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1	STATE OF MISSOURI
2	PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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6	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
7	Local Public Hearing
8	July 30, 2012
9	Jefferson City, Missouri
10	Volume 6
11	
12	
13	In the Matter of Union Electric)
14	Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri's)
15	Tariffs to Increase its Revenues) File No. ER-2012-0166
16	For Electric Service)
17	
18	
19	MORRIS L. WOODRUFF, Presiding,
20	CHIEF REGULATORY LAW JUDGE.
21	
22	TERRY M. JARRETT,
23	ROBERT S. KENNEY,
24	STEPHEN M. STOLL,
25	COMMISSIONERS.

		Page 2
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1	PROCEEDINGS
2	(WHEREUPON, the public hearing began at
3	7:02 p.m.)
4	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Let's come to order,
5	please. Good evening everyone. I'd like to welcome you
6	all to the local public hearing for Ameren's rate increase
7	case. My name is Morris Woodruff. I'm the Regulatory Law
8	Judge for the Public Service Commission. I'm not a
9	commissioner myself, but I do have three commissioners
10	here with me today, and I'd like to introduce you to them.
11	To my immediate right here is Terry
12	Jarrett. To his right is Stephen Stoll. And to my left
13	is Robert Kenney. Can you hear me better now? All right.
14	We'll try and make everybody hear as well as we possibly
15	can here. We need to get close to the microphone.
16	Well, once again, welcome everyone. We'll
17	start out today by introducing the commissioners. Does
18	any commissioner wish to make any sort of opening
19	statement or greeting?
20	COMMISSIONER JARRETT: Yes. Thank you,
21	Judge. My name is Terry Jarrett. I'm a commissioner on
22	the Public Service Commission. I want to welcome you all
23	here tonight to our local public hearing in Jefferson
24	City. These local public hearings are very important to
25	the Commission and to the commissioners. They serve three

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1	very important purposes, two of which you've already been
2	through. The first one is the informational phase where
3	our Staff gives a presentation on the rate case process
4	and procedures and talks about the standard that we as
5	commissioners have to use to decide the case.
6	The second very important purpose is, of
7	course, the question and answer session where
8	representatives from the utility, representatives from our
9	Staff and from the Office of the Public Counsel and any
10	other parties come before you and you can ask them
11	questions. So hopefully you all got to ask questions and
12	get your questions answered.
13	And, of course, the third part is the one
14	we're entering now, which is a more formal phase where
15	anyone who wants to can come and testify under oath and
16	have their comments put into the record into the rate
17	case.
18	So I want to thank you for being here. I
19	look forward to hearing your thoughts and comments.
20	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Good evening,
21	everybody. My name is Robert Kenney. I'm also a
22	commissioner with the Missouri Public Service Commission,
23	and I'd just like also like to thank you for taking the
24	time out on your Monday night to come and be here.
25	Obviously if you're willing to be here on Monday night,

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1	this is something that's important to you, and it is
2	equally as important to us.
3	This portion of the local public hearing is
4	an integral part of the rate case. Your comments will be
5	taken down by a court reporter and become sworn testimony
6	and become a part of the case file. So your opinions and
7	your thoughts and comments are valuable to us and will be
8	taken into account as we consider the case.
9	I also wanted to point out that our
10	chairman is not with us tonight, but you should know that
11	by virtue of the fact that your testimony is being
12	transcribed, a transcript of this will be made available,
13	and so he'll be able to take that into account as we
14	decide the case as well.
15	So thank you again for taking the time out,
16	and we look forward to hearing what you have to say this
17	evening.
18	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Good evening,
19	everyone. My name is Steve Stoll. I'm the newest member
20	of the Public Service Commission. I think my fellow
21	Commissioners have laid out the process, and I will just
22	welcome you, tell you it is important that you're here.
23	We're glad to see so many people come out. And I guess
24	it's time to begin the testimony, and I look forward to
25	hearing from each of you.

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1	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you, Commissioners.
2	In a moment I'm going to call names from the list of
3	people who have signed up to testify. If you didn't get
4	your name on the list, that's okay, too. When I get to
5	the end, I'll just ask the general audience if you have
6	any other questions excuse me any other testimony.
7	That leads me to my second point, that the
8	commissioners cannot answer your questions because they
9	are in the position of being the judges of the case, so
10	any answers they give you to your questions could be
11	considered to be a prejudging of the case. So when I call
12	your name, I'll have you come up to the podium here, I'll
13	swear you to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing
14	but the truth, and then we'll go ahead and take your
15	statement.
16	Before we call the first witness, I do have
17	one other matter to take care of, and that is we need to
18	establish which attorneys are here for the parties. So
19	I'll begin with Ameren Missouri.
20	MR. MITTEN: On behalf of Union Electric
21	Company, doing business as Ameren Missouri is Russ Mitten,
22	Brydon, Swearengen & England, 312 East Capitol Avenue,
23	Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.
24	JUDGE WOODRUFF: And for the Staff?
25	MR. THOMPSON: Kevin Thompson for the Staff

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1	of the Missouri Public Service Commission, Post Office
2	Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri.
3	JUDGE WOODRUFF: And for the Public
4	Counsel?
5	MR. MILLS: Lewis Mills, Post Office
6	Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, appearing on
7	behalf of the Office of the Public Counsel and the
8	public. Thank you.
9	JUDGE WOODRUFF: And for Consumers Council
10	and AARP?
11	MR. COFFMAN: Appearing on behalf of AARP
12	and the Consumers Council of Missouri, I'm John Coffman,
13	871 Tuxedo Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri 63119.
14	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Is that all the parties
15	who are represented?
16	All right. After you've had your chance to
17	testify, the commissioners may have questions for you as
18	well, and in addition, the attorneys for the parties may
19	have questions for you also. So just wait a moment after
20	you finish testifying to see if there are any questions.
21	I'm not going to establish any sort of a
22	formal time limit on your testimony, but as you can see,
23	there are a lot of people here, a lot of people signed up
24	to testify. So I'll ask you to keep your comments to
25	about five minutes or so just in consideration of people

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1	behind you who also want to testify.
2	So let's go ahead and get started with the
3	first witness, which is Bob Kettler. Good evening, sir.
4	MR. KETTLER: Good evening.
5	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Would you please raise
6	your right hand.
7	(Witness sworn.)
8	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. And could you
9	tell us your name, please?
10	MR. KETTLER: My name is Bob Kettler.
11	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay.
12	MR. KETTLER: And I reside at 1263 Duane
13	Swift Parkway, Jeff City, Missouri.
14	My comment regard the rate increase is just
15	overwhelming when you see year after year the request
16	coming from Ameren. In most cases they're not easy to
17	take because they're not a lower level. Here we're
18	talking about 14 percent. We had a 10 percent before, an
19	8 percent and a 7 percent.
20	People who are on fixed incomes, like I am,
21	find it very difficult to adjust their budget. It kind of
22	cuts into your lifestyle. Somebody made a comment before.
23	I don't trust Ameren, and I have some concerns about just
24	how well the Public Service Commission is looking out for
25	the average consumer. Sooner or later people are going to

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1	be running out of money.
2	That's my piece. Thank you.
3	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you, sir. Do any
4	commissioners have any questions? From the parties?
5	Thank you, Mr. Kettler.
6	The next name on the list is Terri
7	Mitchell. Good evening. Please raise your right hand.
8	(Witness sworn.)
9	JUDGE WOODRUFF: And your name is Terri
10	Mitchell?
11	MS. MITCHELL: Correct.
12	JUDGE WOODRUFF: T-e-r-i?
13	MS. MITCHELL: Uh-huh.
14	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you.
15	MS. MITCHELL: Thank you. I just have
16	about three things I'd like to say. About three and a
17	half years ago, my husband and I were out of the country
18	for two weeks. The next bill that we got from Ameren was
19	for \$462, approximately. When I swear that in, I'm not
20	sure, but it was about that.
21	I called immediately, of course, to see
22	what that was about, and was told that my meter had been
23	changed. There was no hang tag on my door or any evidence
24	that anybody had been there to change the tag. And was
25	told also that because I was a good customer, they would

Page 10 immediately take \$100 off my bill. I thought, well, 1 2 that's very sweet, but we still have \$362 to deal with. 3 So I asked why I was -- they said, did you not notice that your usage was different? And I said, 4 5 well, yes, two weeks of the country -- we were out of the country. Also -- and then they said, did you not notice 6 7 that your rate was lower? And I said -- again, I said 8 yes, and they said, well, you didn't notice that, and now we're trying to make up because your meter was not working properly. I said, how am I supposed -- am I supposed to 10 stand out there and watch my numbers go round and round 11 12 day after day? Anyway, so they said, well, you can take 13 this to the Public Service Commission, which I did. 14 15 called, and I don't know who I talked to. This whole thing took about 40 minutes, and I was pacing quite 16 17 angrily in my kitchen. I didn't use any potty words, but I certainly could have. And I got the same runaround from 18 some little lady on the other end of the phone and was 19 told that I could send a letter of complaint and pay under 20 21 protest. Well, you can certainly bet that I did, and 22 I did pay it. Not that I couldn't have paid it, but I did 23 24 not like the way that I was treated. I didn't think that 25 I received the explanation that I deserved for a meter

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1	being changed that obviously was not my fault, you know,
2	to change the meter.
3	The other thing is, my late husband worked
4	at Union Electric for about 15 years, and he would come
5	home and talk about the incredible amount of waste of
6	materials at the plant, things that were thrown away,
7	literally buried that none of the workmen could even
8	purchase to, you know, to work with, you know, incredible
9	amounts, tools, large equipment, literally buried at the
10	site because, you know, I don't know if it's government
11	regulation or whatever, but nobody else could recycle, so
12	to speak, and use these things or have privy to even
13	purchasing them. They weren't trying to steal them. They
14	just wanted to, you know, perhaps purchase some of these
15	tools and equipment, but it was he would talk about
16	that.
17	The other thing is, I now work for a
18	faith-based organization, and it is amazing the number of
19	calls that we get asking for benevolence. I don't know
20	what these people are supposed to do with a 14 percent
21	increase that is now on the line. And when we have to
22	turn them away because our organization doesn't have any
23	more money to hand out, it's very sad to have to tell
24	people that we cannot help them.
25	And I thought it was kind of interesting in

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1	the Jeff City paper on July the 24th about going global.
2	The technology's unproven, the financing undetermined and
3	the market prospects unclear, but those uncertainties
4	aren't preventing a balance of Missouri business and
5	political heavyweights from lining up behind the next
6	generation nuclear energy project.
7	You know, they want Governor Nixon wants
8	to make us like Detroit. Well, Detroit doesn't have
9	Oldsmobile anymore. Detroit doesn't have Pontiac anymore.
10	That's all that I have to say. I am not in
11	favor of this rate increase, and I think the number of
12	people in this room being here, I don't think there's too
13	many here cheerleading for Ameren at this time. Thank
14	you.
15	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Hold on, ma'am. We may
16	have some questions for you.
17	COMMISSIONER JARRETT: Yes. Good evening,
18	Ms. Mitchell. I had a question about, I wanted to flush
19	out your complaint. You indicated you had called someone
20	here at the Public Service Commission. What time frame
21	was that?
22	MS. MITCHELL: It was the same day I
23	received this bill.
24	COMMISSIONER JARRETT: Okay.

MS. MITCHELL: This has been three and a

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1	half years ago. This is the first time I've been to one
2	of these meetings, and I thought it was time.
3	COMMISSIONER JARRETT: Do you remember the
4	name of the person who you talked to?
5	MS. MITCHELL: No. No. It was a woman.
6	That's all I know.
7	COMMISSIONER JARRETT: And that person told
8	you you could file a formal complaint and pay under
9	protest?
10	MS. MITCHELL: Yes.
11	COMMISSIONER JARRETT: Did you file a
12	formal complaint with the Commission?
13	MS. MITCHELL: I did write a letter. I
14	think I did write a letter, yes.
15	COMMISSIONER JARRETT: And how what
16	happened? Was it
17	MS. MITCHELL: I don't think I ever
18	received anything. I think they I might have gotten a
19	letter saying they received my letter, but that's about
20	all.
21	COMMISSIONER JARRETT: And now, did
22	Ameren you said Ameren took \$100 off of your bill?
23	MS. MITCHELL: Uh-huh. Good girl discount,
24	I guess.
25	COMMISSIONER JARRETT: And that's all?

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1	MS. MITCHELL: Uh-huh.
2	COMMISSIONER JARRETT: And so you got a
3	letter from the Public Service Commission saying they
4	received your letter, and then nothing else happened?
5	MS. MITCHELL: No. I still paid my bill,
6	but I filed the letter to say that I did pay it under
7	protest. I did drag it out for a couple months, I think.
8	COMMISSIONER JARRETT: I'm sorry. I didn't
9	mean to cut you off.
10	MS. MITCHELL: That's okay.
11	COMMISSIONER JARRETT: Did you file that
12	with Ameren or did you file that with the Public Service
13	Commission?
14	MS. MITCHELL: I think Public Service
15	Commission is the one I was to file it with, was told to.
16	COMMISSIONER JARRETT: All right. And you
17	didn't receive any response?
18	MS. MITCHELL: Not I don't know what you
19	mean by response. I just maybe received a letter saying
20	they received my letter. I don't remember anything
21	earthshaking about the response.
22	COMMISSIONER JARRETT: I was just trying to
23	ascertain if Staff really did anything in response to your
24	complaints.
25	MS. MITCHELL: Okay.

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1	COMMISSIONER JARRETT: I might try to
2	follow up with Staff on that.
3	MS. MITCHELL: Thank you.
4	COMMISSIONER JARRETT: Thanks. That's all
5	the questions I have. Thank you for your testimony.
6	MS. MITCHELL: Sir.
7	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Ms. Mitchell, thanks
8	for being here tonight, and I'm sorry that you had that
9	difficulty. I'm going to ask you some questions about
10	your work with the faith-based organization.
11	But before that, I would say that since you
12	have taken the time out to come here, some Ameren
13	representatives are present, and I know it's been three
14	and a half years, but if it's something if you don't
15	feel that the complaint was resolved to your satisfaction,
16	it may you may take a few minutes to see if they can
17	provide you any additional help since you've taken the
18	time to come here and they've got customer service
19	representatives present. Sometimes that face-to-face
20	contact, you might have a better result.
21	With respect to the organization that
22	you're working with, have you noticed an increase in the
23	number of calls that you've gotten for benevolence, say,
24	over the last 12 months or so?
25	MS. MITCHELL: I have only been on this job

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1	for about two months, and it's yes, I mean, weekly.
2	It's amazing the amount of people that are hurting, truly
3	hurting and have a need.
4	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: And in addition to
5	the aid that your organization is able to give, do you
6	also refer people to other organizations?
7	MS. MITCHELL: I do.
8	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: And do you know if
9	those organizations are experiencing similar rates of
10	calls and
11	MS. MITCHELL: I would say, because when I
12	ask them to I ask if they have tried such and such
13	organization, they said yes and they have no money as
14	well.
15	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Well, again, thank
16	you for taking time to come out. Thanks for the work that
17	you're doing.
18	MS. MITCHELL: Thank you.
19	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Next name on the list is
20	Leonard Steinman. Good evening, Mr. Steinman.
21	MR. STEINMAN: Good evening.
22	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Please raise your right
23	hand.
24	(Witness sworn.)
25	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you.

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1	MR. STEINMAN: To begin with, I don't mind
2	the 14 percent that they want to charge, but not one of
3	you are a voted person to add taxes on to everybody. This
4	is a tax situation more than it is the AmerenUE
5	14 percent. 11 cents on the dollar goes in taxes.
6	There's not one representative in here on taxation,
7	period. You are appointed. You're not voted in.
8	I feel that if a public utility wants a
9	rate increase, they can put it on the ballot like
10	everybody else does and have the voters vote on it instead
11	of having five or six people walk around and get paid and
12	appointed by the Governor of the state of Missouri to do a
13	job, and that's all it is, it's a job for all of you.
14	And this is a farce without taxation,
15	without representation, because it adds taxes on, and I
16	don't see one elected official up here. We need to change
17	this policy. Thank you.
18	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you, Mr. Steinman.
19	Any questions?
20	Next name on the list is Terry Barber.
21	Good evening, sir. Please raise your right hand.
22	(Witness sworn.)
23	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. Tell us your
24	name, please.
25	MR. BARBER: Terry Barber from Jefferson

Page 18 City, Missouri. 1 2 I had a lot of questions. I've never been 3 to one of these before. I had a lot of questions. Most of the questions were answered. I quess my only thing I 4 5 wanted to say is, I wonder how many people, you gentlemen especially, take into consideration what the average 6 7 person on Social Security is going to draw in 2012. Got 8 any idea what the average person makes on Social Security? JUDGE WOODRUFF: We can't answer your 9 10 question. MR. BARBER: Just nod. \$1,220. And I can 11 12 guarantee there's a lot of people that are over age 80, 13 most of them women that are widows, that don't get anywhere close to that amount of money. 14 15 When you're talking a 14 percent increase out of what little they do have to live on, considering 16 17 AARP, there's a gentleman here from them, considering what I read in AARP in the last few months, the majority of the 18 people getting ready to retire don't even have \$25,000 of 19 disposable income when they retire, which I can't believe, 20 21 but that's what they say. Do you realize 14 percent, what it would do 22 to an 80-year-old woman? I'm saying woman because women 23 24 outlive men so much longer nowadays. What it does to They don't have enough money to live on now, and 25 them?

