

Supplier Diversity Task Force
An Annual Report for the
Missouri Public Service Commission
August 2013

#### Overview

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  - Mission and Purpose
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# Groundbreaking work of the MEDA Supplier Diversity Task Force

In 2011 the Supplier Diversity Task Force, made up of investor-owned regulated utilities in the state of Missouri was formed to exchange information, share ideas, and provide ongoing support and advancement of each company's supplier diversity programs, and identify and nurture diverse suppliers in Missouri.

# Mission and Purpose

- Mission Statement: The mission of this task force is to exchange ideas and share information to influence diversity issues as well as raise public awareness.
- ▶ Purpose Statement: The goal of the MEDA Supplier Diversity Task Force shall be to provide a forum for member companies to exchange ideas and share information to advance company and association goals with respect to supplier diversity issues. To further achieve this goal, the task force members shall seek opportunities to encourage the development and utilization of viable, competitive Minority–Owned, Women–Owned, Small, Small Disadvantaged, Veteran–Owned, and Service Disabled Veteran–Owned businesses in such a way that reflects the diversity of member company customer bases. The task force will undertake these efforts recognizing the importance of key elements of the "total cost equation" and the balance of a diversified supply chain.

# Task Force Membership

- Membership is open to all investor-owned Electric and Natural Gas Companies and one investor owned Water company in the State of Missouri.
- Missouri Energy Development Association provides meeting space and staff support. The budget is provided by all member companies on an annual basis.

# **MEDA Member Companies**

#### **Utility Partners**

AmerenMO
The Empire District Electric Company
Kansas City Power & Light
Laclede Gas Company
Liberty Utilities
Missouri American Water
Missouri Gas Energy







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#### Task Force Activities

- Energy Day at the Capitol
- Task Force utilities are members of various Chambers of Commerce
- Each company hosts the MEDA Supplier Task Force meeting
- Attend minority Chamber events
- Attend St. Louis/Kansas City Business Opportunity Fairs
- Partner with Chambers on special events

### **Key Accomplishments**

- Continuing to grow Supplier Diversity programs
  - Adding new employees
  - Sharing best practices
- Attend Business Opportunity Fairs
  - Procurement Events
- Establishing mentoring programs
- By helping minority businesses they continue to grow and add employees
- Establish an annual MEDA Supplier Diversity Task Force budget
- Develop a Strategic plan and goals

#### Conclusion

The MEDA Supplier Diversity Task Force believes that it currently meets or exceeds similar programs being conducted in other states. We are committed to continuing to be proactive in supporting and improving supplier diversity and development.