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AUDIO RECORDING
IN RE: PREHEARING CONFERENCE - EC20240092
MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMISSION
VOLUME I

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1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Let me -- let me give them
2 a few more minutes.

3 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Your Honor, is that her
4 first?

5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: No. Actually, it's her
6 second girl.

7 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Second. Okay. Good.

8 (Silence in audio.)

9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Has anyone from staff
10 joined us yet? Excuse me. I'm probably only going to
11 wait a few more minutes. I don't see any point in
12 simply staying on the phone, if staff does not have
13 someone ready. It's just a matter of THE parties
14 getting together to discuss, you know, possible
15 schedules or status reports or settlement, that kind
16 of thing, so. Excuse me. Let me give staff another
17 couple more minutes or so, and then -- then we'll
18 probably just wrap up the conference and -- and ask
19 for a pleading sometime after Thanksgiving unless
20 anybody has any objections.

21 MS. FONTAINE: Good morning. It's Sarah
22 Fontaine. I'm going to reach out to Kevin Thompson to
23 see if I can get someone.

24 JUDGE PRIDGIN: I'm sorry, I didn't hear --
25 I heard somebody speak from staff. I didn't get the

1 name. I apologize.

2 MS. FONTAINE: That's okay. It's Sarah
3 Fontaine. I am going to work on reaching out to Kevin
4 Thompson to see if I can get him on here.

5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you.

6 I would like to say, part of the problem
7 might be the fact that there's currently the -- never
8 mind. Kevin's joined. I understand there's also a
9 evidentiary hearing going on, and I'm sure that
10 counsel is spread rather thin right now, and so I
11 don't want to interrupt the hearing or -- this is just
12 a matter of getting parties together to talk, so. Let
13 me see if Sarah can reach somebody from that counsel's
14 office.

15 MS. FONTAINE: It looks like we've got them
16 up on the screen, but I'm not sure if we can hear them
17 or if they can hear us, so let me see what I can
18 figure out here.

19 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, Sarah.

20 I don't -- I don't want to inconvenience
21 anyone any further. Like I said, I'm sure staff
22 counsel is busy with (inaudible) hearing, and so the
23 purpose of the prehearing was really to get the
24 parties together to see if they can give me some sort
25 of pleading, perhaps, by the end of the month. I

1 don't rather normally ask for some schedule for a
2 pleading within a week, but obviously, Thanksgiving
3 gets in the way, and so I was hoping to see if the
4 parties might be able to file some sort of schedule or
5 status report, perhaps, by -- by the end of November.
6 Does anyone have any objection or concerns with that?

7 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Kevin is on the screen.
8 We just can't hear him.

9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. All right. Does
10 anyone have any objection --

11 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I can try to walk up
12 there and see if we can't get them on audio, on just
13 my phone. But I don't have an objection to your
14 question.

15 JUDGE PRIDGIN: I don't mind --

16 ROGER: This is Roger. I don't have an
17 objection either. We can get together with them
18 after, when staff counsel's better available to figure
19 that out.

20 JUDGE PRIDGIN: That sounds good. Why
21 don't we simply do that. I'll just look for some sort
22 of schedule or status report or -- or update from the
23 parties by November 30th. Does counsel have anything
24 else they'd like to bring to my attention?

25 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I don't.

1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Hearing
2 nothing -- okay. Thank you. Hearing nothing, I'm
3 going to disconnect. If you wish to stay on this
4 Webex or phone call or however you joined, you're
5 certainly free to do so and to talk or -- no promises
6 with technology. You might get disconnected, but
7 you're free to stay on this, if you'd like. And
8 unless you have anything else for me, I will conclude
9 this prehearing conference and expect to hear
10 something from the parties by November 30th.

11 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Judge, is Emily --
12 Emily able to determine whether the staff might be
13 muted from her end? They're trying to talk to us.

14 JUDGE PRIDGIN: I don't know. Okay. And I
15 don't know --

16 MS. WALTHERS: It looks like they're not
17 muted.

18 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. I don't know --

19 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Kevin, we can't hear
20 you here, if you can hear us. Okay. Thanks.

21 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Yeah. Hopefully,
22 Mr. Thompson can hear us.

23 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Roger, just give me a
24 minute. I think I can fix the problem.

25 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. We'll wait a minute.

1 Emily, thanks for being on. Thanks for
2 your help. I appreciate it.

3 MS. WALTHERS: Yeah. Absolutely. If we're
4 still here, I'm on the phone with Contessa. She said
5 they're just -- the three of them are going to go to
6 their office and hop on.

7 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Very good. Thank
8 you.

9 (Silence in audio.)

10 CONTESSA: Good morning, everyone.

11 MR. THOMPSON: Can you guys hear me?

12 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Yes. Good morning.

13 CONTESSA: Yes.

14 MS. WALTHERS: Yes, we can hear you.

15 MR. THOMPSON: Great. Thanks. We couldn't
16 get the one in 810 to work. We might need to start
17 doing these face to face, Judge, old style.

18 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Yeah, we may to have,
19 although I'm told that I'm at home sick and would be
20 doing this remotely today anyway, so.

21 MR. THOMPSON: Okay. Well, I apologize for
22 the screw up on our end.

23 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Oh, not a problem. As I --
24 as I told OPC and Evergy, because of Thanksgiving
25 approaching, I would not expect any sort of pleading

1 from you until after Thanksgiving, and I ran by them
2 the idea of having something filed from the parties by
3 November 30th, whether it be a proposed schedule or
4 status report or -- or something like that. Do you
5 have any concerns with that, Mr. Thompson?

6 MR. THOMPSON: No. That's fine with --
7 with staff. Thank you.

8 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Very good. And I think
9 that's all I have, and I -- I plan on jumping off the
10 call and -- and leaving you to talk, if you'd like.
11 Is there -- is there anything else that counsel needs
12 to bring to my attention before I hop off?

13 MR. THOMPSON: Just to let you know, Judge,
14 we are considering amending the complaint.

15 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. And obviously, if --
16 if staff does so, you know, I would want to give more
17 time for Everygy to -- to answer, and then, obviously,
18 that might affect any sort of --

19 MR. THOMPSON: Right.

20 JUDGE PRIDGIN: -- schedule or status
21 report, but --

22 MR. THOMPSON: I understand.

23 JUDGE PRIDGIN: -- thank you for letting me
24 know that, Mr. Thompson. I appreciate that.

25 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you.

1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Any -- anything else from
2 counsel before I hop off the call?

3 All right. Hearing nothing, I will expect
4 to hear something from the parties by November 30th,
5 and I wish everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving.
6 Thank you very much.

7 MR. THOMPSON: You, too, Judge. Thank you.

8 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Thanks, John.

9 (Audio ended.)

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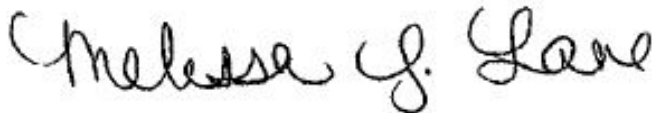
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24 Date: November 21, 2023
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