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1	STATE OF MISSOURI
2	PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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4	
5	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
6	Local Public Hearing
7	August 16, 2012
8	Holiday Inn South County, St. Louis, Missouri
9	Volume 9
10	
11	In The Matter Of Union)
12	Electric Company d/b/a Ameren) File No. ER-2012-0166
13	Missouri's Tariffs To Increase)
14	Its Revenues For Electric)
15	Service)
16	
17	
18	KENNARD L. JONES, Presiding
19	CHIEF REGULATORY LAW JUDGE
20	KEVIN D. GUNN, Chairman
21	STEPHEN STOLL,
22	COMMISSIONER
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	Page 3
1	PROCEEDINGS
2	JUDGE JONES: Okay, those of you who are
3	here for the evidentiary portion of the hearing where
4	we will take testimony from people you're welcome to
5	stay. Those of you who are holding private
6	conversations, we would like for you to take those
7	outside so it's not disruptive of this hearing
8	process. I appreciate your cooperation. My name is
9	Kennard Jones. I am the regulatory law judge
10	presiding over this hearing. To my right is the
11	chairman of the Commission, Chairman Gunn. To my
12	left, Commissioner Stoll.
13	THE AUDIENCE: We can't hear you.
14	JUDGE JONES: Can you hear me now?
15	CHAIRMAN GUNN: There are seats in the
16	front. If you cannot hear I would suggest you come
17	move up front. We will talk as loudly as possible.
18	This part of the program is really for us to hear you
19	and there is a podium up here so we will be able to do
20	that but there are chairs up here in the front and on
21	the side, so if you cannot hear please move up. Thank
22	you.
23	JUDGE JONES: And to my left is Commissioner
24	Stoll. Mr. Chairman, would you like to make a
25	statement?

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1	CHAIRMAN GUNN: We will let everybody get
2	settled here. I want to just give you a couple of
3	housekeeping items. First of all, I want to thank
4	everyone for being here today. We know your time is
5	valuable but this is an important part of our process.
6	We hear from the public we are doing 14 of these
7	throughout the service territory and your comments go
8	into the record and they are considered. We have two
9	of the four commissioners here today. The other
10	commissioners are doing we don't just do
11	electricity cases and they are doing other state
12	business, one of them may join us later but this goes
13	into the record and is considered by all of the
14	commissioners in the evidentiary part of the hearing.
15	We know it's frustrating sometimes but you
16	cannot ask us questions or we can't answer any
17	questions. We might direct you if you do have a
18	question to either our staff or the public's lawyer,
19	Lewis Mills, who I think you met earlier or to
20	Ameren's staff outside but we will certainly but I
21	know it's frustrating but just because of the position
22	we are in because of the rules, as we sit as judges,
23	we can't answer questions. So I apologize for that in
24	advance but I appreciate your understanding.
25	We have about 40 people signed up to testify

	Page 5
1	these typically these hearings typically take
2	about they have been taking about three hours so a
3	couple of things about that. One, I ask everybody to
4	be respectful of everybody's time. We don't put time
5	limits on people because this is testimony and we
6	would like to hear what you have to say but there are
7	a lot of people here to testify so please just be
8	respectful of everybody's time.
9	Two, there is nothing that's going to be
10	revealed kind of at the end of this process. So once
11	you testify, you don't have to stick around. There is
12	no new information that is going to be presented or no
13	wrap up or anything like that. So once you testify if
14	you have to go on somewhere else, please feel free to
15	do that. Like I said, we will just be taking down
16	information and we will adjourn once everybody has
17	spoke. If for some reason you cannot testify we do
18	a list and we go down in order. Some of you may have
19	picked up these forms when you came in. They're
20	public comment forms and if for some reason you can't
21	stay, some of you may have these. We also have
22	somebody some at the table outside and those can be
23	filled out before you leave or after you leave and
24	sent in to us and they will be considered as well. So
25	you can always feel free to have your written

	Page 6
1	comments. If, for example, you don't feel like
2	testifying, you're not comfortable coming in front of
3	a large crowd and you want to testify or tell us what
4	your comments are, these forms can be filled out and
5	given to us. We also have our website and our phone
6	number at the Commission that can be found outside,
7	which is another way to give comments.
8	We may ask you questions and so when you
9	come, after you give your statement, if you could just
10	wait to see if any of the Commissioners have a
11	question or not. If we don't have a question it
12	doesn't mean anything or if we do have a questions
13	sometimes it's just to clarify, to clarify a statement
14	or so that we can delve into a little bit more
15	information. So I know we want to get into this, so
16	we'll start very quickly.
17	I want to, again, thank you. This is a very
18	important part of this. We take your comments
19	seriously. We take this into account when we make our
20	decision, so it's a very important part of our
21	process. So other than that, I will turn it over and
22	see if my colleague has anything to say and then we
23	will move on.
24	COMMISSIONER STOLL: I just want to welcome
25	everybody here and tell you we are pleased that you

Page 7

came out today. We do want to hear what you have to 1 2 say, hear your comments, concerns. I will reiterate 3 that if you have a procedural question or you have a question about your utility service, the Public 4 5 Service Commission has staff out there, as do the utilities, and so you can get some answers there. But 6 7 let's go ahead and get started and again, thanks for 8 coming. 9 JUDGE JONES: Okay. We have a list from which I will read. I will call the first person, that 10 11 person will come to the podium I will swear you in. 12 If the spelling of your name is unclear I will 13 probably ask you to spell your name so that the court reporter can properly record it. You'll then go ahead 14 15 and give your testimony, after which we might have questions we'll ask, if not, then you can go ahead and 16 17 take a seat, the next person will be called. Okay. With that, we will call Jerry Jones -- oh, sorry, 18 yeah, let's do entries of appearance from the parties 19 20 that are present. Ameren UE or Ameren Missouri? 21 MS. TATRO: Wendy Tatro, 1901 Chouteau Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63103. 22 JUDGE JONES: The Staff of the Missouri 23

24 Public Service Commission?

MS. SLACK: Annette Slack, S-L-A-C-K,

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Page 8 Missouri Public Service Commission, 200 South Madison, 1 2 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102. 3 JUDGE JONES: The Office of the Public Counsel? 4 5 MR. MILLS: Let the record reflect the appearance of Lewis Mills, post-office box 2230, 6 7 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 on behalf of the Office of Public Counsel and the public. 8 9 JUDGE JONES: And are there any other 10 parties in the case that are represented here today? 11 I don't see any, so we will get started with Jerry 12 Jones. 13 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Can you pass him up? He's in the restroom. 14 JUDGE JONES: I sure will. JoAnn Raisch? 15 Can you raise your right hand? Do you solemnly affirm 16 17 the testimony you are about to give is the truth? MS. RAISCH: I do. 18 19 JUDGE JONES: Thank you and can you spell your last name for the court reporter? 20 21 MS. RAISCH: R-A-I-S-C-H. JUDGE JONES: Thank you, you may proceed. 22 MS. RAISCH: Thank you, all of you for 23 24 making this opportunity possible for we the people, the public, the PSC, Ameren, et cetera. To begin, I 25

		Page 9
1	disclose that I am a stockholder of Ameren as one who	
2	might be classed as a middle class citizen, a class	
3	often used in political circles as those who the	
4	government must defend perhaps because they are	
5	without the intellectual means to succeed. I am here	
6	to defend our rights, to object and fight those who	
7	believe that they can trample on our economic ability	
8	to survive. Ameren, previously known as Union	
9	Electric, must learn to operate as any other business	
10	and not call on the users of their product to finance	
11	their past errors or rob us of our hard work and	
12	quickly depleted earnings. Their constant filings	
13	with the PSC for additional increases in fees must be	
14	called to a halt. We all know of the failing Taum	
15	Sauk but many may not be acquainted with their	
16	disregard of keeping up with normal housekeeping in	
17	another area. I speak of their past lack of proper	
18	service in an area of Miller County, Missouri. This	
19	is the information which I received from an Eldon,	
20	Missouri newspaper, as well as a former user of Union	
21	Electric. Ameren in the Brumley/Ullman area. It	
22	relates to a rural electric cooperative taking over	
23	that area from Union Electric. This is the quote from	1
24	the paper. We had a front page story on	
25	February 14th, 2002 noting that Gascosage had received	1

Page 10 a \$3.1 million loan from the USDA related to the 1 2 transfer, meaning the transfer of UE to this 3 cooperative, which occurred on February 3rd, 2002. The Missouri PSC approved the transfer of the 4 5 Brumley/Ullman area to Gascosage on January 24th. The 6 transfer included areas south of the Osage River 7 between Gascosage's then service area, to just west of Lake of the Ozarks State Park. 1200 meters or 8 9 customers were involved. In the February 14th, 2002 article, Gascosage manager John Greenlee said that the 10 11 co-op planned to build a new substation at Brumley, 12 replaced 700 coals, build 12 miles of three-phase line 13 along Highway C and 10 miles of new 69,000 volt line. In its annual report Greenlee noted the South Brumley 14 15 substation was completed. This information also states that the co-op may have gotten a loan for some 16 17 of the work and that could have been from the rural electrification agency. 18 19 In my telephone conversation with a very 20 happy user of Gascosage Electric Company, I was told

happy user of Gascosage Electric Company, I was told it was thought that UE had some reason for not doing very much maintenance. They let us down. We held a number of public meetings, meaning the electric users, and when UE heard they asked to come. We asked them if they would sell off and they lied as they had

	Page 11
1	already made the deal. However, we were happy to be
2	rid of them. The co-op's regularly scheduled tree
3	trimmings in their areas of service replaced poles and
4	other maintenance. There are many lessons that can be
5	learned by Ameren from the rural electric
6	cooperatives, the least of which is that they are not
7	continually raising our rates, nor do I remember their
8	request for a rate increase for our being energy
9	efficient or for the rebates they granted for energy
10	efficient appliances and furnaces.
11	While the PSC was holding a hearing on
12	August 1st 12 at Harris Stowe University, Ameren
13	was looking for another additional increase in rates.
14	At least one could wonder how soon yet another rate
15	increase proposal will be sent to the PSC. What we
16	need is an Alberta Slavin. Would that, I could be
17	that person and I would, like a knight on top of a
18	fire-breathing dragon ride my sword with justice
19	imprinted thereon and slay the foes of those who would
20	trot on the people. Carl Sandburg lamented who speaks
21	for the family of man? We the people have lost faith
22	in government. Will you help restore it and speak for
23	the family of man? Thank you.
24	CHAIRMAN GUNN: Ms. Raisch?
25	MS. RAISCH: Oh, I was leaving before they

Page 12 1 threw stones. 2 CHAIRMAN GUNN: No, no, no, I appreciate 3 your testimony very much. I just have a quick clarification. Your conversation with a customer from 4 5 Gascosage, that was your conversation, you had a 6 telephone conservation with them? 7 MS. RAISCH: Yes. 8 CHAIRMAN GUNN: Was that recently? 9 MS. RAISCH: Oh, yes, very recently, yeah. 10 CHAIRMAN GUNN: Okay. 11 MS. RAISCH: Oh, within the past week or 12 two. I'm trying to look for my notes, which you are 13 welcome to see. CHAIRMAN GUNN: I actually don't need an 14 exact date. I just want the -- because the article 15 was from 2002, I just wanted to make sure that the 16 17 conversation was more recent than that, so the conversation was at least within the last week or so? 18 19 MS. RAISCH: Yes. But may I tell you 20 this -- there it is -- 3:35 p.m., 8/1/12. My 21 information from the newspaper was very recent too. It was at the end of July. It's from the Eldon 22 newspaper and it's from the publisher Ginny Duffield. 23 24 CHAIRMAN GUNN: So you acquired the 25 information at the end of July?

Page 13 MS. RAISCH: Yes. 1 2 CHAIRMAN GUNN: Perfect. All right, thank you, ma'am. I appreciate it. Thank you. 3 MS. RAISCH: Via her emails and her 4 5 checking, you know, her newspaper article. 6 CHAIRMAN GUNN: Yes, I do. Thank you very 7 I appreciate the testimony very much. much. 8 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you. 9 MS. RAISCH: Oh, you're welcome. Thank you again. I also have another letter here but the 10 11 gentlemen is an emergency room nurse and he couldn't 12 be here, so is -- could I give that to you because he 13 addresses some facts about not getting service from Ameren in time. Could I leave it with you? 14 15 JUDGE JONES: Is this a comment from someone who is unable to be here? 16 17 MS. RAISCH: Right, in this area, a Mr. Tony 18 Pousosa. 19 UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Leave it. 20 MS. RAISCH: Leave it? 21 CHAIRMAN GUNN: Yes, ma'am, we will take it. 22 MS. RAISCH: That's sweet of you. 23 JUDGE JONES: Yes, we certainly will take it 24 but whoever said that in the crowd you can cut that 25 out now, okay.

