

A:  
(TRES)

**Case No. GM-99-323**

## ORDER SCHEDULING PREHEARING CONFERENCE

On February 1, 1999, Southern Union (SU) filed an application requesting Commission authority to enter into a certain transaction. SU considers virtually all of the application to consist of highly confidential information, and pursuant to SU's request, the Commission issued a protective order on February 3. On February 3, the Staff of the Commission (Staff) and the Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel) filed responses to SU's application. Staff recommends the Commission not approve SU's application, but suggests that certain conditions be imposed if the Commission approves it. Public Counsel states that it has insufficient information to determine if the Commission should approve SU's application but, like the Staff, suggests that certain conditions be imposed if the Commission approves it. On February 3 and 4, SU replied to the responses filed by Staff and Public Counsel. SU states that it is willing to have certain conditions imposed, but opposes some of the conditions proposed by Staff and some of the conditions proposed by Public Counsel.

An early prehearing conference should be scheduled to afford the parties the opportunity to discuss, define, and possibly resolve the

issues presented in this case. The Commission will also set a date for the filing of a proposed procedural schedule in order to ensure that this case progresses. The Commission is aware that SU wishes to resolve this matter as soon as possible, and is willing to entertain proposals for an expedited resolution of this case.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. That a prehearing conference will be held on February 17, 1999, at 10:00 a.m. at the Commission's offices on the fifth floor of the Harry S Truman State Office Building, 301 West High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri.

2. That anyone with 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 at one of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline - 1-800-392-4211 or TDD Hotline - 1-800-829-7541.

3. That the parties shall file a proposed procedural schedule no later than February 19, 1999.

4. That this order shall become effective on February 16, 1999.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dale Hardy Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dale Hardy Roberts  
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Lewis Mills, Deputy Chief  
Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation  
of authority under Commission Directive  
of January 3, 1995, pursuant to  
Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,  
on this 16th day of February, 1999.

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COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE