

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

FILE COPY

In the Matter of the Application of United Cities Gas)
Company, a Division of Atmos Energy Corporation,)
for an Accounting Authority Order Related to) **Case No. GA-98-464**
Investigation and Response Actions Associated With)
Its Former Manufacturing Gas Plant Site in Hannibal,)
Missouri.)

ORDER SETTING PREHEARING CONFERENCE

The Commission granted United Cities Gas Company's (United Cities) Application for Accounting Authority Order (AAO) on February 25, 1999. The order provided that the AAO would become null and void in the event that United Cities does not file tariff sheets proposing a general increase in rates by March 9, 2001. On February 5, 2001, United Cities filed a motion for modification of the AAO, stating that although it has been actively evaluating the possibility of filing a general rate case in the near future, United Cities does not believe it would be desirable to file a rate case before March 9, 2001. On February 6, 2001, the Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel) filed a response opposing United Cities' request. United Cities filed a reply to Public Counsel's response on February 8, 2001.

The Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) filed its suggestions on March 2, 2001, opposing United Cities' request for a one-year extension of the AAO. United Cities filed its reply to Staff's suggestions on March 6, 2001. United Cities filed its Suggestions in Support of Motion for Modification of Accounting Authority Order on March 22, 2001. Staff filed a Motion to Dismiss on March 22, 2001.

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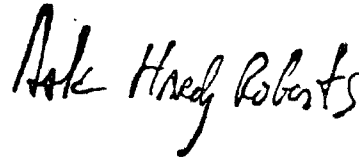
A second prehearing conference shall be scheduled to further discuss the jurisdictional issue and, if necessary, to allow the parties to discuss, define, and possibly resolve the issues presented in this case.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That a prehearing conference will be held on July 11, 2001, beginning at 10:30 a.m. The prehearing conference will be held in the Commission's offices in the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Room 310, Jefferson City, Missouri. The Governor Office Building meets accessibility standards required by the Americans With Disabilities Act. If any person needs additional accommodations to participate in the prehearing, please call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or 1-800-829-7541 (TDD) prior to the conference.

2. That this order shall become effective on July 13, 2001.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dale Hardy Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Vicky Ruth, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant
to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 3rd day of July, 2001.

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
JEFFERSON CITY**

July 3, 2001

CASE NO: GA-98-464

 **Office of the Public Counsel**

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Enclosed find certified copy of an ORDER the above-numbered case(s).

Sincerely,



Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge