

**STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 18<sup>th</sup> day January, 2012.

In the Matter of a Working Case to  
Consider Changes to the Commission's  
Ex Parte and Extra-Record  
Communications Rule

**File No. AW-2012-0210**

**ORDER OPENING A WORKING CASE TO STUDY POSSIBLE  
CHANGES TO THE COMMISSION'S EX PARTE AND EXTRA-RECORD  
COMMUNICATIONS RULE AND SCHEDULING A WORKSHOP  
MEETING**

Issue Date: January 18, 2012

Effective Date: January 18, 2012

The Commission's revised ex parte and extra-record communications rule has been in effect for approximately 18 months. The Commission proposed several revisions to the rule as a formal rulemaking in File No. AX-2012-0072. However, the comments the Commission received in response to that proposed rulemaking have lead the Commission to withdraw that amendment.

The Commission withdrew the formal rulemaking because it wants to broadly examine all aspects of the rule and such an examination would not have been possible within the time and notice constraints of the formal rulemaking procedure. For example, the Commission is interested in further exploring the idea of creating a central repository file for submission of extra-record communication notifications instead of requiring the submission of such notices in multiple unrelated case files. Furthermore, the Commission is interested

in the possibility of modifying the applicability of *ex parte* and extra-record communications restrictions on non-utility parties when they appear before the Commission. These are only examples of the Commission's areas of interest and should not be taken as a limitation on possible revisions to the rule.

To further its broad examination of the rule, the Commission will seek input from the utilities, consumer organizations, and other individuals and entities affected by the rule. To start the process, the Commission will schedule a workshop meeting for February 16, 2012, at 10:00 a.m., in Room 305. The Commission invites all interested persons to attend.

This file shall serve as a repository for documents and comments. Using this file, any person with an interest in this matter may view documents and may submit any pertinent responsive comments or documents. As this is not a contested case, any person may file a comment without counsel and without *ex parte* constraints (arising from this matter). Intervention requests are not necessary to submit comments or view documents.

The public is welcome to submit comments by forwarding electronic communications through the Commission's electronic filing and information system (EFIS) or by mailing written comments. You may submit electronic comments at the Commission's website at <http://www.psc.mo.gov>. (Click on the EFIS/Case filings link on the left side of the page. Scroll down and click on the public comment link. Please refer to File No. AW-2012-0210). Written comments in hard copy should be addressed to the Commission at P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 and should also reference File No. AW-2012-0210. The public can view the contents of the file by following the link at <http://www.psc.mo.gov>.

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:**

1. This case is established as a repository for documents and comments regarding the possible revision of the Commission's ex parte and extra-record communications rule.
2. A workshop meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2012, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in Room 305 at the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison St., Jefferson City, MO 65102.
3. This order shall become effective immediately upon issuance.

**BY THE COMMISSION**

( S E A L )



**Steven C. Reed**  
**Secretary**

Gunn, Chm., Jarrett, Kenney, and  
Stoll, CC., concur.

Woodruff, Chief Regulatory Law Judge