

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

July 25, 2000

CASE NO: EM-2000-369

Office of the Public Counsel

P.O. Box 7800
Jefferson City, MO 65102

James C. Swearengen/Paul A. Boudreau

Brydon, Swearengen & England, P. C.
P. O. Box 456
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0456

William A. Jolley

Jolley, Walsh, Hurley & Raisher
204 West Linwood
Kansas City, MO 64111

Jeffrey A. Keevil

Stewart & Keevil Law Offices
1001 Cherry St., Suite 302
Columbia, MO 65201

James B. Deutsch

Blitz, Bardgett & Deutsch, L.C.
908 East High Street, Suite 301
Jefferson City, MO 65101

General Counsel

Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Shelley A. Woods

Assistant Attorney General
P. O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

William J. Niehoff


Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE
P. O. Box 66149 (MC 1310)
St. Louis, MO 63166

Stuart W. Conrad

Finnegan, Conrad & Peterson
3100 Broadway, 1209 Penntower Office
Kansas City, MO 64111

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
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Joint Application of)
UtiliCorp United Inc. and The Empire)
District Electric Company for Authority to)
Merge The Empire District Electric Company)
with and into UtiliCorp United Inc., and,)
in Connection Therewith, Certain Other)
Related Transactions)

Case No. EM-2000-369

**ORDER ESTABLISHING TIME IN WHICH TO RESPOND
TO REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS**

On July 24, 2000, Intervenors, Empire District Electric Company Retired Employees (Empire Retirees) filed a request asking the Commission to schedule a public hearing to hear the testimony of members of the public, including retired employees of The Empire District Electric Company. The hearing date in the case is rapidly approaching and the Commission will need to consider the Empire Retirees' request promptly. Therefore, the time allowed for the other parties to respond to the Empire Retirees' request will be shortened.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That any party wishing to respond to the request for public hearings filed by the Empire District Electric Company Retired Employees shall do so on or before July 31, 2000.

2. That this order shall become effective on July 31, 2000.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dale Hardy Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script.

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

(S E A L)

Morris L. Woodruff, Regulatory
Law Judge by delegation of
authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 25th of July, 2000.

**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 25th day of July 2000.



A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dale Hardy Roberts".

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge