Robin Carnahan
Secretary of State

Administrative Rules Division
Rulemaking Transmittal Receipt

Rule ID: 7594
Date Printed: 10/31/2007
Rule Number: 4 CSR 240-20.091
Rulemaking Type: Proposed Rule
Date Submitted to *Administrative Rules Division*: 10/31/2007
Date Submitted to Joint Committee on Administrative Rules: 10/31/2007

Name of Person to Contact with questions concerning this rule:

Content: Cully Dale	Phone: 1-4255	Email: cully.dale@psc.mo.gov	Fax:
RuleDataEntry: Cully Dale	Phone: 1-4255	Email: cully.dale@psc.mo.gov	Fax:

Included with Rulemaking:

Cover Letter	10/31/2007
Affidavit for public cost	10/31/2007

Print Close

Robin Carnahan
Secretary of State
Administrative Rules Division

RULE TRANSMITTAL

COPY

Administrative Rules Stamp

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SECRETARY OF STATE
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Rule Number 4 CSR 240-20.091

Use a "SEPARATE" rule transmittal sheet for EACH individual rulemaking.

Name of person to call with questions about this rule:
Content Cully Dale Phone 751-4255 FAX _____
Email address cully.dale@psc.mo.gov

Data Entry same Phone _____ FAX _____
Email address _____

Interagency mailing address Public Service Commission, 9th Floor, Governor Office Bldg

TYPE OF RULEMAKING ACTION TO BE TAKEN
☐ Emergency rulemaking, include effective date
☒ Proposed Rulemaking
☐ Withdrawal ☐ Rule Action Notice ☐ In Addition ☐ Rule Under Consideration
☐ Order of Rulemaking
Effective Date for the Order _____
☐ Statutory 30 days OR Specific date _____

Does the Order of Rulemaking contain changes to the rule text? ☐ NO
☐ YES—LIST THE SECTIONS WITH CHANGES, including any deleted rule text:

Small Business Regulatory Fairness Board (DED) Stamp

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REGULATORY FAIRNESS BOARD

JCAR Stamp

JOINT COMMITTEE ON
OCT 31 2007
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Missouri Public Service Commission

POST OFFICE BOX 360
JEFFERSON CITY MISSOURI 65102
573-751-3234
573-751-1847 (Fax Number)
http://www.psc.mo.gov

October 31, 2007

Honorable Robin Carnahan
Secretary of State
Administrative Rules Division
600 West Main Street
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Dear Secretary Carnahan:

Re: Proposed Rule 4 CSR 240-20.091

CERTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULE

I do hereby certify that the attached is an accurate and complete copy of the proposed rule lawfully submitted by the Missouri Public Service Commission for filing on this 31st day of October, 2007.

Statutory Authority: Sections 386.210.2 and 386.250 RSMo 2000.

Executive Order 93-13 requires state agencies to undertake a "takings analysis" of each proposed rulemaking in light of the United States Supreme court decision in *Lucas v. South Carolina Coastal Council,* 112 S. Ct. 2886 (1992). Pursuant to that order, I have undertaken a "takings analysis" of the above-referenced proposed rulemaking. In *Lucas,* the Court held that state regulation depriving an owner of real property of all economically beneficial use of that property constitutes a "taking" under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution, for which the property owner must be compensated. Adopting the proposed rulemaking does not implicate the takings clause of the U.S. Constitution, because the proposed rulemaking does not involve the taking of real property.

Section 536.300, RSMo Supp. 2006, requires state agencies to "determine whether the proposed rule amendments affect small businesses and, if so, the availability and practicability of less-restrictive alternatives that could be implemented to achieve the same results of the proposed rulemaking." Executive Order 03-15, which similarly addresses the impacts of rulemakings on small businesses, defines a small business to be "a for-profit enterprise consisting of fewer than one hundred full- or part-time employees" and elaborates

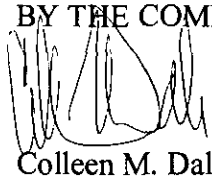
that a proposed rule "affects" a small business if it "impose[s] any potential or actual requirement" that "will cause direct and significant economic burden upon a small business, or that is directly related to the formation, operation, or expansion of a small business." Section 536.300.3, RSMo Supp. 2006, in part, provides: "If the state agency determines that its proposed rule does not affect small business, the state agency shall so certify this finding in the transmittal letter to the secretary of state, stating that it has determined that such proposed rule will not have an economic impact on small business . . ."

Proposed rule 4 CSR 240-20.091 does not impose requirements that have an economic impact on small businesses, that "will cause direct and significant economic burden upon a small business, or that is directly related to the formation, operation, or expansion of a small business." The Commission certifies that is has determined that the proposed rule will not have an economic impact on small businesses.

If there are any questions, please contact:

Colleen M. Dale, Secretary
Missouri Public Service Commission
200 Madison Street
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 751-4255
cully.dale@psc.mo.gov

BY THE COMMISSION



Colleen M. Dale
Secretary

Title 4—DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Division 240—Public Service Commission
Chapter 20—Electric Utilities

PROPOSED RULE

4 CSR 240-20.091 Electric Utility Environmental Cost Recovery Mechanisms

(1) Definitions. As used in this rule, the following terms mean as follows:

(A) Electric utility means electrical corporation as defined in section 386.020, RSMo, subject to commission regulation pursuant to Chapters 386 and 393, RSMo;

(B) Environmental Cost Recovery Mechanism (ECRM) means a mechanism established in a general rate proceeding that allows periodic rate adjustments, outside a general rate proceeding, to reflect the net increases or decreases in an electric utility's incurred environmental costs.

(C) Environmental costs means prudently incurred costs, both capital and expense, directly related to compliance with any federal, state, or local environmental law, regulation or rule.

1. Environmental costs do not include fuel and purchased power costs as defined in 4 CSR 240-20.090(1)(B).

2. Prudently incurred costs do not include any increased costs resulting from negligent or wrongful acts or omissions by the utility.

(D) Environmental revenue requirement means the environmental costs identified in the general rate proceeding which forms the base for future periodic adjustments of the ECRM.

(E) General rate proceeding means a general rate increase proceeding or complaint proceeding before the commission in which all relevant factors that may affect the costs, or rates and charges of the electric utility are considered by the commission;

(F) Rate class is a customer class as defined in an electric utility's tariff. Generally, rate classes include Residential, Small General Service, Large General Service and Large Power Service, but may include additional rate classes. Each rate class includes all customers served under all variations of the rate schedules available to that class.

(G) Staff means the staff of the Public Service Commission; and

(H) True-up year means the twelve (12)-month period beginning on the first day of the first calendar month following the effective date of the commission order approving an ECRM unless the effective date is on the first day of the calendar month. If the effective date of the commission order approving a rate mechanism is on the first day of a calendar month, then the true-up year begins on the effective date of the commission order. The first annual true-up period shall end on the last day of the twelfth calendar month following the effective date of the commission order establishing the ECRM. Subsequent true-up years shall be the succeeding twelve (12)-month periods. If a general rate proceeding is concluded prior to the conclusion of a true-up year the true-up year may be less than twelve (12) months. If the commission approves both a fuel adjustment clause mechanism and an ECRM for the electric utility, the true-up year will be the same for both.

(2) Applications to Establish, Continue or Modify an ECRM. Pursuant to the provisions of this rule, 4 CSR 240-2.060 and section 386.266, RSMo, only an electric utility in a general rate proceeding may file an application with the commission to establish, continue or modify an ECRM by filing tariff schedules. Any party in a general rate proceeding in which an ECRM is in effect or proposed may seek to continue, modify or oppose the ECRM. The commission shall approve, modify or reject such applications to establish an ECRM only after providing the opportunity for a full hearing in a general rate proceeding. The commission shall consider all relevant factors that may affect the costs or overall rates and charges of the petitioning electric utility.

