

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

Office of the Public Counsel,)
an agency of the State of Missouri,)
COMPLAINANT)
)
v.)
)
Central Jefferson County Utilities, Inc.,)
RESPONDENT)

Case No. WC-2007-0038

**PUBLIC COUNSEL’S RESPONSE TO ORDER DIRECTING FILING
REGARDING CONTINUATION**

COMES NOW the Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel) and for its Response to Order Directing Filing Regarding Continuation states as follows:

1. On April 19, 2007¹, the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) ordered Public Counsel to state what objections, if any, it has to the Staff of the Public Service Commission (Staff) and Central Jefferson County Utilities, Inc. (Central Jefferson) suggestions of a continuance.

2. Public Counsel states that it does not object to a continuance in this case if the continuation of the hearing is short, reasonable, and to a defined date.

3. In its Response to Order Directing Filing, Central Jefferson stated that granting a continuance through the end of June would allow enough time for the transfer of assets to close and would allow the Commission to move forward if it does not.

4. Staff stated in its Response to Order Directing Filing that the transfer of assets cannot occur until at least May 2 but stated its belief that the transfer would occur in May. Therefore, Staff recommended a continuation for a short period of time, perhaps 30 to 60 days.

¹ All dates, unless otherwise noted, are for the year 2007.

5. Public Counsel believes that continuing the complaint case 60 days (which would put the 2-day evidentiary hearing in the first week of July) is not a short and reasonable delay.

6. Public Counsel also notes that the Commission's schedule is quite full for the month of June. Therefore, Public Counsel would have no objection to a continuance to a date in June as the Commission's schedule allows.

WHEREFORE, Public Counsel respectfully that it would have no objection to a continuation of the evidentiary hearing to a date in June as the Commission's schedule allows.

Respectfully submitted,

OFFICE OF THE Public Counsel

/s/ Christina L. Baker

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, emailed or hand-delivered to the following this 20th day of April 2007:

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