## BEFORE THE MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION LED OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI JAN 2 4 2000

In the matter of the Joint Application of ) UtiliCorp United, Inc. and The Empire ) District Electric Company for authority to ) merge The Empire District Electric ) Company with and into UtiliCorp United, ) Inc. and, in connection therewith, certain	Missouri Public Service Commission Case No. EM-2000-369
other related transactions.  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	() ) Case No. EM-2000-292
Company with and into UtiliCorp United, Inc. and, in connection therewith, certain other related transactions.	) ) )

## STAFF MOTION TO LATE FILE

Comes now the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) and requests leave to late file Staff Response To Commission Notices Regarding Motion To Establish Procedural Schedule And Motion To Consolidate. Counsel for the Staff missed the 4:00 p.m. filing deadline due to a number of other filings that were being made this date and other Commission business. Counsel for the Staff apologizes for the delay and the inconvenience that this missed deadline may cause the Commission and the parties. Counsel for the Staff realizes that although service copies will be placed in the U.S. Mail at the same time as if the Staff's pleading had been timely filed, copies placed in the Commissioners', Regulatory Law Judge's, and parties' in-boxes at the Commission will be delayed because of the missed 4:00 p.m. filing deadline. Wherefore Counsel for the Staff asks leave to late-file the Staff Response To Commission Notices Regarding Motion To Establish Procedural Schedule And Motion To Consolidate.



Respectfully submitted, DANA K. JOYCE General Counsel

Steven Dottheim

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Chief Deputy General Counsel Missouri Bar No. 29149

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## **Certificate of Service**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered to all counsel of record as shown on the attached service list this 21st day of January, 2000.

Steven Doth

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