

1 STATE OF MISSOURI  
2 PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
3  
4 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS  
5 LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING  
6 JULY 27, 2018  
7 RIDGEDALE, MISSOURI  
8 VOLUME 2  
9

10 File No. WR-2018-0356

11

12 In The Matter of: )  
Request for a Rate )  
13 Increase by Branson )  
Cedars Resort Utility )  
14 Company LLC )  
)

15

16

17

18 JOHN CLARK, Presiding  
19 REGULATORY LAW JUDGE

20

21

Reported by:

22 PAULA C. VOYLES, RPR, CRR, CCR No. 750  
ALARIS LITIGATION SERVICES  
23 2422 East Madrid Street  
Springfield, MO 65804  
24 Tel: 417.877.9700, Fax: 417.877.9704

25

1 APPEARANCES:

2 For Public Service Commission Staff:

3 JACOB T. WESTEN

4 jacob.westen@psc.mo.gov

5 Deputy Counsel

6 STATE OF MISSOURI

7 Department of Economic Development

8 Public Service Commission

9 200 Madison Street, Suite 800

10 P.O. Box 360

11 Jefferson City, MO 65102

12

13 For Office of the Public Counsel:

14

15 HAMPTON WILLIAMS

16 hampton.williams@ded.mo.gov

17 Office of Public Counsel

18 STATE OF MISSOURI

19 Department of Economic Development

20 Office of the Public Counsel

21 200 Madison Street, Suite 650

22 P.O. Box 2230

23 Jefferson City, MO 65102

24 Tel: 573.751.5565, Fax: 573.751.5562

25

Reported by:

26 PAULA C. VOYLES, RPR, CRR, CCR No. 750

27 ALARIS LITIGATION SERVICES

28 2422 East Madrid Street

29 Springfield, MO 65804

30 Tel: 417.877.9700, Fax: 417.877.9704

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

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

2

3 (Commencing at 6:36 o'clock P.m.)

4

5 JUDGE CLARK: Good evening. Today is  
6 July 27th, 2018, and the current time is 6:36 p.m.

7 The Missouri Public Service Commission  
8 has set aside this time for a local public hearing  
9 in file number WR-2018-0356, which is captioned as  
10 In the Matter of Request for Rate Increase by  
11 Branson Cedars Resort Utility Company, LLC.

12 My name is John Clark. I'm the  
13 regulatory judge that will preside over this local  
14 public hearing. The commissioners could not be here  
15 tonight. They've had a rather busy week, but  
16 they've sent me.

17 In addition to briefing them on what is  
18 said here tonight, they'll each read a transcript of  
19 the remarks that are being taken down by the court  
20 reporter here. The commission values your comments  
21 and they will become part of the official record of  
22 this rate case.

23 I'll begin by asking counsel to enter  
24 their appearances for the record, starting with --  
25 does Branson Cedars Resort Utility Company have

1 counsel present?

2 MR. HYAMS: No, sir.

3 JUDGE CLARK: Then for the commission  
4 staff.

5 MR. WESTEN: Thank you, Judge. My name  
6 is Jacob Westen. I am an attorney for the staff,  
7 and my contact has been provided to the court  
8 reporter.

9 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Westen.  
10 For the office of Public Counsel.

11 MR. WILLIAMS: My name is Hampton  
12 Williams on behalf of the Office of the Public  
13 Counsel, located at 200 Madison Street in Jefferson  
14 City, Missouri 65102.

15 JUDGE CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Williams.  
16 Anybody else I've missed? Any  
17 intervenors? [No audible response].

18 I see no hands.

19 The commission has scheduled this local  
20 public hearing to give members of the public a  
21 chance to comment on the Branson Cedars application  
22 for a rate increase. I notice that nobody has  
23 signed up. What I'm going to do is I'm going to go  
24 ahead and go through my introduction and if at that  
25 time anybody would like to give a comment, they may.

1           For those who would like to provide  
2 testimony today, if you raise your hand and I call  
3 you, please come down to the front. I'll place you  
4 under oath, I'll ask you to state and spell your  
5 name, and then you can offer your comments to the  
6 commission.

7           There is no specific time, but so that  
8 everybody gets an opportunity to speak, I'm going to  
9 ask that if you do have comments that you try and  
10 limit them to about five minutes. Also, after you  
11 finish making a comment, please remain at the front  
12 until you've been excused. I may have some  
13 questions for you. If the attorneys have any  
14 questions, I'm going to ask that they let me know at  
15 that time.

16           The commission won't be able to answer  
17 any of your questions today. While I'm not the  
18 regulatory judge that's assigned to this case, I'm  
19 just assigned to do this hearing, the commission and  
20 the regulatory judge have to remain impartial until  
21 after the evidence is submitted at the evidentiary  
22 hearing on this case.

23           If you have questions, much like the  
24 question-and-answer session that went on prior to  
25 the local public hearing portion, I'm going to ask

1 that you direct those to the commission staff, the  
2 company, Branson Cedars, or to the office of the  
3 public counsel. Finally, if you have comments,  
4 please be polite and courteous to everybody speaking  
5 here today and treat them as though you would like  
6 to be treated.

7 I'm going to say this is really your  
8 opportunity to under oath and on the record make any  
9 comments that you might want the commission to  
10 consider. So if you as ratepayers have something  
11 that you want the commission to know about anything  
12 related to this case, whether it be water quality,  
13 service, rates you're currently paying, the proposed  
14 rates that have been proposed so far, any of those,  
15 you're free to comment on them.

16 As I indicated before, I don't see any  
17 names on the sign-up sheet. Is there anybody,  
18 having gone through the question-and-answer session  
19 and having heard my introduction, that would like to  
20 offer comments to the commission at this time?

21 [No audible response].

22 I see no hands.

23 Well, this is going to be a very, very  
24 short hearing, then. I'm going to skip right to the  
25 end.

1 I'm going to say if you leave here today  
2 and you decide that, hey, I wish I had made a  
3 comment or I had this one issue I forgot about I'd  
4 like the commission to consider, you can always  
5 contact the office of the public counsel, they'll be  
6 happy to take your comment, or you can go to the  
7 PSC's website. On their website you can make a  
8 comment. Anybody who wasn't able to attend tonight  
9 that you talk to that may want to make a comment can  
10 also make one on the website.

11 I'd like to thank all the participants  
12 who came here tonight, and that's essentially it.

13 Is there anybody who has anything they  
14 would like to offer?

15 [No audible response].

16 In that case, this hearing is adjourned,  
17 and we are off the record.

18

19

20 (Concluded at 6:41 p.m.)

