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1	STATE OF MISSOURI	
2	PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION	
3		
4	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS	
5	Local Public Hearing	
6	January 28, 2015	
7	Arnold, Missouri	
8	Volume 13	
9		
10	In The Matter Of Union)	
	Electric Company d/b/a) File No. ER-2014-0258	
11	Ameren Missouri's Tariff)	
	To Increase Its Revenues)	
12	For Electric Service)	
13		
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15		
16	KENNARD JONES, Presiding	
	CHIEF REGULATORY LAW JUDGE	
17		
18	STEPHEN STOLL	
	COMMISSIONER	
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23	REPORTED BY:	
24	SUZANNE ZES, CCR	
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Page 3 PROCEEDINGS 1 2 JUDGE JONES: Okay. Let's go ahead and 3 get started with the on-the-record portion of the -this hearing. As I said earlier, for those of you 4 5 who were here, my name is Kennard Jones. I am a judge with the Missouri Public Service Commission 6 7 and I'll be conducting this hearing. I have a list here in front of me that I will 8 9 go down, call people up one by one, you'll come up to this microphone, raise your right hand, I'll 10 swear you in as a witness, you'll make your 11 12 statement then you can have a seat. When I finish the list, if during the course 13 of the testimony someone out there thinks of 14 15 themselves, they also want to make a statement, I'll give you an opportunity to do that after we've gone 16 17 through those who have already signed up. Commissioner Stoll, would you like to make 18 19 some statements? COMMISSIONER STOLL: I just wanted to 20 21 bring greetings from the Commission. There are five members of the Missouri Public Service Commission. 22 This is the last of twelve local public hearings 23 that have been held in the Ameren rate case and the 24 process really is just beginning. It starts with 25

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- 1 the local public hearings and then later this early
- 2 spring we'll be having what's called evidentiary
- 3 hearings in Jefferson City.
- 4 We hold these hearings to listen to your
- 5 comments and concerns and that's the -- our main
- 6 objective tonight, to hear what you have to say. We
- 7 also have a court reporter here who is recording a
- 8 transcript of the proceedings tonight and the other
- 9 four commissioners will be reading those transcripts
- 10 that are provided.
- I also wanted to mention, and you may have
- 12 been told this, but I'm not allowed to answer any
- 13 questions regarding the specifics of the rate case.
- 14 The commissioners sit as judges and we aren't to be
- 15 prejudiced in what we say and answer any questions.
- 16 I can answer -- or ask questions maybe regarding
- 17 clarification of a comment or concern you might
- 18 have.
- 19 And if you do have questions though, and you
- 20 probably learned this during the question-and-answer
- 21 period, the Public Service Commission has staff
- 22 that's in the room and outside, as does the Office
- 23 of Public Counsel and the utility. So some specific
- 24 questions you might have can be asked there. And,
- 25 with that, I will stop and let the hearing begin and

Page 5 I look forward to hearing your testimony. 2 JUDGE JONES: Okay. Let's start by 3 first taking entries of appearances from the parties that are present. Ameren Missouri? 4 5 MR. TOMC: Thank you, Your Honor. Matthew R. Tomc appearing on behalf of the Union 6 7 Electric Company doing business as Ameren Missouri, St. Louis, Missouri. 8 9 JUDGE JONES: Matthew, can you make sure that microphone is on for me? 10 MR. TOMC: Yes, Your Honor. 11 12 JUDGE JONES: Thank you so much. I 13 appreciate it. For the Office of Public Counsel? 14 MR. POSTON: Marc Poston appearing for the Office of Public Counsel. 15 16 JUDGE JONES: Staff of the Commission? 17 MS. MUETH: Marcella Mueth, P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65201. 18 19 JUDGE JONES: Are there any other 20 parties to this case that are present that would 21 like to enter an appearance? I don't see a show of hands, so we'll go through the list. 22 23 First listed is Pete Springer. 24 MR. SPRINGER: I'm good, questions 25 answered.

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- 1 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. Next is Jana
- 2 Brazeal.
- 3 Would you raise your right hand, please. Do
- 4 you solemnly affirm that the testimony you're about
- 5 to give is the truth?
- 6 MS. BRAZEAL: I do.
- 7 JUDGE JONES: Thank you, ma'am. You may
- 8 proceed.
- 9 MS. BRAZEAL: Fifty-one percent of
- 10 public school children in the United States live in
- 11 poverty. According to Ameren's proxy statement for
- 12 2013 the total compensation of the president, Warren
- 13 Baxter, was \$2,246,218. 50.1 million Americans
- 14 struggle to put food on the table. That's according
- 15 to the Institute for America's Health.
- Tom Voss, who is now retired, in 2013 made
- 17 \$5,719,927. He is retired. I think he probably has
- 18 a good pension. I have no pension. Food insecurity
- 19 exists in every county in the United States. That's
- 20 according to City Harvest dot org.
- 21 Steve Sullivan in 2013, who is the former
- 22 chairman and president and chief executive officer
- 23 made \$4,532,928. One in six people in America do
- 24 not have enough to eat. One in six people in
- 25 America do not have enough to eat.

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- 1 Charles D. Nasland in 2013 made \$1,533,739.
- 2 One in five children in the United States, according
- 3 to the University of Central Florida, is hungry.
- 4 Greg Nelson made \$1,575,760 in 2013. Martin
- 5 Lyons made \$2,078,155 in 2013. I had an adjusted
- 6 gross income in 2013 of \$33,000. I got breast
- 7 cancer, which cost me \$10,000 of my adjusted gross,
- 8 not net, gross income.
- 9 I have not had a raise in four years. If
- 10 this increase is granted to Ameren rates will have
- 11 risen more than 50 percent, 50 percent since 2006.
- 12 In my view, the Public Service Commission, that name
- 13 is a misnomer. You have not been serving the
- 14 public. You have been serving corporate greed. You
- 15 should be ashamed. Think.
- JUDGE JONES: Thank you, Ms. Brazeal.
- 17 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your
- 18 testimony.
- 19 JUDGE JONES: Next listed is Gary -- and
- 20 I'm not sure what your last name is. I believe it
- 21 starts with an "S."
- Can you raise your right hand, please. Do
- 23 you solemnly affirm that the testimony you're about
- 24 to give is the truth?
- MR. STEELE: Yes.

Page 8 1 JUDGE JONES: Thank you, sir. And how 2 do you -- first name is Gary, right? 3 MR. STEELE: Gary Steele. JUDGE JONES: S-T-E --4 MR. STEELE: E-L-E. 5 6 JUDGE JONES: Okay. Thank you very 7 much. 8 MR. STEELE: Just the way she said it. 9 Every time Ameren always asks for between 8 and a 12 percent increase, they always get 68.4 percent of 10 what they ask for. Doesn't make no difference what 11 12 they ask for they will get right at 68.4 percent of 13 it. I got a list of cost of living from 2010 to 2015. The cost of living in 2010 was zero. Cost of 15 living for 2011 was zero. Cost of living for '12: 16 17 3.6. 3.6. '13: 1.7. That's your increase for the cost of living. 2014: 1.5. 2015: 1.7. You add 18 19 those all up, 8.6 percent increase. 20 Would anybody like to explain to me how I can 21 keep up with the bills when they're getting a 7 percent -- a 7 percent increase every time they ask 22 for it and everybody on cost of living, everybody 23 24 out here that's a citizen that's retired, gets a cost of living, they're getting right at 1.5 percent 25

Page 9 1 a year. 2 Look at this measly crowd. You got 140 3 chairs out here. This place should be packed. There should be people lining this wall and all you 4 5 have is a measly possibly 80 people maybe. I'm 6 going to tell you right now, Ameren is going to get 7 what they want. You're going to give it to them 8 because there's no support out here. If there was 5,000 people out here that would make a difference but when you only have 80 people - just look around 10 at these empty chairs. You've only got 140 chairs 11 12 out here. That's all there is, 140. 13 Ameren is going to get the rate increase so I don't know why you don't just -- instead of playing 14 15 these little games just give them a 500 percent increase. Maybe then when everybody cannot -- when 16 17 nobody can pay their electric bill maybe people would get off their north end going south and come 18 19 down here and start complaining. Until that happens 20 absolutely nothing is going to change. Nothing. 21 JUDGE JONES: Thank you, sir. Next is Michael Povich. Did I pronounce your last name

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Michael Povich. I live in Festus, Missouri. I'm 65

MR. POVICH: Povich, yeah. My name is

correctly?

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Page 10 years old. I'm retired. 2 JUDGE JONES: Will you please raise your 3 right hand. MR. POVICH: Oh, I'm sorry. 4 5 JUDGE JONES: That's all right. Do you solemnly affirm that the testimony you're about to 6 7 give is the truth? 8 MR. POVICH: Yes, I do. 9 JUDGE JONES: Thank you, sir. You may 10 proceed. MR. POVICH: As I said, I'm Mike Povich. 11 I live in Festus. I'm 65 years old. I'm a veteran. 12 I'm retired. First of all, a lot of -- a lot of 13 companies you can't do what we're doing here tonight 14 15 and I do appreciate that. I would like to thank God. I would like to thank the founders of our 16 17 country, our United States veterans, past and present, and our policemen and fire departments, you 18 know, for all their efforts they're doing to make 19 this pretty much still a good country regardless of 20 21 what we got going on. I asked a man a while ago and he said that 22 Ameren's owned by corporation basically and you 23 24 can't lose to Wall Street. They're the only electric company around here and you got 25

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- 1 multimillions of customers and you keep wanting to
- 2 raise them rates up. I mean, standard economics, if
- 3 you got a business and you got a lot of customers,
- 4 you don't need from the people.
- I mean, this is about as bad as the
- 6 Unaffordable Care Act and a lot of people I know
- 7 lost their health insurance on account of that and
- 8 then if they got it, they got to pay a lot more that
- 9 they can't afford, that they shouldn't pay in the
- 10 first place. And this is -- this is almost criminal
- 11 in my opinion. This is almost criminal.
- 12 And I'd like to know what should we all do
- 13 first, should we freeze to death or sweat to death?
- 14 I mean, should I start cooking outside? Don't
- 15 bother me. That's how I grew up. Well, I wonder if
- 16 you could just be admirable, maybe for something
- 17 spiritual even. (Inaudible) And that's what this
- 18 is. Thank you.
- 19 JUDGE JONES: Thank you, sir. Next
- 20 listed is Dottie Bent. Is Dottie Bent present?
- 21 Steve Bland?
- 22 Would you raise your right hand, sir. Do you
- 23 solemnly affirm that the testimony you're about to
- 24 give is the truth?
- MR. BLAND: Yes.

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JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may

- 1 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may
- 2 proceed.
- 3 MR. BLAND: I spoke at another
- 4 Commission meeting about a month ago. I was asked
- 5 for some additional information. I didn't have it
- 6 at that time. Just a recap, at that time I
- 7 commented that Ameren UE raised their dividend on
- 8 their stocks before the last rate request two years
- 9 ago and in December of 2014 they again raised their
- 10 dividend and then filed a rate request or well,
- 11 actually they filed a rate request before that but
- 12 they raised their dividend again.
- 13 I was asked at that time and I made a comment
- 14 that it was -- the dividend was the highest that I
- 15 had seen on the electric companies I had been
- 16 following on my stock account. At that time I did
- 17 not have the information. I was asked what their
- 18 dividend was and compared to two other companies.
- Ameren's dividend is \$1.64 per share on a
- 20 yearly basis. Their earnings per share is \$2.34 per
- 21 share. Exelon Corporation pays a dividend of a
- 22 \$1.24 per share on a yearly basis. Their earnings
- 23 per share is \$2.44. Great Plains Energy pays a
- 24 yearly dividend of 98 cents. Their earnings per
- 25 share is \$1.55. Teco Energy pays a dividend of 88

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- 1 cents on a yearly basis and earnings per share is 74
- 2 cents.
- 3 After all of their expenses -- earnings per
- 4 share is derived from what's leftover after they
- 5 take -- take into account all the expenses and
- 6 operating costs they have and then they pay a
- 7 dividend out of that. That leaves 90 cents
- 8 remaining difference. They have 200 -- or
- 9 242.6 million shares of stock outstanding, which
- 10 means 90 cents a share. They're collecting almost a
- 11 dollar a share. They have leftover almost a dollar
- 12 a share for each share of stock. From their income
- 13 statement their gross profit went just from December
- of 2013 to September of 2014 increased 92 percent.
- Their operating income went from
- 16 December 2013 to September 2014 increased
- 17 228 percent. Net income, again the same time frame
- 18 over that 9-month period, increased 676 percent.
- 19 The retained earnings from their balance
- 20 sheet went up, increased 27 percent and their cash
- 21 flow increased during the same time frame
- 22 45 percent. This does not sound like a company that
- 23 needs any more money. Thank you.
- 24 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
- JUDGE JONES: Thank you, sir. Next

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- 1 listed is Gary Kappler.
- Would you raise your right hand. Do you
- 3 solemnly affirm that the testimony you're about to
- 4 give is the truth?
- 5 MR. KAPPLER: Yes, I do.
- 6 JUDGE JONES: Thank you, sir. You may
- 7 proceed.
- 8 MR. KAPPLER: Yes, I'm retired and I
- 9 have a daughter and grandson at my house and I'm
- 10 pretty stretched thin with being on retirement and
- 11 also raising my grandson and taking care of my
- 12 daughter at the same time. So I agree with
- 13 everybody that's in here that people on fixed
- 14 incomes are really having a tough time with all of
- 15 our bills, you know.
- And first off, I wish to really thank you
- 17 guys for allowing us Ameren customers to voice our
- 18 opinions over this, over Ameren's request to raise
- 19 their -- or get an increase of 10 percent,
- 20 \$264 million. It's good to see democracy at work,
- 21 you know, that we can voice our opinions.
- I had asked a question before, before this
- 23 commentary started here, about how much they had
- 24 asked for, I think it was either last year or the
- 25 year before that, and were granted \$250 million.

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- 1 Now, this seems like a broken record to me, you
- 2 know, with these -- whatever they ask for they seem
- 3 to be able to get. And we don't get raises, you
- 4 know, as retirees we don't get any of this. You
- 5 know, we live on what we have to -- what we get
- 6 paid. Social security, our retirements and as this
- 7 lady said, she doesn't get anything, you know.
- 8 It kind of gripes me that Ameren has -- and
- 9 I've heard statistics that they have between 29 and
- 10 33 lobbyists. You know, who do we have to lobby for
- 11 us, you know, the people that are paying bills? The
- only people we got are ourselves and that's good to
- 13 see that all these people are out here expressing
- 14 their views.
- You know, as ratepayers we're subject to
- 16 hearing a lot of excuses as to why they have to
- 17 continually raise their rates and one of their
- 18 current excuses is that meeting pollution guidelines
- 19 set by the EPA and the DNR is just too expensive to
- 20 achieve. In 2008 the voters in our state passed a
- 21 law mandating that Ameren must derive more of their
- 22 power from clean sources of energy and I think this
- 23 is like 3 percent of their energy has to be derived
- 24 from clean energy.
- 25 The public spoke. Other states surrounding

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- 1 Missouri are achieving good results with increased
- 2 usage of safe solar and wind energy with no clean-up
- 3 costs as with coal or nuclear. So they don't have
- 4 to put out all those clean-up costs. You know, how
- 5 can you clean up solar, you know, or wind? It's out
- 6 there.
- 7 And it's the future. I mean, we can deny it
- 8 all we want. We've been burning coal for how many
- 9 years? Since people started fires but we got to
- 10 move on, you know. We have to look at where we're
- 11 at right now and the cost that people are paying in
- 12 their health.
- 13 You know, Ameren says they can't do this.
- 14 And it just came out recently that Kansas City Power
- 15 & Light are closing three of their coal-fired plants
- 16 and they're switching to solar and wind forms. Now,
- 17 if they can do it, you know -- and also, this is a
- 18 kicker too, they're going to save a billion dollars
- 19 in 20 years. This is just across the state from
- 20 where we're at right now.
- 21 You know, yes, there are costs involved to
- 22 prevent residents living around these coal-fired
- 23 plants from getting sick from toxic contaminants
- 24 released in the air and water. Some of these toxic
- 25 substances, if you don't know, but Mercury is

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- 1 released, lead, arsenic, cadmium, chromium,
- 2 selenium, molybdenum and antimony, plus many others.
- 3 These contaminants and toxicants can produce a whole
- 4 range of illnesses from cancers, reduced IQ's in
- 5 babies, kidney disease, lung disease, emphysema and
- 6 asthma, as well as other chronic illnesses.
- 7 Personally, my daughter and grandson, who
- 8 live with me, have had bouts with asthma over the
- 9 years and have had to be treated for this. I'm sure
- 10 probably some of you in this room have suffered
- 11 respiratory problems if you live near a coal-fired
- 12 plant, which we live in Festus so our closest plant
- 13 would be the Rush Island plant but we're all down
- 14 wind and down water from somebody's mess when you
- 15 really stop to look at it.
- 16 The plant Labadie and at Rush Island has no
- 17 scrubbers. It has an electrostatic precipitator,
- 18 which gets the big stuff but it doesn't have
- 19 anything to get the fine stuff. So that stuff is
- 20 still floating around out there.
- 21 Ameren needs -- I hate to say it, they have
- 22 made improvements but they need to be a better
- 23 neighbor. You know, if I live in a neighborhood and
- 24 my sewer runs into some guy's next yard, what is he
- 25 going to think of me?

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- 1 You know, I know fishermen that fish in the
- 2 Mississippi River. They won't eat the fish. I
- 3 won't eat the fish because they're
- 4 Mercury-contaminated. The catfish in that river are
- 5 bottom feeders. Same way with Big River. So is
- 6 this what we want to give our children and
- 7 ancestors? You know, we need to step up.
- 8 Maybe Ameren should take a serious look --
- 9 and somebody had mentioned this before -- on the
- 10 amount of money that some of these CEOs are getting
- 11 and if they're complaining about these constant
- 12 costs maybe they shouldn't be giving some of these
- 13 CEOs \$5 million a year. You know, maybe they can
- 14 take a little pay cut now and then. We are most of
- 15 the time.
- 16 That's pretty much what I have to say and I
- 17 just hope -- you know, there has been remarks that
- 18 you guys kind of did a lot of these, you know, these
- 19 different increases they want but, you know,
- 20 sometimes you just got to draw the line and say
- 21 enough is enough, you know. That's all I have to
- 22 say.
- JUDGE JONES: Thank you, sir. Next
- 24 listed is Gregg Aubuchon. I'm not sure if I
- 25 pronounced your last name correctly. Aubuchon.

