BV A: Ro

STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 25th day of March, 1998.

| In the Matter of St. Joseph Light & Power |) | |
|--------------------------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Company's purchased gas adjustment factors to be |) | |
| audited in its 1997-1998 Actual Cost |) | Case No. GR-98-392 |
| Adjustment. |) | |

ORDER APPROVING INTERIM RATES

St. Joseph Light & Power Company (SJLP or Company) of St. Joseph, Missouri, submitted a tariff sheet to the Commission on March 16, 1998, carrying an effective date of March 31, 1998. The tariff sheet was filed to reflect scheduled changes in SJLP's Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) factors as the result of changes in the cost of natural gas for the upcoming summer season. Additionally, the Transition Cost (TC) factor increased.

The net effect of this filing will decrease the current Total PGA factor and the estimated effect of this change will decrease the 1997-1998 summer season revenues by approximately \$52,000 as compared to the 1996-1997 summer season revenues. The summer season includes the months of April through October. The estimated impact on a typical residential space heating customer using 312 Ccf of natural gas in the summer season will be a decrease of approximately \$7.81. This represents a decrease of approximately 4% in this customer's summer season bills.

The Staff of the Commission (Staff) filed a memorandum stating that the changes in SJLP's PGA factors were calculated in conformance with the Company's approved PGA Clause. The Staff stated that SJLP's PGA Clause

allows for ten (10) business days notice for filings reflecting PGA changes. Staff recommends that the Commission approve the tariff sheet to become effective March 31, 1998, on an interim basis, subject to refund, pending final Commission decisions in SJLP's ACA Case Nos. GR-97-206, GR-98-175, and GR-98-392.

The Commission has reviewed the tariff sheet and Staff's recommendation, and finds that the tariff sheet conforms to the Company's Commission approved PGA Clause and is therefore reasonable. After considering Staff's recommendation, and for good cause shown pursuant to Section 393.140(11), RSMo 1994, the Commission is of the opinion that the proposed tariff sheet should be approved to become effective on and after the requested effective date of March 31, 1998, interim subject to refund.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the tariff sheet submitted on March 16, 1998, by St. Joseph Light & Power Company of St. Joseph, Missouri, be approved on an interim basis, subject to refund, to become effective on March 31, 1998. The tariff sheet approved is:

P.S.C. MO. No. 4

46th Revised Sheet No. 9.4 Canceling 45th Revised Sheet No. 9.4

2. That this order shall become effective on March 31, 1998.

BY THE COMMISSION

Hared Roberts

Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(SEAL)

Lumpe, Ch., Crumpton, Murray, and Drainer, CC., concur.

George, Regulatory Law Judge

The second secon

MAR 25 1998