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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Revised Natural Gas Rate)
Schedules Designed to Increase St. Joseph) Case No. GR-99-246
Light & Power Company's Annual Natural Gas) (Tariff File 9900426)
Revenues by Approximately \$499,104 Exclusive)
of Applicable Fees and Taxes.)

ORDER RESCHEDULING LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING

On April 8, 1999, the Commission issued an Order Scheduling Local Public Hearing, directing that a local public hearing be held on Wednesday, June 16, 1999, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., in St. Joseph, Missouri. The hearing was to be held in conjunction with local public hearings in the related dockets of HR-99-245 and ER-99-247, which address St. Joseph Light & Power Company's (SJLP's) proposed rate increases for steam service and electrical service.

On April 9, 1999, the Office of the Public Counsel (OPC) filed a request that the Commission reschedule the local public hearing in the gas service case. OPC notes that SJLP does not provide natural gas service in the City of St. Joseph and argues that it would be inappropriate to hold a local public hearing regarding SJLP's request to increase gas rates in the City of St. Joseph. OPC requests that the Commission schedule local public hearings to be held in Maryville and Mound City, which are located in SJLP's natural gas service territory. Accordingly, OPC requests that the Commission cancel the local public hearing for natural gas in St. Joseph.

The Commission has reviewed OPC's request and has determined that it would be appropriate to reschedule the location of the local

public hearing on the natural gas proposed rate increase. The Commission will also change the time of the public hearing. The hearing will be held in Maryville, Missouri, on June 9, 1999, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Commission will not schedule a hearing in Mound City. The Commission notes that this order does not affect the local public hearings for Case Nos. HR-99-245 and ER-99-245, the steam service and electrical service cases.

Direct notice of the hearing shall be sent by SJLP, by an imprint on the customer's monthly billing, billing insert, first class letter, or postcard, to each of SJLP's residential and commercial customers at least fifteen (15) days prior to the local public hearing date. The direct notice to customers sent by SJLP shall prominently state the time, date, and location of the local hearing regarding the proposed rate design. The Staff, the Office of the Public Counsel and SJLP shall develop mutually agreeable language to be contained in SJLP's direct notice to its customers.

The Commission will direct the Commission's Information Officer to send notice of the rescheduled local public hearing to radio stations, television stations, and publishers of each newspaper located in SJLP's service area, as listed in the newspaper directory of the current Official Manual of the State of Missouri, and to members of the General Assembly representing customers in SJLP's service area. The Commission will also direct the Records Department of the Commission to serve a copy of this order upon the county commission of each county and mayor of each municipality within SJLP's service area.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the local public hearing is rescheduled from Wednesday, June 16, 1999, to Wednesday, June 9, 1999. The hearing will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at the Maryville R-II High School, 1503 South Main, Maryville, Missouri.

2. That the Records Department and Information Office of the Commission shall serve copies of this order and provide notice as described in this order.

3. That St. Joseph Light & Power Company shall send notice, as directed in this order, to each of the company's residential and commercial customers at least fifteen (15) days prior to the local public hearing date.

4. That anyone with special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission as soon as possible at one of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline - 1-800-392-4211, or TDD Hotline - 1-800-829-7541.

5. That this order shall become effective on May 13, 1999.

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Vicky Ruth, 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 3rd day of May, 1999.