Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Agency (RURA), National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and Missouri Public Service Commission (MPSC)

Regulatory Partnership Program



Sponsored by US Agency for International Development (USAID)

October 28, 2004 14:00 Wess Henderson **Filing A Rate Case How A Rate Case Proceeds** • An example of how a RATE CASE will be conducted • Utility company files for a new tariff (general rate case)

- Utility's filing package must meet minimum filing requirements of the PSC
- Commission and Staff can not discuss filing
- Suspension order and notice given
- Presiding officer of a rate proceeding will be an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ), Regulatory Law Judge (RLJ), or hearing examiner
 - Presides over the entire hearing
 - Develops a record of the hearing for the Commission
 - May possibly submit a recommended decision to the Commission

• Intervention date is established

Company files direct testimony

Proposed procedural schedule

Scope of proceedings/grouping issues

Direct testimony (staff and other intervenors)

• Pre-hearing conference

All parties rebuttal testimony and schedules
Stipulation and agreement OR

THE HEARING BEGINS!

Formal evidentiary hearings are usually the format for rate proceedings

Trial type hearing
Discovery
Cross-examination

Initial briefs

• Reply briefs

Entire record reviewed by Commission

• Order is issued

• Operation of law date is set

Tariff filing due

Options

- Utility or other parties may accept order
- Utility or other parties may ask for partial rehearing of the rate case
- Commission may or may not grant rehearing
- Utility or other parties may appeal order to the courts
- Commission order may stand or it may be remanded back to the Commission by the courts

Actions to Avoid

Prejudgment by Commissioners

• Ex parte communications