21

22

23

24

25





PSC LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING 7/27/2018

<p><b>A</b></p> <p>ability 8:9  able 5:16 7:8  action 8:13,14  addition 3:17  adjourned 7:16  ahead 4:24  <b>ALARIS</b> 1:22  2:16  answer 5:16  anybody 4:16  4:25 6:17 7:8  7:13  appearances  2:1 3:24  appearing 8:8  application 4:21  aside 3:8  asking 3:23  assigned 5:18  5:19  attend 7:8  attorney 4:6  attorneys 5:13  audible 4:17  6:21 7:15</p>	<p>3:25 4:21 6:2  <b>CERTIFICATE</b>  8:1  Certified 8:6,6  certify 8:7,11  chance 4:21  City 2:7,13 4:14  Clark 1:18 3:5,12  4:3,9,15  come 5:3  Commencing  3:3  comment 4:21  4:25 5:11 6:15  7:3,6,8,9  comments 3:20  5:5,9 6:3,9,20  commission 1:2  2:2,5 3:7,20  4:3,19 5:6,16  5:19 6:1,9,11  6:20 7:4  commissioners  3:14  company 1:14  3:11,25 6:2  <b>Concluded</b>  7:20  consider 6:10  7:4  contact 4:7 7:5  counsel 2:4,8  2:10,12 3:23  4:1,10,13 6:3  7:5 8:12  <b>COUNTY</b> 8:3  court 3:19 4:7  8:6  courteous 6:4  <b>CRR</b> 1:22 2:16  8:18  current 3:6  currently 6:13</p>	<p>Department 2:5  2:11  Deputy 2:4  Development  2:5,11  direct 6:1  direction 8:10</p>	<p><b>H</b></p> <p>Hampton 2:9  4:11  hampton.willi...  2:10  hand 5:2  hands 4:18 6:22  happy 7:6  heard 6:19  hearing 1:5 3:8  3:14 4:20 5:19  5:22,25 6:24  7:16  hey 7:2  <b>HYAMS</b> 4:2</p>	<p><b>LITIGATION</b>  1:22 2:16  <b>LLC</b> 1:14 3:11  local 1:5 3:8,13  4:19 5:25  located 4:13</p>
<p><b>B</b></p> <p>behalf 4:12  best 8:9  Box 2:6,13  Branson 1:13  3:11,25 4:21  6:2  briefing 3:17  busy 3:15</p>	<p><b>D</b></p> <p>D 3:1  decide 7:2</p>	<p><b>E</b></p> <p>E 3:1,1  East 1:23 2:17  <b>Economic</b> 2:5,11  employee 8:11  8:13  enter 3:23  essentially 7:12  evening 3:5  everybody 5:8  6:4  evidence 5:21  evidentiary 5:21  excused 5:12</p>	<p><b>I</b></p> <p>impartial 5:20  increase 1:13  3:10 4:22  indicated 6:16  interested 8:14  intervenor 4:17  introduction  4:24 6:19  involved 8:13  issue 7:3</p>	<p><b>M</b></p> <p>Madison 2:6,12  4:13  Madrid 1:23  2:17  making 5:11  matter 1:12 3:10  8:7  members 4:20  minutes 5:10  missed 4:16  Missouri 1:1,7  2:4,11 3:7 4:14  8:2  <b>MLS-54268/P ...</b>  8:21  <b>MO</b> 1:23 2:7,13  2:17 8:7</p>
<p><b>C</b></p> <p>C 1:22 2:16 3:1  8:5,18  call 5:2  captioned 3:9  case 3:22 5:18  5:22 6:12 7:16  <b>CCR</b> 1:22 2:16  8:18  Cedars 1:13 3:11</p>	<p><b>F</b></p> <p>far 6:14  Fax 1:24 2:14,18  file 1:10 3:9  Finally 6:3  financially 8:14  finish 5:11  five 5:10  foregoing 8:8  forgot 7:3  form 8:10  free 6:15  front 5:3,11  further 8:11</p>	<p><b>J</b></p> <p>Jacob 2:3 4:6  jacob.westen...  2:3  Jefferson 2:7,13  4:13  John 1:18 3:12  judge 1:19 3:5  3:13 4:3,5,9,15  5:18,20  July 1:6 3:6</p>	<p><b>N</b></p> <p>N 3:1  name 3:12 4:5  4:11 5:5  names 6:17  notice 4:22  number 3:9</p>	
	<p><b>G</b></p> <p>G 3:1  give 4:20,25  go 4:23,24 7:6  going 4:23,23  5:8,14,25 6:7  6:23,24 7:1  Good 3:5</p>	<p><b>K</b></p> <p>know 5:14 6:11</p>	<p><b>O</b></p> <p>O 3:1  o'clock 3:3  oath 5:4 6:8  offer 5:5 6:20  7:14  office 2:8,10,12  4:10,12 6:2  7:5  official 3:21  opportunity 5:8  6:8</p>	

