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STATE OF MISSOURI

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

On-The-Record Conference

August 27, 2013

Jefferson City, Missouri

Volume 1

(Starting time of conference: 10:00 a.m.)

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STATE OF MISSOURI

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
On-The-Record Conference
August 27, 2013
Jefferson City, Missouri
Volume 1

In The Matter Of Kansas City)
Power & Light Company's)
Practices Regarding Customer) File No. EO-2014-0029
Opt-Out Of Demand-Side)
Management Programs And)
Related Issues)

MORRIS L. WOODRUFF, Presiding
CHIEF REGULATORY LAW JUDGE

REPORTED BY:
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15 ALSO PRESENT:
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 Mr. Roger Steiner (via telephone)
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1 (Starting time of conference: 10:00 a.m.)

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

3 JUDGE WOODRUFF: We're here for a conference in
4 Case No. EO-2014-0029. This kind of grows out of an
5 earlier case that I've closed which was EO-2013-0359, and
6 we'll get into the reasons why I closed it a little bit
7 later.

8 But, for right now, let's take entries of
9 appearance, beginning with Staff.

10 MS. HERNANDEZ: Good morning. Jennifer Hernandez
11 and Nathan Williams appearing on behalf of Staff of the
12 Missouri Public Service Commission. Our address is P.O.
13 Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri, 65102.

14 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And for Public Counsel?

15 MR. MILLS: On behalf of the Office of Public
16 Counsel and the public, my name is Lewis Mills. My
17 address is Post Office Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri,
18 65102.

19 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And for KCPL?

20 MR. FISCHER: On behalf of the Company, let the
21 record reflect the appearance of James M. Fischer, Fischer
22 & Dority, P.C., 101 Madison, Suite 400, Jefferson City,
23 Missouri, 65101.

24 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. And for Midwest Energy?

25 MR. WOODSMALL: David Woodsmall, MECG. I

1 previously provided my address to the Court Reporter.

2 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. And for MIEC?

3 MS. ILES: Carole Iles, also entering appearance
4 for Diana Vuylsteke, of Bryan Cave, LLP, 211 North
5 Broadway, St. Louis.

6 JUDGE WOODRUFF: MDNR?

7 MR. BLACKWELL: Tim Blackwell with the Missouri
8 Attorney General's Office. My address is P.O. Box 899,
9 Jefferson City, Missouri, 65102.

10 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Midwest Energy Users Association?

11 (No response.)

12 JUDGE WOODRUFF: I saw they were a separate party
13 in the other cases; is that right? Are they involved at
14 this point?

15 MR. WOODSMALL: I haven't seen -- there haven't
16 been any pleadings in this case, so I can't comment. I
17 don't know.

18 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. Who was representing them?

19 MR. WOODSMALL: Stu Conrad.

20 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Stu. Okay. Okay. Well, I think
21 that takes care of all the entries of appearance.

22 And, first of all, I want to thank you all for
23 being here today. And we opened this new file when you
24 filed a motion indicating that the previous stipulation
25 agreement had fallen apart or was rejected by the

1 Commission, and I opened this as a new case simply to try
2 and get a fresh start on this case, because it seemed like
3 the old case kind of spun out of control, and we want to
4 try and get started -- as I say, started afresh and see if
5 we can still reach some sort of an agreement on this; or,
6 if not, if we need to set a procedural schedule, we can do
7 that as well.

8 Mr. Fischer, explain to me what's going on.

9 MR. FISCHER: Well, Judge, we had entered into a
10 non-unanimous stipulation agreement in that 0359 case
11 hoping to resolve the issues that were coming out of that
12 in an expeditious way. As you know, the MIA (ph) rules
13 have an opt-out window beginning September 1st through
14 October 30, and the parties can opt out of the DSM costs
15 that are associated with the company's DSM programs. And
16 we had -- we had reached an agreement in our companion
17 company, GMO, on a MIA filing that had some provisions
18 that related to this topic, but Kansas City Power & Light
19 Company did not have a MIA filing that is currently
20 pending, and a number of the parties had come to us with
21 concerns about how to resolve this.

22 We did reach a non-unanimous stipulation and
23 agreement which we thought would expeditiously resolve it.
24 It was before we had a full procedural schedule, before we
25 had testimony filed, but we thought this was the most

1 expeditious way to get the -- the issues resolved, and we
2 submitted to the Commission. One of the very important
3 parts of that, though, was the approval of the stipulation
4 and agreement, because, from the Company's perspective,
5 the approval of the deferred accounting that was
6 incorporated in the stipulation and agreement was, we
7 believed, essential for us to be able to do that, or
8 outside auditors were concerned if we didn't have
9 regulatory approval of that arrangement. And, whenever
10 the Commission chose to use a different procedure and not
11 approve the stipulation and agreement, that caused us to
12 have real concerns that we didn't have what we needed to
13 go forward.

