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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of St. Joseph Light & Power)	
Company's tariff revision designed to be reviewed)	Case No. GR-99-394
in its 1998-1999 Actual Cost Adjustment for the)	
Missouri Service Area of the Company.)	

ORDER APPROVING INTERIM RATES

St. Joseph Light & Power Company (SJLP or Company) of St. Joseph, Missouri, submitted a tariff sheet to the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) on October 14, 1999, carrying an effective date of October 29, 1999. On October 19, 1999, SJLP filed a substitute tariff sheet to correct a typographical error. The tariff sheet was filed to reflect scheduled changes in SJLP's Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) factors as the result of changes in the cost of natural gas for the upcoming winter season. Additionally, the Actual Cost Adjustment (ACA), Transition Cost (TC), and Refund factors changed.

The effect of these changes will increase the firm PGA factor for the 1999-2000 winter season to \$0.3211 per Ccf from a summer season firm PGA factor of \$0.2779 per Ccf. This represents an approximate 15.6% increase in gas costs to consumers.

The Staff of the Commission (Staff) filed a memorandum stating that the changes in SJLP's PGA factors were calculated in conformance with the Company's approved PGA Clause and recommends that the Commission approve the tariff sheet to become effective on October 29, 1999. The Staff stated that SJLP's PGA Clause allows for ten (10) business days notice for filings reflecting PGA changes. Staff recommends that the Commission approve the tariff sheet to become effective October 29, 1999, on an interim basis, subject to refund, pending a final Commission decision in SJLP's ACA Case No. GR-99-394. The Staff also requested that the Commission's Procurement Analysis Department be given the time necessary to conduct its audit of the ACA period and submit its results and recommendations regarding this ACA filing on or before July 1, 2000.

The Commission has reviewed the tariff sheet, Staff's recommendation and request, and finds that the tariff sheet conforms to its Commission-approved PGA Clause and is therefore reasonable. After considering Staff's recommendation, and for good cause shown pursuant to Section 393.140(11), RSMo 1994, the Commission is of the opinion that the proposed tariff sheet should be approved to become effective on and after the requested effective date of October 29, 1999, interim subject to refund.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the tariff sheet submitted on October 14, 1999, and as substituted on October 19, 1999, by St. Joseph Light & Power Company of St. Joseph, Missouri, be approved on an interim basis, subject to refund, to become effective on October 29, 1999. The tariff sheet approved is:

P.S.C. MO. No. 4

49th Revised Sheet No. 9.4 Cancelling 48th Revised Sheet No. 9.4

- 2. That the Commission's Procurement Analysis Department be given the time necessary to conduct its audit of this ACA period and submit its results and recommendations regarding this ACA filing on or before July 1, 2000.
 - 3. That this order shall become effective on October 29, 1999.

BY THE COMMISSION

Dale Hardy Roberts

& HARL Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(SEAL)

Bill Hopkins, Senior Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.120(1) (November 30, 1995) and Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 26th day of October, 1999.

COMMISSION COMMISSION
COMMISSION COMMISSION