Page 14 1 MS. RAISCH: Thank you. 2 JUDGE JONES: Because we are going to make 3 that determination on what is admitted into the record. We are going to allow the parties an 4 5 opportunity to view the information that is being submitted as evidence. After such I will ask for any 6 7 objections, if there are no objections then the letter will be admitted into the record. I believe Mr. Jerry 8 Jones has come back in. 9 10 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: No, he hasn't. 11 JUDGE JONES: He hasn't, okay. Then we will 12 go on to Mary Sorg. MS. SORG: Good morning. 13 14 JUDGE JONES: Good morning. Can you raise your right hand, please? Do you solemnly affirm that 15 the testimony you are about to give is the truth? 16 17 MS. SORG: I do. 18 JUDGE JONES: And can you spell your last 19 name for the court reporter? 20 MS. SORG: S-O-R-G. 21 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed. 22 MS. SORG: I didn't come here to be lengthy and wordy but I think I speak for everybody in this 23 24 room when I say a 14 and a half percent increase will severely impact so many households. I wonder has 25

	Page 15
1	Ameren really thought it through? You know, we have
2	people on social security, like myself, and those kind
3	of increases, in that big of an amount, does make a
4	difference. We have people that are single-parent
5	families and struggling just to get by, that makes a
6	difference. I know, you know, if you're making a
7	\$100,000 a year, maybe 14 and a half percent doesn't
8	sound like a lot to you, but those of us in here I
9	doubt make that kind of money.
10	And what the Ameren people didn't do for me
11	today, they didn't show me where they did anything
12	else or made any other effort to find a different way
13	to achieve what they wanted besides raising the rates,
14	at least they didn't present it, unless I didn't
15	understand it. I am not an engineer but I know that
16	one and one is still two. It's never going to be
17	three and dollars and cents make a difference and I
18	think that Ameren, if they are going to increase their
19	rate, I would have probably been all right with maybe
20	a 3 percent, I probably would have said I wish they
21	wouldn't have done that but I would have been able to
22	live with it but 14 and a half, seriously, way
23	out-of-bounds.
24	And I didn't even know until somebody
25	brought it up that they have 12 vice presidents.

	Page 16
1	Well, how many chiefs does it take to run a tribe?
2	Please, show me, Ameren, where you're making the
3	effort to find other ways and give the people that put
4	you in that position a decrease. I would like to see
5	that. You know, Ameren forgets that if it wasn't for
6	all the consumers in here they wouldn't have a job.
7	They wouldn't have a corporation. We pay for this.
8	We give you that position and I feel like right now
9	it's almost where we can't do anything about it but I,
10	myself, I hate to say it, but, you know, I wouldn't be
11	opposed to saying look, I'm just not going to pay my
12	bill for two months to see how that affects you
13	because the way it is to me right now, a 14 and a half
14	percent increase is going to shoot my bill up, on a
15	bill I can't even afford and it is unconscionable to
16	me that Ameren doesn't take a stand.
17	People died this summer. I brought that up
18	before. It's just tragic and they didn't die
19	necessarily, you know, because of the heat but a lot
20	of it was heat-related. People had air conditioners
21	and didn't turn them on because they can't afford the
22	rates. What does that say? You know, what does that
23	say about the corporation? Is this the way it's going
24	to be? You know, now at the economic time that we
25	have it is so bad and people are struggling so hard, I

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	Page 17
1	would think that as a company they would look at that
2	and go this is not the best time to make a rate
3	increase. They have to have a conscious and I think
4	that that is lacking and it's unfortunate. I hope
5	this Commission takes these comments seriously and
6	really looks at how in the long range this is going to
7	affect a lot of people. Thank you.
8	JUDGE JONES: Thank you, Ms. Sorg. I am
9	marking the exhibit presented by Mrs. Raisch as
10	Exhibit 1 Raisch. And I am told there are no
11	objections by the parties. Exhibit 1 Raisch will be
12	admitted into the record. And next we will call John
13	Ryan. Beverly Schwartz? I think it's Barbara Kenny
14	or Denny.
15	MS. KEMP: Kemp.
16	JUDGE JONES: Kem? And your last name is
17	K-E-M?
18	MS. KEMP: K-E-M-P.
19	JUDGE JONES: Okay. Raise your right hand,
20	please. Do you solemnly affirm the testimony you are
21	about to give is the truth?
22	MS. KEMP: Yes, I do.
23	JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed.
24	MS. KEMP: I am a 71-year-old woman that is
25	still working because we keep having price increases

	Page 18
1	on everything and, you know, I haven't had a raise in
2	four years because of the economy and I think there is
3	a lot of people in this room that are the same thing.
4	And they are getting a 36 percent increase in the last
5	four years and now they want another 14 percent. And
6	first of all, the more electricity we use, they charge
7	for that electricity and they are making more money.
8	Why are they complaining because we are using too much
9	electricity because the more money they get, the more
10	money they make.
11	And then I want to know why it is that the
12	CEO gets for one year he got a 20 percent increase
13	and a benefit package of \$5.7 million? Now, those
14	people that stood up here before said that they didn't
15	get any, you know, they don't know why. But I want to
16	know why they say that we don't pay their salary.
17	Well, who does pay their salary because it all comes
18	down to us in the end. We all pay their salaries
19	because they are making money off of us and that's how
20	they pay the salaries and that was it.
21	JUDGE JONES: Okay. Thank you, Ms. Kemp.
22	And I hear Mr. Jones has come back in. We will hear
23	from Jerry Jones now. Raise your right hand, please.
24	Do you solemnly affirm that the testimony you are
25	about to give is the truth?

Page 19 1 MR. JONES: Yes, sir. 2 JUDGE JONES: Thank you, you may proceed. 3 MR. JONES: Well, I'm not as eloquent as some of these others that will speak. I am a retired 4 5 industrial maintenance electrician. I have been doing electrical work since the 70s, mid-70s and I found 6 7 that any factory or any business that increases in 8 size must also look inside to make sure that they keep 9 everything efficient as possible. You don't increase without spending, that's true, but at our expense now 10 they want a raise. Have they looked inside their own 11 12 business to see where they can make changes? Technology is out there. We are all going to be 13 adaptable to it but the fact is, where does it stop 14 15 for us having to pay so much for so little? We all know that it doesn't cost less to use electricity but 16 17 when do we come to a point where it's optimum and not going to keep going up and up. I am on a very fixed 18 income but I don't have a problem paying my bill right 19 20 now but if it goes up much more I got to look between 21 whether or not I can get my medicine, food, transportation, a lot of things are going up out there 22 23 and I understand their transportation costs. 24 One thing I didn't understand and I tried to talk to someone about it, they didn't really know too 25

Page 20 much about it, was that they were talking about the 1 2 energy light bulbs that they were behind about a year 3 or so ago and I started using them and I found that they were economical but then I get a charge here on 4 5 my electric bill, energy efficient program charge 55 That came out of the blue. And when I asked 6 cents. 7 about it they said oh, that was in there for them to be able to do that. Well, if it's in there for them 8 9 to be able to do that, then they are now getting more money from me every month on my electric bill, so how 10 11 is that played in this? And I just want to say that 12 although coal may not cost a lot per ton and we use a 13 lot of it, the contracts have to be set up to where the companies are more efficient. They are talking 14 15 about scrubbers, they're talking about more air pollution, the EPA and all that. Well, we had 16 17 companies move out of St. Louis that I worked for because it was going to cost them a half billion 18 dollars to update their equipment and that was back, I 19 want to say '80, '79, '80, Reynolds Metal. And they 20 21 moved out because they had to do it. So these companies and utilities already knew back then that if 22 23 they didn't make their places more efficient they 24 would have problems. MSD is one. They have known over 40 years ago that they needed to get under there 25

	Page 21
1	and get on top of their sewer problems and they waited
2	until now, until the EPA hit them with a fine. And
3	then Mr. Nixon was talking about let's make little nuc
4	kits for countries or states. I am really not into
5	that wanting that to be done. Nuclear power has to
6	be made more safe before we can start expanding its
7	use. I wouldn't want to see another thing like Tokyo
8	happen here and that was my comments, sir.
9	JUDGE JONES: All right. Thank you, Mr.
10	Jones.
11	CHAIRMAN GUNN: I don't have any questions.
12	We appreciate your comments.
13	JUDGE JONES: Next we have Marvin Molinet?
14	Is there anyone named oh, I see. Did I pronounce
15	your last name correctly?
16	MR. MOLINET: Molinet.
17	JUDGE JONES: Molinet.
18	MR. MOLINET: I live three miles west of Six
19	Flags. My comment here is going to be short.
20	JUDGE JONES: Can you slow down for a
21	second? Can you raise your right hand? Do you
22	solemnly affirm that the testimony you are about to
23	give is the truth?
24	MR. MOLINET: Yes.
25	JUDGE JONES: Thank you. Can you spell your

Page 22 last name for the court reporter, please? 1 2 MR. MOLINET: M-O-L-I-N-E-T. 3 JUDGE JONES: Thank you, sir, you may 4 proceed. 5 MR. MOLINET: I was just listening to Channel 2 last night and they said that there was only 6 7 one raise last year. There was two raises last year 8 and it's time that you people wake up and think about 9 old people like us, that's on social security and stuff. My budget bill, monthly budget bill -- I have 10 been on the budget bill for approximately 25 years. 11 12 In December of '010 my budget bill was \$157 a month. 13 Ameren begged you people to let them have a raise in '011 and you all authorized it and so then my budget 14 bill went from a \$157 a month to \$185 month. Then 15 they immediately asked for another raise and you 16 17 people authorized that. So then in May of '011 my budget bill went up to \$222 a month and I wasn't using 18 anymore electricity but it went up \$65 a month and I 19 20 am not against any business making a profit but when 21 you go ahead and let them -- give them raises like that and then that CEO gets a 20 percent increase and 22 he makes \$5.7 million just for one year but yet us 23 people on social security and stuff, we get frozen and 24 can't do it. And the price on everything keeps going 25

	Page 23
1	up and so there's a lot of us people now that are old,
2	in their 70s and stuff like that, that cannot afford
3	to buy drugs any more and more and more people are
4	dying because you keep letting people letting them
5	go ahead and raise their price on things and the
6	average of it is going to the CEOs and everything
7	else. Why does he need \$5.7 million to live a year?
8	JUDGE JONES: Thank you, Mr. Molinet. Next
9	witness is Betty Darron. Is there a Betty Darron
10	present?
11	UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: She left.
12	JUDGE JONES: Can you all wait until you get
13	outside to have that conversation, please? Patricia
14	Molinet?
15	MS. MOLINET: I am the other half of the one
16	that just spoke.
17	JUDGE JONES: Can you raise your right hand,
18	please? Do you solemnly affirm that the testimony you
19	are about to give is the truth?
20	MS. MOLINET: I do.
21	JUDGE JONES: Thank you, you may proceed.
22	MS. MOLINET: My last name is M-O-L-I-N-E-T
23	and I just I've listened and I am somewhat amused
24	at some of the things that Union Electric has put
25	forth. I like their cost-cutting adventure. They cut

	Page 24
1	the Indians but they reward the chiefs. This doesn't
2	make sense. They need the workers but those at the
3	top keep getting more and more and more and I can't
4	conceive of making 5.7 million. This is beyond my
5	concept. I can't I would be happy with 500,000 and
6	I am not even going to get near that. And I bet you,
7	if you take the salaries of everybody that was in this
8	room that is here to testify and to listen and you
9	added them all up, you wouldn't come to 5.7 million
10	for one person. And the problem is it's not just one
11	person. There is all the others under him that are
12	making the same thing. If they took less money of
13	what we are paying in, the company would be better
14	run. They are misallocating their money. Nobody is
15	worth 5.7 million. I don't care who he is, he's not
16	worth 5.7 million and I'll bet you that I'll bet
17	that the 12 behind him are making a hefty amount too.
18	Why don't they take a 25 percent cut for a couple of
19	years and put that money in the pot?
20	JUDGE JONES: Next witness is Rick Combs.
21	MR. COMBS: Let me get my glasses so I can
22	see what I'm doing here.
23	JUDGE JONES: Raise your right hand. Do you
24	solemnly affirm that the testimony you are about to
25	give is the truth?

