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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of St. Joseph Light &     )  
Power Company's Purchased Gas         )  
Adjustment Factors to be Audited in     )  
its 1995-1996 Actual Cost Adjustment.   )

CASE NO. GR-96-47

**ORDER ADOPTING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

On May 21, 1997, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) filed a proposed procedural schedule. The proposal indicates that St. Joseph Light & Power Company (SJLP), Staff and Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel) have agreed to recommend the proposed schedule. The Commission has reviewed the proposed schedule and finds the dates appropriate for this case. Therefore, the Commission adopts the proposed schedule and finds that the following conditions should be applied to the schedule:

(1) The Commission will require the prefiling of testimony as defined in 4 CSR 240-2.130. All parties shall comply with this rule, including the requirement that testimony be filed on line-numbered pages. 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 out the issues to be heard and the witnesses to appear on each day of the hearing, definitions of essential terms, each party's position on the disputed issues and the order of cross-examination. The hearing memorandum will set 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. Staff will be responsible for preparing and filing the hearing memorandum.

(5) The Commission wishes to emphasize the importance of filing the hearing memorandum on the date set by the Commission. Each party is directed to provide Staff with its position on each unresolved issue no later than September 22, 1997. Staff is not responsible for including in the memorandum the positions of the parties that are not submitted when due.

(6) 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 request shall be tendered in writing to the administrative law judge at least five days prior to the date of the hearing.

(7) 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. 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.

(8) 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 adopted for this case:

St. Joseph Light & Power Company files direct testimony	June 13, 1997
Staff and Public Counsel file rebuttal testimony	July 18, 1997
St. Joseph Light & Power Company files surrebuttal; Staff and Public Counsel file cross-surrebuttal	September 2, 1997
Prehearing Conference	September 12, 1997 (10 a.m.)
Hearing Memorandum	September 24, 1997
Hearing	October 23-24, 1997 (10 a.m. first day)

The prehearing conference and hearing will be held in the Commission's hearing room on the fifth floor of the Harry S Truman State Office Building, 301 West High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. Any person with special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (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.

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

**BY THE COMMISSION**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cecil I. Wright".

**Cecil I. Wright  
Executive Secretary**

(S E A L)

Gregory T. George, Administrative  
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 3rd day of June, 1997.