

HB 1493 -- WATER AND ELECTRIC TERRITORIAL AGREEMENTS (Emery)

Current law requires that territorial agreements specify the boundaries of the water service area of each water supplier and the electric service area of each electric service supplier. In cases where the parties cannot agree, they may petition the Missouri Public Service Commission to designate the boundaries of the service areas to be served by each party. This bill clarifies that the commission can only be petitioned when the parties cannot agree upon the boundaries of the service areas that are not specified in the agreement.

Current law states that the commission must hold an evidentiary hearing when receiving any petition, when determining whether or not a territorial agreement should become effective, and when complaints involving any commission-approved territorial agreement are presented. The bill states that these hearings can be waived if the matter is resolved by a stipulation and an agreement that is submitted to the commission. All parties must agree to waive the hearing.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007.