

STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office
in Jefferson City on the 20th
day of November, 1992.

In the matter of The Kansas Power and Light Company of)
Topeka, Kansas, for authority to file a tariff reflect-)
ing a change in rates for its Missouri customers to be)
reviewed in its 1989-1990 Actual Cost Adjustment filing) Case No. GR-90-40
in accordance with the Purchased Gas Adjustment on file)
for the company.)
)

In the matter of The Kansas Power and Light Company of)
Topeka, Kansas, for authority to file a tariff reflect-)
ing a change in rates for its Missouri customers to be)
reviewed in its 1990-1991 Actual Cost Adjustment filing) Case No. GR-91-149
in accordance with the Purchased Gas Adjustment on file)
for the company.)
)

ORDER OF CONSOLIDATION AND SETTING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

On November 3, 1992, Western Resources, Inc., d/b/a Gas Service, a
Western Resources Company (Gas Service), formerly known as The Kansas Power and
Light Company, filed a Motion To Establish Procedural Schedule in Case
No. GR-91-149. On November 10, 1992 the Commission's Staff (Staff) filed a
Response To Motion To Establish Procedural Schedule supporting a different
schedule and also filed a combined Motion To Consolidate this case with Case
No. GR-90-40. On November 18, 1992 Gas Service filed a Reply agreeing to Staff's
Motion To Consolidate and objecting to Staff's proposed procedural schedule and
proposing either its original procedural schedule or an alternative procedural
schedule. Case No. GR-91-149 began on August 23, 1991 when Gas Service filed a
tariff to reflect a change in rates for natural gas service due to the recalcula-
tion of its 1990-1991 Actual Cost Adjustment (ACA) factors and the implementation
of a rate to recover certain take-or-pay costs. Case No. GR-90-40 was
established to maintain Gas Service's Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) rates for
the 1989-1990 ACA period pending an agreement on an ACA factor for this period.

Until the ACA factor is resolved for the 1989-1990 ACA period the beginning balance for the 1990-1991 ACA period will not be known, and without that starting balance for the 1990-1991 ACA period, no factor can be developed.

Gas Service believes that its procedural schedules are more appropriate because there have already been extensive comments and only supplements are needed. Gas Service also states that it will have been nearly a year-and-a-half since the conclusion of the ACA period under consideration in Case No. GR-91-149 and Staff has had sufficient time to investigate and audit. Staff believes that its procedural schedule is more appropriate because it is having scheduling problems with its auditors who performed the audit on the 1990-1991 ACA period because they are presently involved in an audit of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company.

The Commission is in sympathy with both sides. The Commission feels that ACA audits are much too prolonged and has so expressed itself in previous orders. Likewise, however, the Commission also understands that Staff's resources are limited and necessarily certain types of cases are given priority over other cases. The Commission believes that Staff gives appropriate consideration to all regulated companies. Also, Staff should not be criticized for current work on ACA periods which should improve its efficiency in ACA cases. The Commission, therefore, determines that it is appropriate to consolidate Case No. GR-91-149 with Case No. GR-90-40 and that Staff's procedural schedule should be adopted for resolution of the issues in these cases, with modification to the hearing dates.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That Case No. GR-91-149 and Case No. GR-90-40 are hereby consolidated and Case No. GR-90-40 is designated as the lead case for the consolidated cases.

2. That the following procedural schedule proposed by the Commission's Staff is hereby adopted with modification to the hearing dates:

Gas Service files direct testimony supporting its 1989-1990 and 1990-1991 ACA period tariff filings	December 14, 1992
Staff files rebuttal testimony	January 29, 1993
Prehearing conference	February 10, 1993 10:00 a.m.
Gas Service files surrebuttal testimony	February 24, 1993
Hearings	March 15-16, 1993 10:00 a.m.

The prehearing conference and hearings will be held in the Commission's hearing room on the fifth floor of the Harry S Truman State Office Building, 301 West High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri.

3. That this order shall become effective on the date hereof.

BY THE COMMISSION

Brent Stewart

Brent Stewart
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

McClure, Chm., Mueller and Perkins,
CC., concur.
Rauch and Kincheloe, CC., absent.