	Page 25
1	MR. COMBS: Yes.
2	JUDGE JONES: Thank you and can you spell
3	your last name for the court reporter?
4	MR. COMBS: C-O-M-B-S.
5	JUDGE JONES: Thank you, sir, you may
6	proceed.
7	MR. COMBS: Yeah, I want to comment on the
8	CEO like she's saying, you know, it's an astronomical
9	figure on his bonus and everything. You see some of
10	these companies they are saying they are in a bind,
11	which they're not but when they are in a bind they
12	will take no bonus. They will take a freeze on their
13	salary. My wife is corporate Monsanto and that CEO
14	last year, they're not hurt bad, but he took a freeze
15	on his salary and he's big money, you know. They keep
16	wanting more and my thing is in the last five years
17	they've averaged 8.5 percent if they get this bonus.
18	It's really an insult to you guys. I don't
19	know how if they come and present that to me and I
20	was in your shoes, I would laugh. I would laugh and
21	when people are lucky to get 2 percent in this day on
22	their income. Good companies, you're lucky to get
23	2 percent and they are wanting, like I said and
24	then he said the one guy from Ameren said over 4
25	years it has been up 8 percent the whole 4 years. It

Page 26 has been up almost 45 percent if they get this, in 1 2 five years. So what's my grandkids and my son going 3 to do in 10 years if I am still alive? It's going to be outrageous. And I just can't believe -- somehow 4 5 they got you guys figured out, that you are easy pickings because they are in here and I know Steve is 6 7 from Jefferson County and I know why he's down there 8 because I know Jay Nixon and I know Ryan, Ryan called 9 me at home. I know he got voted out of office, so 10 they put him down. Nixon takes all the guys we get out of office down there and he takes them down there 11 12 and they do what he needs to do but that is just the 13 way it is. I'm sure Ameren is one of the biggest contributors to Nixon's party, I doubt if he's going 14 to be in the office next year, the Tea Party is coming 15 after him. I see he's going to be gone but it's just 16 17 aggravating that -- you know, you guys -- you're insulted. I don't know how you guys can even go home 18 and sleep at night when you see one out of three 19 20 people are losing their houses and homes. Steve is 21 from Jefferson County. I'm from Jefferson County and I am ashamed of the people down in Jefferson County. 22 I know everybody in Jefferson County. Everybody. And 23 24 the word is out. I am ashamed of what is going on down there and you guys aren't elected, you're 25

	Page 27
1	appointed by the governor and I know what it's all
2	about. And I don't know if you guys got the World
3	Series tickets or not but Jay and Ryan did. Ryan
4	called me at my house and apologized, at least he
5	called me. Jay won't call me back. He won't call.
6	He is too embarrassed and I hope he's gone. Like I
7	said, I was proud when he got down there, not any
8	more. I know Randy Holman (ph), everybody that goes
9	down there. I don't know if he's one of you guys.
10	But I see Steve walk in and I figured I knew one of
11	you guys was going to be from Jefferson County that we
12	got rid of, you know, but the idea is they've got
13	you five years, look at these increases. How would
14	you even present that with the economy? It's kind of
15	a bad time, a little later. And you guys, like I
16	said, if I was sitting on that seat I would laugh at
17	Ameren, I would, because there is no way in heck
18	and you know what's going to happen, I will tell you
19	exactly what is going to happen. You're not giving
20	the full amount but you have already talked about we
21	are going to give them 2 point 210 million instead
22	of 3.65. That's what's going to happen. You are
23	going to think oh, that's going to make people happy,
24	instead of giving them 14 percent we'll give them 9
25	percent, which is still outrageous. I'm like you, I'm

	Page 28
1	not going to be happy at two. I have done everything
2	at my house to conserve except for put windmills and
3	solar put windmills out there and solar panels. If
4	I could do something besides electric I would, but I
5	can't. They got a monopoly and we all know that and
6	there is nothing these poor people can do and it's a
7	shame. It don't affect me, no, I got some money. It
8	doesn't affect me but I didn't get money from being
9	quiet and I'm not afraid to talk about it and like I
10	said, I'm not going to let it go. Their natural gas
11	was down 45 percent. They got a 210 million tax
12	benefit this year. Their second quarter profit was 53
13	percent. I have had the highest electric bill I have
14	ever had and so did every person in here. And I just
15	can't understand. You're wasting my time for you
16	being here because I shouldn't be here. If you guys
17	were doing your job I wouldn't be here.
18	CHAIRMAN GUNN: We very much appreciate your
19	testimony. I just want to take a second, Commissioner
20	Stoll hasn't been on the Commission long enough to
21	have taken a position on the case
22	MR. COMBS: No, I know, he just got on. I
23	read the paper, believe me, I got all the ads right
24	here
25	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Sir, thank you. And

	Page 29
1	so I don't think that's very fair, so I just wanted
2	to I can take criticism, it's what my job is and I
3	understand that but Commissioner Stoll hasn't voted on
4	any of this stuff. This is the first time he has been
5	through this process.
6	MR. COMBS: I know that.
7	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: So I just think I
8	think it's a little unfair but that being said, I
9	appreciate you coming out here tonight and appreciate
10	your comments and we'll certainly
11	MR. COMBS: Can I ask you, have you been on
12	here these five years and you too?
13	CHAIRMAN GUNN: Judge Jones is an
14	administrative law judge. He's not a judge, he
15	doesn't
16	MR. COMBS: Oh, okay. How long have you
17	been with since they have been getting all this
18	through?
19	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: I have been on about
20	four years.
21	MR. COMBS: So you're part of this too then.
22	You're part of the problem.
23	CHAIRMAN GUNN: Fair enough. Fair enough.
24	I can take that criticism and I think it's
25	important good to know. Thank you, sir.

	Page 30
1	JUDGE JONES: Moving on, Ruth Raithel? Is
2	there a Ruth Raithel present? William Farrow? Roger
3	McKibben? Raise your right hand, please. Do you
4	solemnly affirm that the testimony you are about to
5	give is the truth?
6	MR. MCKIBBEN: Yes.
7	JUDGE JONES: Thank you and can you spell
8	your last name for the court reporter?
9	MR. MCKIBBEN: M-C-K-I-B-B-E-N.
10	JUDGE JONES: And you may proceed.
11	MR. MCKIBBEN: I apologize, I am not a
12	public speaker. I don't have notes. Some of what I
13	say may come across as if it's a question, it's not.
14	It's things that if the PSC does not take into account
15	in making these decisions I think they should. That's
16	all.
17	As has been mentioned numerous times, maybe
18	40 percent of their customer base are seniors who have
19	had a 3 percent increase in three years and that's not
20	just for Ameren. When we had questions and answers
21	earlier things were brought up for the Ameren
22	representative, vice president I guess it was and
23	things like the bonuses and all of that, the lobbying,
24	this, that and the other legal fees, et cetera. And
25	they say these costs are not part of this calculation,

Page 31 only our base salary. Well, yes, I will work for a 1 2 base salary of 50,000 if you'll give me 250,000 in 3 bonuses but the bonuses aren't part of the rate calculation. There is something wrong there. 4 5 Recently on the news, either Channel 4 or 5, I apologize I don't remember which, a couple of weeks 6 7 ago they mentioned on the news that a city in western 8 Missouri had gone out through the Internet and 9 arranged to purchase their electric from a power plant 10 to supply their city with electric. They were getting 11 25 percent less than Ameren charged. You know, if 12 that is available to some city to go out and do that 13 with Ameren buying the volume it is, there probably is a 50 percent built-in difference that is already a 14 15 profit. It's something that needs to be looked in to. I can see things like that -- it seems like 16 17 everything that we look at, that are these exorbitant costs, are not part of the calculation for the rate 18 that you are reviewing but they are monies that Ameren 19 20 is making from the customers and spending and still 21 after all of that they can still give their 22 stockholders 10 percent and they want now 10 percent 23 or 14 percent more. That doesn't seem right. 24 I just think that I am not sure that the 25 information that you are being presented is inclusive

	Page 32
1	of everything it should be. The information that you
2	are reviewing is their financial results through 2011.
3	Because of the exorbitant heat they have had a banner
4	year this year, been running at full max. Ought to
5	look at their profits for this year before making a
6	decision about another rate increase. That is all I
7	have to say. Thank you.
8	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Excuse me, this might
9	be a good time just to mention before you came in if
10	you stopped by the Public Service Commission table
11	they had some handouts that they were giving folks and
12	in that it describes the rate-making process and gives
13	you some very good specific information so you might
14	want to look at that when you get home this evening,
15	plus if you have a specific question, as you did, sir,
16	you can go ahead and stop by the table and just, you
17	know, run a couple of questions by them and they would
18	be happy to help you with that.
19	MR. MCKIBBEN: Thank you.
20	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
21	JUDGE JONES: Shirley Straubinger? Did I
22	pronounce your last name correctly?
23	MS. STRAUBINGER: Straubinger.
24	JUDGE JONES: Raise your right hand, please.
25	Do you solemnly affirm the testimony you are about to

Page 33 1 give is the truth? 2 MS. STRAUBINGER: Yes, I am. 3 JUDGE JONES: Can you spell your last name 4 for the court reporter? 5 MS. STRAUBINGER: S-T-R-A-U-B-I-N-G-E-R. JUDGE JONES: And you may proceed. 6 7 MS. STRAUBINGER: Mine is very simple and 8 quick and to the point. I will say it this way: 9 We'll say Ameren UE needs \$100 million, not needs, wants \$100 million. So they ask our Public Service 10 Commission for \$150 million, right, okay. And our 11 12 Public Service Commission says that's too much money we are only going to give them \$125 million when they 13 started out needing -- and that is wanting, I'm sorry, 14 15 not needing -- wanting 100 million. Where does it stop at? That is a little bit ridiculous. I don't 16 17 know about the rest of the folks in this place but it has been brought up before, if I ever saw a 14 percent 18 increase in my paycheck, in my social security, in 19 20 anything, I would be totally amazed. I am lucky to 21 get 1.2 percent or 2.3 percent, let alone 14 percent, okay. And I see this and what's great is while Ameren 22 23 UE is fighting for all this Laclede Gas is slowly 24 adding a dollar here, a dollar there, to our bills and what have you. They're looking good right now because 25

	Page 34
1	they're not in the news but all of you are about the
2	same and it does not seem fair. So that is all I have
3	to say.
4	JUDGE JONES: Thank you. Next is Christina
5	Owens. Is there a Christina Owens? Richard Kovach?
6	Can you raise your right hand, sir? Do you solemnly
7	affirm that the testimony you are about to give is the
8	truth?
9	MR. KOVACH: Yes.
10	JUDGE JONES: Thank you and can you spell
11	your last name for the court reporter?
12	MR. KOVACH: K-O-V-A-C-H.
13	JUDGE JONES: And you may proceed.
14	MR. KOVACH: I'm going to change the tempo
15	for you folks a little bit. I think you have had more
16	than adequate advice as to how much you should allow
17	and how much you should disallow. I'm not here to
18	talk about that specifically but I did see an article
19	in the Post-Dispatch a couple of weeks ago about the
20	Commission considering some sort of alternate rate
21	design or rates for low-income customers. I would
22	suggest to you that perhaps you ought to expand on
23	that and look at alternate rates for all of the
24	residential customers and I meant to say that I'm
25	concentrating my comments on residential. And my

	Page 35
1	point being that I looked at the Ameren annual report
2	recently and roughly a third of their costs are
3	related to generation kilowatt hours and the remaining
4	costs are essentially don't change throughout the
5	year from month to month, yet their customer charge is
6	\$8 a month. And in comparing that with Laclede Gas,
7	for example, who is approaching \$20 and even Ameren's
8	gas operation has a \$15 customer charge. Something is
9	a little bit wrong there.
10	But also I want to call to your attention
11	when I recently shopped for cell phones and there is a
12	myriad of plans available for cell phones and you can
13	pay a higher basic charge and a lower minute, per
14	minute charge or you can go the opposite direction,
15	low basic charge with a high and those choices are
16	available to the consumers and why can't the
17	residential consumers have a couple more choices for
18	their rates and perhaps if they chose the right rate,
19	they could alleviate some of these problems that we
20	have been hearing about and it brings to mind this
21	past summer, very, very warm summer and I am sure
22	Ameren has got high many, many high bill
23	complaints. If more of the fixed costs were
24	recoverable in the basic fee and less in the per
25	kilowatt hour charge, it's a good possibility that a