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- 1 Will you raise your right hand, sir. Do you
- 2 solemnly affirm that the testimony you're about to
- 3 give is the truth?
- 4 MR. AUBUCHON: I do.
- 5 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may
- 6 proceed.
- 7 MR. AUBUCHON: In June of 2014 I became
- 8 a shareholder of Ameren. I inherited stock from my
- 9 mother. She was 98 and she had this stock her whole
- 10 life. At the present my dividend exceeds my
- 11 electric bill. The dividends recently were just at
- 12 upwards 2 and 1/2 percent. My social security went
- 13 up 1.7 percent. My pensions went up zilch.
- 14 This past year I got a notice from Ameren
- 15 that my electric usage went down 23 percent,
- 16 however, my budget billing continues to rise. My
- 17 budget billing has almost doubled in ten years. I
- 18 believe their rates have went up at least 42 percent
- in six years and they're asking for another
- 20 10 percent.
- 21 The rural co-ops, just south of us, they
- 22 charge 9 cents a kilowatt hour. Ameren is charging
- 23 11 cents. When you find out where the source of
- their energy is, when you find out from these
- 25 co-ops, some of it is natural gas. Something that

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- 1 Ameren doesn't utilize. Ameren relies on cheap coal
- 2 that is hauled some 1,000 miles.
- 3 There are more jobs in Missouri related to
- 4 solar energy than there is the coal industry. Solar
- 5 jobs in Missouri amount to 2800. The coal jobs is
- 6 32. However, the State of Missouri, we get
- 7 1 percent of our power from solar energy and we get
- 8 80 percent from coal. So figure that one out.
- 9 And recently, as my friend just stated,
- 10 Kansas City Power & Electric, they stepped up to the
- 11 plate and this move away from coal at four of these
- 12 plants is not expected to raise the rates. It's
- 13 expected to be a cost savings of \$1 billion over 20
- 14 years and that's -- that's a fair amount of money.
- 15 When you look at tax rates you will find out
- 16 that there's three-fourths of the corporations that
- 17 don't pay income tax. You take a company like
- 18 General Electric, their income tax rate is
- 19 4 percent. Ameren is 6 percent. But these
- 20 companies are all complaining about the regulations.
- 21 Too many regulations.
- 22 Oftentimes I look around and I -- if it
- 23 weren't for regulations I'd be in my grave, I
- 24 believe, because I live in a town that's known as
- 25 the "Toxic Triangle." We've been inundated by these

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- 1 industries that have very little regard for humans.
- 2 And I believe the coal jobs have not
- 3 dissipated because of the EPA. Rather, natural gas
- 4 is cheaper at this point and I believe the jobs in
- 5 the coal industry have been lost because of improved
- 6 industrialization just like a lot of jobs. Where
- 7 there was 400 jobs now there's a hundred jobs.
- 8 People still doing the same amount of work, same
- 9 production. That's what happened in the coal
- 10 industry but they're blaming the EPA for just trying
- 11 to do the things that are right.
- 12 And last, it's always -- it should always be,
- 13 whenever you go to bed at night, people and planet
- 14 before profit. Thank you.
- 15 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you, Gregg.
- 16 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. Next listed is
- 17 Ruth Wisdom.
- Do you solemnly affirm that the testimony
- 19 you're about to give is the truth?
- MS. WISDOM: Yes, sir.
- JUDGE JONES: Thank you, ma'am. You may
- 22 proceed.
- MS. WISDOM: Well, greetings to all of
- 24 you guys that have been serving on these panels,
- 25 Ameren, and all of the support people and the Public

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- 1 Service Commission. I think this is like No. 12, so
- 2 I'm sure you're all getting a little weary. I
- 3 appreciate the time and effort you're putting in and
- 4 the fact that we are allowed to come and state an
- 5 opinion and hopefully be listened to.
- I would like to commend Ameren, before I
- 7 start my list of complaints, because we don't have
- 8 too many power outages anymore. They're doing a
- 9 good job in a lot of ways but it just costs too
- 10 doggone much.
- 11 I feel like Ameren behaves like a spoiled
- 12 child. They think they can get anything they want
- 13 but you guys on the Commission behave like a doting
- 14 father and mother. You can't say no to them.
- 15 So, you know, I know what kind of money I get
- 16 and it's not very much. I'm on a very limited
- 17 income just like all the people in this room. When
- 18 we get less than 2 percent increase maybe every
- 19 three or four years and then this keeps going up
- 20 almost 50 percent in the last ten years, that just
- 21 doesn't come out to a very good checks and balances.
- 22 The frequent increases are really hardest, I
- 23 think, on the elderly and the people who are on
- 24 limited incomes, on any kind of government pension
- 25 checks or whatever and they're kind of stuck in the

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- 1 grid. They don't have the option of moving out into
- 2 the country where maybe you can get electric from
- 3 the co-op for a cheaper rate. They're stuck where
- 4 they are in their neighborhood.
- 5 I think Ameren needs to take a lesson on
- 6 frugality from me. I dress very nicely but I buy my
- 7 clothes at second-hand stores. I do shopping for my
- 8 groceries at places like Aldi's. I don't spend very
- 9 much money because I don't have it by the time I pay
- 10 my bills and I try to pay my bills.
- 11 They need to learn how to stick within a
- 12 budget and if I need to have a major repair on
- 13 something like a new roof or new windows or
- 14 whatever, carpeting, I have to do without a lot of
- 15 things and save and save for a long time
- 16 before I can do a major project. But they think
- 17 they should just have this big increase and that
- 18 isn't how the real world works.
- I think they need to have some shakeups at
- 20 the top. It's way, way crazy some of the money that
- 21 they're making, some of the bonuses, some of the
- 22 country-club things. Thank goodness you guys don't
- 23 allow that but if they cut some of that pork we
- 24 wouldn't be paying so much money. They need to live
- 25 within their means like we do.

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- 1 I also understand that increases are
- 2 necessary from time to time but they should be
- 3 1.5 percent, 2 percent, not 10, 20 and these
- 4 ridiculous amounts that they've been. Our electric
- 5 just keeps climbing and climbing.
- 6 My friend receives only a little more than
- 7 \$700 a month social security and this summer, in
- 8 July, he had an electric bill that was as much as
- 9 his check. Now, there's something wrong with that
- 10 picture.
- 11 Okay. I'm an equal opportunity complainer,
- 12 so I'm going to pick on you guys at the Public
- 13 Service Commission for a minute. I feel like maybe
- 14 there would be more attention paid to the people,
- 15 the public that you're supposed to service, if
- 16 you're elected. Now, Steve, you know how to do
- 17 that. I've worked for Steve for quite a few times
- 18 when he's run for public office but I think that as
- 19 an elected public servant you're much more
- 20 accountable to people. That's my idea.
- 21 I would like to thank everybody, particularly
- 22 the Public Service Commission, for allowing me to
- 23 come up here and say my little piece and say what I
- 24 think. And I think -- I think you guys can take a
- 25 little cue from Nancy Reagan. You remember when she

Page 25 started the campaign against drugs? Her campaign 2 slogan was, "Just say no." Thank you. 3 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you, Ruth. JUDGE JONES: Next listed is Anne, I 4 5 believe it's Charles. I'm not sure if I'm reading it right. Is that correct? 6 7 MS. CHARLES: Yep. JUDGE JONES: Will you raise your right 8 hand. Do you solemnly affirm that the testimony you're about to give is the truth? 10 MS. CHARLES: I do. 11 12 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may 13 proceed. 14 MS. CHARLES: So Ameren, and all the other electric companies honestly, like to complain 15 about the EPA regulations and guidelines and all of 16 17 that but those are there for a reason. And the EPA and the Department of Natural Resources even said 18 that Ameren is polluting so much in this area 19 20 specifically that it's killing people, literally 21 killing people. The Meramec plant kills 60 to a hundred 22 23 people every year and so does the Rush Island. They 24 are two of the worst polluters in America. They're in the top 20, both of them, and they're polluting 25

