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November 20, 2000

FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Dale H. Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
200 Madison Street, Suite 100
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

FILED

NOV 21 2000

Missouri Public
Service Commission

Re: **Empire District Electric and UtiliCorp United Inc.**
Case No. EM-2000-369

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed are the original and eight (8) conformed copies of **Statement of Position in Lieu of Reply Brief**, which please file in the above matter and call to the attention of the Commission.

An additional copy of the material to be filed is enclosed, which kindly mark as received and return to me in the enclosed envelope as proof of filing.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. If you have any questions, please call.

Sincerely yours,

FINNEGAN, CONRAD & PETERSON, L.C.

By:


Stuart W. Conrad

SWC:s
Enclosures
cc: All Parties

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED

NOV 21 2000

In the matter of the Joint Applica-)
tion of UtiliCorp United Inc. and)
The Empire District Electric Compa-)
ny for authority to merge The Em-)
pire District Electric Company with)
and into UtiliCorp United Inc. and,)
in connection therewith, certain)
other related transactions.)

Missouri Public
Service Commission

EM-2000-369

ICI EXPLOSIVES USA, INC AND PRAXAIR, INC.
STATEMENT OF POSITION IN LIEU OF REPLY BRIEF

COME NOW Intervenors ICI EXPLOSIVES USA, INC. ("ICI")
and PRAXAIR INC. ("Praxair") and state that, no significant
issues having been raised in the initial briefs of other parties,
they stand on their Initial Brief.

WHEREFORE, these intervenors pray that the Commission
rule this case in a manner consistent with their Initial Brief.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, CONRAD & PETERSON, L.C.



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ATTORNEYS FOR ICI EXPLOSIVES USA,
INC and PRAXAIR INC.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have this day served the foregoing pleading by U.S. mail, postage prepaid addressed to all parties by their attorneys of record as provided by the Secretary of the Commission.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stuart W. Conrad", written over a horizontal line.

Stuart W. Conrad

Dated: November 21, 2000