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February 27, 2001

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Director, Utility Operations

ROBERT SCHALLENBERG
Director, Utility Services

DONNA M. KOLILIS
Director, Administration

DALE HARDY ROBERTS
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

DANA K. JOYCE
General Counsel

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

RE: Case No. WA-2001-53

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned case are an original and eight (8) conformed copies of a **STAFF REQUEST FOR EARLY PREHEARING CONFERENCE**.

This filing has been mailed or hand-delivered this date to all counsel of record.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Cliff E. Snodgrass
Senior Counsel
(573) 751-3966
(573) 751-9285 (Fax)

CES:sw
Enclosure
cc: Counsel of Record

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED²

FEB 27 2001

Missouri Public
Service Commission

In the Matter of the Application of Foxfire)
Utility Company for a Certificate of)
Convenience and Necessity Authorizing It)
to Construct, Install, Own, Operate,)
Control, Manage and Maintain a Water)
System for the Public in an)
Unincorporated Area of Benton County,)
Missouri.)

Case No. WA-2001-53

STAFF REQUEST FOR EARLY PRE-HEARING CONFERENCE

On February 26, 2001, the Commission granted a Staff request for an extension of time to file a Recommendation in this case. Staff was directed in the Commission's last Order to file its Recommendation by February 27, 2001.

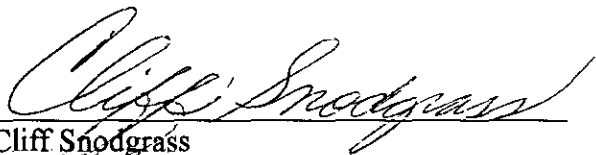
Staff would respectfully advise the Commission that during negotiations with Foxfire Utility Company (Company), agreement concerning the proposed transaction could not be reached. As a result, Staff hereby informs the Commission that it will not be issuing a Recommendation in this matter. Under these circumstances, Staff respectfully requests that the Commission enter an Order setting this matter for an early pre-hearing conference. The purpose of the pre-hearing conference would be for the setting of a proposed procedural schedule acceptable to all the parties.

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WHEREFORE, the Staff respectfully requests that the Commission enter an Order setting this matter for a pre-hearing conference at the earliest convenient and available date.

Respectfully submitted,


DANA K. JOYCE
General Counsel


Cliff Snodgrass
Senior Counsel
Missouri Bar No. 52302

Attorney for the Staff of the
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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered to all counsel of record as shown on the attached service list this 27th day of February, 2001.



**Service List for
Case No. WA-2001-53
Revised: February 27, 2001 (SW)**

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