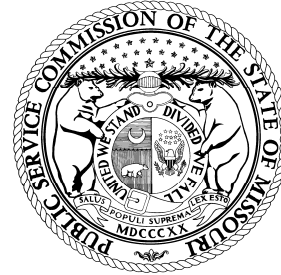


## Notice of *Ex Parte* Contact

TO: All Commissioners  
All Parties in Case No. WC-2002-155

FROM: Lewis Mills

DATE: August 1, 2002



On August 1, 2002, I received a large number of signed petitions, all substantially similar to the attached document. The Commission is currently considering the issues discussed in this document in Case No. WC-2002-155. WC-2002-155 is a contested case. The Commission is bound by the same *ex parte* rule as a court of law.

Although communications from members of the public and members of the legislature are always welcome, those communications must be made known to all parties to a contested case so that those parties have the opportunity to respond. According to the Commission's rules (4 CSR 240-4), when a communication (either oral or written) occurs outside the hearing process, any member of the Commission or Regulatory Law Judge who received the communication shall prepare a written report concerning the communication and submit it each member of the Commission and the parties to the case. The report shall identify the person(s) who participated in the *ex parte* communication, the circumstances which resulted in the communication, the substance of the communication, and the relationship of the communication to a particular matter at issue before the Commission.

Therefore, I submit this report pursuant to the rules cited above. This will ensure that any party to this case will have notice of the attached information and a full and fair opportunity to respond to the comments contained therein. Since all the petitions are on the same form, only one is attached; any party that wishes to view all of them may do so at the Commission's offices.

cc: Executive Director  
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge  
General Counsel