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- 1 you put another 14 percent increase on that, I don't know.
- 2 It seems to me like it's a pretty harsh treatment for
- 3 somebody that has worked all their life in this country,
- 4 and they have to choose whether they can turn on their air
- 5 conditioner in this hot summer or freeze to death in the
- 6 winter.
- 7 I want you to really think about what
- 8 you're doing when you take these things into
- 9 consideration. You and I can pay the bill, but how about
- 10 these elderly people that are on a fixed income, and a lot
- of them can't even buy medicine nowadays, and our grocery
- 12 bills are going through the roof daily, and it's not going
- 13 to get any better.
- I just think that it's -- and I'm not
- 15 saying Ameren doesn't deserve to make money on their
- 16 investments, but we've given so much. If you give them
- 17 the 376 million, which I know you're not going to, it will
- 18 be negotiated down to probably half of that, but if you
- 19 did give it to them, it would be a 45 percent increase
- 20 since 2007. That's one hell of a lot of money, folks. To
- 21 me, it's just ridiculous.
- I will say one thing. I've been a customer
- of theirs ever since I've been here. Of course, I don't
- 24 have a choice because it is a monopoly. I mean, I can go
- 25 out and get cable anywhere. I can go out and get a phone

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1	anywhere. But no, I can only get my electricity through
2	Ameren. They've always provided me with great service. I
3	have no complaint about their service. I know they need
4	to make money just like the rest of us. These are hard
5	times. We all have to tighten our belts. And I think
6	they have to look deep, too, on their cuts.
7	Somebody said it doesn't make any
8	difference what you pay the CEO. Well, I don't know.
9	\$2.44 million is what I read for latest earnings.
10	Somebody said 5 million. It's all over the board. It's
11	whatever you read. I still think that's a pretty tidy
12	sum. Most people can get by on that in today's economy.
13	I just hope to hell they think about the
14	little old lady down the street. That's all I've got to
15	say. Thank you.
16	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Any questions?
17	COMMISSIONER JARRETT: No questions. Thank
18	you, sir.
19	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. The next name
20	on the list is, I believe it's Imogene Hopping.
21	MS. HAJNY: No.
22	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. Will you tell us
23	your name, then?
24	MS. HAJNY: My name is Imogene Hajny.
25	It's spelled H-a-j-n-y.

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1	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. If you'd please
2	raise your right hand.
3	(Witness sworn.)
4	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you.
5	MS. HAJNY: I live at Hyder Apartments,
6	which is at 1310 Linden Drive. I live in a one-bedroom
7	apartment. We all live in a one-bedroom apartment. Our
8	utilities are very high because everything in the
9	apartment is electric. So Ameren gets a lot of our money.
10	And if you raise it \$14 more a month, it's going to really
11	be hard for a lot of us.
12	I'm a senior citizen and I'm on Social
13	Security, and almost everybody that lives there is either
14	on disability or Social Security. So I'm representing all
15	of the people that live there. They kind of elected me to
16	come to the meeting tonight.
17	So I want you to stop and think. Remember
18	your age, and when you get to be my age, which is 78, and
19	you don't have all the luxuries of going out and working
20	and making a living, you have to retire whether you want
21	to or not because people won't hire you. They say, oh,
22	no, you're overqualified. They won't say you're too old
23	because that's discrimination. But you can't find work
24	anywhere because you're too old. I would gladly go out
25	and work. I've worked all my life, and I've raised five

Page 22 children. So I know how hard it is on a lot of these 1 2 people who have children to feed. Now, all of my children 3 are married and have families of their own. I have one daughter in Illinois, and she -- I know how much her rates 4 5 are in Illinois, too. 6 But it's very hard for people to try to 7 make ends meet when groceries are so high, and I have to pay health insurance, and a lot of people don't even have 8 that luxury, but I do. 10 But I'm speaking for all the people that live at Hyder, and I want you to take it in consideration 11 12 on raising us 14 more dollars a month. What if you told 13 all of your employees we're taking \$14 a month out of your paycheck to help pay for Ameren, what would they say? 14 15 What would they do? Would they go on strike, or would they just walk out and just leave their jobs? No, because 16 17 they need the money. They would stay and continue working. They would gripe, but they would continue 18 working because they have to have that money. 19 20 I thank you for letting me come and talk, 21 and I'm sure I bored you and probably everybody else in this room also. But when they become senior citizens, 22

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they'll understand you have to live on a fixed income

because you don't have nothing else coming in, and nobody

else is going to help you because they tell me, oh, you

23

24

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- 1 make too much money, we can't help you. And I said, well,
- 2 am I not a senior citizen? Well, that's too bad, but we
- 3 can't help you.
- 4 So don't tell me the people here in Jeff
- 5 City will help you because they won't. They'll turn their
- 6 backs on you and they'll say, no, I'm sorry, we can't help
- 7 you. So what good does it do to do anything?
- 8 So take it in consideration because one of
- 9 these days you're going to be senior citizens, too, and
- 10 you may not have that nice paycheck coming in every week
- 11 or every month. I know the state workers -- I used to
- 12 work at Wal-Mart, and I know the state workers used to
- 13 come in when they got paid once a month, and I'm telling
- 14 you, they bought supplies. You wouldn't believe the
- 15 supplies they bought because they had to last for a whole
- 16 month.
- 17 So I understand how it is to live on a
- 18 fixed income, and I'm sure a lot of these other people do.
- 19 Thank you.
- JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you, ma'am. Any
- 21 questions? Thank you.
- MS. HAJNY: See, you don't have any
- 23 questions. You should be asking me questions. Why? Why
- 24 aren't you asking me questions? You want to know how much
- 25 I get on Social Security?

1	Page 24
1	JUDGE WOODRUFF: If you want to tell us
2	MS. HAJNY: Do you want to know how much I
3	pay for my health insurance, for my car?
4	JUDGE WOODRUFF: We're certainly not going
5	to ask you that. If you
6	MS. HAJNY: Why?
7	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Because it's a matter of
8	your privacy, ma'am. If you want to tell us something
9	further, go ahead.
10	MS. HAJNY: All right. I remember Ameren
11	bought all of these Frigidaires and they brought them to
12	Hyder because they were energy savers. I didn't want them
13	to take my Frigidaire because I liked it, and they said,
14	well, we have to take it because Ameren has bought these
15	because they're energy savers and they're going to help
16	you on your electric bill. I said okay.
17	Well, for the first thing, the doors don't
18	have big enough room for you to put anything in. The
19	shelves are too small. And there's no door on your butter
20	keeper, so every time you shut the door your butter went
21	flying out across the room. I had to buy a container at
22	Wal-Mart to put my butter in to keep it from flying out
23	across the room every time I opened up that door. And I
24	can't see that my bill has went down any.
25	And a lot of us ladies we have gentlemen

	Page 25
1	that live there, too we pay very high bills. I wrote
2	Ameren a letter. I don't know whether it ever got out of
3	the office or not, but I asked them to send it to higher
4	people, and I explained to them that I was living on a
5	fixed income and that my bills were so high and I said,
6	why can't you lower them some? For a one-bedroom
7	apartment to have to pay all those utilities, it's
8	outrageous. Like I say, everything in there is electric.
9	And when a big transformer went out down by
10	Helias High School, we were without electricity three and
11	a half days before you guys finally got it fixed, and that
12	means everybody in that apartment, they couldn't cook,
13	they couldn't do anything because we had no electricity.
14	So what do you say about that? No answer.
15	JUDGE WOODRUFF: As I explained, ma'am, we
16	can't answer questions. You do understand, of course,
17	we're not the company. We're the Public Service
18	Commission. So we're not responsible for going out to fix
19	the electricity. You certainly have questions about
20	you can speak to Ameren representatives if you have
21	specific questions about service and so forth.
22	MS. HAJNY: Is that not a service question,
23	to be without electricity for three and a half days?
24	JUDGE WOODRUFF: It certainly is, and it's
25	something you can ask Ameren about directly. The

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1	commissioners and myself cannot answer questions here
2	tonight, but the people out there in the hallway can.
3	MS. HAJNY: Okay. I'll go out there and
4	talk to them.
5	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Commissioner?
6	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Ms. Hajny, thank you
7	for coming. I don't have any specific questions for you,
8	but I do want to assure you that your testimony is
9	important. It's being transcribed, and it becomes and
10	you are sworn in, so it becomes a part of the case file.
11	So we do take into account, we do take seriously the
12	comments that come before us, and when we have questions
13	to ask, we certainly do ask them, but don't intend to
14	infringe upon your privacy certainly.
15	I would also say that since you did take
16	the time out of your schedule to come here, this is
17	obviously an important issue. I would encourage you to
18	perhaps take some time to visit with members of our Staff
19	or with the Office of Public Counsel or with Ameren's
20	staff to maybe be able to answer some of those questions
21	that you have since we're not able to answer them.
22	And particularly since Ameren staff is
23	here, you may take a few moments to see if the complaint
24	or the letter that you sent was properly addressed, and
25	they may be able to answer some of your more specific

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1	questions.
2	But again, thank you for coming, and this
3	is important and significant to us. Thank you.
4	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you, ma'am. The
5	next name on my list is Barbara Yates.
6	(Witness sworn.)
7	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. And you are
8	Barbara Yates?
9	MS. YATES: Right. I'm going to read some
10	of this, but initially I'll make it short, and I'm
11	speaking in terms of coal, coal which Ameren receives.
12	85 percent of electricity in the state comes from coal
13	versus 40 percent in other states. We are heavily
14	dependent on coal in this state.
15	Coal is a dangerous and dirty commodity in
16	terms of energy generating. It pollutes the environment
17	in terms of contaminated air and also in terms of the
18	refuse, for instance, at the at that Labadie pond out
19	there which leaches mercury into the soil and then on out
20	into the Missouri River, but also in terms of health
21	effects, lung disease, people with asthma, heart disease
22	and so on.
23	The 14 percent projected cost, raise in
24	cost of this raise will not begin to cover the
25	environmental and the health effects which will be paid by

Page 28 1 taxpayers. 2 Basically, I think I'd like to read just 3 the last two paragraphs. We believe that the best way forward in this state, energy efficiency would be one of 4 5 the cheapest ways Missouri can meet its energy needs. If this is approved by the PSC, the recent Missouri Energy 6 7 Efficiency Investment Settlement Act between Ameren and the Sierra Club and other clean energy entities within our 8 state will create significant reductions in the need for the generating capacity and further reduce the need for 10 Ameren's aging and polluting coal-fired power plants, 11 12 specifically the Meramec but others. In addition, the energy efficiency created 13 by an agreement will generate savings for Missouri 14 15 residents who pay their bills to Ameren. 16 So in conclusion, this is only one piece of 17 the puzzle. Coal is a bad investment to make for bill payers. The current rate schedule of the PCS case is the 18 best opportunity now, now, to push Ameren Missouri, 19 please, to expand its resource portfolio to include clean 20 21 energy solutions for the future. It's the way other states are going. It's the way the other nations are 22 23 going. It can be done. Thank you. 24 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you, ma'am.

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questions? Thank you.

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1	Next name on the list is Michael
2	Brownstein. Good evening. Please raise your right hand.
3	(Witness sworn.)
4	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you.
5	MR. BROWNSTEIN: My name is Michael
6	Brownstein, 320 Ash in Jefferson City, Missouri.
7	The reason I'm coming here is because I
8	really don't trust AmerenUE. I'm not saying they don't
9	give you reliable electricity. They do. I turn my lights
10	on, they work. My problem is that they've lied too many
11	times before, not to just me but to you, the Commission in
12	front of me.
13	I'll give you an example. In 2010, the
14	last time I was in front of you, they said they were not
15	going to give a bonus to any of their workers because they
16	were going to take the same pain we took with the
17	increase. They just changed the word bonus to something
18	else. They made it earnings. They made it awards.
19	I would feel better about the 14 percent if
20	their own CEOs and their own executive branch, which I
21	think has a compensation package of over \$30 million based
22	on the documents I've got here, also took a pay decrease
23	to show us that they cared enough about us. They won't do
24	that.
25	They have a \$200,000 donation fund I

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- 1 learned about tonight. When you get \$5 million -- that's
- 2 the compensation for 2011, by the way, not 2012 for
- 3 Mr. Voss. According to my records, he'll be getting
- 4 \$8 million in 2012. \$200,000 is less than 10 percent.
- 5 It's nothing. He could take it out of his own check and
- 6 not worry about it.
- 7 I don't know if people in this audience
- 8 know this. Every board member just per meeting, AmerenUE,
- 9 a board director meeting, gets \$1,500 for being present.
- 10 We make that in a month. And if you're minimum wage
- 11 earner, that might be five months. And yet these
- 12 gentlemen come together for drinks and coffee and talk
- 13 about how they're ripping us off, because that's what
- 14 they've got to be doing, and they get \$1,500 just for
- meeting that day, not to count the \$50,000 for being a
- 16 member, not ever going to any meetings, \$50,000, and not
- 17 counting the 80,000 stocks they get just for being a
- 18 member. If you go to a committee meeting, another \$1,500.
- 19 I don't feel a company that pays these
- 20 exorbitant rates, and I don't care -- I mean, I agree with
- 21 needing to make a living, but let's be honest about this.
- 22 If his base salary is \$900,000, let that be his base
- 23 salary, and let them not tell me -- because he did last
- 24 time in 2010, if you were in this audience. He said,
- 25 we're not going to get a bonus, but he gave himself a

Page 31 bonus by calling it awards and earnings. 2 Those are people I don't trust using 3 semantics on us. How can we trust these people? It goes on and on. There's page and page of all these 4 computations and how you get stocks. It's just pages of 5 things. 6 7 Going to the coal issue. Missouri is 8 heavily into coal, which is the most expensive commodity we have now. In my document research here, it's gone up a whole lot since 2010. Now it's at \$120 per ton. So our 10 11 state is using the highest commodity to give us energy. 12 Whereas, oil is down to \$89 a barrel now. In 2010 it was 13 much higher than that. 14 And natural gas -- let's not forget that AmerenUE got a natural gas increase, too, for those of us 15 who are unfortunate to have a gas heater. In 2010 January 16 17 was \$210 for this big cubic thing of natural gas. In June, this year, it's \$88. Natural gas is even cleaner. 18 Yet we're getting our coal from someplace, 84 -- I thought 19 20 it was only 74 percent, but I hear 76, 84, whatever. 21 just too much. And I don't believe that we as the Ameren 22 customers should be compensating extraordinary amounts of 23 money to people. I mean, \$1,500 just to go to a meeting. 24

I want to go to that meeting, and I'll do it for a hundred

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1	bucks, and I'll probably contribute more than how much
2	wine tastes better.
3	And \$5 million last year, according to my
4	data, this is from Forbes, it's 8 million this year. This
5	is to me, in the hard times we're having now, what she
6	said, what the gentleman over here not there anymore
7	said, it's very difficult to retire in this state. It's
8	very difficult to retire in this town because pretty soon
9	our utility bills will be higher than our rent and our
10	mortgage. Then what are we going to do? We won't have
11	heat in the winter. We won't have air conditioning in the
12	summer. We'll just not have anything. Why not I don't
13	know. That's my testimony.
14	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you, sir. Any
15	questions? Thank you.
16	Next name on the list is Thomas Minihan.
17	(Witness sworn.)
18	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. Might want to
19	spell your last name for the court reporter.
20	MR. MINIHAN: M-i-n-i-h-a-n, Thomas
21	Minihan. Thanks for holding this meeting, and I'll just
22	read what I came to specifically say.
23	My primary concern regarding this rate
24	increase is how it affects the elderly. As a society, I
25	believe we should be concerned with taking care of our

Page 33 elderly. I believe a 14 percent rate increase on a 1 2 segment of our society that lives on fixed income is a 3 burden that needs our attention. As a Public Service Commission regulator, I 4 would hope that you take into account this burden on the 5 6 elderly. Perhaps a variable rate increase could be 7 implemented that lessens the rate increase burden on our 8 elderly. 9 You know, the deregulation has been glamorized as being beneficial to the American public. I 10 think that if you look at Glass Steagall and other things 11 12 that have been deregulated out, we'll see that they have 13 not been beneficial to society. 14 So I hope that the Public Service 15 Commission realizes that there is a word before PSC, and that is Missouri. All right. So the deregulation that's 16 17 occurred nationwide with regard to the railroads and the charge that they're giving to AmerenUE to deliver that 18 coal has been deregulated. 19 20 Since Reagan began this process in the 21 early '80s, deregulation has been touted -- and I imagine a lot of these people here think that deregulation is good 22 for them. Well, I think that deregulation is what they're 23 24 here tonight because of, because the railroads can charge Ameren whatever they want to charge, it seems, and Ameren 25

