STATE OF MISSOURI **PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION** JEFFERSON CITY October 2, 2000

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

DEFORE 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 SHORTENING TIME IN WHICH TO RESPOND TO MOTION FOR A COMMISSION ORDER DIRECTING AN ON THE RECORD CONFERENCE

On September 29, 2000, the Staff of the Public Service Commission filed a motion asking that the Commission schedule an on the record conference for October 12, 2000, for the purpose of requiring UtiliCorp United Inc. (UtiliCorp) and St. Joseph Light & Power Company (SJLP) to explain the present status of their proposed merger. Staff's motion suggests that a dispute has arisen between UtiliCorp and SJLP that threatens the completion of the merger.

So that it may consider the Staff's motion at its October 5 agenda meeting, the Commission will, as permitted by 4 CSR 240-2.080(16), shorten the time allowed for the filing of a response to Staff's motion.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That any party wishing to respond to the Staff Motion for a Commission Order Directing an On the Record Conference shall do so on or before October 4, 2000.

2. That this order shall become effective on October 4, 2000.

BY THE COMMISSION

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Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(SEAL)

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

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 2nd of October, 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 2^{nd} day of Oct. 2000.

Dale Hardy Roberts

Hok Hard Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge