

STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Pre-Hearing Conference

March 1, 2016

Jefferson City, Missouri

Volume 1

In The Matter Of The Application)  
of Transource Missouri, LLC, For)  
A Certificate of Convenience And)  
Necessity Authorizing It To Own, )  
Operate, And Maintain A )  
Switchyard Necessary For The ) File No. EA-2016-0188  
Interconnection Of The Rock )  
Creek Wind Project With The )  
Sibley-Nebraska City Electronic )  
Transmission Project )

KIM S. BURTON, Presiding,  
REGULATORY LAW JUDGE.

REPORTED BY:  
Pamela S. Gentry, CCR NO. 426  
TIGER COURT REPORTING, LLC

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APPEARANCES:

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P R O C E E D I N G S

JUDGE BURTON: We'll go on the record in File No. EA-2015-0273, In The Matter Of Application Of Transource Missouri, LLC, For Certificate Of Convenience And Necessity Authorizing It To Own, Operate, And Maintain A Switchyard Necessary For The Interconnection Of The Rock Creek Wind Project With The Sibley-Nebraska City Electric Transmission Project.

Today is March 1st, 2016, and the time is approximately 1:30 in the p.m. We have set this time at the Public Service Commission's main office in Jefferson City for a pre-hearing conference on this matter. At this time, I would ask the parties to enter their appearance for the record.

And on behalf of Transource Missouri, LLC?

MR. HARDEN: This is Joshua Harden.

JUDGE BURTON: Okay. Thank you.

MR. ZOBRIST: And Karl Zobrist.

JUDGE BURTON: Thank you.

And on behalf of Staff?

MR. DOTTHEIM: Steven Dottheim, Nathan Williams, Nicole Mers, and Mark Johnson on behalf of Staff, and do you want an address, Judge?

JUDGE BURTON: I believe you've already

1 provide that to the Court Reporter. That will be  
2 sufficient.

3 MR. DOTTHEIM: Okay. Fine. Thank you.

4 JUDGE BURTON: Okay. Thank you.

5 And on behalf of the Public Counsel?

6 MR. OPITZ: Tim Opitz and Mr. James Owen,  
7 and our address is on the -- we've given it to the  
8 Court Reporter.

9 MR. OWEN: I will be entering my  
10 appearance for the purpose of this hearing. I'm  
11 getting that done. I will do that verbally and also in  
12 writing for the record.

13 JUDGE BURTON: All right. Thank you very  
14 much.

15 Now, at -- at this time, the parties have  
16 requested that this pre-hearing conference -- and I  
17 understand that we do have a request for, essentially,  
18 expedited treatment, but I'm going to let the parties  
19 speak and just sort of give me an update on where we  
20 are and where we need to be.

21 So, Mr. Dottheim or Mr. Zobrist or Mr.  
22 Harden, if you would like to begin?

23 MR. DOTTHEIM: Yes. The Staff requested  
24 the pre-hearing conference so we could visit with  
25 Transource. We have a number of questions that,

1 hopefully, we could get some answers today that will  
2 facilitate us with making a determination as to, at  
3 least, where the -- the Staff believes it is regarding  
4 the matter of the status of the case and expedited  
5 treatment.

6 And we also indicated that the Staff  
7 could make another filing a week from today as far as  
8 making a suggestion or as -- as far as a procedural  
9 schedule or whether we even believe a procedural  
10 schedule is -- is necessary.

11 Of course, Transource made its filing in  
12 the alternative, a filing asserting that the Commission  
13 had no jurisdiction, but in the alternative, if the  
14 Division believes it does, that it was applying for a  
15 certificate of convenience and necessity.

16 JUDGE BURTON: It doesn't sound to me as  
17 if this needs to be a discussion on the record with my  
18 presence. Correct me if I'm wrong on that. And  
19 Mr. Harden, Mr. Zobrist, I don't think you can see, but  
20 Mr. Dottheim is nodding his head.

21 MR. DOTTHEIM: Yes, I think that is  
22 correct.

23 MR. ZOBRI ST: We are likewise nodding  
24 affirmatively.

25 JUDGE BURTON: Okay. How about this.

1 Let me ask you, I don't know where the parties are,  
2 obviously, as far as the status of discussing this  
3 matter between themselves prior to this. Let me just  
4 say, would -- would 30 minutes be sufficient to kind of  
5 get an idea of where we are, and we can go off the  
6 record for an hour, let's say, and then -- and then  
7 come back on and I can check on the status at that  
8 point of how the parties are progressing with their  
9 discussion?

10 MR. ZOBRI ST: I would say even 30 minutes  
11 I think is going to be sufficient,

12 JUDGE BURTON: Okay. If there are no  
13 objections to that, then, why don't we try right now to  
14 say I will check in around 2:00.

15 MR. DOTTHEIM: Well, Judge, that's --  
16 that's fine. I don't think the -- the Staff will be  
17 able to tell you definitively where we are, because I  
18 -- I think the Staff will want to visit amongst itself.

19 JUDGE BURTON: Okay. Does the Staff have  
20 any suggestions then on how it would like to proceed?

21 MR. DOTTHEIM: Well, as -- as the Staff  
22 indicated in its -- its filing last week, it would  
23 report back to the Commission subsequently.

24 JUDGE BURTON: Okay. So, is there even a  
25 need for us to go back on the record today?

1 MR. ZOBRI ST: I don't believe so.

2 MR. DOTTHEIM: No, and I don't believe  
3 so, either.

4 JUDGE BURTON: Okay. Then, why don't we  
5 go ahead and, after we go off the record, and I believe  
6 all the parties can agree Staff can by March 8th --  
7 that's the deadline that they had previously requested  
8 and the Commission granted -- file a status update at  
9 that point, and clarify, if we need to, at that point  
10 consider getting a procedural schedule.

11 If this is looking like it potentially  
12 can go to hearing, I would prefer to get things on the  
13 schedule now because it is filling up as much as  
14 possible. So that we at least have something on the  
15 calendar, whether or not we actually need it. Okay?

16 MR. DOTTHEIM: Certainly.

17 JUDGE BURTON: All right. If there is  
18 nothing further, then we can go off the record.

19 And, so, Mr. Harden and Mr. Zobrist, you,  
20 obviously, cannot see, but I'm not seeing any  
21 indication from the parties present here that there's  
22 any need for my presence any longer.

23 MR. ZOBRI ST: No, we agree.

24 JUDGE BURTON: Well, thank you. Everyone  
25 agrees I should get out. Then, that being said, we

1 will go off the record.

2 Thank you, everyone, and have a great  
3 day.

4 (Record was closed at 1:35 p.m.)  
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## C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Pamela S. Gentry, Certified Shorthand Reporter with the firm of Tiger Court Reporting, LLC, do hereby certify that I was personally present at the proceedings had in the above-entitled cause at the time and place set forth in the caption sheet thereof; that I then and there took down in Stenotype the proceedings had; and that the foregoing is a full, true and correct transcript of such Stenotype notes so made at such time and place.

  
Pamela S. Gentry, CSR, CCR



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