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December 14, 1999

FILED²

DEC 14 1999

Missouri Public
Service Commission

Public Service Commission
Truman State Office Building
Jefferson City, MO 65102

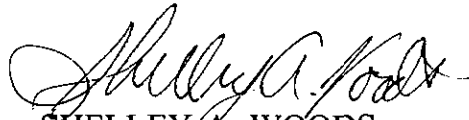
RE: *In the matter of Joint Application of UtiliCorp United, Inc. and
St. Joseph Light & Power Company for Authority to Merge*

Dear Sir/Madam:

Enclosed for filing please find an original and 15 copies of Response to Joint Applicants' Motion to Establish Procedural Schedule in the above-styled matter. Please stamp "filed" on the extra copy for my records. Thank you.

Sincerely,

JEREMIAH W. (JAY) NIXON
Attorney General


SHELLEY A. WOODS
Assistant Attorney General

SAW:pah
Enclosure

STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

FILED²

DEC 14 1999

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 with UtiliCorp)
United Inc. and, in Connection Therewith, Certain)
Other Related Transactions)

Missouri Public
Service Commission

Case No. EM-2000-
292

RESPONSE TO JOINT APPLICANTS'
MOTION TO ESTABLISH PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

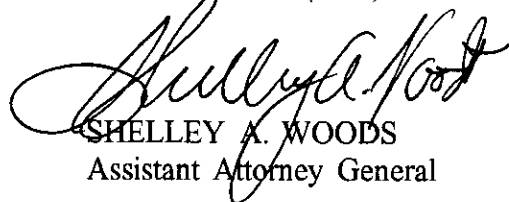
COME NOW Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) and in response to the directive of the Regulatory Law Judge at the early prehearing conference held on December 6, 1999, and states that it supports and joins in the Staff's Proposed Procedural Schedule filed with this Commission on this date.

Further, MDNR confirms, as stated in the Reply, that it supports the Staff's Reply to the December 3, 1999, Response of Utilicorp and St. Joseph Light & Power Company.

WHEREFORE, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources respectfully requests that the Commission implement the schedule as suggested by this Commission's Staff.

Respectfully submitted,

JEREMIAH W. (JAY) NIXON


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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was mailed, postage prepaid, by United States mail, this 14th day of December, 1999, to:

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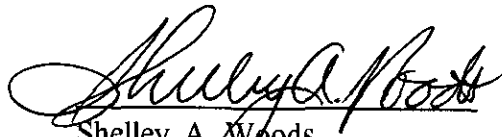
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