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August 14, 2001

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

FILED²
AUG 14 2001
Missouri Public
Service Commission

RE: Case No. GM-2001-585

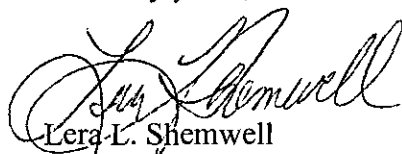
Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned case are an original and eight (8) conformed copies of the **STATEMENT OF THE STAFF CONCERNING THE HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL DESIGNATION OF PORTIONS OF STAFF'S TESTIMONY.**

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,


Lera L. Shemwell
Associate General Counsel
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LLS:sw
Enclosure
cc: Counsel of Record

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED²

AUG 14 2001

Missouri Public
Service Commission

In the Matter of the Joint Application of)
Gateway Pipeline Company, Inc.,)
Missouri Gas Company and Missouri)
Pipeline Company and the Acquisition by)
Gateway Pipeline Company of the)
Outstanding shares of UtiliCorp Pipeline)
Systems, Inc.)

Case No. GM-2001-585

STATEMENT OF THE STAFF CONCERNING THE

HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL DESIGNATION OF PORTIONS OF STAFF'S TESTIMONY

COMES NOW the Staff of the Commission (Staff) and, concerning the information that was designated as Highly Confidential (HC) in its Rebuttal testimony, states as follows:

1. The Staff has prepared and filed the Rebuttal testimony of six witnesses in this case. Much of the testimony has significant portions that have been designated as HC.
2. The Joint Applicants requested a Protective Order and stated to the Commission that disclosure of certain information would be harmful to them and to their customers. The Commission issued its Order Granting Protective Order on May 2, 2001.
3. In its rebuttal testimony, Staff has taken a conservative approach to the designation of testimony as Highly Confidential, and, in some cases, has designated large portions of testimony as HC because the preponderance of information received from Applicant Gateway Pipeline Company was designated as HC.
4. For example, most of the information contained in Ms. Morrissey's testimony is publicly available elsewhere and Staff believes that to make all of Ms. Morrissey's testimony public would not result in any harm to Gateway.

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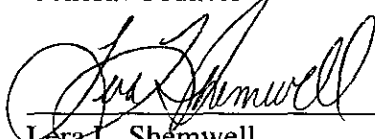
5. Staff is not the "party asserting the claim" that information should be considered HC. The interest in protecting the information, and thus the burden of maintaining the HC designation, is on the proponents of such designation. Staff, therefore, requests that the Joint Applicants review Staff's testimony to determine whether some, if not most, of the testimony may be considered public.

6. If the Joint Applicants determine that any of the information that Staff has designated as HC may be considered to be public information, Staff will refile its Non-Proprietary testimony to include any information that Joint Applicants indicate may be reclassified as public.

WHEREFORE the Staff advises the Commission that it believes that some or all of the materials designated as HC in Staff's Rebuttal testimony may be declassified as public and urges Gateway to designate which portions may be made public.

Respectfully submitted,

DANA K. JOYCE
General Counsel

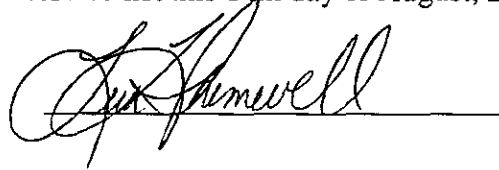


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Certificate of Service

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 14th day of August, 2001

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lisa J. Howell", is written over a horizontal line.

**Service List for
Case No. GM-2001-585
Revised: August 14, 2001 (SW)**

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