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- 1 and they cause lung disease and respiratory illness,
- 2 increased asthma rates. St. Louis and Jefferson
- 3 County have some of the worst asthma rates in the
- 4 entire country because of what they're doing.
- 5 So they like to blame these things for the
- 6 rate increases but like other people have said,
- 7 Kansas City Power & Light have been installing solar
- 8 and it saves them money. Ameren likes to say that
- 9 they're going to have the largest solar panel in
- 10 Missouri but Ikea is even going to beat them once
- 11 they're done making their store in St. Louis, so
- 12 it's really not that big.
- 13 The Minneapolis airport has a bigger one than
- 14 Ameren does and that's just one small airport,
- 15 whereas Ameren has an entire monopoly on a portion
- 16 of Missouri. So I just wanted to voice that.
- 17 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your
- 18 testimony.
- 19 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. Next listed is
- 20 Tom Diehl.
- 21 Hi, would you raise your right hand, sir. Do
- 22 you solemnly affirm that the testimony you're about
- 23 to give is the truth?
- MR. DIEHL: Yes.
- JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may

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- 1 proceed.
- 2 MR. DIEHL: Okay. I just want to follow
- 3 up on the issue of the premature deaths in the St.
- 4 Louis area that have been documented. You know,
- 5 that comes through the Environmental Integrity
- 6 Project, which was done by the Boston University
- 7 School of Public Health. So if you can imagine each
- 8 and every year this room of people just dying from
- 9 the health effects of Ameren's reliance on coal and
- 10 they're shading the backs about how clean they've
- 11 made their operation. I mean, no dollars in the
- 12 rate request are earmarked for new pollution
- 13 controls at either the Meramec plant, which they say
- 14 will be running another eight years, nor the Rush
- 15 Island plant.
- 16 So they will continue to pollute at the same
- 17 level as they have been for the last 30 plus years,
- 18 as well as, you know, same numbers of people dying
- 19 and getting sick every year because they refuse to
- 20 invest in cleaning up those facilities. I think
- 21 that should be a part of any requirement for any
- 22 grant of a rate request.
- 23 That Environmental Integrity Study also shows
- 24 that the St. Louis -- Greater St. Louis area, we
- 25 spend an additional \$136 billion each and every year

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- 1 on health costs related to the air pollution in
- 2 those two plants and the Labadie plant.
- 3 You know, we are paying not only through
- 4 increased electric bills, we're paying through our
- 5 health insurance. We're paying out of pocket. None
- of these costs get figured into their rate request
- 7 but it costs every consumer in the region additional
- 8 dollars because Ameren refuses to clean up their
- 9 current operation.
- 10 Ameren also refuses to install ground water
- 11 monitors at any of their Missouri coal ash ponds as
- 12 they have in Illinois, perhaps just because they
- 13 found at every one in Illinois they were leaking
- 14 contaminants into the ground water is why they don't
- 15 do it.
- 16 Household income has been flat for 40 years.
- 17 Since, you know, the day I got out of high school
- 18 you know, there has been virtually no change. In
- 19 fact, if you follow the news they say in the last
- 20 six, seven years household income has actually gone
- 21 down. Yet for the last eight years, based on
- 22 everyone's work with the numbers, Ameren has had
- 23 rate increases totaling 46 percent. You know, where
- 24 is the justice in that? Where is the equity in
- 25 that?

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- 1 We pay through our health costs. We pay it
- 2 in those ever increasing salaries. We need to have
- 3 some serious look at how we can have a more fair
- 4 rate structure that doesn't punish the homeowners in
- 5 favor of others. Thank you.
- JUDGE JONES: Thank you.
- 7 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you. Thanks
- 8 for your testimony.
- 9 JUDGE JONES: Next is Jeanette Barbey.
- 10 Do you solemnly affirm that the testimony you
- 11 are about to give is the truth?
- MS. BARBEY: Yes.
- 13 JUDGE JONES: Thank you, ma'am. You may
- 14 proceed.
- MS. BARBEY: Well, I don't have a whole
- 16 lot to say but I have asthma and I know it has been
- 17 increasing. I thought it was the cat but maybe it's
- 18 the electric company.
- 19 But anyway, what I want to say now is I have
- 20 a son that has kidney failure and heart failure and
- 21 he can't afford to keep warm. He has to come up to
- 22 my house and I can't afford -- I have to help him
- 23 pay his bill because he's on disability and he's
- 24 cold. He's cold in his house. I keep my house at
- 25 67 and it's cold. I used to keep it 75. Can't do

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- 1 that anymore.
- 2 And I got included in with the baby boomers.
- 3 I'm a little old to be a baby boomer but I'm
- 4 included and there's a lot of us and we don't make a
- 5 lot of money. I have my own business. I'm 73 and
- 6 I'm still working because I want to help my kids
- 7 because they're struggling. And I'm tired. I want
- 8 to retire but I can't help this boy if I retire.
- 9 And I don't have a sit-down job. I got a stand-up
- 10 job.
- 11 And I just want to plead to the people that
- 12 -- there's a lot of us old people that really can't
- 13 afford any more increases and I hope that you'll
- 14 think of us and stop that.
- 15 And on the solar thing, seems to me like if
- 16 they have a lot solar they're going to make money on
- 17 this solar that they're putting in. And I know
- 18 they're making profits. I haven't made a profit on
- 19 my business in the last -- well, I've lost plenty of
- 20 money and I'm still working and doing what I'm doing
- 21 and just trying to get a salary, little salary.
- 22 And I haven't raised my prices in years and
- 23 years because of competition, you know, I can't
- 24 raise my price. But they don't have any
- 25 competition. They have none. We're stuck with

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1	them. And that's all I got to say and I thank you.	
2	JUDGE JONES: Thank you.	
3	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your	
4	testimony, ma'am.	
5	JUDGE JONES: Gerald Wendt? Is there a	
6	Gerald Wendt here? Joe Hathaway?	
7	Do you solemnly affirm that the testimony	
8	you're about to give is the truth?	
9	MR. HATHAWAY: Yes.	
10	JUDGE JONES: Thank you, sir. You may	
11	proceed.	
12	MR. HATHAWAY: All I got to say is	
13	Missouri Public Service Commission, no on this	
14	increase. We have a cost of living that is	
15	increased but yet you're asking Ameren UE is	
16	asking for more than the cost of living. No. As	
17	everybody has testified prior to me, I affirm no.	
18	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.	
19	JUDGE JONES: Next listed is Alan Marty.	
20	MR. MARTY: I did have something to say	
21	but the lady there said it all.	
22	JUDGE JONES: Okay. Anita Madsen? Did	
23	I pronounce your last name correctly?	
24	MS. MADSEN: Yes, you did.	
25	JUDGE JONES: Okay. Thank you. Could	