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1	lot of those bills would be quite a bit lower. And I
2	am urging you to take a look at that and perhaps give
3	customers some choices as opposed to I don't think
4	they have too many choices on the current residential
5	rate structure. I understand there is a time of day
6	option, that's pretty much it, otherwise that's it.
7	No choices. But that is my point to you. I urge you,
8	as part of that other investigation, to perhaps expand
9	on that and take a look at this, there may be
10	something in it for the residential consumers.
11	CHAIRMAN GUNN: Sir, I appreciate that very
12	much and I think that you probably will see an
13	expansion of that because we have heard a lot at these
14	local public hearings about a broad concept called
15	dynamic it's kind of considered to be dynamic
16	pricing which means that the price can change during
17	whether it's peak or lower but I think you're
18	actually advocating for something a little bit
19	different than that. I know some of the co-ops have
20	prepaid plans, for example, where you prepay for
21	electricity and then when you use it or when you run
22	out you have to kind of re-up and do things, so I just
23	want to be clear you're talking about not just
24	using or the opportunity to have a price
25	differential depending on what time of day you're
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----	--
1	using it, whether it's night where it's typically
2	cheaper to run electricity plans but you're also
3	talking about something even beyond that in terms of
4	giving folks options on how to pay?
5	MR. KOVACH: A different type of structure
6	as an option. I don't want you to force anything on
7	anybody.
8	CHAIRMAN GUNN: No, absolutely.
9	MR. KOVACH: But customers want choices and
10	that would be a logical in my mind, a logical choice,
11	and I would depend on the Staff and the Ameren people,
12	they can design that to be revenue neutral in any way,
13	shape or form and I think there will be some benefits.
14	And I guess one more point that I heard an
15	issue in the rate case is the weather adjustment. An
16	argument about how much the revenue should be adjusted
17	due to abnormal weather. I think this would
18	alleviate such a rate would alleviate that problem
19	somewhat also because it would reduce the magnitude of
20	the issue. So there's a lot going for it and I urge
21	you to take a good hard look at it.
22	CHAIRMAN GUNN: Absolutely. Thank you very
23	much for your testimony.
24	JUDGE JONES: Next is Charles Naples. Could
25	you raise your right hand, sir? Do you solemnly

Page 38 affirm that the testimony you are about to give is the 1 2 truth? MR. NAPLES: I do. 3 4 JUDGE JONES: Thank you, you may proceed. 5 MR. NAPLES: Thank you. I just want to thank you for allowing me this opportunity to speak. 6 7 Just a couple of things and they may be a repeat of 8 what was already said, I guess the question is what is -- I mean, we are going to have a rate increase. 9 Ι mean, I think it's almost a forgone conclusion. What 10 is the reasonable rate increase? What does Ameren 11 12 need to operate? And obviously me, as a consumer, I 13 mean, I don't have access to their books. I don't know what their figures are really because figures can 14 be skewed. They can get -- present anything at all, 15 so we have to rely on other individuals or groups of 16 17 individuals to be our advocate. Now, the Post-Dispatch had an article basically talking about 18 the public meetings and that Ameren is basically 19 20 seeking a 15 percent increase, about \$700 million 21 thereabouts. Now, the Staff of the Public Service Commission, which did a full audit but it says here in 22 23 the article, the revenue required to run on utility 24 has recommended a \$210 million increase cutting out \$101 million of profit for Ameren shareholders but 25

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1	Public Counsel, Mr. Mills, who represents the
2	consumers in utility rate cases, says Ameren needs
3	only an extra 150 million, less than half of what it's
4	seeking. Now, I mean, I understand a company needs
5	capital, it needs capital. It needs to pay for it's
6	costs but the thing of it is, is what are we looking
7	at? What is reasonable for Ameren to operate and
8	deliver electricity efficiently and without a lot of
9	outages? And I mean, Ameren today has not convinced
10	me that they need 14 and a half or close to 15 percent
11	and allowing for 8 to 9 percent return is just
12	totally I can't even I don't even know how they
13	keep a straight face when they ask for that in today's
14	economy. So, I mean, it's up to you gentlemen, to
15	look at the figures and see what does Ameren need this
16	time around to really operate? And what are they
17	doing to lower their costs?
18	And I'm kind of leaning where Mr. Mills is
19	on the issue, close to that figure. Where he states
20	that they need about \$150 million to operate and
21	that's I mean, that's really what I because I mean,
22	I can't really say don't give them it would be
23	great to say, okay, zero, you know, they are not going
24	to get anything. We know that's not going to happen.
25	I would hope that you don't have any preconceived

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	Page 40
1	figure right now about what you're going to give them
2	but they had like, some people are saying and
3	according to what they are asking for, since 2007
4	almost 30 percent increase and now if they get the 14
5	and a half percent, I mean, man, that is almost
6	50 percent in what, six years, that's crazy,
7	absolutely crazy, so that's I would just ask the
8	Commission to look at it and be reasonable. What does
9	Ameren really need to operate? Does their CEO really
10	need another 20 percent increase in pay? Do the
11	shareholders and I am thinking the people in this
12	room know that a corporation cares nothing about the
13	individual. Ameren does not care two cents about us
14	as an individual. They do not care. A corporation is
15	only responsible for the bottom line. That is it, end
16	of story. And to the shareholders, they're going to
17	get as much as they can get but when they are sitting
18	in their corporate offices at that meeting and, you
19	know, going geez, I think we ought to let's ask for
20	14 and a half percent but, you know, people will
21	grumble but so what, but, you know what, we will
22	really be happy with five or six. If we get six or
23	five we will be good with that. We will be happy as
24	pigs in sloth with that. So I mean, you know, we are
25	not idiots out here. I mean, we know the boardroom

	Page 41
1	talk and stuff, so that's it. So that is all I have
2	to say on it. Thank you for the opportunity.
3	JUDGE JONES: Thank you. Next speaker is
4	Edmond Ryan. Edmond Ryan? Do you solemnly affirm the
5	testimony you are about to give is the truth?
6	MR. RYAN: I do.
7	JUDGE JONES: Thank you, sir. You may
8	proceed.
9	MR. RYAN: My name is Edmond Ryan. I did
10	ask first your staff outside that this presentation
11	could be made, it's a little off the 14 percent issue.
12	It's a customer service item. I'm a board secretary
13	for the Mehlville Fire Protection District. We
14	recently had a new fire station built at 4811 South
15	Lindbergh at which time Union Electric installed a new
16	service. We received a bill for \$20,000-something and
17	I requested a breakdown of the bill from Ameren UE. I
18	have requested multiple times through the staff at the
19	fire district to request that. We were unable to get
20	a breakdown of the billing. We were able and then
21	I went to our lawyer, our attorney, who also said he
22	made a call to Ameren UE for a breakdown of what they
23	provided. Basically they provided a new pole.
24	What we did as the customer, with our
25	contractor, we picked up the transformer. We picked

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1	up the transformer pad with our contractor at our
2	cost. We provided the cable from the transformer to
3	the pole and we installed the cable up to the pole.
4	Ameren provided the transformer, which we picked up
5	and the pad. They replaced an old pole which they did
6	not charge us for and they provided a new pole, which
7	I agree there is a charge for that. They also made
8	the connections.
9	Now, where I breakdown their costs are,
10	they're charging they are going to allow us up to
11	\$20,000 for the next 12 months to discount our monthly
12	service each month of the 12 months. Wouldn't you
13	rather have a bill for the services they provided?
14	And we know we are going to pay our monthly charges,
15	so over that and I am just taking our monthly
16	charge for the month of June and July of \$826. Well,
17	more or less their charges for the work they did was
18	\$10,000. As a board member, in an organization that
19	is taking the taxpayers' money, it's a reasonable
20	request that any contractor we deal with, much less a
21	monopoly, what have you done for the \$10,000 you are
22	getting?
23	Now, I have also worked as a senior
24	electrical engineer for a large school district in St.
25	Louis. I have never seen a breakdown from our

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1	contractors when we have a new substation put in or a
2	new primary service put in, the bid we get includes
3	the Ameren work. It is what it is and you pay the
4	bill. And in some cases it is it is like many of
5	these people have said, it's sort of a surprise and
6	almost mind-boggling but as a public entity, we paid
7	the bill and then the people behind us get our bill,
8	our yearly bill and they grind their teeth too.
9	So anyhow, that's my my request is that
10	in the future when Ameren does work, installs new
11	services, they provide a breakdown of what the cost of
12	the work is. Three men, two trucks, even the cost of
13	this pole being delivered. They delivered one pole
14	that they were paying for, we should get a minimal
15	charge because they put the second pole on the same
16	truck. Anyway, my request is all work included, a
17	detailed estimate and then a final invoice includes
18	the actual because cost can change the actual
19	cost of doing the work performed and it's associated
20	work and that would be for the State of Missouri.
21	There is no reason that I'm the only person that has
22	come up here in the past saying what is this really
23	costing me? Sometimes contractors are sloppy and they
24	just don't do it right and they eat that money. Well,
25	same way for Ameren UE. If you don't schedule your

Page 44 work in an efficient way you shouldn't just be able to 1 2 slap the cost onto the tax -- onto the payer of the 3 bill. And finally, and you have been very patient, 4 5 just as an example of what this 14 percent would do to a fire district. Our January to July cost was \$68,000 6 7 for electric services to seven fire houses and the administration building. At 17 -- at 14 percent that 8 9 would be an extra \$9400. So for a year about an \$18,000 charge. I take that back \$19,000 charge if I 10 round it off. We certainly have within our own tax 11 12 base the ability to pay for that for some years but 13 the reality is sooner or later it does get passed onto our taxpayers. So thank you very much. I do have a 14 copy of the correspondence from Ameren for you if that 15 would be of any help. 16 17 CHAIRMAN GUNN: I will ask you a quick question. Please, bring it forward because I would 18 like to see it. Did you eventually get a breakdown? 19 20 MR. RYAN: No. 21 CHAIRMAN GUNN: You still haven't, to this 22 day, gotten a breakdown? MR. RYAN: No. And when I was here I tried 23 talking to your staff and they said well, we have 24 25 customer service from Ameren, you can look at somebody

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1	and number one, it's sometimes very difficult to
2	talk to somebody at Ameren. You leave a message and
3	time goes by. You get an answer, you don't get an
4	answer. But no, there's some indication here as to
5	what some of the both the design information and
6	the top sheet is my the financial officer for the
7	Mehlville Fire District, his email to the staff saying
8	basically here is what the charges were, you didn't
9	pay for the old pole, you did pay for the new pole but
10	everything is still lumped together.
11	CHAIRMAN GUNN: Thank you very much. This
12	is a great point in terms of customer service and
13	making sure that they are putting their resources in
14	the right areas, so I appreciate it. So I would
15	suggest a couple of things. One is I don't know if
16	you have had an opportunity to talk to our staff, to
17	talk to someone here at Ameren or to do that,
18	sometimes these opportunities make it easier to talk
19	to someone at Ameren.
20	MR. RYAN: I did.
21	CHAIRMAN GUNN: And if not, if you don't get
22	a breakdown, we do have a procedure in which you could
23	
24	MR. RYAN: Well, as I recall for in the
25	bottom of this letter our CFO indicates that he

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1	thought these charges were reasonable. They could be
2	reasonable charges.
3	CHAIRMAN GUNN: As I get it all you're
4	asking for is what you would ask for any other
5	contractor to do
6	MR. RYAN: Yes.
7	CHAIRMAN GUNN: which is to give you an
8	estimate and then once they do the work, to give you a
9	detailed bill about what they charged, so you can make
10	the determination of what those individual costs were.
11	MR. RYAN: I agree. Then when we stamp it
12	and pay it we could also say to our taxpayers our
13	books are in good shape.
14	CHAIRMAN GUNN: And it's transparent
15	MR. RYAN: That's correct.
16	CHAIRMAN GUNN: and you could make the
17	determination or you could challenge it if you felt
18	like something wasn't
19	MR. RYAN: And we do.
20	CHAIRMAN GUNN: clearly justified, okay.
21	MR. RYAN: Thank you very much.
22	CHAIRMAN GUNN: Thank you, sir. I don't
23	have anything further.
24	JUDGE JONES: Tom Rehkemfer or per, I can't
25	read the last syllable of your name? Is there anyone

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1	named Tom here? Well, I take that back. Morris
2	or Maria Strayhorn? Raise your right hand, please.
3	Do you solemnly affirm the testimony you are about to
4	give is the truth?
5	MS. STRAYHORN: Yes.
6	JUDGE JONES: Thank you and please spell
7	your last name for the court reporter.
8	MS. STRAYHORN: S-T-R-A-Y-H-O-R-N.
9	JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed.
10	MS. STRAYHORN: Thank you very much. I would
11	love to get an 8 to 9 percent increase on my
12	investment. Second point, the gentlemen who spoke
13	about choices, I have a daughter who lives in Peoria,
14	Arizona who does her laundry on the weekend because
15	she has that choice to lower her electric bill. And
16	third, I hope that you act with justice, mercy and
17	fairness for the consumers. Thank you.
18	JUDGE JONES: Thank you. Joe Franey? Joe
19	Franey? Larry Thornton? Is there a Kearns here, I
20	can't read the first name. What is you first name?
21	MS. KEARNS: Carole.
22	JUDGE JONES: Carole.
23	MS. KEARNS: And I even printed.
24	JUDGE JONES: Do you solemnly affirm that
25	the testimony you are about to give is the truth?