14 So, I think that's, essentially, what has caused
15 -- and other parties might have a different perspective --
16 but I think that's, essentially, where we've come. And we
17 ask that you schedule another conference for us to talk
18 about it and to see if we need to go through a full-blown
19 procedural schedule and file testimony or if there was
20 another way to short circuit the process and get the deal
21 that we've agreed to be implemented. We still feel like
22 what we have in that non-unanimous stipulation and
23 agreement should work, but we do need to have an approval
24 of the Commission on that point.

25 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. You mentioned a window

1 from September 1st through October 31st. Is this
2 something that you want in effect by September 1st of this
3 year, if possible?

4 MR. FISCHER: Well, I don't think it's critical,
5 but I think that is one of the concerns that we had, that
6 was out there, and I think we would get -- as if -- if the
7 former agreement had been approved, there would have been
8 a tariff in effect that people would be -- effectively be
9 opting out of these rate elements that were associated
10 with these DSM costs. And, without that, it might be
11 difficult to do that. So, that was one of the other major
12 things that was happening as a result of the stipulation
13 and agreement.

14 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay.

15 MS. HERNANDEZ: If I can add something --

16 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Go ahead.

17 MS. HERNANDEZ: -- on the timing effect. I
18 believe Staff's position is, if it's at all possible, to
19 have this finished before -- or at least -- so that the
20 consumers out there would know what they would be opting
21 out of if the tariff was in effect. That's why we had
22 such an expedited schedule, procedural schedule, earlier
23 on in this case with the hopes to resolve this matter for,
24 if the potential customers wanted to opt out of paying DSM
25 charges, they would know what they were opting out of. I

1 would say that's still our hope.

2 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Obviously, we're not going to
3 make it by September 1st at this particular time.

4 MS. HERNANDEZ: Right.

5 JUDGE WOODRUFF: It's coming fairly quickly.

6 Anything else?

7 (Indicating.)

8 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Mr. Woodsmall?

9 MR. WOODSMALL: A couple quick things. Mr.
10 Fischer mentioned the non-unanimous stipulation. The 10
11 days expired, so it could be treated as unanimous. I
12 don't believe -- there were no objections or any problems
13 there.

14 One of the things that necessitated, in my mind,
15 was coming out of the last rate case, my clients raised a
16 point that KCP&L should have segregated these costs so the
17 opt-out customers didn't have to pay them. And that was a
18 point of appeal and is now pending at the Court of
19 Appeals. So, it was our hope that by getting this
20 stipulation approved that we could get that taken out of
21 the Appellate case, too -- which would, you know,
22 certainly help the Commission in not having to address
23 that. So, that would be -- if we get that resolved, we
24 address that point of appeal as well.

25 And, then, we could go with what Ms. Hernandez

1 said, representing many clients that are large enough to
2 opt out, it's better if we can get these tariffs approved
3 sooner rather than later. What they're trying to do is do
4 a cost benefit analysis to see, Okay, here are the
5 benefits we give up by opting out. What are the costs we
6 are avoiding? And, until this tariff gets approved, we
7 really don't know what those costs are.

8 So, on behalf of the industrial customers, I would
9 like to get this tariff approved so they can do an
10 accurate cost benefit analysis.

11 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. And the consensus I'm
12 hearing is that everyone's still on board with this
13 stipulation agreement if the Commission will approve it.
14 No one's fighting to go off and have a hearing.

15 MR. FISCHER: I think, Judge, we would want to
16 approve it, make sure there are no changes, and tweak it.

17 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Sure.

18 MR. FISCHER: In the matter of the concept, the
19 Company still certainly supports resolution along this
20 manner.

21 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Now, one of the things I note the
22 Commission was concerned about at the time, aside from the
23 procedural brouhaha about this whole thing, was whether
24 there was any foundation within the record to justify
25 granting the deferred accounting which was referred to as

1 an AAO.

2 MR. FISCHER: Judge, it's correct that we don't
3 have any testimony on file in the case, and if that's a
4 requirement from the Commission standpoint, then we would
5 have to go through a procedural schedule to do that.

6 JUDGE WOODRUFF: I'm not sure we need to have
7 testimony. We just -- the concern was we need to have
8 something in the record to justify the Commission granting
9 that. I think an affidavit from KCPL employees saying
10 this is why we need an AAO or deferred accounting. You've
11 never referred to it as an AAO.

12 MR. FISCHER: No. We refer to it as deferred
13 accounting. We do see a difference.

14 JUDGE WOODRUFF: I see the difference, too. But,
15 if there can be something either in the stipulation and
16 agreement or attached to a stipulation and agreement
17 saying this is why deferred accounting's appropriate, I
18 think that would be enough to satisfy the Commission.

