



# PSC NEWS

## Missouri Public Service Commission

Contact: Kevin Kelly  
FY-11-164

Phone: (573) 751-9300

Governor Office Building, Suite 600

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**APRIL 14, 2011**

### **PSC OPENS CASE TO STUDY BENEFITS AND ENCOURAGE UTILITY COMPANY EFFORTS TO ACQUIRE GOODS AND SERVICES FROM DIVERSE SUPPLIERS**

JEFFERSON CITY---The Missouri Public Service Commission has opened a voluntary docket to receive information from interested parties regarding the benefits regulated utility companies might reap, and the concerns they might face, when seeking to procure goods and services from diverse suppliers.

To help aid the Commission in its understanding of utility company efforts when seeking goods and services from diverse suppliers, the PSC is seeking information on a number of topics including:

- What goods and services do utilities procure from outside suppliers;
- Which utilities already have supplier diversity programs in place;
- What incentives might encourage utilities to procure goods and services from diverse suppliers;
- What barriers exist that might discourage utilities from procuring goods and services from diverse suppliers;
- What barriers exist for diverse suppliers seeking to work with regulated utilities;
- Are there “best practices” that can be adopted to facilitate and encourage procurement of services from diverse suppliers.

“I look forward to beginning this important dialogue regarding existing utility programs, best practices, and steps the Commission can take to encourage supplier diversity,” said Commissioner Robert Kenney.

Any person or entity with an interest in this case is invited to view documents and is encouraged to submit comments or documents without counsel. This is not a contested case, therefore, intervention requests to participate are unnecessary.

The public is invited to submit comments by forwarding electronic communications through the Public Service Commission’s electronic and information system (EFIS) or by mailing documents or written comments.

Electronic comments can be submitted at the Commission’s website at <http://www.psc.mo.gov>. When at the website, click on the EFIS/Case filings on the left side of the page. Scroll down and click on the public comment link. Please refer to the case number (AO-2011-0332).

Written comments may be mailed to the Secretary of the Missouri Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102. Please reference the case number (AO-2011-0332).

Documents and comments must be sent to the Commission by **May 13, 2011**.