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STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a Session of the Public Service  
Commission held at its office  
in Jefferson City on the 2nd  
day of July, 1997.

In the matter of the Application of       )  
UtiliCorp United Inc., d/b/a Missouri    )  
Public Service, for authority to sell     )  
a part of its franchise, works or        )  
system.                                        )

Case No. GM-97-435

ORDER PROVIDING NOTICE AND  
ESTABLISHING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

On April 3, 1997 UtiliCorp United Inc. (UtiliCorp) filed an Application with the Commission requesting authorization to sell an approximate 5-mile long, 12-inch diameter natural gas transmission pipeline to Williams Natural Gas Company (WNG). The instant pipeline is currently being used to supply gas to UtiliCorp's Greenwood generation facility.

On June 10 UtiliCorp filed a motion for a Staff recommendation or, in the alternative, for the Commission to set a procedural schedule for the processing of this case. On June 25 the Staff of the Commission (Staff) advised the Commission that it was not opposed to the proposed procedural schedule suggested by UtiliCorp. No other responses were made to the UtiliCorp motion.

The Commission finds the proposed schedule to be reasonable and will adopt the proposed schedule for use in this case. In addition, the Commission has determined that notice of this Application should be made to the general public. The Commission finds that notice of this Application should be given by the Records Department of the Commission by transmitting a copy of this order to the County Commission of Jackson County, Missouri. In addition, the Information Officer of the Commission

shall provide notice to members of the General Assembly representing Jackson County and to all publications of general circulation in Jackson County as set out in the *Official Manual of the State of Missouri*.

The Commission determines that proper persons shall be given the opportunity to intervene in this proceeding. Applications to intervene shall be filed with the Executive Secretary of the Missouri Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, by the close of business, July 25. Copies of applications to intervene should also be sent to Maurice L. Arnall, Vice President - Regulatory Services, UtiliCorp United Inc., 20 West 9th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64105 and to James C. Swearengen and Dean L. Cooper, Brydon, Swearengen & England P.C., 312 E. Capitol Avenue, P.O. Box 456, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

The Commission will adopt the following procedural schedule as suggested:

MPS Direct Testimony	July 1, 1997 3:00 p.m.
Staff, OPC and Intervenor Rebuttal Testimony	August 1 3:00 p.m.
MPS Surrebuttal Testimony and Cross-Surrebuttal	August 15 3:00 p.m.
Prehearing Conference	August 20 10:00 a.m.
Hearing Memorandum	August 25
Hearing	September 10-11 10:00 a.m.

That any person with special needs as addressed by the Americans With Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least 10 days prior to the hearing at one of the following numbers: Consumer Services' Hotline -- 1-800-392-4211, or TDD Hotline -- 1-800-829-7541.

(1) The Commission will require the prefiling of testimony as defined in 4 CSR 240-2.130. The practice of prefiling testimony is designed to give parties notice of the claims, contentions and evidence in issue and to avoid unnecessary objections and delays caused by allegations of unfair surprise at the hearing.

(2) Testimony and schedules shall not be filed under seal and treated as proprietary or highly confidential unless a protective order has first been established by the Commission. The party that considers information to be proprietary or highly confidential should request a protective order. Any testimony or schedule filed without a protective order first being established shall be considered public information.

(3) The Commission will schedule a prehearing conference in this case to allow the parties the opportunity to resolve procedural and substantive issues.

(4) The parties shall file a hearing memorandum setting forth the issues that are to be heard and decided by the Commission. Any issue not contained in the hearing memorandum will be viewed as uncontested and not requiring resolution by the Commission. The hearing memorandum will contain the order of the witnesses who will appear on each day of the hearing, definitions of terms, each party's position on the issues, and the order of cross-examination. The briefs to be submitted by the parties shall follow the same format established in the hearing memorandum. Initial briefs must set forth and cite the proper portions of the record concerning the remaining unresolved issues that are to be decided by the Commission.

(5) The Commission emphasizes the importance of the deadline for filing the hearing memorandum. The Commission Staff will be responsible for preparing and filing the hearing memorandum and, unless the Commission

orders otherwise, the hearing memorandum shall be filed on the date set. Each party is directed to provide Staff with its position on each unresolved issue no later than August 21, 1997.

(6) Nothing in this order shall preclude a party from addressing, or having a reasonable opportunity to address, matters not previously disclosed and arising at the hearing.

(7) The Commission's general policy provides for the filing of the transcript within two weeks after the hearing. If any party seeks to expedite the filing of the transcript, such a request shall be tendered, in writing, to the administrative law judge at least five days prior to the date of hearing. The administrative law judge will determine whether the request should be granted.

(8) The Commission believes it is appropriate to limit the length of initial briefs to 30 pages and reply briefs to 15 pages. All pleadings, briefs and amendments shall be filed in accordance with 4 CSR 240-2.080(7).

(9) All parties are required to bring an adequate number of copies of exhibits which they intend to offer into evidence at the hearing. If an exhibit has been prefiled, only three copies of the exhibit are necessary for the court reporter. If an exhibit has not been prefiled, the party offering it should bring, in addition to the three copies for the court reporter, copies for the five Commissioners, the administrative law judge, and opposing counsel.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. That the following procedural schedule is hereby adopted for use in this case:

MPS Direct Testimony

July 1, 1997  
3:00 p.m.

Staff, OPC and Intervenor

August 1

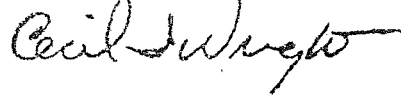
Rebuttal Testimony	3:00 p.m.
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Prehearing Conference	August 20 10:00 a.m.
Hearing Memorandum	August 25
Hearing	September 10-11 10:00 a.m.

2. That the Records Department and Information Officer of the Commission are directed to send notice as set out in this order.

3. That any interested party wishing to intervene in this matter shall file an application with the Commission requesting intervention no later than the close of business, July 25, 1997.

4. That this order shall become effective on the date hereof.

BY THE COMMISSION



Cecil I. Wright  
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

Zobrist, Chm., Drainer, Murray,  
and Lumpe, CC., Concur.  
Crumpton, C., Absent.

ALJ: Derque