Page 34 1 just then passes that on to us. 2 There was mentioned a number of times in 3 the Ameren commercial that we endured for the hour prior to this meeting, little bits and snippets of diesel fuel 4 5 for railroads. Well, that's the delivery of that coal to the coal-burning plants here in Missouri. 6 7 So the deregulation, I think as a Public 8 Service Commission you guys need to address this to our 9 Congress people and our senators as something that needs to be brought to the attention of Washington, D.C., that 10 11 deregulation has harmed us as a society and needs to --12 needs to be addressed in some way, shape or form, because 13 Ameren getting all these bills and they're passing them on to us seems like somehow they're just middle man in all of 14 this. Who's really raking in the profits are the 15 railroads. 16 17 And that was, you know, touted as being the first public/private sector boondoggle in my mind but 18 working together. That public/private project has now 19 20 turned into a totally private project, and we're not 21 reaping any of the benefits as a society. And, you know, this young lady here of 78 22 quite honestly told you that, you know, we can't endure 23 24 this forever. What happens when we're 78? Is my electric

bill instead of what it is this month of \$276 for a small

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1	little house, is it going to be \$1,276? You know, I spent
2	\$1,430 this year on my checks to AmerenUE. Not too bad
3	really. But what's it going to be in 20 more years? You
4	know, and yet they're just going to continue to try and
5	pass on their increases to us.
6	You know, and I wish that Office of Public
7	Counsel had 45 investigators to where they could inform
8	you so well about how the deregulation that's occurred in
9	Washington, D.C. is the crux of this problem.
10	I appreciate your time. Thanks.
11	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. Any questions?
12	Next name on the list is Larry Miles. Good
13	evening. Please raise your right hand.
14	(Witness sworn.)
15	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you.
16	MR. MILES: I just have a comment about my
17	bill here. I have gas and electric both, and my gas, I
18	only use that maybe like four months out of the year when
19	it gets the weather is kind of really cold. The rest
20	of the time I maybe use electric heaters, and in the
21	summertime I don't use no heat at all.
22	Anyhow, right here on my bill for my gas it
23	says amount used as zero, and I got a \$15 charge there.
24	Well, that's a service charge on the meter. I called them
25	and asked them. They said, well, that's a service charge

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1	on the meter. So about seven months out of the year when
2	I'm not using no gas and I'm not using my meter, I'm still
3	paying \$15 a month. And on commercial it's like double
4	that. So I don't know if a lot of people here are even
5	aware of that that have gas and electric both.
6	And then another thing I see on here is,
7	I'm from Russellville, and it says Russellville muni
8	charge, and it says \$5.34. Now, maybe that's not nothing
9	to do with AmerenUE, I don't know, but what is that? I
10	don't know what it is.
11	And I just I just don't think it's
12	right, and I think that ought to be taken at least on
13	that there gas meter deal. Now, I thought about calling
14	them up and just telling them shut the meter off and I'll
15	have it turned on in the wintertime, but I kind of I
16	kind of imagine what it will be is the money I'll save
17	will be about what it's going to cost to turn it off and
18	on. So I haven't really done that yet.
19	That's really all I have to say.
20	JUDGE WOODRUFF: For your specific
21	questions about what's on your bill, go ahead and talk to
22	the Ameren representatives out there. They can answer
23	those questions for you. Any of the Commissioners have
24	any questions? Thank you.
25	Next question is witness is Larry Sauer

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1	(Witness sworn.)
2	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. And you are
3	Larry Sauer?
4	MR. SAUER: I'm Larry Sauer. I live at
5	9812 Claywell Road, Russellville, Missouri, and I've been
6	in construction all my life, houses, remodeling and all of
7	that.
8	Now, when AmerenUE comes out on a job,
9	you'll see a fleet of trucks, a fleet. I experienced a
10	deal here about two months ago out there on the job when
11	they came out. They get there about 8:30 in the morning.
12	Their job was to change a transformer on a pole. Okay.
13	The pole was set where this transformer was going, so all
14	they had to do is take down the transformer, pull the
15	cables, existing cables that went to the live wire feeding
16	the transformer.
17	Okay. Here you've got two trucks out
18	there, and I'm not sure, I think there was six guys.
19	Okay. They came out there. Now, they came there, about
20	10 or 10:30 they were done with that job. Me and my buddy
21	over here, we commenced to do a little hooking and
22	unhooking. We hooked the service up to the new cable that
23	they run to the meter and all that. We got that done.
24	And about 10:30 I thought, well, we all left the job. I
25	knew they'd stick around a while.

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1	Well, about two o'clock in the day come. I
2	went back up there and I decided, well, I was missing my
3	wrench. I left a wrench lay where I changed cable on a
4	meter. Well, I went up there. Here they were all sitting
5	down there in the woods sitting there on the pole, and
6	when I came they all get up and decide they want to move
7	around, make it look good, cover up.
8	Well, I don't understand, why send six guys
9	and two trucks out to do an hour and a half job and get
10	paid all day. I'm sure they didn't go back in to the
11	plant and get seen down here. They got paid for all day
12	for about an hour and a half's work. Then they want more
13	pay for diesel in their trucks while they sit there
14	running with air conditioners on? I don't see that. I
15	don't think it's right.
16	I don't think they deserve a rate increase
17	one. I think it needs to go the other way. That's
18	that's my deal on it. I mean, I think they need to cut
19	costs. People out here, I'm on a fixed income, \$452
20	Social Security a month. Got my electric bill today,
21	\$175. I don't have air conditioner on. I mean, I can't
22	turn it on. If I turn the air conditioner on, probably be
23	\$300.
24	And I just don't feel it's right. I mean,
25	you know, I think it just ain't right. I think it ought

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1	to go the other way. And they need to check their help
2	out. As far as sending all this fleet of trucks out on a
3	job to do a little job, I think that's uncalled for. I've
4	been around when Como and Three Rivers come out. They'll
5	send two guys, one truck, set a pole, be gone in two
6	hours, and that's a lot more work than that. Then they'll
7	go out on another job the rest of the day.
8	So I think they need to start cutting the
9	costs just like everybody else has to cut costs. And when
10	I carpentered, I couldn't take 12 guys out to do a job
11	that take an hour's time and pay them all. Kind of
12	stupidity. I think that's the way they're operating.
13	So that's my comment on the doings, so
14	thank you.
15	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you, sir. Any
16	questions?
17	Next name on the list is Gerald Strobel.
18	Gerald Strobel. Good evening, sir.
19	(Witness sworn.)
20	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. You are Gerald
21	Strobel?
22	MR. STROBEL: Yes. Gerald Strobel. I live
23	at 7013 Route AA, Russellville.
24	I got my electric bill last month. It was
25	a lot higher than the first months, and I called in and I

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- 1 found out that they had a heck of a rate increase for
- 2 summer rates. It was probably roughly \$20 more a month
- 3 just for summer rates, and I -- Three Rivers don't do
- 4 that. They got the same rates summer and winter both.
- 5 And I called in. That's what they told me, it was summer
- 6 rates.
- 7 If I could switch over to Three Rivers
- 8 today, I'd do it today. I just ain't got any use for
- 9 Ameren, because I was another one of the guys that was on
- 10 that job where them guys was sitting up there in them
- 11 trucks all that time and then they probably billed the
- 12 company for the whole day on that job on that greenhouse,
- 13 changing that transformer.
- 14 We left and went to the seed plant to get
- 15 fertilizer, and then we come back and they was still
- 16 there. They got caught sitting there loafing, but they
- 17 left pretty quick when we come back because we caught them
- 18 at it.
- 19 And that's -- I don't think they deserve a
- 20 raise. I think -- I'm like the other guy. I think they
- 21 ought to go the other way, because we can't afford air
- 22 conditioning because -- I can't turn mine on on account of
- 23 that dang increase on my last bill. All we're doing is
- 24 running fans. I never even took the plastic off of my air
- 25 conditioner because I couldn't afford to run it because

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1	I'm on Social Security, fixed income. That's all I've got
2	to say.
3	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Mr. Strobel? Mr.
4	Strobel, Robert Kenney. Let me ask you a couple
5	questions. You were on the job with Mr. Sauer?
6	MR. STROBEL: Yes.
7	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Where was that?
8	MR. STROBEL: It was out at Russellville
9	down on Claywell Road. We was hooking up a greenhouse.
10	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: And how long ago was
11	that?
12	MR. STROBEL: Huh?
13	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: How long ago was
14	that?
15	MR. STROBEL: Probably roughly two months.
16	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: And you and Mr. Sauer
17	are still here. If you're interested in doing it, I
18	suspect Ameren may be interested in knowing more about the
19	circumstances that you just described, so they may want to
20	talk to you guys and maybe get some more information about
21	that. So thanks for coming down and sharing, and thank
22	you.
23	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Next name on the list is
24	Jeannine Stegeman.
25	MS. STEGEMAN: I must have signed the wrong

Page 42 place, because I don't want to testify. 2 JUDGE WOODRUFF: That's fine. Then we'll 3 move to Roger Alberts. MR. ALBERTS: I'm just here, sir. I don't 4 want to testify. 5 6 JUDGE WOODRUFF: That's fine. 7 MR. ALBERTS: I'm listening to everybody 8 else. 9 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Paul Otto? Is Mr. Otto here? K.J. Runge or Runge? Bob L. Pierce. Good evening, 10 Mr. Pierce. 11 12 MR. PIERCE: Yes, sir. 13 (Witness sworn.) 14 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. 15 MR. PIERCE: As I said, my name is Bob Pierce. I want to give a plug for the senior citizens 16 17 here. I'm a senior citizen, and I look around me and I see a lot of senior citizens here tonight. I know they 18 all feel about the same as I do. 19 20 I've been a senior citizen for 15 years, 21 and it just seems like the bills, not just AmerenUE but everything is just skyrocketing. And my electricity bill 22 for my air conditioner this year went up \$100 a month over 23 24 last year, and we haven't got a raise in Social Security for three years. And I'm lucky, I do have a part-time job 25

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1	and we make it all right, but I still say that there
2	should be a concession for the senior citizen, maybe a
3	discount or something where he can be treated he
4	doesn't have much money, and it needs to be where he
5	can where he can at least live.
6	I've got a friend out in Holts Summit that
7	he's in a poverty stage, just barely makes it, and if they
8	raise if they raise his electricity, it's going to hurt
9	him, and it's going to hurt a lot of people.
10	And as the lady said, we're I'm a senior
11	citizen. You're all going to be there shortly. I'm not
12	complaining. I think AmerenUE does a fine job. We need
13	electricity, and if the if the rate increase needs to
14	be, I guess it will be, but make concessions for the
15	senior citizens if you can. That's about all I have to
16	say.
17	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. Any questions?
18	Next name on the list is James Tapella.
19	James Tapella? Oliver Reedus. Good evening, sir.
20	(Witness sworn.)
21	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you.
22	MR. REEDUS: My name is Oliver Reedus, and
23	I'm here to take the side of the people who are actually
24	having to pay all of these high electric bills. Last year
25	the temperature, the normal temperature of this area was

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1	slightly higher than normal. I noticed the same thing
2	happened this year. This year the temperature has been
3	higher than it's been in the last probably several
4	decades. With this comes extra expense on senior
5	citizens, just like the guy just mentioned.
6	So because of this, sooner or later there's
7	going to have to be some type of a financial financial
8	leave for people who can't afford higher electric rates.
9	Now, AmerenUE's saying that they need
10	376 million, I believe they said, increase, and I forgot
11	what the reasons were, but I do suspect that a lot of this
12	money will probably be going to stockholders and
13	shareholders.
14	Also, they mentioned they tried to decrease
15	the bill decrease some of the expenses at AmerenUE by
16	cutting cutting the staff, but but I'd suspect also
17	that some of these awards and bonuses that is paid to the
18	executives are some where some of this extra money will
19	be going to.
20	Also, they said the profit margin for
21	shareholders were around 8 to 9 percent. Well, I find
22	that really hard to believe.
23	The next thing I'd like to say is why this
24	increase has to be 14 percent. Why not like 2 or 3 or
25	4 percent? I know they mention a whole bunch of things

	Page 45
1	that that they have intentions of creating for the
2	company, but 14 percent seemed like an awful big increase
3	just for such a small amount of time.
4	One other thing I would like to know from
5	them is what about what about the salary of some of
6	these executives? What about how much are some of these
7	bonuses?
8	And as Mr. Wood was speaking, some of the
9	stuff he mentioned and the charts he had, some of the
10	figures was actually, I don't know whether that's
11	believable. I really and then we have no proof as
12	customers of AmerenUE, we don't really have any proof. I
13	mean, he gives good explanations, but I suspect that
14	that the that he is very prepared to answer questions
15	here, but we have we have no no proof or no
16	validations of what he's saying is actually true.
17	One other issue I'd like to mention is the
18	increase of 14 percent oh, I've already mentioned that.
19	Will this increase be for how much will it be for
20	shareholders, stockholders?
21	Also, if the fuel adjustment rate is
22	adjusted, as the lady mentioned, four times three times
23	a year, I believe she said, so if the fuel adjustment for
24	fuel that's being used by AmerenUE to produce electricity
25	is adjusted three times a year, which would be every four

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1	months, then why are we going along with this 14 percent?
2	Okay. The last issue is oh, is the
3	economy. Isn't this a really terrible bad time to be
4	having this increase when the economy is such in such a
5	shamble? Here come November we may be even changing
6	leadership, which we don't know what's going to happen
7	then. The global markets. The global markets are in bad
8	shape.
9	And then like I was mentioning, this global
10	warning thing, it may who knows, it may be a true
11	factor. This time last year I was in Iraq. I didn't know
12	what the temperature were here, but when I called back,
13	they said it was 105 degrees. That was hard to believe.
14	Over there it was 130, but it was to be expected.
15	But the long-term issue with global warming
16	will have effect on the increase of our rates just because
17	of the weather in spite of increase, the 14 percent. It
18	will be an increase it's an increase this year because
19	we're just into August. We're still expecting more hot
20	weather.
21	So the long-term issues with the economy
22	and the global warming, I think the Commission should
23	consider maybe postponing this increase or looking at some
24	other alternative. And that's all I've got to say. Thank
25	you.

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1	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you, sir. Any
2	questions?
3	Next name on the list is Victoria Lovejoy.
4	Good evening. Please raise your right hand.
5	(Witness sworn.)
6	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you.
7	MS. LOVEJOY: My name is Victoria Lovejoy,
8	and I like electricity, and I think all of us like
9	electricity, but we don't have any other place to shop for
10	electricity but Ameren. We don't have a choice. When
11	they want to raise the rates, we've got to go along with
12	it. And they've said they raise the rates four times, ten
13	times, I'm not really clear how many times they've raised
14	the rates, but this time, 14 percent, that's a large
15	raise.
16	My salary has gone up is going up
17	tomorrow, once in the last four years, and it's going to
18	be 2 percent. I'm getting a 2 percent salary increase, so
19	I feel pretty lucky. But a 14 percent raise on my
20	electric? What good does it even do me to get a 2 percent
21	raise? I don't get a cost of living. I don't get a
22	bonus. I don't get an award. I don't get incentives. It
23	doesn't matter what you call them. I don't get extras.
24	Whatever those people make that make a million plus
25	dollars working at Ameren, I don't make that kind of

	Page 48
1	salary. I guess I made a wrong career move.
2	I feel like we're lemons, and we're getting
3	squeezed from all sides, and Ameren maybe thinks we're
4	lemons, they're squeezing us, they're making lemonade and
5	they're selling the lemonade back to us, but at some point
6	there isn't going to be any more juice in the lemons. And
7	that's going to be a problem for Ameren as well as for us
8	because there's only so much money we make as people we
9	have to spend, and at some point we won't be able to pay
10	our bills and we won't be able to pay Ameren and Ameren
11	won't be able to make any more lemonade out of us, so
12	they'll be in trouble.
13	So that's all I have to say.
14	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Any questions? Thank you.
15	Next name on the list is Mollie Freebairn.
16	Good evening. Please raise your right hand.
17	(Witness sworn.)
18	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. And can you
19	tell us your name again?
20	MS. FREEBAIRN: Mollie Freebairn.
21	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Could you spell the last
22	name, please?
23	MS. FREEBAIRN: F-r-e-e-b-a-i-r-n.
24	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. What would you
25	like to tell us?

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1	MS. FREEBAIRN: I live at 303 Norris Drive.
2	It is unacceptable for Ameren to be repeatedly helping
3	themselves to Missouri ratepayers' hard-earned income that
4	we are relying upon to maintain our quality of life and
5	provide for our families, you know, all the people that
6	are speaking here, all the parents of young children who
7	can't be here tonight, you know, but you know they're cash
8	strapped as well. They're working two and three jobs, mom
9	and dad, to pay for their children's education, their
10	health care, and hopefully to have to meet their dreams
11	of a better life through their own hard work and planning.
12	Increasingly our incomes are being tapped
13	to pay for energy whose costs are spiraling out of control
14	for the sake of corporate profits. Today Ameren Missouri
15	is seeking a 14.6 percent rate hike. We've heard from the
16	people here how many of us have had a 14 percent raise
17	in the last year? Not very many. Or in the last six
18	years? I think it's safe to say or a 10 percent or
19	4 percent increase in the last six years?
20	If approved, the increase would be Ameren's
21	fifth rate increase in six years, at which point Ameren's
22	rates would have increased 50 percent in the last six
23	years. A rate hike of any amount on top of the 36 percent
24	that they already have already received is completely out
25	of alignment with any increase in domestic prices or wage

	Page 50
1	increases during this time except, you know, for your own
2	executives possibly.
3	On the contrary, there has been a decrease
4	in the earnings of Missourians during the last six years
5	along with a historic rise in unemployment. Energy
6	generation is the state's largest industry but currently
7	engages less than 1 percent of Missouri's work force.
8	Most of the money that Missourians pay for
9	electricity goes out of state to coal mining companies in
10	Wyoming. Coal and nuclear utilities employ 16,000 people
11	in Missouri according to Ameren and spin off another 9,000
12	for a total of 25,000 energy jobs in Missouri. Sounds
13	like a lot.
14	However, there are many economic benefits
15	for states that produce their own energy, including
16	reduced energy rates and the creation of thousands of new
17	jobs across a wide spectrum of industrial and commercial
18	professions. One University of Tennessee study shows that
19	increasing renewable energy generation would create
20	10 high-paying jobs for every coal and nuclear job we have
21	today. Missouri would reap the benefits of these new
22	industries in the form of 240,000 new jobs.
23	Ameren says energy rates are going to rise.
24	This is the dire prediction of Missouri's investor-owned
25	utilities. However, this only need be the case if

