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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Union Electric Company's)
Filing to Revise its Tariff Sheets)
Applicable to Underground Distribution)
System Extensions.)
Case No. ET-98-110

ORDER ESTABLISHING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

On October 20, 1997, Union Electric Company (UE) filed a proposed procedural schedule. The proposal indicates that UE, Laclede Gas Company (Laclede), the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL-CIO (IBEW), the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff), and Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel) have agreed to recommend the proposed schedule. The Commission has reviewed the proposed schedule and finds the dates appropriate for this case, except for the hearing date. Therefore, the Commission will establish a procedural schedule similar but not identical to the one proposed. The Commission finds that the following conditions should be applied to the schedule:

(1) The Commission will require the prefiling of testimony as defined in 4 CSR 240-2.130. All parties shall comply with this rule, including the requirement that testimony be filed on line-numbered pages. The practice of prefiling testimony is designed to give parties notice of the claims, contentions and evidence in issue and to avoid unnecessary objections and delays caused by allegations of unfair surprise at the hearing.

(2) Testimony and schedules shall not be filed under seal and treated as proprietary or highly confidential unless a protective order has

first been established by the Commission. The party that considers information to be proprietary or highly confidential should request a protective order. Any testimony or schedule filed without a protective order first being established shall be considered public information.

(3) The parties shall file a hearing memorandum setting out the issues to be heard and the witnesses to appear on each day of the hearing, definitions of essential terms, each party's position on the disputed issues, and the order of cross-examination. The hearing memorandum will set forth the issues that are to be heard and decided by the Commission. Any issue not contained in the hearing memorandum will be viewed as uncontested and not requiring resolution by the Commission. Staff will be responsible for preparing and filing the hearing memorandum.

(4) The Commission emphasizes the importance of filing the hearing memorandum on the date set by the Commission. Each party is directed to provide Staff with its position on each unresolved issue no later than January 8, 1998. Staff is not responsible for including in the memorandum the positions of the parties that are not submitted when due.

(5) Nothing in this order shall preclude a party from addressing, or having a reasonable opportunity to address, matters not previously disclosed and arising at the hearing.

(6) The Commission's general policy provides for the filing of the transcript within two weeks after the hearing. If any party seeks to expedite the filing of the transcript, such request shall be tendered in writing to the regulatory law judge at least five days prior to the date of the hearing.

(7) The Commission believes it is appropriate to limit the length of initial briefs to 30 pages and reply briefs to 15 pages. All pleadings, briefs and amendments shall be filed in accordance with 4 CSR

240-2.080. The briefs to be submitted by the parties shall follow the same format established in the hearing memorandum. Initial briefs must set forth and cite the proper portions of the record concerning the remaining unresolved issues that are to be decided by the Commission.

(8) All parties are required to bring an adequate number of copies of exhibits which they intend to offer into evidence at the hearing. If an exhibit has been prefiled, only three copies of the exhibit are necessary for the court reporter. If an exhibit has not been prefiled, the party offering it should bring, in addition to the three copies for the court reporter, copies for the five Commissioners, the regulatory law judge, and opposing counsel.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the following procedural schedule is adopted for this case:

All Parties file Direct Testimony	December 1, 1997
All Parties file Rebuttal Testimony	December 22, 1997
Hearing Memorandum	January 9, 1998
Hearing	January 15-16, 1998 10:00 a.m. (first day)

The hearing will be held in the Commission's hearing room on the fifth floor of the Harry S Truman State Office Building, 301 West High Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. Any person 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 of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline -- 1-800-392-4211, or TDD Hotline -- 1-800-829-7541.

2. That this order shall become effective on October 28, 1997.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cecil I. Wright", with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Cecil I. Wright
Executive Secretary**

(S E A L)

Gregory T. George, 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 28th day of October, 1997.