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1	MS. KEARNS: Yes, I do.
2	JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed.
3	MS. KEARNS: When I came here today I had no
4	intention of doing this because public speaking is
5	frightening but I appreciate the forum and it's the
6	first time I have ever attended one of these. I am
7	only going speak to what I know about but I agree with
8	everyone who has spoken prior to myself.
9	I am one of those horrible shareholders of
10	Ameren because I have to make a little bit more than
11	0.1 percent, so I purchased Ameren's stock. I want to
12	say what I know about this stock is several years ago
13	there was a really nice dividend on this stock but it
14	got slashed. The same year Mr. Rainwater, who was the
15	CEO at the time, got a tremendous bonus. He is no
16	longer with the company right now. I think what you
17	can hear in the room today is the ultimate frustration
18	of taxpayers. We feel powerless and almost helpless
19	because we are fighting a huge corporation. We are
20	fighting a monopoly. You know, if somebody else
21	raises their prices on food or whatever I can grow my
22	own if I want to. And the other thing, any other
23	corporation, I have choices. I don't have choices
24	here. I'm an Ameren UE customer. As far as the
25	reliability of the company, the very first storm we

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1	had and I live in Mehlville, right here I think	
2	we had and I think it was May, the end of May, the	
3	very first storm. We lost power for almost 12 hours	
4	in a 100 degree heat.	
5	UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: 21 hours for me.	
6	MS. KEARNS: 21, awful. I don't know how	
7	reliable that is, it's not acceptable for sure. I	
8	didn't get a rebate or a credit in my bill because I	
9	didn't have service that day.	
10	And I want to speak to the outrageous board	
11	of directors pay. You know, the Ameren people were	
12	here earlier and they were saying that's not paid for	
13	by the customer, that's paid for by the shareholders.	
14	You know what, the share holders are the customers.	
15	We are paying for it. I don't know what they they	
16	must think we are just idiots. I don't know. The	
17	board of directors and I don't know how many they	
18	have, I think 13, they get an exorbitant salary just	
19	for being on the board. They get \$10,000 for every	
20	meeting they attend. You know there are some people	
21	in this room that don't make \$10,000 in a year. If	
22	they chair a meeting they are given more money. They	
23	are given stock options. And it's the good ol' boy	
24	system, you know. These same people are on boards of	
25	this one and that one and it just never ends.	

Page 50 I guess, you know, another one that is 1 2 coming down the pike soon is going to be MSD. We will 3 be back up here because we are going to really get hit when MSD has to raise their rates and you'll be 4 5 involved in that too? No? Lucky you. Nobody is here optimistically, I can tell 6 7 you that. I can feel it in the room. You can almost cut it with a knife. Nobody in here thinking this is 8 9 going to do any good but it gives us a feeling that we 10 at least have had our say. And I agree with the lady 11 that just spoke. You know, be fair, be just, make it 12 make sense for the people and, you know, you could all 13 increase your credibility 130 percent by saying no, not this year, you have already gotten, what is it, 14 15 36 percent, not this year. And it's like when you go and you have a job and you go in and you talk to your 16 17 employer and you have a dollar figure in your mind, you always ask for more. I want a 10 percent raise 18 and they will say oh, no, no, no, we will give you a 19 five, you only wanted three. This is the same thing 20 21 going on here. 22 Who is paying all these outrageous board of director's fees? That has got to come from us. 23 Ιt 24 has to. Where else could it possibly come from? And I just hope this is not all about money and politics. 25

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1	Twelve vice presidents? We only need one to run the
2	United States of America.
3	JUDGE JONES: Just a minute, Ms. Kearns.
4	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your
5	testimony, ma'am.
6	JUDGE JONES: Donald Beiter or Baiter?
7	B-E-I-T-E-R? Karen Krick? Do you solemnly affirm the
8	testimony you are about to give is the truth?
9	MS. KRICK: Yes, I do.
10	JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed.
11	MS. KRICK: Thank you for allowing me to
12	address you this afternoon. This meeting was
13	important enough for me to ask my employer to take a
14	vacation day off. I work still, however, I would like
15	to I dream about retirement. I'm thinking about
16	retiring next year but it's kind of a scary thing
17	with, you know, rate increases coming up and food
18	prices increasing and gasoline prices increasing and
19	things that everybody is facing. You know, but this
20	rate hike is much, much, much too high and I can
21	understand, maybe not like, but I can understand a
22	dollar a month increase but this rate they are asking
23	for is just too much. I am on budget bill and I paid
24	into the Dollar Help program for this and with the gas
25	company but, you know, I am thinking to myself if they

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1	get their rate increase how many people are actually
2	going to be dropping that Dollar Help, you know, from
3	you know, whether it's a dollar or \$2 or \$5 they
4	contribute to help people who can't afford to pay
5	their gas bill and while I don't think I will ever
6	be I don't think I, personally, will be able to
7	ever get anything any help from the utilities and I
8	hope I would never be in that position either but, you
9	know, I think you have to be you can't have any
10	money, so, you know, we are trying to help other
11	people. But my sister is a single parent and she has
12	a son in college. My brother lives in what I use to
13	call storm alley. He lives up Creve Coeur in the
14	Maryland Heights area. Every time they have had a
15	storm their power went out. Once he and his wife came
16	down and brought their young daughter and stayed at my
17	house for a winter for a couple of days because their
18	power was out. He has actually had to put in a very
19	expensive generator that cost him several thousand
20	dollars so then when the storms hit they can keep
21	their power on. They don't throw out the food in
22	their refrigerator and their freezer because it's
23	spoiled. And he has used it several times.
24	Profits are nice for a company and for
25	shareholders but the customers shouldn't be bearing

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1	the burden of some of those profits and I'm asking the
2	Public Service Commission to please do the right
3	thing, please, consider the consumers out here,
4	consider the economics, consider many of these people
5	here today, they are already retired and I am hoping
6	to join their forces next year but please consider
7	everything and do the right thing, that's all I ask.
8	Thank you.
9	JUDGE JONES: Thank you. Is there a Mary
10	Lenny? Mary Lenny? L-E-N-N-Y? Pam Flynn? Do you
11	solemnly affirm that the testimony you are about to
12	give is the truth?
13	MS. FLYNN: Yes, I do.
14	JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed.
15	MS. FLYNN: My main comment, I guess what
16	really started my whole thinking, my electric bill was
17	\$545. I live in a 2,000 square foot house. It's not
18	big. It's nothing. Anyway, when I wash clothes I
19	hang them outside. I use the dishwasher twice a week.
20	I mean, I really conserve energy as best I can. When
21	the bill was so high I called the electric company and
22	I asked you know why is my bill so high and her
23	response was well, it's been hot. Well, yeah, it has
24	been hot but is it twice as hot as it was last month?
25	I don't think so, I mean, maybe it was but I don't

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1	think so. Anyway, I asked her if she could send me a
2	paper and why I am going into this, it's more the
3	internal affairs with the company. They need to talk
4	to us. We need communication. And I asked her to
5	please tell me what my bill was for the last two
6	years. Well, she couldn't tell me that, she would
7	have to get back with me on that. She would mail me
8	the paperwork. And then I asked her to tell me which
9	one of my appliances is there a way for you all to
10	know which one is causing this. I was trying to find
11	out if it was the air conditioner or whatever. Nope,
12	couldn't do that but she did have a paper she could
13	send out to us. Well, she did send out the one form.
14	I never did get anything for the last two years' bills
15	but I did get the other form but I couldn't make any
16	sense of it. It didn't have any self-explanatory
17	how do you even read it? So that didn't do me any
18	good. So anyway, I called the air conditioner guy to
19	come out and nothing is wrong with the
20	air-conditioner. I mean, you know, it's pretty
21	much it's just pretty much my bill is 545 and I am
22	stuck with it. Well, when you call, I mean, maybe
23	some people have more money than I do but I called to
24	see if we could make a payment plan. On the phone,
25	yeah, you could do that but you would have to come in

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1	and talk to them. Well, why can't you do it over the
2	phone. At any rate, I called again and I was told I
3	had to pay it now or they would turn off the electric.
4	And I am thinking well, do I pay the house or do I pay
5	the electric, either one, you know, you're going to
6	lose the house or you're going to get no electric. I
7	just think that they need a different way to
8	communicate and they need to have some kind of
9	provisions. We are not late on our bill all the time.
10	We are not people who don't pay our bills but when it
11	gets that high it's like what do you do? What do you
12	do?
13	With the economy the way it is I sell
14	real estate for a living. Everybody knows haha,
15	that's really fun right now. It's really a tough
16	economy. Well, I feel like if I have to pinch my
17	pennies and watch I'm not getting a raise. I'm not
18	getting anything extra, why can't they pinch their
19	pennies a little bit more? And what I mean by that,
20	think of all these foreclosures. I know you all have
21	heard the foreclosures and everything that's going on.
22	Does anybody honestly think that those people are
23	paying their bills when they lose their houses? No,
24	they're not. So who pays those bills? My thought is
25	if they would come up with some kind of system, I mean

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1	Ameren UE, come up with some kind of system to where
2	they can collect those monies. They want those
3	people the people that are losing their houses,
4	they are not able to buy for another two or three
5	years, therefore UE probably won't get their money for
6	another two or three yeas because they are probably
7	either living with another family or using someone
8	else's name or something to get their electric turned
9	back on in their rental house. Do you follow what I'm
10	saying? So my thought is, it's not that I am trying
11	to be mean, it's just that if they would think of a
12	way to get monies from the proper channel, from the
13	way the proper channels if they would get their
14	money from where it should be coming from, the people
15	who really do owe it, I feel like, you know, I pay my
16	bills and I shouldn't have to pay part of someone
17	else's, if that makes sense to you.
18	I'm sorry, there was just one more thing.
19	No, I guess that was all. Anyway, I too, like
20	everyone else, I just hope you make the right decision
21	and I appreciate the fact that we have an outlet to go
22	to.
23	CHAIRMAN GUNN: Thank you, ma'am. I just
24	have a couple of questions. That number seems awful
25	high to me too for

Page 57 MS. FLYNN: It does. 1 2 CHAIRMAN GUNN: Did Ameren offer or was 3 there any discussion about checking your meter or making sure there wasn't an error? 4 5 MS. FLYNN: No, I asked her if they would send somebody to come out and read the meter and 6 7 she -- I just got a hold of somebody crabby and she 8 said something like they have already read the meter, 9 I have -- that's what she said -- they have already read the meter, I have the numbers right here. 10 CHAIRMAN GUNN: Did she indicate whether it 11 12 was a remote reading or did they actually send 13 somebody out or do you know? 14 MS. FLYNN: Well, I didn't ask her. On the bill it said actual, so I figured it was actual. 15 CHAIRMAN GUNN: If you would do me a favor, 16 17 after this is done, if you could leave your information with one of our staffers. 18 19 MS. FLYNN: Sure. CHAIRMAN GUNN: And it doesn't sound like 20 21 you got some of information that you wanted. MS. FLYNN: Well, I mean, I really didn't, 22 23 you know, if I owe it then I owe it. 24 CHAIRMAN GUNN: Absolutely and --25 MS. FLYNN: But for them to put more onto