Page 51 Missouri ratepayers are compelled to pay for nuclear 2 reactor power plants that private investors refuse to 3 finance. Energy prices from the generation of 4 5 electricity with natural gas, wind and solar energy are steadily decreasing. Energy efficiency is the lowest cost 6 7 of energy sources and also one of the greatest potential job creators here in Missouri. All of these sources of 8 energy would be much cleaner than coal is and much less toxic to the environment. 10 11 Tremendous growth in wind energy generation 12 is taking place across the great plains states from Texas 13 to the Dakotas. Electricity costs are declining. Clean Line Energy plans to construct a grain belt express to 14 15 deliver wind energy from Kansas to Missouri, Illinois, Indiana and states farther east. 16 17 The renewable energy that Missouri possesses in greatest abundance, actually the energy 18 source that Missouri possesses in greatest abundance of 19 20 any type is solar power. Solar energy is also one of the 21 fastest growing sectors in the United States economy. According to Missouri Energy Industries Association, the 22 U.S. solar energy market grew 102 percent last year and is 23 24 on track to grow another 100 percent in 2012. Many energy analysts projects that the United States will become the 25

	Page 52
1	largest solar market in the world in just the next few
2	years. Let's don't let Missouri get left behind.
3	The renewable energy standards passed by an
4	overwhelming two-thirds majority of Missouri voters in the
5	2008 Proposition C require investor-owned utilities to
6	produce 15 percent of Missouri's electricity from
7	renewable energy sources. This was designed to launch
8	renewable energy industries in Missouri with tens of
9	thousands of new jobs.
10	The study I mentioned before, the
11	University of Tennessee study shows that increasing
12	renewable energy generation to 25 percent by 2025, which
13	is the goal in many states that are leaving Missouri in
14	the dust, would create ten high-paying jobs in fields such
15	as construction, engineering, architecture, manufacturing
16	and marketing for every coal and nuclear job we have in
17	the United States today.
18	Missouri should be reaping the benefits of
19	these new industries. The potential is for renewable
20	energy and energy efficiency to employ ten times as many
21	Missourian, revitalize our entire economy by keeping the
22	major investments we are making every month to power our
23	homes and businesses here at home. Thank you.
24	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you, ma'am. Any
25	questions?

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1	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Ms. Freebairn, thank
2	you for coming, and I just have a quick question for you.
3	The University of Tennessee study that you referenced,
4	when was that done and can you tell me the title of it, if
5	you know?
6	MS. FREEBAIRN: I have the link here. It's
7	www.25x25.org, is the 25 $$ 25 by 25 study from the
8	University of Tennessee, 25 percent renewable energy by
9	2025.
10	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Thanks for taking the
11	time to come out and share your thoughts with us.
12	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you, ma'am. Next
13	name is Richard Allen.
14	MR. ALLEN: Still here.
15	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. Please raise your
16	right hand.
17	(Witness sworn.)
18	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you.
19	MR. ALLEN: I'm not going to address the
20	14 percent. I think that's adequately been addressed.
21	But I would like to focus on the fuel adjustment charge,
22	and I know the Ameren person did give some kind of an
23	explanation, but it really wasn't adequate for what my
24	thoughts are about it.
25	Just as a preface, I talked about the fuel

	Page 5-
1	adjustment charge at a previous hearing. I'm sure if you
2	look up the testimony you can find testimony I gave. I
3	said it was a bad idea to start that. This is before
4	Ameren was ever granted a fuel adjustment charge, I said
5	it's a bad idea and gave the reasons why I thought it was
6	a bad idea. I think I need to go over those again because
7	I don't think it should be continued.
8	And the thing is, if you have a fuel
9	adjustment clause in place where if they pay more for fuel
10	they can pass that cost on to the customers via this fuel
11	adjustment charge, their buyers don't have an incentive to
12	get the best deal they can. If they feel like, well, if
13	we have to pay more, if Ameren has to pay more, we can
14	just pass it on, where's the incentive to get the best
15	deal for the company when it doesn't matter, when the
16	customers can pay more? So that's one reason.
17	I also stated that if this were
18	implemented, there would always be a charge on there.
19	We'd never see a rebate, and this what this goes back
20	to is the Ameren spokesman at that hearing told us, well,
21	this could work either way. If we pay less for coal, you
22	can get a rebate, not a lesser charge, but a rebate, and
23	we've never seen that.
24	Now, have they not ever paid less for coal
25	than that benchmark time? I don't know. I don't know

Page 55 what their coal costs are. 2 But anyway, here's just an example. Let's 3 say at the time of the rate increase that they last got, before the implementation of the fuel adjustment clause, 4 5 they were paying \$25 a ton for coal. Oh, coal went up to 6 \$30 a ton. So let's go ahead and see if we can get this 7 fuel adjustment charge. That was reasonable. Coal goes 8 down maybe from 30 to 29. Okay. We still have a fuel adjustment charge, but it's a lesser amount. 10 But what if they only end up paying \$20 for coal? That's less than the benchmark amount when they 11 12 were getting nothing as far as a surcharge or a fuel adjustment clause. That's when the rebate should kick in, 13 when the amount they're paying is less than the benchmark 14 15 amount that they -- that they used to get the rate 16 increase. 17 So that is my point, and I have never seen that happen. So either somebody's not checking or else 18 they've been paying continually higher amounts for coal, 19 and I don't know that to be true. I think coal has 20 21 dropped recently. So I should see something reflected on my bill. 22 23 Also, the other thing I want to talk about 24 is -- and these are small percentages on the bill, but still when you add up to millions of customers, it's a 25

Page 56 significant -- it's a significant amount of money. 2 other is this energy efficiency program charge. And, of 3 course, if we have efficient appliances and other things it should save the customer money, but this program is 4 5 also designed to save Ameren money so they don't have to go out and build knew capacity and spend big bucks to do 6 7 that. 8 Why are the customers footing the bill for the energy efficiency program when it also benefits Ameren? That's all I have. 10 11 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Any questions? Thank you, 12 sir. 13 Mr. Allen was the last name on my list. there anyone who was not on the list? Go ahead, sir. 14 15 Come on up. Tell us your name, please. 16 MR. MALONEY: Rich Maloney. 17 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Rich Maloney. Okay. if you'd pleas raise your right hand. 18 19 (Witness sworn.) 20 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. 21 MR. MALONEY: I just want to take a look at the total picture. We talked a lot tonight about seniors 22 and hardship on seniors, 14 percent increase. 14 percent 23 to some people on Social Security, that's a tremendous 24 amount. I can see it. 25

Page 57 1 But the total picture, when you look at 2 giving Ameren, who makes billions of dollars, a 14 percent 3 increase, let's look at the middle class family. Their pay, most pays are stagnant now, very little raises. Some 4 5 people have lost jobs, have had to take jobs less money. Automobile insurance, it goes up for them. 6 7 Hospitalization is going up. Prescription drugs are going 8 up. Food prices are going up. 9 We're talking 14 percent here. Then start adding on to all the other percents. When we get through 10 11 it, we're closer to 20-something percent a year when 12 people are unemployed and people are making less money. And so it's not just Ameren, and I think 13 14 percent is too much. I'd like to be able to expect to 14 15 make 10 percent on my investments. Have you looked at what you get for certificates of deposit today? You don't 16 even get 1 percent. And some of your -- if you've been 17 like me, some of my investments the last couple times the 18 markets fell, I really -- I've never recovered any of 19 20 that. 21 So I think maybe it's time for Ameren to do like the rest of us have had to do, tighten their belt and 22 spend a little more of their profits, their profits on the 23

things they want to do. So you can't give quite as much

to your stockholders. I'm not getting that much off of my

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24

25

Page 58 1 stocks. 2 So I don't see anything wrong with cutting 3 them back, saying hey, step up to the plate, Ameren. your share, take your hit like everybody in the country is 4 5 taking. I for one don't believe this country's ever going to pull out of this unemployments thing, unless -- and the 6 7 man who could do this would be elected president in a minute -- unless you can figure a way to bring 8 manufacturing back to this country where we make what we 10 use in this country. People say, ah, never happen again. Well, we let it get away. But it might happen. 11 12 But if we're going to employ people, today 13 to get a job, a poor kid who comes out of high school, these menial jobs ask for somebody with college 14 15 experience, two, three, four years in college. And if you look at what colleges start today, think about the poor 16 17 families who are trying to save money so that their kid has a chance to go to college and get an education. 18 19 Things are all going up. These poor kids today get out and they're 40 years old and still trying to 20 21 pay off their student loans, and that's terrible, in this country that's supposed to be the greatest country in the 22 23 world. 24 So I think it's about time that everybody from our president on down started looking at all these 25