19 Is that something you can do?

20 MR. FISCHER: The Company could certainly put,
21 from its perspective, an affidavit together on why it's
22 important that we have approval and what the benefits are.
23 Now, I would have to say that, in the stipulation as it's
24 drafted -- and other parties can certainly chime in --
25 they have -- the provisions are that they are not

1 objecting to the deferred accounting. They -- they're not
2 necessarily affirming a deferment in any way, but we can
3 put an affidavit together like that and submit that in
4 additional support of the stipulation if that's what the
5 Commission would like.

6 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Anyone have any problem with
7 that? On that, anyway? I'm sure you would want to --

8 MR. MILLS: Not with the concept. Might have
9 problems with the allegations in the affidavit.

10 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay.

11 MR. FISCHER: Could I ask my client, who happens
12 to be on the line, whether he sees any problem with that?

13 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Sure.

14 MR. FISCHER: Mr. Rush, are you on the line?

15 MR. RUSH: I am. Would you -- I heard parts of
16 it, of the request for affidavit associated with why we
17 need approval for deferred accounting, am I correct?

18 JUDGE WOODRUFF: That would be correct, yes.

19 MR. RUSH: I think we could do that. And it would
20 be in an affidavit form, as I understand it.

21 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Correct. And I wouldn't expect
22 the other parties to necessarily agree with it, but if
23 nobody objected to it, that would at least give the
24 Commission something to -- as a foundation for approving
25 it.

1 MR. RUSH: Okay.

2 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And, if you can -- as soon as you
3 can get that to me, I will put it on the agenda.

4 MR. FISCHER: Would you like for us to reformat in
5 any way that non-unanimous stip that we filed or can we
6 file what we did before?

7 JUDGE WOODRUFF: I think just file it again with
8 the new number on it --

9 MR. FISCHER: Okay.

10 JUDGE WOODRUFF: -- with that affidavit as an
11 attachment.

12 MR. FISCHER: Okay.

13 MR. WOODSMALL: May I inquire, your Honor?

14 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Sure.

15 MR. WOODSMALL: I don't want to make things any
16 more complicated, and maybe there's no answer to this. Is
17 there anything that we should take out of the previous
18 order regarding consent orders, that type of thing, going
19 forward or should we --

20 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Since that order was issued about
21 consent orders, the Commission has made it quite clear in
22 several other cases that have gone through agenda where
23 they have approved stipulation agreements that they are
24 willing to approve stipulations and agreements without the
25 consent order language.

1 MR. WOODSMALL: Okay.

2 JUDGE WOODRUFF: So, I don't think that's going to
3 be something the Commission is going to look at in the
4 future.

5 MR. WOODSMALL: Okay. Great. Thank you.

6 MR. WILLIAMS: Judge? Judge, if I could ask for a
7 a little bit of clarification. Are you looking for a
8 caption completing -- it includes the prior stipulation
9 agreement or are you looking for another stipulation and
10 agreement with this case captioned? What I'm really
11 getting at, are you looking for a new document with new
12 signatures or is the prior document sufficient just to do
13 something to show it's filed in this case as in the prior
14 one?

15 JUDGE WOODRUFF: I think it would be -- if it's
16 not going to cause anybody too much problems, I think it
17 would be appropriate to file it with a new caption and a
18 new case with new signatures.

19 MR. WILLIAMS: And then he'll have another 120-day
20 waiting period?

21 JUDGE WOODRUFF: It's actually seven days --

22 MR. WILLIAMS: Oh, seven.

23 JUDGE WOODRUFF: -- under the rule, but it will
24 take about that long before we can get it through agenda
25 anyway.

1 I want to make it clear that this is a new case.
2 We're not revisiting the old case. That's to say we're
3 starting over fresh in a new case.

4 MR. WILLIAMS: That's why I'm asking for a new
5 clarification.

6 THE COURT REPORTER: Would you state your name?

7 MR. WILLIAMS: Nathan Williams.

8 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. Is there anything
9 else anybody wants to bring up while we're on the record?

10 MR. FISCHER: Roger Steiner may be on the line,
11 too.

12 Is there anything, Roger, we need to talk about
13 with the Judge before we close?

14 MR. STEINER: No. I think we're good, Jim.
15 Thanks.

16 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. Well, thank you all very
17 much for being here. I'll leave you to your discussions,
18 if you need any; and, with that, we're off the record.

19 MR. WOODSMALL: Just a quick point.

20 JUDGE WOODRUFF: On the record?

21 MR. WOODSMALL: No.

22 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. We're off the record.

23 (Adjournment.)

24 (Whereupon, the record ended at 10:15 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF MISSOURI)

) ss.

COUNTY OF COLE)

I, Pamela S. Gentry, Certified Court Reporter with the firm of Midwest Litigation Services, do hereby certify that I was personally present at the proceedings had in the above-entitled cause at the time and place set forth in the caption sheet thereof; that I then and there took down in Stenotype the proceedings had; and that the foregoing is a full, true and correct transcript of such Stenotype notes so made at such time and place.

Given at my office in the City of Jefferson, County of Cole, State of Missouri.

Pamela S. Gentry, CCR #426

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