

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of a Working Case Regarding)
Amendments to the Commission's Ex Parte) File No. AW-2016-0312
and Extra-Record Communications Rule)

ORDER EXTENDING FILING DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS

Issue Date: June 28, 2016

Effective Date: June 28, 2016

On June 8, 2016, the Commission issued an order opening a working file to determine whether the Commission's ex parte and extra-record communications rule should be amended. The Commission provided proposed rule amendments and established a deadline of July 8, 2016 for interested persons or entities to comment or respond to those proposed rule amendments.

On June 24, 2016, the Midwest Energy Consumers Group, the Missouri Industrial Electric Consumers, the Office of the Public Counsel, and the Consumers Council of Missouri (collectively, the "Movants") requested an extension of that July 8 filing deadline. Movants state that they do not have the available resources to provide meaningful comments by that deadline due to their participation in a number of rate cases and other proceedings currently before the Commission. Movants request that the Commission extend the deadline for comments "until the pending rate cases are completed, but, at a minimum, no less than 3 months".

The Commission considers it important to receive comments from all interested persons or groups, including the Movants, on the proposed rule amendments. So, the Commission will grant an extension of time to file comments, but not for the amount of time

requested by Movants. While there are several major proceedings currently before the Commission, that will always be the case. Generally speaking, the proceedings pending now are neither more nor less numerous or significant than at any other time in recent history, and there is no indication this will change in the near future. Extending the filing deadline as requested by Movants likely would not provide any benefit to the Commission or the parties to current or future proceedings and would only serve to delay the process of facilitating stakeholder input in this matter. In addition, this Commission has consistently expressed its intent to resolve all working cases in an expeditious manner. Granting Movants' request to extend the comment deadline in this case until after the rate cases listed in the motion would cause this case to linger well beyond a year, which is exactly the kind of inaction this Commission has sought to eliminate in its working dockets. The Commission will extend the filing deadline by 45 days.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The deadline for any persons or entities to comment or respond to the proposed rule amendments is extended until no later than August 22, 2016.
2. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Michael Bushmann, Senior Regulatory
Law Judge, by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 28th day of June, 2016.