(A) The commission may approve the establishment, continuation or modification of an ECRM and rate schedules implementing an ECRM provided that it finds that the ECRM it approves is reasonably designed to provide the electric utility with a sufficient opportunity to earn a fair return on equity.

(B) The commission may take into account any change in business risk to the utility resulting from establishment, continuation or modification of the ECRM in setting the electric utility's allowed return in any rate proceeding, in addition to any other changes in business risk experienced by the electric utility.

(C) In determining which environmental cost components to include in an ECRM, the commission will consider, but is not limited to only considering, the magnitude of the costs, the ability of the utility to manage the costs, the incentive provided to the utility as a result of the inclusion or exclusion of the cost, and the extent to which the cost is related to environmental compliance.

(D) The Commission may, in its discretion, determine what portion of prudently incurred environmental costs may be recovered in an ECRM and what portion shall be recovered in base rates.

(E) Any party to the general rate proceeding may oppose the establishment, continuation or modification of an ECRM and/or may propose alternative ECRMs for the commission's consideration including but not limited to modifications to the electric utility's proposed ECRM.

(F) The ECRM shall be based on environmental costs that have been incurred by the electric utility.

(G) If an ECRM is approved, the commission shall determine an environmental revenue requirement portion of the electric utility's overall revenue requirement to which base rates are deemed as applying.

(H) If costs are requested to be recovered through the ECRM and the revenue to be collected in the ECRM rate schedules exceeds two and one-half (2 ½) percent of the electric utility's Missouri annual gross jurisdictional revenues, the electric utility cannot subsequently request that any cost identified as an environments cost be recovered through a fuel rate adjustment mechanism.

(I) The electric utility shall include in its initial notice to customers regarding the general rate case, a commission approved description of how the costs passed through the proposed ECRM requested shall be applied to monthly bills.

(J) The electric utility shall meet the filing requirements in 4 CSR 240-3.162(2) in conjunction with an application to establish an ECRM and 4 CSR 240-3.162(3) in conjunction with an application to continue or modify an ECRM.

(3) Application for Discontinuation of an ECRM. The commission shall allow or require the rate schedules that define and implement an ECRM to be discontinued and withdrawn only after providing the opportunity for a full hearing in a general rate proceeding. The commission shall consider all relevant factors that affect the cost or overall rates and charges of the petitioning electric utility.

(A) Any party to the general rate proceeding may oppose the discontinuation of an ECRM on the grounds that the electric utility is currently or, in the next four (4) years is likely to experience declining costs. If the commission finds that the electric utility is seeking to discontinue the ECRM under these circumstances, the commission shall not permit the ECRM to be discontinued, and shall order its continuation or modification. To continue or modify the ECRM under such circumstances, the commission must find that it provides the electric utility with a sufficient opportunity to earn a fair rate of return on equity.

(B) The commission may take into account any change in business risk to the corporation resulting from discontinuance of the ECRM in setting the electric utility's allowed return in any rate proceeding, in addition to any other changes in business risk experienced by the electric utility.

(C) The electric utility shall include in its initial notice to customers regarding the general rate case, a commission approved description of why it believes the ECRM should be discontinued.

(D) Subsections (2)(C) through (H) shall apply to any proposal for continuation or modification.

(E) The electric utility shall meet the filing requirements in 4 CSR 240-3.162(4).

(4) Periodic Adjustments of ECRMs. If an electric utility files proposed rate schedules to adjust its ECRM rates between general rate proceedings, the staff shall examine and analyze the information filed by the electric utility in accordance with 4 CSR 240-3.162 and additional information obtained through discovery, if any, to determine if the proposed adjustment to the ECRM is in accordance with the provisions of this rule, section 386.266, RSMo and the ECRM established in the most recent general rate proceeding. The staff shall submit a recommendation regarding its examination and analysis to the commission not later than thirty (30) days after the electric utility files its tariff schedules to adjust its ECRM rates. If the ECRM rate adjustment is in accordance with the provisions of this rule, section 386.266, RSMo, and the ECRM established in the most recent general rate proceeding, the commission shall either issue an interim rate adjustment order approving the tariff schedules and the ECRM rate adjustments within sixty (60) days of the electric utility's filing or, if no such order is issued, the tariff schedules and the ECRM rate adjustments shall take effect sixty (60) days after the tariff schedules were filed. If the ECRM rate adjustment is not in accordance with the provisions of this rule, section 386.266, RSMo, or the ECRM established in the most recent rate proceeding, the commission shall reject the proposed rate schedules within sixty (60) days of the electric utility's filing and may instead order implementation of an appropriate interim rate schedule(s).

(A) The periodic adjustment shall be based on environmental costs incurred since the prior general rate proceeding.

(B) The periodic adjustment shall consist of a comprehensive measurement of both increases and decreases to the environmental revenue requirement established in the prior general rate proceeding plus the additional environmental costs.

(C) Any periodic adjustment made to ECRM rate schedules shall not generate an annual amount of general revenue that exceeds two and one-half (2 ½) percent of the electric utility's Missouri gross jurisdictional revenues established in the electric utility's most recent general rate proceeding.

1. Missouri gross jurisdictional revenues shall be the amount established in the electric utility's most recent general rate proceeding and exclude gross receipts tax, sales tax and other similar pass-through taxes not included in tariffed rates for regulated services;

2. The electric utility shall be permitted to collect any applicable gross receipts tax, sales tax, or other similar pass-through taxes and such taxes shall not be counted against the two and one-half (2 ½) percent rate adjustment cap; and

3. Any environmental costs, to the extent addressed by the ECRM, not recovered as a result of the two and one-half (2 ½) percent limitation on rate adjustments may be deferred, at a carrying cost each month equal to the utility's net of tax cost of capital, for recovery in a subsequent year or in the utility's next general rate proceeding.

(D) An electric utility with an ECRM shall file one (1) mandatory adjustment to its ECRM in each true-up year coinciding with the true-up of its ECRM. It may also file one (1) additional adjustment to its ECRM within a true-up year with the timing and number of such additional filings to be determined in the general rate proceeding establishing the ECRM and in general rate proceedings thereafter.

(E) The electric utility must be current on its submission of its Surveillance Monitoring Reports as required in section (9) and its monthly reporting requirements as required by 4 CSR 240-3.162(5) in order for the commission to process the electric utility's requested ECRM adjustment increasing rates.

(F) If the staff, Office of the Public Counsel (OPC) or other party who receives the information that the electric utility is required to submit in 4 CSR 240-3.162 and as ordered by the commission in a previous proceeding, believes that the information required to be submitted pursuant to 4 CSR 240-3.162 and the commission order establishing the ECRM has not been submitted in compliance with that rule, it shall notify the electric utility within ten (10) days of the electric utility's filing of an application or tariff schedules to adjust the ECRM rates and identify the information required. The electric utility shall supply the information identified by the party, or shall notify the party that it believes the information provided was in compliance with the requirements of 4 CSR 240-3.162, within ten (10) days of the request. If the electric utility does not timely supply the information, the party asserting the failure to provide the required information must timely file a motion to compel with the commission. While the commission is considering the motion to compel, the processing timeline for the adjustment to increase ECRM rates shall be suspended. If the commission then issues an order requiring the information be provided, the time necessary for the information to be provided shall further extend the processing timeline for the adjustment to increase ECRM rates. For good cause shown the commission may further suspend this timeline.

Any delay in providing sufficient information in compliance with 4 CSR 240-3.162 in a request to decrease ECRM rates shall not alter the processing timeline.

(5) True-ups of an ECRM. An electric utility that files for an ECRM shall include in its tariff schedules and application, if filed in addition to tariff schedules, provision for true-ups on at least an annual basis which shall accurately and appropriately remedy any over-collection or under-collection through subsequent rate adjustments or refunds.

(A) The subsequent true-up rate adjustments or refunds shall include interest at the electric utility's short-term borrowing rate. The interest rate on accumulated ECRM under-collections or over-collections shall be calculated on a monthly basis for each month the ECRM rate is in effect, equal to the weighted average interest rate paid by the electric utility on short-term debt for that calendar month. This rate shall then be applied to a simple average of the same month's beginning and ending cumulative ECRM over-collection or under-collection balance. Each month's accumulated interest shall be included in the ECRM over-collection or under-collection balances on an ongoing basis.

(B) The true-up adjustment shall be the difference between the revenue collected and the revenue authorized for collection during the true-up period and billed revenues associated with the ECRM during the true-up period.

(C) The electric utility must be current on its submission of its Surveillance Monitoring Reports as required in section (9) and its monthly reporting requirements as required by 4 CSR 240-3.162(5) at the time that it files its application for a true-up of its ECRM in order for the commission to process the electric utility's requested annual true-up of any under-collection.

(D) The staff shall examine and analyze the information filed by the electric utility pursuant to 4 CSR 240-3.162 and additional information obtained through discovery, to determine whether the true-up is in accordance with the provisions of this rule, section 386.266, RSMo and the ECRM established in the electric utility's most recent general rate proceeding. The staff shall submit a recommendation regarding its examination and analysis to the commission not later than thirty (30) days after the electric utility files its tariff schedules for a true-up. The commission shall either issue an order deciding the true-up within sixty (60) days of the electric utility's filing, suspend the timeline of the true-up in order to receive additional evidence and hold a hearing if needed or, if no such order is issued, the tariff schedules and the ECRM rate adjustments shall take effect by operation of law sixty (60) days after the electric utility's filing.

1. If the staff, OPC or other party who receives the information that the electric utility is required to submit in 4 CSR 240-3.162 and as ordered by the commission in a previous proceeding, believes the information that is required to be submitted pursuant to 4 CSR 240-3.162 and the commission order establishing the ECRM has not been submitted or is insufficient to make a recommendation regarding the electric utility's true-up filing, it shall notify the electric utility within ten (10) days of the electric utility's filing and identify the information required. The electric utility shall supply the information identified by the party, or shall notify the party that it believes the information provided was responsive to the requirements, within ten (10) days of the request. If the electric utility does not timely supply the information, the party asserting the failure to provide the required information must timely file a motion to compel with the commission.

While the commission is considering the motion to compel the processing timeline for the adjustment to the ECRM rates shall be suspended. If the commission then issues an order requiring the information to be provided, the time necessary for the information to be provided shall further extend the processing timeline. For good cause shown the commission may further suspend this timeline.

2. If the party requesting the information can demonstrate to the commission that the adjustment shall result in a reduction in the ECRM rates, the processing timeline shall continue with the best information available. When the electric utility provides the necessary information, the ECRM shall be adjusted again, if necessary, to reflect the additional information provided by the electric utility.

(6) Duration of ECRMs and Requirement for General Rate Case. Once an ECRM is approved by the commission, it shall remain in effect for a term of not more than four (4) years unless the commission earlier authorizes the modification, extension, or discontinuance of the ECRM in a general rate proceeding, although an electric utility may submit proposed rate schedules to implement periodic adjustments to its ECRM rates between general rate proceedings.

(A) If the commission approves an ECRM for an electric utility, the electric utility must file a general rate case with the effective date of new rates to be no later than four (4) years after the effective date of the commission order implementing the ECRM, assuming the maximum statutory suspension of the rates so filed.

(B) The four (4)-year period shall not include any periods in which the electric utility is prohibited from collecting any charges under the adjustment mechanism, or any period for which charges collected under the ECRM must be fully refunded. In the event a court determines that the ECRM is unlawful and all moneys collected are fully refunded as a result of such a decision, the electric utility shall be relieved of any obligation to file a rate case. The term fully refunded as used in this section does not include amounts refunded as a result of reductions in net environmental compliance costs or prudence adjustments.

(7) Prudence Reviews Respecting an ECRM. A prudence review of the costs subject to the ECRM shall be conducted no less frequently than at eighteen (18)-month intervals.

(A) All amounts ordered refunded by the commission shall include interest at the electric utility's short-term borrowing rate. The interest shall be calculated on a monthly basis in the same manner as described in section (5)(A).

(B) The staff shall submit a recommendation regarding its examination and analysis to the commission not later than one hundred eighty (180) days after the staff initiates its prudence audit. The timing and frequency of prudence audits for each ECRM shall be established in the general rate proceeding in which the ECRM is established. The staff shall file notice within ten (10) days of starting its prudence audit. The commission shall issue an order not later than two hundred ten (210) days after the staff commences its prudence audit if no party to the proceeding in which the prudence audit is occurring files, within one hundred ninety (190) days of the staff's commencement of its prudence audit, a request for a hearing.

1. If the staff, OPC or other party auditing the ECRM believes that insufficient information has been supplied to make a recommendation regarding the prudence of the electric utility's ECRM, it may utilize discovery to obtain the information it seeks. If the electric utility does not timely supply the information, the party asserting the failure to provide the required information must timely file a motion to compel with the commission. While the commission is considering the motion to compel the processing timeline shall be suspended. If the commission then issues an order requiring the information to be provided, the time necessary for the information to be provided shall further extend the processing timeline. For good cause shown the commission may further suspend this timeline.

2. If the timeline is extended due to an electric utility's failure to timely provide sufficient responses to discovery and a refund is due to the customers, the electric utility shall refund all imprudently incurred costs plus interest at the electric utility's short-term borrowing rate. The interest shall be calculated on a monthly basis in the same manner as described in section (5)(A).

(8) Disclosure on Customers' Bills. Any amounts charged under an ECRM approved by the commission shall be separately disclosed on each customer's bill. Proposed language regarding this disclosure shall be submitted to the commission for the commission's approval.

(9) Submission of Surveillance Monitoring Reports. Each electric utility with an approved ECRM shall submit to staff, OPC and parties approved by the commission a Surveillance Monitoring Report in the form and having the content provided for by 4 CSR 240-3.162(6).

(A) The Surveillance Monitoring Report shall be submitted within fifteen (15) days of the electric utility's next scheduled United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) 10-Q or 10-K filing with the initial submission within fifteen (15) days of the electric utility's next scheduled SEC 10-Q or 10-K filing following the effective date of the commission order establishing the ECRM.

(B) If the electric utility also has an approved fuel rate adjustment mechanism, the electric utility must submit a single Surveillance Monitoring Report for both the ECRM and the fuel rate adjustment mechanism. However, for the Surveillance Monitoring Report to be complete for the ECRM, it must include a list of all settlements in regards to environmental compliance causing the electric utility to incur expenses or make investments in excess of one hundred thousand (100,000) dollars or fines against the electric utility in regards to environmental compliance greater than one hundred thousand (100,000) dollars as required in 4 CSR 240-3.162(6)(A)5.G.

(C) Upon a finding that a utility has knowingly or recklessly provided materially false or inaccurate information to the commission regarding the surveillance data prescribed in 4 CSR 240-3.162(6), after notice and an opportunity for a hearing, the commission may suspend an ECRM or order other appropriate remedies as provided by law.

(10) Pre-Existing Adjustment Mechanisms, Tariffs and Regulatory Plans. The provisions of this rule shall not affect:

(A) Any adjustment mechanism, rate schedule, tariff, incentive plan, or other ratemaking mechanism that was approved by the commission and in effect prior to the effective date of this rule; and

(B) Any experimental regulatory plan that was approved by the commission and in effect prior to the effective date of this rule.

(11) Nothing in this rule shall preclude a complaint case from being filed, as provided by law, on the grounds that a utility is earning more than a fair return on equity, nor shall an electric utility be permitted to use the existence of its ECRM as a defense to a complaint case based upon an allegation that it is earning more than a fair return on equity. If a complaint is filed on the grounds that a utility is earning more than a fair return on equity, the commission shall issue a procedural schedule that includes a clear delineation of the case timeline no later than sixty (60) days from the date the complaint is filed.

(12) Rule Review. The commission shall review the effectiveness of this rule by no later than June 30, 2011, and may, if it deems necessary, initiate rulemaking proceedings to revise this rule.

(13) Waiver of Provisions of this Rule. Provisions of this rule may be waived by the commission for good cause shown after an opportunity for a hearing.

AUTHORITY: sections 386.250 and 393.140, RSMo 2000, and section 386.266, SB179, effective January 1, 2006.

PUBLIC COST: This proposed rule will not cost state agencies or political subdivisions more than $500 in the aggregate.

PRIVATE COST: This proposed rule will not cost private entities more than $500 in the aggregate.

NOTICE TO SUBMIT COMMENTS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: Anyone may file comments in support of or in opposition to this proposed rule with the Missouri Public Service Commission, Colleen M. Dale, Secretary of the Commission, PO Box 360, Jefferson City, MO 65102. To be considered, comments must be received at the Commission's offices on or before January 2, 2008, and should include a reference to Commission Case No. EX-2008-0105. If comments are submitted via a paper filing, an original and eight (8) copies of the comments are required. Comments may also be submitted via a filing using the Commission's electronic filing and information system at <http://www.psc.state.mo.us/efis.asp>. A public hearing regarding this proposed rule is scheduled for January 17, 2008, at 10:00 am in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. Interested persons may appear at this hearing to submit additional comments and/or testimony in support of or in opposition to this proposed rule, and may be asked to respond to commission questions.

Any persons with special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing at one (1) of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline 1-800-392-4211 or TDD Hotline 1-800-829-7541.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Proposed Rule 4 CSR 240-3.162 and 4 CSR 240-20.091, Environmental Cost Recovery Mechanisms.	))))	**Case No. EX-2008-0105**

DISSENTING OPINION OF COMMISSIONER ROBERT M CLAYTON III

This Commissioner objects to the majority's decision to initiate a rulemaking authorizing a new utility-benefitting surcharge while ignoring critically important Reliability Rules which have been stalled in the rulemaking process. The majority agreed to send the proposed Environmental Cost Recovery Mechanism (ECRM) Rule to the Secretary of State for publication, which commences the former rulemaking process, while the consumer-benefitting Reliability Rule has been delayed at the Department of Economic Development (DED) since August 2nd. The ECRM, which authorizes utilities to assess an additional surcharge on consumers pursuant to SB179, was sent to the DED on October 16, 2007 and was returned on October 23, 2007: a turn-around of one week. In stark contrast, the Commission voted to send the Reliability Rule to DED on August 2, 2007. Nearly three months have passed and the Commission has been unable to act on essential tools to improve electrical reliability for Missouri consumers.

This Commissioner is frustrated with DED's failure to return the Reliability Rule to the Commission for further action. By statute, DED's role in the PSC rulemaking process is to review the fiscal note and the Director must submit an affidavit stating the fiscal note is

reasonably accurate. It is not DED's role to pass judgment on the merits of a proposed rulemaking.

Following the investigation into the storms of 2006, this Commissioner believes establishing high standards for electrical reliability is of the utmost importance. That investigation found evidence of poor reliability both during storm conditions and under normal weather conditions. The results of the investigation have led to a three-pronged approach to improving reliability, including rules affecting vegetation management practices and reporting as well as infrastructure inspection and replacement. While this Commissioner has been disappointed that the majority failed to adopt adequate rules in vegetation management and infrastructure inspection, improved reliability service can still be snatched from the jaws of mediocre service by adoption of the most important leg on the "three-legged stool" relating to reliability standards and reporting. Ratepayers are entitled to reliable service which will result from these aggressive new standards that have never before existed in Missouri.

Unfortunately, the DED has prioritized the ECRM rule – a rule that will clearly benefit electric utilities financially, while it flagrantly disregards a rule that will demand high standards for reliable electrical service and action to rectify those reliability problems. This Commissioner cannot vote to advance the ECRM in the rulemaking process while the Reliability Rule is ignored as unimportant. Such a vote endorses the prioritization of a rule that benefits a utility while a rule that sets high standards for electric utilities is prevented from advancing in the rulemaking process.

This Commission has a responsibility to balance the interests of utility shareholders and ratepayers. By moving forward with the new surcharge rulemaking while delaying reliability, the balance is shifted in favor of the utilities over consumers. Following the storms of 2006 and

2007, the public and the General Assembly demanded that the Commission take strong, responsible action at improving service to Missouri customers. Reliability standards must be in place to measure utility performance and improve reliability.

For the foregoing reasons, this Commissioner dissents from the majority's vote to send the ECRM rule to the Secretary of State for publication and urges prompt action on the proposed rules relating to reliability.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. Clayton III
Commissioner

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 31st day of October 2007.

AFFIDAVIT

PUBLIC COST

STATE OF MISSOURI)
)
COUNTY OF COLE)

I, Gregory A. Steinhoff, Director of the Department of Economic Development, first being duly sworn, on my oath, state that it is my opinion that the cost of proposed rule, 4 CSR 240-20.091, is less than five hundred dollars in the aggregate to this agency, any other agency of state government or any political subdivision thereof.

Gregory A. Steinhoff
Director
Department of Economic Development

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 22nd day of October, 2007, I am commissioned as a notary public within the County of Cole, State of Missouri, and my commission expires on 17 July 2011.

Notary Public

ANNETTE KEHNER
Notary Public - Notary Seal
State of Missouri
Commissioned for Cole County
My Commission Expires: July 17, 2011
Commission Number: 07492656

Small Business Regulator Fairness Board
Small Business Impact Statement

Date: October 10, 2007

Rule Number: 4 CSR 240-20.091

Name of Agency Preparing Statement: Missouri Public Service Commission

Name of Person Preparing Statement: Lena Mantle

Phone Number: 573-751-7520 Email: Lena Mantle

Name of Person Approving Statement: Cully Dale

Please describe the methods your agency considered or used to reduce the impact on small businesses *(examples: consolidation, simplification, differing compliance, differing reporting requirements, less stringent deadlines, performance rather than design standards, exemption, or any other mitigating technique).*

N/A – Only directly impacts the four investor-owned utility companies in the state.

Please explain how your agency has involved small businesses in the development of the proposed rule.

N/A – Only directly impacts the four investor-owned utility companies in the state.

Please list the probable monetary costs and benefits to your agency and any other agencies affected. Please include the estimated total amount your agency expects to collect from additionally imposed fees and how the moneys will be used.

None

Please describe small businesses that will be required to comply with the proposed rule and how they may be adversely affected.

None

Please list direct and indirect costs (in dollars amounts) associated with compliance.

N/A

Please list types of business that will be directly affected by, bear the cost of, or directly benefit from the proposed rule.

The four investor-owned utility companies in the state.

Does the proposed rule include provisions that are more stringent than those mandated by comparable or related federal, state, or county standards?
Yes___ No_X__

If yes, please explain the reason for imposing a more stringent standard.

For further guidance in the completion of this statement, please see §536.300, RSMo.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

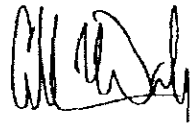
In the Matter of Proposed Rules 4 CSR 240-3.162 and 4 CSR 240-20.091, Environmental Cost Recovery Mechanisms	)))	**Case No. EX-2008-0105**

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NECESSITY

Issue Date: October 31, 2007

Due to the passage of SB179, which allows for Environmental Cost Recovery Mechanisms, the Commission opened this case to provide filing requirements and substantive requirements concerning such mechanisms. The specific proposed rules are as follows: 4 CSR 240-3.162, and 4 CSR 240-20.091. The subject rules are necessary in that they effectuate the Environmental Cost Recovery Mechanism provisions.

BY THE COMMISSION



Colleen M. Dale
Secretary

(S E A L)

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 31st day of October, 2007.

Dale, Chief Regulatory Law Judge