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

In the Matter of the Application of St. Joseph)
Light & Power Company for a Certificate of)
Convenience and Necessity Authorizing It to)
Install, Own, Acquire, Construct, Operate,)
Control, Manage and Maintain Natural Gas) **Case No. GA-2000-422**
Plant and Facilities, Including a Natural Gas)
Distribution System, and to Furnish Natural)
Gas Service to the Public, in a Service Area)
in Portions of Andrew, Atchison, Holt, and)
Nodaway Counties, Missouri.)

ORDER AND NOTICE OF APPLICATION

On January 14, 2000, St. Joseph Light & Power Company (SJLP) filed an application with the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) pursuant to Section 393.170, RSMo 1994, and 4 CSR 240-2.060, requesting that the Commission grant it a certificate of convenience and necessity to construct, install, own, operate, control, manage and maintain a system for the provision of natural gas service to the public pursuant to its approved rates, rules and regulations, in a service area which includes portions of Andrew, Atchison, Holt and Nodaway Counties, Missouri.

The Commission finds it appropriate that notice of this application be made to the general public and interested parties and that a date for intervention of proper parties be set.

The Records Department of the Commission shall provide notice of this application to the county commissions of Andrew, Atchison, Holt and Nodaway Counties. Notice of this application shall also be given by the Information Officer of the Commission to the members of

the General Assembly representing these four counties, and to all publications of general circulation in the counties of Andrew, Atchison, Holt and Nodaway as set out in the Official Manual of the State of Missouri.

The requirement of a hearing has been fulfilled when all those having a desire to be heard are offered an opportunity to be heard. If no proper party or governmental entity is granted intervention and neither the Commission's Staff nor the Office of the Public Counsel requests a hearing, the Commission may determine that a hearing is not necessary and that the Applicant may submit its evidence in support of the Application by verified statement. State ex rel. Rex Deffenderfer Enterprises, Inc. v. P.S.C., 776 S.W.2d 494, 496 (Mo. App. 1989).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the Records Department of the Missouri Public Service Commission is ordered to serve notice of this application to the county commissions of Andrew, Atchison, Holt and Nodaway Counties.

2. That the information officer of the Missouri Public Service Commission is ordered to serve notice of this application to the members of the General Assembly representing the counties of Andrew, Atchison, Holt and Nodaway, and to all publications of general circulation in these four counties as set out in the Official Manual of the State of Missouri.

2. That any proper person wishing to intervene in this matter shall file an application to do so no later than 3:00 p.m. on February 8, 2000. Such applications shall be filed with:

Secretary, Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

and a copy served on:

James C. Swearingen, Esq.
Brydon, Swearingen & England, P.C.
312 East Capitol Avenue
Post Office Box 456
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0456

and:

Office of the Public Counsel
P.O. Box 7800
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

3. That this order shall become effective on February 8,
2000.

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Vicky Ruth, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant
to 4 CSR 240-2.120(1) (November 30,
1995) and Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 26th day of January, 2000.