PSC LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING 7/27/2018

<b>P</b>	ratepayers 6:10 rates 6:13,14 read 3:18 Real-Time 8:6 really 6:7 record 3:21,24 6:8 7:17 recorded 8:8 reduced 8:9 Registered 8:5 regulatory 1:19 3:13 5:18,20 related 6:12 relative 8:11,12 remain 5:11,20 remarks 3:19 Reported 1:21 2:15 reporter 3:20 4:8 8:1,5,6,7 Request 1:12 3:10 Resort 1:13 3:11 3:25 response 4:17 6:21 7:15 RIDGEDALE 1:7 right 6:24 RPR 1:22 2:16 8:18	signed 4:23 sir 4:2 skip 6:24 speak 5:8 speaking 6:4 specific 5:7 spell 5:4 Springfield 1:23 2:17 ss 8:3 staff 2:2 4:4,6 6:1 starting 3:24 state 1:1 2:4,11 5:4 8:2 Street 1:23 2:6 2:12,17 4:13 submitted 5:21 Suite 2:6,12	VOLUME 1:8 Voyles 1:22 2:16 8:5,18	<b>5</b>
p 3:1 p.m 3:3,6 7:20 P.O 2:6,13 part 3:21 participants 7:11 parties 8:12,13 Paula 1:22 2:16 8:5,18 paying 6:13 person 8:14 place 5:3 please 5:3,11 6:4 polite 6:4 portion 5:25 present 4:1 preside 3:13 Presiding 1:18 prior 5:24 PROCEEDINGS 1:4 Professional 8:5 proposed 6:13 6:14 provide 5:1 provided 4:7 PSC's 7:7 public 1:2,5 2:2 2:5,8,10,12 3:7 3:8,14 4:10,12 4:20,20 5:25 6:3 7:5	SS 8:3 staff 2:2 4:4,6 6:1 starting 3:24 state 1:1 2:4,11 5:4 8:2 Street 1:23 2:6 2:12,17 4:13 submitted 5:21 Suite 2:6,12	<b>W</b>	573.751.5562 2:14 573.751.5565 2:14	
<b>Q</b>	<b>T</b>	want 6:9,11 7:9 wasn't 7:8 water 6:12 website 7:7,7,10 WEBSTER 8:3 week 3:15 went 5:24 Westen 2:3 4:5 4:6,9 Williams 2:9 4:11,12,15 wish 7:2 WR-2018-0356 1:10 3:9 written 8:10	<b>6</b>	
quality 6:12 question-and- ... 5:24 6:18 questions 5:13 5:14,17,23	T 2:3 take 7:6 taken 3:19 talk 7:9 Tel 1:24 2:14,18 testimony 5:2 thank 4:5,9,15 7:11 time 3:6,8 4:25 5:7,15 6:20 today 3:5 5:2,17 6:5 7:1 tonight 3:15,18 7:8,12 transcript 1:4 3:18 8:8 treat 6:5 treated 6:6 try 5:9	<b>X</b>	6:36 3:3,6 6:41 7:20 650 2:12 65102 2:7,13 4:14 65804 1:23 2:17	
<b>R</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>7</b>	
R 3:1 raise 5:2 rate 1:12 3:10,22 4:22	Utility 1:13 3:11 3:25	<b>Z</b>	750 1:22 2:16 8:18	
<b>S</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	
S 3:1 scheduled 4:19 see 4:18 6:16 6:22 sent 3:16 service 1:2 2:2 2:5 3:7 6:13 SERVICES 1:22 2:16 session 5:24 6:18 set 3:8 sheet 6:17 short 6:24 sign-up 6:17	values 3:20	<b>1</b>	800 2:6	
<b>U</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>2</b>		
		2 1:8 200 2:6,12 4:13 2018 1:6 3:6 2230 2:13 2422 1:23 2:17 27 1:6 27th 3:6		
		<b>3</b>		
		360 2:6		
		<b>4</b>		
		417.877.9700 1:24 2:18 417.877.9704 1:24 2:18		