

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
JEFFERSON CITY
November 22, 1999**

CASE NO: EM-2000-292

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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 St. Joseph)
Light & Power Company for Authority to)
Merge St. Joseph Light & Power Company) Case No. EM-2000-292
with and into UtiliCorp United Inc., and,)
in Connection Therewith, Certain Other)
Related Transactions.)

ORDER SETTING PREHEARING CONFERENCE

On October 19, 1999, UtiliCorp United Inc. (UtiliCorp) and St. Joseph Light & Power Company (SJLP) filed a joint application for authority to merge SJLP with and into UtiliCorp. On November 17, the Commission issued an order that granted the applications for intervention filed by AG Processing Inc., the City of Springfield, through the Board of Public Utilities, Union Electric Company, d/b/a AmerenUE, and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

Along with their Application, UtiliCorp and SJLP filed a Motion to Establish Procedural Schedule. In their motion, UtiliCorp and SJLP set forth a detailed proposed procedural schedule. On October 26, the Commission notified the parties that it would allow the parties until ten days following the deadline for filing of requests for intervention to file responses to the proposed procedural schedule. That means that those responses will be due on November 25. It now appears that a prehearing conference may be needed to assist the parties and the Commission in establishing an equitable procedural schedule. The

prehearing conference will also permit the parties to discuss any other procedural, discovery or substantive issues that may be in dispute.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That an early prehearing conference shall be held on December 6, 1999, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The prehearing conference shall be held at the Commission's offices on the fifth floor of the Harry S Truman State Office Building, 301 West High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. Anyone wishing to attend who has special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days before the prehearing conference at: Consumer Services Hotline - 1-800-392-4211 or TDD Hotline - 1-800-829-7541.

2. That this order shall become effective on December 2, 1999.

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Morris L. Woodruff, 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 22nd day of November, 1999.

**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 22nd day of November 1999.**

Dale Hardy Roberts

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