Page 58 1 it, it just blows me away. 2 CHAIRMAN GUNN: And you were trying to do is 3 you were asking for some historical usage data and some historical --4 5 MS. FLYNN: Correct. CHAIRMAN GUNN: And it doesn't sound like 6 7 you got that. 8 MS. FLYNN: I did not. CHAIRMAN GUNN: Well, there are a lot of 9 computers out there and they should be able to get 10 11 that for you today. And so if you would just go out 12 and let someone sitting at that blue table know what you are looking for, they can help you talk to the 13 Ameren folks today and if not, they can help you do 14 15 that. Is there a staff? Turn around, there's some staff folks, they work for us. And so if you would go 16 17 and let them know what you need and what you can get, they will be able to help you try to get that done 18 19 today. 20 MS. FLYNN: Thank you. 21 CHAIRMAN GUNN: All right. Thank you very 22 much for your testimony. 23 JUDGE JONES: Marie Gilliam? Do you 24 solemnly affirm the testimony you are about to give is the truth? 25

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1	MS. GILLIAM: I do.
2	JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed.
3	MS. GILLIAM: Thank you. I have two
4	comments. My service, I live in Oakville off of
5	Telegraph Road. I average fourI want to say four
6	to six outages a year. I reviewed the outages with
7	the gentlemen from Ameren outside and there is pages
8	of them. I personally listening to everyone else's
9	comments here, they all make very valid points. I
10	just plain don't think Ameren deserves any kind of an
11	increase. Their reliability, as far as service, is
12	nothing. And I have called Ameren on every occasion.
13	It's not that I don't call Ameren and talk to them. I
14	have had summers where I would come in from work and
15	the microwave was blinking at me because there has
16	been a power outage, granted sometimes they're two
17	minutes, sometimes they're three hours, sometimes
18	the last one, the lady was talking about in Mehlville,
19	mine was 21 hours, cost me a freezer full of meat. I
20	have had multiple outages like that. I am told
21	repeatedly by Ameren they're not in the tree trimming
22	service, there are animals on the line. That's nice.
23	I mean, I get lots of information from Ameren. I get
24	lots of excuses from Ameren. I do not get service
25	from Ameren. I do not get solutions from Ameren. I

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1	told the gentlemen outside, I own a house on Davis
2	(ph) Street in the city for 13 years. Never had a
3	power outage. Had I known what I know now, I will
4	again ask, if I ever purchase another home, how many
5	power outages have you experienced here in the last
6	two years or so because I would have never purchased
7	this property had I known the problems I was going to
8	have with electrical service and I live within the a
9	south county area. I am not out on a road or on a
10	farm. We are talking within three miles of this
11	location. The people on the other side of the street,
12	across the street from me, apparently are hooked to a
13	different grid, they never have power outages. We sit
14	on our front porches and watch them with their lights
15	on and their air conditioners running. It's
16	ridiculous and it's in excusable and it's my opinion
17	Ameren is not ready for any rate increase at all. And
18	I think the 36 percent they have gotten over the last
19	three years far exceeds their service reliability. I
20	think we are due a refund, that's my opinion, on my
21	service.
22	Now, speaking to my father, who is an
23	elderly man, he has been disconnected twice this
24	summer, as I have said. I finally got to the bottom
25	of the problem with Ameren. Ameren, when you call

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1	them, doesn't necessarily give good information you
2	have to know what questions and it takes time and
3	experience in talking with Ameren employees how to ask
4	the right questions and what those are. He got
5	disconnected again in August. I finally figured out
6	they were sending the bill to his home address instead
7	of mine. Every other utility I did a mail change
8	of address with the post office. Every other utility
9	company changed the address to mine over the course of
10	the year, Ameren didn't. I didn't realize there was a
11	problem. It took me several months of not receiving
12	bills to realize he wasn't getting an electric bill.
13	They cut his service in heat over 100 degrees to an
14	80-year-old man. I find out with this hanging on the
15	front door, when I go to check on him. This is how I
16	find out his service is disconnected.
17	The rates are too high. I am a working
18	single parent and I make I make an adequate salary.
19	I'm to the point where I cannot afford the electric
20	bill any more. I'm sorry. My daughter is in college.
21	The expenses alone for college over the last four
22	years. She has been in college for two. I can tell
23	you the expenses I have had to endure for college is
24	astronomical. I cannot afford the electric bills I'm
25	action at my house

25 getting at my house.

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1	My father, \$250 to restore his service for
2	six weeks. I am being told by the gentlemen outside
3	this door, one bill missed, you miss one bill because
4	I told him that was only six weeks. It wasn't like he
5	was delinquent for three or four months. One bill,
6	they're cutting your service. That is very low
7	tolerance for the amount of money that comes on that
8	bill every month. There are months where people
9	cannot afford the bill when it comes and might need to
10	stretch that out or make a late payment. And now I'm
11	being told one month, you miss your bill one time and
12	they are cutting your service. I think it's wrong. I
13	think it's inexcusable and I don't think they're
14	deserving of a rate increase. That is all I have to
15	say about that.
16	CHAIRMAN GUNN: Ma'am, I have a couple of
17	questions. The note the shut-off notice, does that
18	have a date on it?
19	MS. GILLIAM: No, there is no date on it and
20	this is the second one. I received one when I went to
21	check on him in June, same thing. And here's the
22	letter that comes with it. Oh, and I love the diagram
23	on how to pull the main blocks out of the circuit
24	breakers, that's a lot of fun for an 80-year-old
25	elderly man. It's a good thing he has children to

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1	come and check. I can't imagine these elderly people
2	that weren't even here that don't have maybe don't
3	have children to check on them. To restore your
4	service you have to pull the two main blocks out of
5	the circuit box or the fuse box. I have to get on a
6	ladder and hold my breath. I mean, that's a scary
7	experience. I don't know if anybody has ever done
8	that but you have to pull those main blocks out of the
9	box for them to restore the service and after they
10	restore it you have to put them back in. That's even
11	more frightening then pulling them out when the
12	service is out.
13	CHAIRMAN GUNN: Do you know the approximate
14	date that the electricity was shut off?
15	MS. GILLIAM: Well, I just resolved this
16	what is this Thursday probably Monday. No,
17	actually it was Tuesday I know exactly because Laclede
18	Gas needed access to the house to change the meter in
19	the basement and my daughter went down to take care of
20	it for him and she found this on the door and she
21	called me at work.
22	CHAIRMAN GUNN: Okay. But the actual shut
23	off, you think it was last Tuesday?
24	MS. GILLIAM: It doesn't say and I can tell
25	you I'm down there, I have two other brothers two

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1	brothers too that check on him. I don't check on him
2	everyday but I am guessing they would have seen it and
3	told me about it or done something about it
4	themselves, so it had to be that day or, you know,
5	maybe a day before.
6	CHAIRMAN GUNN: I will tell you why I'm
7	asking, because there's a statute out there that's
8	called the hot weather rule and says that they're not
9	allowed to turn you off
10	MS. GILLIAM: Well, they turned him off in
11	June too.
12	CHAIRMAN GUNN: when the temperature is
13	predicted to be above 95 degrees.
14	MS. GILLIAM: They told me that and let me
15	tell you, they cut his service.
16	CHAIRMAN GUNN: Well, if you could, give the
17	address, see one of our staff folks, give the address
18	and we'll check in on the date and figure out what
19	time it was shut off. I would appreciate it very
20	much. I just have a couple small questions about your
21	outages. So Ameren has said they're not required to
22	trim trees around your wires, they've told you that?
23	MS. GILLIAM: Well, they told me they're
24	not, quote, in the tree trimming service but they are
25	in the electricity providing service and if the tree

Page 65 is presenting the problem with that then -- it's not 1 2 on my property. These are woods behind my yard that 3 are either owned by the county or by MSD and I am not allowed to go back there and cut that tree down. 4 I am 5 not responsible to go down there. I mean, if they ran the lines -- believe me those trees were there when 6 7 they ran those lines, so when they ran those lines 8 they had to know what they were getting into and they 9 don't want to by responsible to maintain them. I was 10 told you guys only trim trees every four years. Well, 11 let me tell you, those trees within four years, grow a 12 whole lot more. All we need on my street is a good 13 heavy breeze. I'm not kidding and I'm not making it up. Heavy breeze and poof, it's gone. 14 15 CHAIRMAN GUNN: And that was my follow-up question. So the four to six times per year it's not 16 17 after a storm, it could be -- it's just random times? MS. GILLIAM: Oh, no, it's random. I had a 18 power outage I'm guessing, I don't have the dates in 19 20 front of me, I regret not bringing my calendars 21 because when I told them when I come in the house and that microwave in blinking at me, the first thing I do 22 23 is go over to my kitchen counter and write power outage on it. And he pulled up a whole list where 24

there are two or three minutes but still, let me tell

25

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1	you what that does to your appliances, when that
2	sizzle goes through your house maybe eight times a
3	year, the two or three minute ones, that really knocks
4	out a microwave or screws up an air conditioner.
5	CHAIRMAN GUNN: So excluding the two or
6	three-minute ones, how many longer than two or three
7	minutes do you think you have?
8	MS. GILLIAM: Over the last I will say
9	five years because that's over the last four or five
10	years you guys have asked for 50 percent, I think I
11	have had six power outages extending a six-hour the
12	last one I just had was 21 hours. I've had a power
13	outage which was pretty much St. Louis wide I think
14	when it happened but I had to actually move my family
15	into a hotel. It took that long for my service to be
16	restored. Everybody else, like I said, across the
17	street, they're back up in a day. We had to move into
18	a hotel.
19	CHAIRMAN GUNN: I'm not going to ask you to
20	give this publically, but if you could give your
21	address to our staff people as well.
22	MS. GILLIAM: Well, I
23	CHAIRMAN GUNN: Not the Ameren folks but our
24	folks right there. I would just appreciate knowing
25	and I would maybe, outside of this, follow up with

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1	you.
2	MS. GILLIAM: Well, and I also reminded the
3	Ameren folks here, I pay the same amount for my power
4	as the people across the street from me. And again,
5	they have all their power on and I am sitting across
6	the street throwing, you know, meat and food from my
7	freezer into the trash. And, you know, what else they
8	told me? You know what Ameren says when I call them
9	and say I lost two freezers? Call your insurance
10	company. I have a thousand dollar deductible on my
11	home. They're not going to cover two freezers of
12	meat. Ameren doesn't want to hear about it. No, they
13	are not they do not rank anywhere near a 14,
14	15 percent increase and again, I will say I think they
15	owe me a refund.
16	CHAIRMAN GUNN: Thank you.
17	JUDGE JONES: Janice Struck? Is there a
18	Janice Struck present? Do you solemnly affirm the
19	testimony you are about to give is the truth?
20	MS. STRUCK: I do.
21	JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed.
22	MS. STRUCK: Well, basically what I have to
23	say has probably already been mentioned by other
24	people but I am a retiree and I draw social security,
25	plus retirement from where I did work and as most

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1	some people have already mentioned social security was
2	frozen for I think it was three years in a row. This
3	past year we did finally get a small increase, same
4	happened with the annuity program because it's based
5	on the interest rates that the funds earn, so
6	therefore with all the other increases they that want
7	to bring about, now we're talking about with the
8	drought we're going to have an increase in gas prices,
9	food prices and everything else. I'm like everyone
10	else. I think the CEO should give up his bonus or
11	something and let that cover part of their increases
12	and they shouldn't get an increase at all since they
13	just got one in the last couple of years. And at the
14	time everyone else says okay, we need an increase too,
15	then where does that leave the average person? And
16	not just retirees like me, I know when I worked, I was
17	lucky if you got a 5 percent increase salary-wise
18	because usually it was set by their board of directors
19	as to how much of an increase you could get. It
20	didn't matter how big a how good of a job you did
21	or whatever. So I have two sons who are employed and
22	they have families. This is also going to affect
23	them. So forget just retirees and those of us on a
24	limited income, it affects everyone across the board.
25	So I would ask that if they get an increase

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1	it shouldn't be more than probably a 2 or a 3 percent
2	at the max and definitely not this 14 percent that
3	they are asking for. They haven't earned it, in my
4	opinion, with all the these other reports of the
5	people complaining about their service and everything
6	else and then their attitude that they come in and say
7	but my salary doesn't come from yours, the increase is
8	not going to affect my salary. Their salary has to
9	come from somewhere and the majority I am quite
10	certain comes from what we have to pay for the
11	service. Thank you very much for the opportunity.
12	JUDGE JONES: Next witness is Susan Higgins.
13	Can you raise your right hand? Do you solemnly affirm
14	the testimony you are about to give is the truth?
15	MS. HIGGINS: Yes.
16	JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed.
17	MS. HIGGINS: Okay. Several years ago we
18	had got a rate increase on this fuel adjustment and I
19	tell you I've seen my utility bills go up. This year
20	alone I figured out that my utilities has been raised
21	by \$450 that is per household. That's if your utility
22	bill, is around 300 a month in the summer and winter
23	months and is 100 any other time, so that's my
24	house is totally electric, so my household alone has
25	gone up by \$450. I own my own cleaning business but

	Page 70
1	my mother, who is on social security, she only gets
2	\$700 a month. She only gets \$8400 a year. I want to
3	know how my mother luckily, she does have 11 kids
4	to help her pay her bills but if she didn't have those
5	11 kids how would she be able to pay her bills? She
6	wouldn't. Would she be homeless? Would she be
7	sleeping on the corner? I mean, does Ameren UE ever
8	think about the people that they are affecting on a
9	monthly basis? I began to wonder.
10	I also want to know about this energy
11	efficient program. It kinds of blows me away that
12	their an electricity company but they are giving
13	people rebates on gas appliances and they are charging
14	everybody else for it. I think that is wrong because
15	my house is totally electric. I don't think I should
16	have to buy a gas stove for somebody down the road.
17	If they want a gas stove let them go about and buy it.
18	I don't have no problems with helping people that
19	can't pay their electricity but I have a real problem
20	with people who want to buy new appliances on my back
21	and then these people that are making these outrageous
22	bonuses, I mean, come on, are economy has been
23	downhill ever since 2007. I want to know where do
24	they get off thinking they got a bonus and they got a
25	raise?

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And these people in the fine South County 1 2 area complaining about 12 hours, 6 hours, 21 hours 3 being without electricity, back in May 6th, 2003, I owned a house in Jefferson County. A tornado came 4 5 through there -- and losing meat after 21, we went without electricity for a week. A week. And when I 6 7 called them up -- those fine trees across the street 8 from my house ripped my power line down away from my 9 house. Ameren UE didn't reconnect my electricity, no. You know what they told me? They said, ma'am, you're 10 11 a homeowner, you need to hire an electrician to get 12 your electrical back to your house. So in the city, 13 in the county, Ameren UE is very helpful. They'll come and reconnect up your lines and all that good 14 15 stuff and they are right out there because those fine South County people and city people don't know how to 16 17 act when they get wiped out without electricity, let them go without electricity for a week. For a week. 18 Not a couple hours, not a couple days, a week. And 19 20 this ain't just once in a while. I mean, every time I 21 come home they talk about their appliances blinking, I 22 go to bed and I wake up and my appliances are 23 blinking. 24 You know, so we have problems here. I don't 25 think Ameren UE deserves a raise because they have not

	Page 72
1	been keeping up with their grid. And instead of
2	giving rebates and making everybody pay for gas
3	appliances, how about some solar panels. I sure would
4	love some solar panel rebates because, you know, the
5	solar panels are really expensive and then maybe, then
6	maybe we wouldn't have to rely so much on Ameren UE.
7	I want to know why can't we get any rebates on solar
8	panels? And this energy efficient program, from my
9	understanding it's also for this fine notice that they
10	send us once a year telling us how much we spend on
11	our electricity bill. I don't consider that any
12	really help. It just makes me really miserable every
13	time I see how much money I give Ameren UE and my
14	house is fully insulated unlike the lady that has a
15	2,000 square-foot house with the 500 \$550
16	electricity bill. My house is very well insulated. I
17	have a 4600 square-foot house and my electricity bill
18	is only \$350 a month. So I want to know instead of
19	giving people rebates on gas appliances, why don't
20	they give people rebates on insulating their house
21	better, buying solar panels. Maybe they should offer
22	solar panels, you know, give people the option of
23	buying solar panels through Ameren UE.
24	And maybe they need to do a wage freeze. I
25	am talking not for the people that is cutting the
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----	--
1	trees and putting the lines back up, no, no, I am
2	talking about for the management, for that fine
3	management, those 12 vice presidents. And if there is
4	12 vice presidents that means there's 12 presidents.
5	Isn't it kind of like repetition? Who is not doing
6	their job, is it the presidents or is it the vice
7	presidents? Why do we have to pay for two men to do
8	one job or a man and a woman, whichever the case may
9	be. But yeah, everybody else around this country is
10	tightening their belts and cutting this, that and the
11	other but Ameren UE has got the nerve to come and ask
12	us for a raise. I think they got nerve.
13	I called them up a couple of months ago and
14	went off about these rates. I didn't need this
15	meeting. I and then they have got the nerve to do
16	this again. They want another raise yet again. I
17	believe the energy commission, aren't you all paid by
18	the taxpayers? So you are for our behalf. Start
19	sticking up for us. Start telling them no. They got
20	one just a couple of years ago. Make them clean their
21	house a little bit better. I have a housecleaning
22	business and if I don't clean somebody's house right
23	they sure call me up and tell me about it. So
24	somebody needs to clean their house a little bit
25	better at Ameren UE because their bills are just going

Page 74 It's just crazy. Thank you. Have a nice day. 1 up. 2 JUDGE JONES: Actually, before you leave, 3 they do have a rebate program for solar panels, so you might want to check into that. 4 5 MS. HIGGINS: Okay, thank you. JUDGE JONES: Next is Marlene Wrablik? 6 7 MS. WRABLIK: Well, first of all, good 8 afternoon, gentlemen. 9 JUDGE JONES: Good afternoon. Can you raise your right hand? 10 MS. WRABLIK: Yes. 11 12 JUDGE JONES: Do you solemnly affirm the 13 testimony you are about to give is the truth? 14 MS. WRABLIK: I do. 15 JUDGE JONES: Can you spell your last name for the court reporter? 16 17 MS. WRABLIK: It's spelled, W-R-A-B -- as in boy -- L-I-K. And first of all, I want to thank you 18 gentlemen for being here with the Public Service 19 Commission. I am basically going to be reinforcing 20 21 what other folks have been telling you. One is I 22 definitely agree that this is an outrageous increase hike for Ameren. I think what they have also got to 23 look at is how is the economy, you know, we are still 24 dealing with 8 percent unemployment and I am one of 25

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those people. I am grateful that I am 65 and I am 1 2 able to collect social security but I am also dealing 3 with unemployment, been surviving with temp work and so on and I believe something will come through for 4 5 me. But I think you should just look at the overall economy and think about what the average American is 6 7 dealing with in America. 8 Regarding the CEO, Mr. Tom Voss, again, it's 9 just to hear 20 percent increase, the way the economy is. I am going to ask you that you look at this board 10 11 of directors at Ameren. I am going to ask you to look 12 at the credibility and how accountable they are. It's 13 something that definitely needs to be considered and 14 evaluated. 15 Also, I brought it up earlier but again, with this rate increase, you know, it was brought up 16 17 that we are going to look at the rate designs. We're going to look at which groups, residential and so on. 18 Let that be very fair and honest and fair to 19 residents and to commercial. Because when I think 20 21 Anheuser Busch hears about the 12 -- 14 percent 22 increase I think down the line you may have a meeting with the commercial people that they are going to be 23 disputing this too. Again, they've had since 2007 a 24 25 30 percent increase. We are asking please look at

1 that.

2	And also, I'm going to share something with
3	you. I lost my mother in the last year. Okay. I am
4	grateful I have here home and this is what I am
5	talking about, the home here in St. Louis and it is my
6	home now and I am paying all the bills. I also am
7	grateful I have my condo in Chicago but I am, you
8	know, paying double bills. Utilities in Chicago, we
9	have never, ever seen a 14 percent increase. We have
10	CoMed up there and I am going to probably open a can
11	of worms here but in my area in Illinois, in the
12	Chicagoland, we have a choice now, it's not just
13	ComEd, the way you know, with my electric bill now.
14	And I don't know if Missouri would ever look at that.
15	I think Ameren has a monopoly here and I just think
16	it's food for thought. You know if they would ever
17	let I have where I can change, I think it's still
18	on the comment lines, that I can change and have
19	another electric company because they are coming in
20	the neighborhood, they're in our neighborhood. And
21	you've probably heard that comment but again, I am
22	just looking, food for thought, think about
23	competition. And again, I am asking as everybody has
24	emphasized with you, to look at, to be fair, please be
25	fair, please be just and think about what the average

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Page 77 American is dealing with today and again, thank you 1 2 for your time. CHAIRMAN GUNN: Thank you for your 3 4 testimony. 5 JUDGE JONES: And next is Bobbie Ziglioli, Z-I-G -- I believe. Ziglioli? 6 7 MS. ZIGLIOLI: Nice try. No, it's Bobbie 8 Ziglioli. 9 JUDGE JONES: Oh, okay, now I see. 10 MS. ZIGLIOLI: It's pretty easy. It's 11 spelled the way it's pronounced. 12 JUDGE JONES: Can you raise your right hand? 13 Do you solemnly affirm that the testimony you are about to give is the truth? 14 15 MS. ZIGLIOLI: I do. 16 JUDGE JONES: And can you spell your last 17 name for the court reporter? MS. ZIGLIOLI: Sure. Z-I-G-L-I-O-L-I. 18 19 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed. 20 MS. ZIGLIOLI: Thank you. Well, I'm not 21 retired, not yet and I know that behind me there are a lot of retired people and one of them is my mom. 22 She's 77 and she still works because she couldn't 23 afford to keep her house if she didn't, which is okay, 24 she's fine with that, she's a little go-getter, not a 25

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1	problem. I would like to say that for people my age
2	and I'm not telling you how old I am, we are all in
3	the same boat. We have a home that we are trying to
4	keep and trying to pay bills. We have small business
5	or people have small businesses that they are trying
6	to keep. As you all know, business has not been very
7	good pretty much across the board in all kinds of
8	businesses, therefore, we have all been trimming back
9	in anything and everything that we possibly can.
10	First is payroll, number one, the rest is any kind of
11	expense that's controllable in any way, shape or form.
12	You trim back. You look for other companies that
13	maybe could provide a service for you at a better
14	rate. We had concrete that needed to be replaced
15	because it was sunk and it was a liability and it was
16	old. Had four different bids, one of them was 35,
17	other one was 32, another one was 22 and the last one
18	was 16. The liability was there and it needed to be
19	fixed, we chose the \$1600 one. Many other examples
20	like that within the business, I could go on but you
21	don't have that kind of time today. But what I am
22	trying to say is Ameren UE has a beautiful, beautiful
23	financial statement. I wish I was them. Beautiful
24	statement. They are doing a great job. They have a
25	tremendous amount of customers. I can't tell you how
1	

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many customers. As customers we don't have a choice. 1 2 I can't go to three or four different companies and 3 say, oh, which one will give me the best rate like I was able to go and find a contract guy to do the 4 5 concrete. They are only one. I have no place to go, neither do any of the rest of the people that are in 6 7 St. Louis and part of Illinois, not all of Illinois 8 but part of it.

9 Anyway, we have no options. We are to pay what we are told to pay. And pretty much we do that. 10 11 We are responsible people, most of us are responsible 12 and we pay our bills no matter what. We cut back on 13 everything that we need to cut back as much as possible and we pay our bills. We shop for insurance 14 15 rates for cars, for houses, for anything and 16 everything.