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- 1 things. This country is on the downhill slide from a
- 2 great, great power to we're going down. Look at the way
- 3 people think about things today. We don't have the same
- 4 pride. You can walk down the street and look how things
- 5 happen around.
- 6 So I think in looking at the total picture,
- 7 I don't think Ameren deserves this kind of a raise. Not
- 8 that they're not good people. I think because of the
- 9 times that we're in and the burden we keep putting more
- 10 and more on the backs of the population. Yeah, the guy at
- 11 the top, he's making 5 million plus a year. Well, that's
- 12 terrific. It's great for him. But then look at the other
- 13 side, the poor kid who's trying to save enough money to
- 14 get his child into college to get an education so he might
- 15 succeed, he's going the other way.
- 16 So before we just think about 14 percent
- 17 from Ameren, I think we need to take a look at the total
- 18 picture of all the things, all the burdens that are being
- 19 piled on the back of the people of this country, and it's
- 20 not a very pleasant thing to think about. That's about
- 21 all I have to say. Thank you for listening to me.
- 22 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you, sir. Any
- 23 questions? All right. Yes, sir. Tell us your name,
- 24 please.
- MR. RENTZ: My name is Henry Rentz,

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1	R-e-n-t-z. Testified before you many times in the
2	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Raise your right hand.
3	(Witness sworn.)
4	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you.
5	MR. RENTZ: My name is Henry Rentz, and I'm
6	in the renewable energy business, and I wanted to just say
7	a couple of things that have not been said.
8	The default rate that the utility companies
9	are experiencing today has climbed from about 7 percent to
10	somewhere in the range of 13 or 14 percent of people that
11	can't afford to pay their bills. I testified a few months
12	back on Bill 1305 against the bill that would increase
13	rates to the customers. It would have increased my
14	business, but I didn't think it was fair that those
15	people, the seniors and low income people had to carry the
16	tariff for it.
17	So my question quite simply is to Mr. Mills
18	primarily. This would be your office that would look into
19	it. Given the way that the rules are written in the
20	Public Service Commission and that Ameren has proprietary
21	rights to conceal a number of different issues, my
22	question is, what was the revenue loss from last year in
23	the mild winter?
24	I know the revenue loss for the majority of
25	the utility companies in this state were over 13 percent.

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1	So when you take the revenue loss of 13 percent over a
2	mild winter last year and the default rate of probably
3	10 or 12 percent this year, it appears to me that this
4	14 percent increase is nothing more than an offset of what
5	they've lost in the past. This could be something that
6	needs to be looked into. Now, I don't know how you can
7	get that information. I believe that would be somewhat
8	forthcoming should it be asked for.
9	But I'm concerned, I'm concerned that the
10	citizens of Missouri that can least afford this are the
11	ones that are being taxed with it. It's quite simply
12	unfair and really unconscionable as far as I'm concerned.
13	It just does not make sense to continue to raise tariffs
14	on people that are rate recoverable. These are all rate
15	recoverable rates is what they're looking for.
16	The energy efficiency program, Ameren in
17	the past has instituted energy efficiency programs only to
18	get the money recovered and then cancel the programs.
19	Here comes another one. I'm curious to see what this
20	program will be, and this is the first I've heard about
21	it, and I'm curious to find out what this next energy
22	efficiency program entails.
23	They did have energy efficiency programs in
24	the last three years, instituted the programs, spent
25	millions of dollars to build them, and then canceled the

Page 62 programs right after that. 2 It's just awful curious to me that these 3 numbers coincide with revenue lost from last year. And that's basically what I've got to say. 4 5 JUDGE WOODRUFF: For your revenue loss, you're talking about bad debt? 6 7 MR. RENTZ: No. That would be default rate. Default rate would be the rate that individuals 8 cannot pay their bills. There are utility companies in 10 this country right now that have gone to pay with a credit 11 card on your meter. In other words, you go out and swipe 12 your credit card and you buy \$100 worth of utility power, and when that's up, it's shut off, because of default 13 14 rates. 15 The country's in -- I don't know if anybody's ever noticed, but the country is in a recession 16 17 right now, and this is the wrong time to be raising rates. I of all should be applauding the increase in rates 18 because it will increase my solar power business, because 19 the higher the rates go, the more our business thrives, 20 21 but I don't think that's fair. I just feel like that you have to temper 22 23 this profit with a little bit of morality, and I'm 24 wondering where the morality is and where's the Office of Public Counsel, where's the Commission when it comes to 25

	Page 63					
1	citizens that can least afford this. That's my only					
2	concern. Thank you.					
3	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Any questions? Thank you,					
4	sir.					
5	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: I don't have any					
6	questions, Mr. Rentz, but I appreciate you taking the					
7	time. I know that you've appeared before us before.					
8	Actually, I do have one question. You mentioned a bill					
9	that you testified against. Can you tell me what that					
10	was?					
11	MR. RENTZ: 1305. The bill would have					
12	increased from 100 KW capacity, maximum capacity allowed					
13	on solar power systems mandated by Prop C 386.1530, but it					
14	would have increased it to 250 kilowatts size system					
15	without regulation.					
16	AmerenUE pretty much refuses to do a power					
17	purchase agreement because they say they don't need the					
18	power. They increased you know they actually produce a					
19	tremendous amount more, probably 20 percent more power					
20	than they actually consume in the state. Now, I don't					
21	know how that money is disbursed. They say it comes back					
22	95 percent revenue return. I would question some of that.					
23	I mean, you can do a lot of things with the books. I'm					
24	just curious as to why the increase is here now.					
25	And, you know, there's a lot of things that					

	Page 64
1	just don't make sense. They don't make sense, and they
2	appear to make sense if you spin it right. I mean, you
3	can say pretty much anything and make it sound how you
4	want it to sound, but the numbers don't lie, but those
5	numbers are concealed from the Public Service Commission,
6	are they not? They are. I mean, they have no they
7	don't have to report their profits to you nor their
8	operating costs unless it comes to fuel costs and things
9	like that. And so how do you get those numbers?
10	I mean, we've talked about this before.
11	And it's just unfair at this time, I believe it's totally
12	unfair. Any other questions, Commissioner Kenney?
13	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: No other questions.
14	I would encourage you, however, to talk with Mr. Mills,
15	our Staff and Ameren to get specific answers to your
16	question about the excess capacity and about how what
17	information is available to us in the course of a rate
18	case. But thanks for coming, Mr. Rentz.
19	MR. RENTZ: Yes, sir. Thank you.
20	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you, sir. Anyone
21	else wishing to testify? Could you tell us your name,
22	please?
23	MR. KIXMILLER: My name is Josh Kixmiller.
24	I basically
25	JUDGE WOODPUFF. I need to swear you in

	Page 65
1	(Witness sworn.)
2	MR. KIXMILLER: As a small business owner,
3	I don't think anybody's been addressed as far as small
4	business owners go. They're taking a hit, too, just like
5	everybody else. So everybody's I mean, the small
6	business owners are having to tighten their belts just
7	like everybody else to make ends meet.
8	I'm not seeing AmerenUE do that. For
9	example, they're wanting to do this new nuclear power
10	plant over there in Callaway. Asking the government for
11	money is not a way to go about it. I can't ask the
12	government for money to build a new building. So I don't
13	think AmerenUE's going about it the right way in doing
14	this.
15	I feel that there is a lot of wasteful
16	spending that AmerenUE's doing that they could clean up on
17	to get their 14 percent increase for their investors.
18	They are a monopoly, so I am obligated to
19	have to pay them. I don't have a choice in who I can
20	select. If the Commission could go ahead and, you know,
21	create another choice for us to do, I'm sure everybody
22	else would feel more comfortable because then AmerenUE
23	would have to compete with the alternative. That's all
24	I've got to say. Thank you.
25	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Any questions? Just could

	Page 66
1	you spell your last name for the court reporter?
2	MR. KIXMILLER: Yeah. It's
3	K-i-x-m-i-l-l-e-r.
4	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. Anyone else
5	wish to testify? I don't see any other hands going up.
6	Well, then, thank you all very much for coming out, and
7	with that, we are adjourned. Thank you.
8	(WHEREUPON, the public hearing concluded at
9	8:36 p.m.)
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	Page 67				
1	CERTIFICATE				
2	STATE OF MISSOURI)				
3) ss.				
4	COUNTY OF COLE)				
5	I, Kellene K. Feddersen, Certified				
6	Shorthand Reporter with the firm of Midwest Litigation				
7	Services, do hereby certify that I was personally present				
8	at the proceedings had in the above-entitled cause at the				
9	time and place set forth in the caption sheet thereof;				
10	that I then and there took down in Stenotype the				
11	proceedings had; and that the foregoing is a full, true				
12	and correct transcript of such Stenotype notes so made at				
13	such time and place.				
14	Given at my office in the City of				
15	Jefferson, County of Cole, State of Missouri.				
16					
17					
18					
19					
20	Kellene K. Feddersen, RPR, CSR, CCR				
21					
22					
23					
24					
25					

	37:10 41:10	54:4,13,20	21:7,9 25:7	available 5:12
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