

1 STATE OF MISSOURI
2 PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

3
4 PREHEARING CONFERENCE

5
6 May 18, 2000
7 Jefferson City, Missouri
8 Volume 2

9 In the Matter of the Joint Application)
10 of UtiliCorp United, Inc. and St. Joseph)
11 Light & Power Company for Authority to)
12 Merge St. Joseph Light & Power Company) Case No.
with and into UtiliCorp United, Inc.,) EM-2000-292
and, in Connection Therewith, Certain)
Other Related Transactions.)

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15 BEFORE:

16 MORRIS L. WOODRUFF, Presiding,
17 REGULATORY LAW JUDGE.

FILED

JUN 12 2000

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19 REPORTED BY:

*Missouri
Public Service Commission*

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13 Commission.

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 (Written Entries of Appearance filed.)

3 JUDGE WOODRUFF: This is case number
4 EM-2000-292, which is in the matter of the joint
5 application of UtiliCorp United, Inc. and St. Joseph
6 Light & Power Company for authority to merge St. Joseph
7 Light & Power Company with and into UtiliCorp United,
8 Inc., and, in connection therewith, certain other
9 related transactions.

10 We're here today for a prehearing conference,
11 and we'll start by taking entries of appearance.

12 For Staff.

13 MR. DOTTHEIM: Steven Dottheim, Dana K. Joyce,
14 Keith Krueger, Dennis Frey, Bruce Bates, Nathan
15 Williams and Robert Franson appearing on behalf of the
16 Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, P. O.
17 Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

18 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. Public Counsel.

19 MR. COFFMAN: John B. Coffman and Doug Micheel
20 on behalf of the office of the Public Counsel, P. O.
21 Box 7800, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

22 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And for UtiliCorp.

23 MR. SWEARENGEN: James C. Swearengen and Paul
24 Boudreau. Brydon, Swearengen & England, 312 East
25 Capitol Avenue, Jefferson City, Missouri appearing on

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1 behalf of UtiliCorp United, Inc.

2 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And for St. Joseph Light &
3 Power.

4 MR. ANGSTEAD: Rob Angstead and Mark Comley
5 from the law firm of Newman, Comley & Ruth, P. O.
6 Box 537, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

7 JUDGE WOODRUFF: For the Utilities of
8 Springfield.

9 MR. KEEVIL: Jeffrey A. Keevil with the law
10 firm of Stewart & Keevil, L.L.C., 1001 Cherry Street,
11 Suite 302, Columbia, Missouri 65201.

12 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And for the Department of
13 Natural Resources.

14 MS. WOODS: Shelley A. Woods, Office of the
15 Attorney General, Post Office Box 899, Jefferson City,
16 Missouri 65102.

17 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And for AGP.

18 MR. CONRAD: Stuart W. Conrad, and I'd also,
19 Your Honor, although he's not here today, enter the
20 appearance of Jeremiah D. Finnegan; both of us of the
21 law firm of Finnegan, Conrad & Peterson, Suite 1209,
22 3100 Broadway, Kansas City, Missouri 64111.

23 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. And for Union
24 Electric. Is anyone here for Union Electric?

25 (No response.)

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1 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. Is there anyone
2 I've missed?

3 (No response.)

4 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. Hearing nothing,
5 we'll go on then.

6 The purpose of the prehearing today is, of
7 course, to work on developing a list of issues which --
8 and according to the procedural schedule are due on
9 May 25th.

10 You've all done this before, and just want to
11 emphasize that the purpose of the -- or, at least, one
12 of the purposes of the list of issues is to first of
13 all clarify for the parties what the issues are gonna
14 be so that you can prepare your surrebuttal testimony,
15 and also, of course, to allow the Commission to have
16 some idea of what's gonna be appearing in front of them
17 at the time of the hearing.

18 So for that reason, please list all issues
19 that are likely to arise at the hearing even if you
20 can't all agree upon -- even if you can't all agree
21 that each issue is, in fact, a legitimate issue.

22 If you disagree with that -- if you agree --
23 if you cannot agree upon a certain issue, state your
24 position in your Statement of Positions, but go ahead
25 and list the issues so the Commission knows what's

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1 coming up ahead of them.

2 The other purpose, of course, for being here
3 is to discuss the possibility of settlement of any
4 issues that you might be able to resolve short of a
5 hearing, and possibly resolve all matters in front of
6 us. And I'll leave that up to you.

7 Are there any other matters that anyone wants
8 to bring up while we're on the record?

9 Yes, Mr. Dottheim.

10 MR. DOTTHEIM: In the Commission's original
11 order setting a procedural schedule, there was an
12 indication which I -- I think all the parties
13 understand, but I just thought I -- I mention it. The
14 Commission is not just looking for a week from today a
15 list of issues, the Commission is looking for a
16 schedule for --

17 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Yes. For the hearing

18 MR. DOTTHEIM: -- for July 10th through 14th.
19 The -- the week that the hearings are -- are scheduled.

20 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Yes. A schedule -- a
21 schedule of witnesses and dates of appearance, yes.

22 MR. DOTTHEIM: Thank you.

23 JUDGE WOODRUFF: I -- I didn't mean to
24 minimize that by my other comments.

25 MR. DOTTHEIM: No, I -- and I didn't take

1 it -- I didn't take it as that, but I just thought if
2 someone had forgotten that, I thought I'd just state
3 that so we're all on the same page.

4 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right.

5 MR. DOTTHEIM: Thank you.

6 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you.

7 Any other matters that anyone wants to bring
8 up?

9 Hearing done, then. We'll go off the record
10 at this time.

11 WHEREUPON, the on-the-record portion of the
12 prehearing conference was concluded.

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