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- 1 you raise your right hand.
- MS. MADSEN: Can I just hold this
- 3 because I'm short?
- 4 JUDGE JONES: Of course you can. Will
- 5 you please raise your right hand. Do you solemnly
- 6 affirm that the testimony you're about to give is
- 7 the truth?
- 8 MS. MADSEN: I do.
- 9 JUDGE JONES: Thank you, ma'am. You may
- 10 proceed.
- MS. MADSEN: First of all, the Ameren
- 12 Missouri folks are terrific speakers but I've got to
- 13 thank Michael J. Fox for teaching me the words "spin
- 14 city." When I first moved to Jefferson County on my
- 15 refrigerator I had an Ameren -- back then Union
- 16 Electric -- bill on my refrigerator that said,
- 17 "There are so few people who live out here we have
- 18 to charge you more to service you."
- 19 And I hadn't lived there a year when low and
- 20 behold here came another bill and I put it up next
- 21 to the other one on the refrig and it said, "There
- 22 are so many more people who have moved into your
- 23 area that it is going to cost us more to serve you."
- I don't care what happens they can spin it.
- I looked at my bill and, like so many others

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- 1 here, my last bill said that my usage had decreased
- 2 20 percent. I looked at last year's bill, of course
- 3 this year's was higher. So I even dug back in my
- 4 bills and went back to the year 2012/2013,
- 5 December/January and I found I had used almost the
- 6 exact same kilowatt hours as I have used this
- 7 December/January but my bill, of course, had
- 8 increased. It had increased enough that when I
- 9 multiplied by 12 it is not reasonable, as many other
- 10 folks have said here, for the working poor and
- 11 middle class.
- We already have this energy efficiency
- 13 investment charge on our bills and have had it for
- 14 years that Warren spoke about. We realize that
- 15 Ameren is a monopoly. It's a special kind of stock
- 16 company. It's got this monopoly because there is
- 17 the Public Service Commission that is supposed to
- 18 make sure the monopoly doesn't get out of hand and
- 19 over charge.
- 20 Yes, it's the stockholders but these
- 21 stockholders know that they don't have the same
- 22 risks as other stockholders because it is a monopoly
- 23 that is one of those that doesn't have the same kind
- 24 of risks as other stocks. Therefore, they need to
- 25 understand that that would create them getting less

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- 1 dividends than maybe one that was more risky.
- 2 Also, those top 10 percent salaries have been
- 3 mentioned here many times this evening. Why? When
- 4 you have a monopoly and it's a guaranteed thing that
- 5 everybody has to come to you, then is it so -- how
- 6 should we say this -- needed in such high ways of
- 7 thinking to make sure that you produce these CEOs,
- 8 high-level management don't have to do the same
- 9 things that a more risky stock company would have to
- 10 do. So, yes, we think they can back down a little
- 11 bit.
- I won't bore you with the numbers but, again,
- 13 please think of the working poor and middle class
- 14 and the entire composite picture of why you are
- 15 there as the Public Service Commission to look out
- 16 for the rest of us so that this corporation may have
- 17 a monopoly. Thank you.
- 18 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your
- 19 testimony.
- JUDGE JONES: Next listed is Andrew
- 21 Bodicky.
- MR. BODICKY: I was not prepared for
- 23 this. I mean, I was not prepared. All I want to do
- 2.4 --
- JUDGE JONES: Just before you start

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1	are do you are you wanting	
2	MR. BODICKY: I don't want to make a	
3	speech. I didn't know I was supposed to.	
4	JUDGE JONES: Do you solemnly affirm	
5	that the testimony you're about to give is the	
6	truth?	
7	MR. BODICKY: I would just like to	
8	present this	
9	JUDGE JONES: Do you solemnly affirm	
10	that the testimony	
11	MR. BODICKY: Do you represent the	
12	Public Service Commission?	
13	JUDGE JONES: Right now I'm asking you	
14	whether or not your testimony is truthful.	
15	MR. BODICKY: Yes.	
16	JUDGE JONES: Okay. Thank you. You may	
17	proceed.	
18	MR. BODICKY: Are you	
19	JUDGE JONES: We are from the Public	
20	Service Commission, yes.	
21	MR. BODICKY: Okay. I would like to	
22	can I address the audience?	
23	JUDGE JONES: As long as the court	
24	reporter can hear what you're saying.	
25	MR. BODICKY: This is Ameren's stock.	

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- 1 It has been going up and it hasn't faltered in about
- 2 4 out of 15 years. This is electric stock on the
- 3 New York Stock Exchange. S&P, the electric stocks
- 4 have risen so high it's above all other stocks and
- 5 Ameren Electric supported that. So I don't see
- 6 where they are hurting in the least and they should
- 7 have enough money to cover their -- whatever
- 8 business expense they need.
- 9 And I would like to say another thing and I
- 10 would like to address you people, is that I wish
- 11 that the -- I wish that the Public Service
- 12 Commission would look after the American -- the
- 13 people in Missouri with more diligence and take care
- 14 of whatever needs to be taken care of to keep them
- 15 from getting gouged. Thank you.
- JUDGE JONES: Thank you, sir.
- 17 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
- 18 JUDGE JONES: Next is Patricia
- 19 Pedigo-Smith. Thank you.
- Will you raise your right hand, please. Do
- 21 you solemnly affirm that the testimony you're about
- 22 to give is the truth?
- MS. PEDIGO-SMITH: As far as I know,
- 24 yes, sir.
- JUDGE JONES: Thank you, sir -- I mean

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- 1 ma'am. You may proceed.
- MS. PEDIGO-SMITH: I am here for a
- 3 couple of purposes. Of course, along with all the
- 4 others, I am protesting the rate increase but
- 5 also -- and that's on behalf of my friends,
- 6 relatives, people of this area, people of the state
- 7 and actually of the whole nation because if you set
- 8 a precedent will all this kind of thing other
- 9 companies will try to follow.
- 10 The main reason I'm here, one of them, is the
- 11 dirty energy and you have got in amongst all of your
- 12 different petitions that you're putting forward
- 13 right now you wish to purchase a new core for a
- 14 nuclear power plant, which you have here in
- 15 Missouri.
- 16 I am therefore protesting that and hoping
- 17 that you leave nuclear out of the picture totally in
- 18 the future and that you go to cleanest form of
- 19 energy that you can, which are water, wind -- you
- 20 know, water, solar, wind if possible, with some gas
- 21 and coal only if you put covers over those smoke
- 22 stacks and make sure there are filters everywhere
- 23 there should be so none of the bad contaminants are
- 24 released into the air. I have been an
- 25 environmentalist for many years, okay.

