will be in Room 310 (the large hearing room) in the offices of the Missouri Public Service Commission in Jefferson City, Missouri, located on the main floor of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street. The Governor Office Building meets the accessibility standards required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. If any person needs additional accommodations to participate in this hearing, please call the Missouri Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or 1-800-829-7541 (TDD) prior to the hearing.

4. That this order shall become effective on June 1, 2001.

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Bill Hopkins, Senior Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

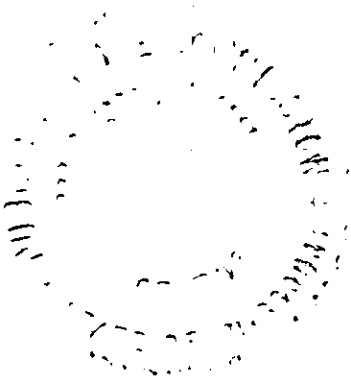
Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 22nd day of May, 2001.

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 22nd day of May 2001.



Dale Hardy Roberts

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge