

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of a Proposed Amendment to	)	
The Commission's Rule Regarding Ex Parte	)	AX-2012-0072
And Extra Record Communications	)	

**COMMENTS OF THE MISSOURI INDUSTRIAL ENERGY CONSUMERS**

COMES NOW the Missouri Industrial Energy Consumers ("MIEC") and provides the following comments regarding the Commission's proposal to amend 4 CSR 4 240-4.020 regarding ex parte and extra record communications.

The MIEC opposes deletion of 4 CSR 240-4.020 (11), which provides:

No person who is likely to be a party to a future case before the commission shall attempt to communicate with any commissioner or member of the technical advisory staff regarding any substantive issue that is likely to be an issue within a future contested case, unless otherwise allowed by this rule . . .

This rule is essential to protect the impartiality and fairness of the Commission process, and is required by Missouri law, including Supreme Court Rule 2.01, Canon 1 and Canon 2 and Chapter 610 RSMo.

WHEREFORE, the MIEC requests that the Commission preserve its rules at 4 CSR 240-4.020

Respectfully submitted,

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that the foregoing was served via e-mail on counsel for all parties of record on this 1st day of December, 2011.

/s/ Diana Vuylsteke