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- 2 different subject matter areas in the State of
- 3 Missouri. I was also certified to teach in the
- 4 State of Minnesota. I was a Lindbergh Leader in
- 5 1988 under than name Mrs. Ziercher. I was the
- 6 coordinator for the Lindbergh ESL program, Kg
- 7 through 12, from 1990 to 1998 and I've also taught
- 8 in two other school districts including St. Louis
- 9 Public Schools and Mehlville.
- I don't want to say anything that sounds
- 11 braggy, please don't take it that way but I am the
- 12 Who's Who in America, 2014/15. When I come to you
- 13 with this information this is very well-researched
- 14 and this is no lie and please do let me finish
- 15 because I want to read three of my creative works,
- 16 which are not too long. And I do not want anybody
- 17 else in the audience, please, to record these as
- 18 they are copyrighted material. Thank you. I will
- 19 try to make it as quick as possible.
- 20 First of all, UE is a utility. A utility is
- 21 not really supposed to make any profit. Really.
- 22 And the fact that you sold stocks in the past sounds
- 23 ridiculous to me because it's supposed to be just a
- 24 company set up to provide energy for people without
- 25 having what we call investment potential and without

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- 1 really dealing with Wall Street whatsoever.
- Now, I have friends on Wall Street who are
- 3 big bankers up there. You know, this does not mean
- 4 I'm partisan to that. They're my friends, you know,
- 5 but I would not vote for this increase on behalf of
- 6 them or any other investors. An increase right now
- 7 is very wrong. The economy is not in any shape.
- Now, you want to buy a new nuclear core for
- 9 the Callaway Plant. Let's talk about this. In high
- 10 school, around that time when you put the first
- 11 plant in here in Missouri, had I been smarter I
- 12 would have been out there with signs protesting up
- 13 and down those streets like crazy. Nobody really
- 14 realized, you know, too much what it could do inside
- 15 our country to have these plants in operation here
- 16 and the dangers involved.
- 17 We have already had the Three Mile Island
- 18 incident up in New York. We had Chernobyl in the
- 19 Ukraine. We just had the one in northern Japan just
- 20 a few years ago. We nuclear tested on Bikini Atoll
- 21 numerous times prior to dropping the bombs on Japan
- 22 in World War II. Many sites in Russia they had
- 23 tried detonation of nuclear bombs mostly under
- 24 ground and we also did them in the State of New
- 25 Mexico numerous times, as you're aware.

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- 1 Nagasaki got hit. Hiroshima got hit.
- 2 Nuclear pollutions went into our land, air and water
- 3 in all of those sites. They don't tell us about the
- 4 other incidents that occurred. And if anybody knows
- 5 anything about the K-19 Widowmaker you know we
- 6 almost had a nuclear sub incident with Russia a long
- 7 time ago. Luckily that was contained.
- Now, when it's done underground it hurts our
- 9 plate tectonics, which means that it can cause
- 10 cracks and fissures and faults in our land masses.
- 11 And this can later cause things like what happened
- 12 with the Pacific Rim, which is why we now have
- 13 probably increased volcanic activity, you know, and
- 14 a lot of faulting caused tsunamis, things like that
- 15 happening there because a lot of this in the past
- 16 impacted all of our plates and made it more
- 17 susceptible to all kinds of seismic movements.
- Now, a nuclear bomb a long time ago only
- 19 killed everything within a 10-mile range, totally
- 20 devastating and destroying all life. The newer ones
- 21 now are a 40-mile range, killing everything within
- 22 those bounds.
- 23 Then there's the fallout. After everything
- 24 is destroyed in those bounds then the fallout goes
- 25 up into the sky and begins coming down on everything

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- 1 around and the winds carry the fallout. This can,
- 2 again, kill more people and pollute the land, air
- 3 and water around the site and other sites in -- not
- 4 in proximity.
- 5 The oceans are still below what is called the
- 6 nuclear radiation dangerous level according to the
- 7 different nuclear organizations that are, you know,
- 8 employed worldwide by the U.N. and other countries.
- 9 Now, if we have any more go in there, then it would
- 10 be questionable and if our oceans are polluted to
- 11 any further degree it is really debatable whether we
- 12 could even eat any fish out of it or any seafood out
- of it or even be in it in any way, shape or form
- 14 without, you know, having dangerous things happen to
- 15 us such as cancer.
- Now, to have a nuclear core go down to
- 17 non-radioactive takes 60,000 to 100,000 years. For
- 18 a nuclear bomb site it's the same thing. When it's
- 19 polluted it's 60,000 to 100,000 years. And that's
- 20 how bad it could be if we have even one accident
- 21 like that and that's why I really feel sorry for
- 22 Ukraine, Three Mile Island and Japan recently and
- 23 Nagasaki and Hiroshima.
- It takes a very great clean up. As far as I
- 25 know they could take off all of the topsoil, I don't

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- 1 know how deep, they have to take it off and they
- 2 have to go bury it somewhere deep in the Earth and
- 3 that's the only thing I know. As far as the water,
- 4 I don't think they've done anything to clean up the
- 5 water. All right. Now, if we have any more
- 6 accidents we're in deep doo-doo possibly.
- 7 Heavy water is what is used to cool a nuclear
- 8 reactor. If you don't have the water circulating
- 9 around a nuclear reactor and cooling it the thing
- 10 explodes. The heavy water is contaminated with
- 11 radiation and in case of an accident, such as what
- 12 happened in Japan, if it runs off it contaminates
- 13 everything it comes into contact with: land, water
- 14 sources and oceans.
- Oh, let's see. So what we've got is nuclear
- 16 is the dirtiest energy in existence and the most
- 17 dangerous. Coal is the second most dirty form of
- 18 energy. Not at all as dangerous but it's still
- 19 dirty. The main three we should be looking at is,
- 20 again, hydroelectric water, solar power and wind.
- 21 With the wind the only thing I would advise
- 22 is putting some kind of, you know, what you would
- 23 call metallic bracketing systems around the vanes so
- 24 that birds and other animals cannot, you know, crawl
- 25 or fly into them when -- you know, into vanes when

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- 1 they're born. Prevent the death of endangered
- 2 species. Other than that, those are the three best
- 3 to go with in the future.
- 4 Gas is okay but not in any place with high
- 5 seismic, so therefore, you don't want to put gas
- 6 lines too much anymore down in southeast Missouri
- 7 because, you know, they had a really big earthquake
- 8 down there. There's a big fault line down there,
- 9 runs across three states and it's almost about as
- 10 bad as California as far as that except we haven't
- 11 had one in a long time and God forbid if we have one
- 12 in the near future but the potential is there. So
- 13 gas shouldn't really be used down there. Nothing
- 14 unstable at all down there.
- And so now we're going to get on to the
- 16 poems. The first one is a little bit light in a way
- 17 but not really. It's called "Skip the Radioactive
- 18 Nuclear" and it's from Volume 26 of my writings.
- 19 Skip the radioactive nuclear. Go for the
- 20 clean converters coupled with the solars. The slick
- 21 sun power and turning electronics without the heavy
- 22 water and the radioactive sludge. We don't want to
- 23 be forced to spend our hard-earned tax dollars on
- 24 power plants, which are descendants will be
- 25 negatively judged.

Clean energy is best to protect the Earth

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- 2 equatorially to the polars and toward these choices 3 may we firmly yet gently nudge our citizens and corporations, both blue and white collars, as in the 4 5 future we steadily trudge. Unless we become 6 complacent, lazy lallers who later through toxins 7 and offage must dredge and drudge, safe nuclear only possibly for the subs and streams. Listen to the 8 scholars so in this coming millennium no one will hold a fiscal or environmental grudge. May 10 providers clean up these wastes assuring later no 11 12 one condemns or hollers and from this position never 13 fudge or budge.
- 14 The next poem was sent to the U.N. along with
- 15 a descriptor of the dangers of atomic and hydrogen
- 16 bombs and it refers to what do we want to see happen
- 17 in the future to our planet. When it talks about
- 18 people having signed below, I sent it forward as
- 19 something that all countries could sign and,
- 20 therefore, pledge to be environmental in accordance.
- 21 What legacy do you want to leave? What
- 22 legacy do you want to leave to the future
- 23 generations of your family, to the future
- 24 generations of all mankind? Do you wish your
- 25 descendents to sorrow and grieve because they've

1

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- 1 contracted illness or some dreaded disease from the
- 2 pollutants you left for posterity or the radioactive
- 3 sludge you left behind? What plan for the future
- 4 shall our minds conceive? One of clear skies, clean
- 5 streams, and natural seas, soils decontaminated and
- 6 free of their toxicity, the planet refoliated,
- 7 restored and once again designed to support all
- 8 species as we interweave into a planet-wide
- 9 symbiotic reciprocity? Then I concur and therefore
- 10 below I signed.
- 11 And the last one is called "Earth Boat." By
- 12 the way, the last two are from Poems for
- 13 Peace/Essays and Other Written Works for World Peace
- 14 by me.
- "Earth Boat," Part 1. We are all in the same
- 16 life boat for now. This verdant, lush, fertile
- 17 planet circling the void, afloat in the sea of
- 18 space. This blue and green spiracle dream floating
- 19 luxuriant with life forms, safe place.
- 20 Part 2. Let none tip the boat too far and
- 21 fling us into that nearly gasless sea. Let none
- 22 destroy this wonderful world so rich in
- 23 biodiversity. On this space and circle planet
- 24 they're a Milky Way star. May life continue in its
- 25 beauty for we are as a magical marvel hurled to spin

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- 1 within a whirlpool of galaxy. Hear the pleasure
- 2 pattern of gentle rain and dew, soft breezes waft in
- 3 a cloudless drift. Let's both conspire to refresh
- 4 and renew this world as nature's gift. To this
- 5 Earth, as she is warned by her nearby star's power,
- 6 may our wonderous world continue to flower.
- 7 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you, ma'am.
- 8 JUDGE JONES: Okay. Thank you. We have
- 9 exhausted the list of those who have signed up to
- 10 testify. Is there anyone else? Yes, yes, sir.
- 11 Do you solemnly affirm that the testimony
- 12 you're about to give is the truth?
- 13 MR. BRIDGES: Yes.
- 14 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. Will you
- 15 please state and spell your name for the court
- 16 reporter.
- MR. BRIDGES: My name is Howard Bridges,
- 18 B-R-I-D-G-E-S. I wasn't going to say nothing
- 19 tonight but I feel like I should. I have heard the
- 20 hell beat out of the coal-burning plants. And the
- 21 company asking for a rate increase, I'm against. I
- 22 want everybody to know that. But when people throw
- 23 away this book of Alexander Dugin and get this crap
- 24 out of their system, we're going to have to live
- 25 with some things on this Earth and like it and this

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- 1 Santa Claus and utopia stuff isn't going to cut it.
- 2 Whether or not they need this monies or we
- 3 need it, definitely the working folks, we are going
- 4 to have to pollute this environment a certain
- 5 amount. There isn't going to be no fix whatsoever
- 6 with this wind power, cheap power. I've got
- 7 relatives that live where there is wind power, solar
- 8 power and it's not cheap by any means. So I don't
- 9 want to make you believe, or the folks here behind
- 10 me, that we're going to solve this problem by a rate
- 11 increase or all of this bellyaching that we've heard
- 12 tonight. We're not.
- 13 So whatever you people come to, keep in mind
- 14 that a few-dollar increase isn't going to make any
- 15 difference and if we put the coal miners out on the
- 16 street, that's worked 50 years for a pension, just
- 17 remember they have worked for this nation just as
- 18 much as you and I for pushing a pencil or driving a
- 19 truck or trains or whatever it might be. Thank you.
- JUDGE JONES: Thank you.
- 21 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your
- 22 testimony.
- JUDGE JONES: Is there anyone else who
- 24 would like to make an on-the-record statement?
- 25 Okay. I don't see a show of hands. With that, then

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1	we'll go off the record and I thank you all for	
2	attending. Have a good evening.	
3		
4	(Public Hearing concluded at 8:06 p.m.)	
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20	(No exhibits were marked.)		
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1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER	
2	I, Suzanne Zes, within and for the State	
3	of Missouri, do hereby certify that the witness	
4	whose testimony appears in the foregoing deposition	
5	was duly sworn by me; the testimony of said witness	
6	was taken by me to the best of my ability and	
7	thereafter reduced to typewriting under my	
8	direction; that I am neither counsel for, related	
9	to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action	
10	in which this deposition was taken, and further that	
11	I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or	
12	counsel employed by the parties thereto, nor	
13	financially or otherwise interested in the outcome	
14	of the action.	
15		
16		
17	Court Reporter	
18		
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