

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

John R. Melton,

Complainant

v.

Ozark Electrical Co-Operative

P. O. Box 420

Highway 39 N

Mt. Vernon. MO 65712

CERTIFIED MAIL

Respondent.

File No. EC-2013-0508

NOTICE OF CONTESTED CASE AND ORDERS DIRECTING FILINGS

Issue Date: June 3, 2013

Effective Date: June 3, 2013

The Commission is giving notice of a contested case and ordering responses.

On June 3, 2013, the complainant filed the complaint.¹ For any formal complaint, the Commission's regulations provide:

Upon the filing of a complaint in compliance with these rules, the secretary of the commission shall serve by certified mail, postage prepaid, a copy of the complaint upon the person, corporation or public utility against whom the complaint has been filed, which shall be accompanied by a notice that the matter complained of be satisfied or that the complaint be answered by the respondent, unless otherwise ordered, within thirty (30) days of the date of the notice.^{2]}

The filing of a complaint also requires the Commission to set a hearing.³ The requirement of a hearing on such issues signifies a contested case.⁴

¹ A copy of the complaint is attached, omitting any highly confidential information, which is accessible to the respondent through the Commission's Electronic Filing and Information System.

² 4 CSR 240-2.070(7).

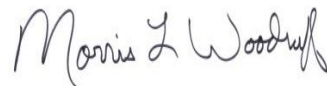
³ Section 386.390.5, RSMo 2000.

A contested case is a formal hearing procedure, including discovery, for which the provisions are set forth at Commission Regulation 4 CSR 240-2.090. But contested case procedure allows for waiver of procedural formalities and a decision without an evidentiary hearing, including by stipulation and agreement.⁵ Also, as an alternative to the formal evidentiary hearing procedure, the Commission offers mediation. Mediation is a voluntary process in which a neutral person assists the parties in exploring opportunities for settlement. Upon a request for mediation, the Commission may suspend the schedule set forth in this order.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The respondent shall file an answer no later than July 3, 2013.
2. The commission's staff shall investigate the complaint and file a report detailing staff's findings and recommendations no later than August 2, 2013.
3. This order is effective immediately upon issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION



Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Daniel Jordan, Senior Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant
to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 3rd day of June, 2013.

⁴ Section 536.010(4), RSMo Supp. 2012.

⁵ Section 536.060, RSMo 2000; 4 CSR 240-2.115.