17 What I am asking you is to take a look at, as far as Ameren UE, is their executives. They need 18 to take a look at their payroll from up, all the way 19 20 down, from the first person to the last person. Every 21 controllable expense in every category from a pencil 22 to a stapler to a telephone -- I mean, to the pole or to the meter and all of it. That one bill that the 23 one gentlemen spoke of, that's just absurd. That 24 25 bill, I mean, I can't even fathom that bill. It's

	Page 80
1	really unacceptable. It just seems like there is a
2	lack of responsibility and a lack of control and there
3	seems to be just an arrogant greed rather than a
4	responsibility to the consumer and it seems like the
5	group of the board members is just okay, we want
6	profit, we want profit, we want that we want that
7	dividend, dividend, dividend. Well, it's
8	not always possible.
9	I am asking you, the three of you, Mr. Gunn,
10	Mr. Jones and Mr. Stoll, to really analyze the
11	situation. And I am really very optimistic, as I
12	stand here today, that you will not agree to award
13	Ameren UE the 14 percent increase this year or next
14	year or the year after that until our economy changes
15	for all of us. Thank you.
16	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Tom Gates? Daniel
17	McGuire? Patricia Harrison? Raise your right hand,
18	please. Do you solemnly affirm that the testimony you
19	are about to give is the truth?
20	MS. HARRISON: Yes, I do.
21	JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed.
22	MS. HARRISON: My name is Tricia Harrison,
23	I'm the director of the Children's Advocacy Clinic at
24	St. Louis University School of Law. I am also a
25	collaborator and member of St. Louis Children's Health

Page 81 Advocacy Project, which is a collaboration between 1 2 medical professionals and lawyers. Our mission is to 3 provide holistic advocacy on behalf of children, mainly children who are impacted by poverty. I am 4 5 here today to testify about how this rate increase will impact my clients. 6 7 Twenty-one percent of Missouri's children 8 live in poverty. In St. Louis 42 percent of those 9 children in this community live in poverty. Poverty is defined by the federal poverty threshold, that is a 10 family of four earning 23,000 a year or \$1900 a month. 11 12 These are my clients. I am here today to speak about 13 how this rate increase will impact those and possibly push more children into poverty. 14 15 I have clients who are aging out of foster They are trying to learn how to live 16 care. 17 independently in our community. They will no longer receive aid or assistance or support from courts or 18 federal or state agencies. Many of these children 19 have been traumatized and therefore, are now mentally 20 21 disabled. They qualify for disability, social security disability. The average amount of pay for 22 that is \$698 a month. That is a finite fixed amount. 23 Many of you know that \$698 a month is not going to go 24 very far for these children and imagine a 21-year-old 25

	Page 82
1	young man, how hungry he will be and having \$698 a
2	month to support himself will be challenging.
3	I represent children who steal from grocery
4	stores so they can eat. I represent children who
5	don't go to school because their parents cannot pay
6	their bills, therefore they lose their home, have to
7	go into a shelter and there is no transportation to
8	get them back to school. I represent grandparents
9	seeking guardianships over their grandchildren, not
10	seeking any state subsidy to help care for those
11	children. They are doing it because they want to keep
12	their families together and don't want their children
13	to go into foster care. Many of these grandparents
14	are retired and they too, receive social security.
15	Again, a fixed amount of money, not a lot of money to
16	care for a family. I represent teen mothers in order
17	of protection hearings where the father of their
18	children have beat them up, threatened to kill them
19	because they can no longer pay the child support and
20	the financial strain on the relationship has dissolved
21	the relationship. These mothers are now in jeopardy
22	of losing their children because they cannot afford to
23	care for their children without that financial
24	support. I represent children who have significant
25	medical needs such as asthma. However, Ameren has

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1	determined that a child who has asthma does not
2	qualify for the medical exception if a family is in
3	jeopardy of disconnect.
4	Children's Health Advocacy Project has been
5	advised because a child can use a hand-held inhaler,
6	they do not need electricity to have a nebulizer for
7	their treatment. If any of you have children that
8	have asthma, such as myself, you know that when a
9	child is in the red zone on an asthma crisis a
10	hand-held inhaler is going to do nothing. And who is
11	Ameren to say what medical care is appropriate for a
12	child? Medical professionals recommend a nebulizer is
13	needed, especially when you're in the red zone.
14	Moreover, this ignores the need for an air purifier
15	for children whose asthma is impacted by allergies.
16	As a result of not being able to have electricity,
17	these children end up going to the emergency room and
18	now the families have more medical debt and have to
19	choose between medical costs and paying their utility
20	bills.
21	These are the families I represent. These
22	are the children who will be impacted by this rate
23	increase. I'm asking you to consider denying what is
24	being requested by Ameren and rather follow the
25	recommendation of the Office of Public Counsel and do

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1	what is just and reasonable. That is the theme that
2	has been throughout this entire afternoon: Do what is
3	just and reasonable. And while you are deliberating
4	this decision, I ask that you keep these images and
5	stories of the children that I represent in your mind.
6	Thank you.
7	CHAIRMAN GUNN: Thank you very much. I
8	appreciate the testimony very much and I just want to
9	clarify, this is the same we have heard from Legal
10	Services and St. Louis Children's Hospital, this is
11	the same partnership?
12	MS. HARRISON: Correct.
13	CHAIRMAN GUNN: Which has been really
14	amazing and very helpful testimony. I just wanted to
15	we have invited both Legal Services and St. Louis
16	Children's Hospital to participate in the open docket
17	separate from this proceeding which we are looking at
18	low income or ways to deal with low-income issues
19	within the context of rates, so we certainly want to
20	invite you and the clinic to participate fully and
21	then we can get you all that information.
22	The testimony over the last or over the
23	three hearings that we have had has been very
24	powerful and the statistics from both a medical
25	standpoint, as well as from the poverty standpoint,

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Page 85 are very powerful as well. So thank you very much. 1 2 MS. HARRISON: Thank you very much. 3 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your 4 testimony. JUDGE JONES: Dorothy Kelly? Is Dorothy 5 Kelly present? Patricia Harrison? 6 7 MS. HARRISON: Oh, that was me. JUDGE JONES: Ann Ludlow? 8 MS. LUDLOW: Good afternoon. 9 10 JUDGE JONES: Good afternoon. 11 MS. LUDLOW: Do you need my name or are we 12 okay? 13 JUDGE JONES: Well, yes --14 MS. LUDLOW: L-U-D-L-O-W. 15 JUDGE JONES: Thank you and can you raise your right hand? 16 17 MS. LUDLOW: Sure. 18 JUDGE JONES: Do you solemnly affirm that the testimony you are about to give is the truth? 19 20 MS. LUDLOW: I do. 21 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed. MS. LUDLOW: The first thing, I agree with 22 others about Tom Voss getting that kind of salary and 23 24 usually we hear the statement that we need qualified men, I am sure this man is not worth that much. 25 Then

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1	they lower the dividends of the stockholders so he can
2	get his increase? I don't know if this is happening
3	anymore but I think years ago the income of maybe
4	it was Ameren their income was down and we were
5	told to conserve. Their income was down, so we were
6	told to use more energy. I didn't quite understand
7	how that, you know, made sense.
8	You know, then I don't know many people
9	are talking about their power outages. I don't know
10	if Ameren is looking into more underground wiring, I
11	think that would be a big help. That is something
12	they really need to consider. Another thing, I do not
13	watch much TV but I know in the past Ameren was
14	advertising and I think Karen Foss, wasn't that her
15	name, who was a spokesman for Ameren, I could be wrong
16	on that but why does Ameren need to advertise? We
17	have no other place to go to. I mean, if there was
18	competition I could see that but how much do they pay
19	Karen Foss to advertise their company? That's
20	something that didn't make sense to me and then the
21	woman from Chicago did talk about the alternate energy
22	that Chicago or Illinois has. I did read about that
23	and I thought yes, this is what we need to have from
24	instead of just Ameren. Thank you and thank you
25	for your time.

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1	JUDGE JONES: Next is Mary Barton.
2	MS. BARTON: Hello, nice to see you, again.
3	It's been awhile. You don't know me personally but I
4	have been a fan of yours so to speak.
5	JUDGE JONES: Do you solemnly affirm that
6	the testimony you are about to give is the truth?
7	MS. BARTON: Yes, I do.
8	JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed.
9	MS. BARTON: Normally I don't get to one of
10	these meetings. I've always thought it was outrageous
11	that Ameren was able to keep getting raises because
12	people were too busy working to get here. Currently
13	my husband, who was a Peabody engineer, one of the
14	best in my design, has cancer. He has stage four
15	cancer. They didn't expect him to still live. And
16	right now we are trying to figure if we're going to be
17	able to keep the house and pay the electric bill.
18	Since we moved here less than 12 years ago my electric
19	bill went from oh, about \$145 on budget and that
20	525 she was talking about, I remember paying 650 when
21	they decided to even things out and I don't know where
22	the hell it came from.
23	Now, my husband's income is halved on
24	long-term. It's finished in September, okay, it's
25	done. I have got kids in college. Brilliant kids.

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1	The other one is an adult. Where's the money going to
2	come from? These executives believe they are part of
3	the Wall Street, you know, let's get rich off the
4	people again. Somebody has to start holding people
5	accountable. This is ridiculous. I was upset that
6	there was even a hearing, quite frankly, because to me
7	it was a no-brainer. It was a total no-brainer. How
8	could anybody, looking at the figures, say there was a
9	way they should get an increase?
10	Now, I'm from Pennsylvania, you're talking
11	steel and coal, okay. I lived in West Virginia,
12	mining country and those people go up those poles, God
13	bless them all these people don't like to lose
14	their electricity, they're not up on those poles
15	either. So I'm not faulting the pole men, I am not
16	faulting the line men, excuse me, or these other
17	people but I do believe that the company store needs
18	to be stocked. They have a monopoly. They are not
19	monetizing people's income totally.
20	Let's go back to the coal company, okay. I
21	know how much it costs for them to buy coal, I keep up
22	on that. But you know when the last time I went on
23	vacation was? I don't. I buy secondhand clothes most
24	of the time. I taught my kids to do that. My son, a
25	junior, cannot live by himself when he graduates,

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1	students can't do that. They can't afford to. They
2	can't afford the electric bills, et cetera. And all
3	these you get all of your incomes together and they
4	get their rate increases and then there is surcharge
5	after surcharge after surcharge and I'm going why?
6	How is it how in the world I am so upset
7	thinking about it. How in the world can they even
8	justify any of it?
9	Accountability. Accountability. Anybody
10	who can sit there and make money like that, great but

we are not living in a wealthy economy right now and 11 12 all they're doing is making the poor poorer and they are getting richer and laughing all the way to the 13 bank. Maybe they should have a few less flights. 14 Twelve vice presidents. One of the problems the coal 15 companies were having, the power companies were 16 17 having, was they have too many CEOs all of a sudden. Where did the engineers go? They cut back on the 18 engineers. My husband was literally working a job of 19 three and four men, literally. When he moved out of 20 21 AP they replaced him with four people. And every time they cut back on them but somehow there is more CEOs 22 and nobody can figure out, we, as the little people, 23 so to speak, what are they doing? What are they 24 doing? Nothing. They find ways to just waste time 25

Page 90 and money and quite often it just reminds me of all 1 2 the lawyers that live in Washington and all over the 3 place and yes, I have lawyers in my family too and teachers and engineers and people who work with their 4 5 hands. Whatever you have that you can use you're supposed to use it and I am a special ed teacher and I 6 7 have my own set of disabilities and I can't work right 8 now because I am too busy taking care of family and 9 when I get back into the working world it's going to be hard for me to get a job. I am 53 this year. I 10 11 don't have a lot of experience that I can actually 12 use. I don't have retirement because to save money, 13 I'm the one who does all the extra work. I do the work of several people and I'm tired but when it comes 14 15 down to 95 degrees outside, oh, I'm sorry that might be a little too hot to cut off electric but for 16 17 someone who is ill, if it's 95 degrees outside, what do you think it's going to do to their little bodies? 18 They cannot handle it. Their bodies cannot regulate 19 20 They don't have the health to do it. Ninety-five it. 21 is too hot especially when you count how much hotter it is inside. The cold. The same deal. You can't do 22 this. And the asthma, I know people are suffering 23 that way. These are inexcusable. They are killing 24 25 people. They are destroying people's lives and I'm

Page 91 sure they have nice Italian suits to wear and yes, I 1 2 like Italian suits and leather, just as well as 3 anybody else but when they don't give people a choice... 4 5 So I left my husband which I shouldn't have left today. I need to go to a chiropractor very badly 6 7 and I didn't go to the one appointment I have been 8 able to make in over two months and my daughter who 9 has scoliosis, I cancelled her's too because this

happens every year and I am like I can't get to that 10 11 meeting. Most people cannot get to these meetings. 12 We are dependent on you to say we don't even need a 13 hearing on this. The figures don't add up. Everybody else is tightening their belts. There is no need for 14 15 them to get rich off the miners anymore, or the little people. Our country fought, we built unions and 16 17 everything, granted things got out of hand but not here in Missouri, we still got the same system. You 18 have to stop it. The company's store, we owe our 19 20 souls to the company store. It's the same old story 21 and too many people lose their houses because it is 22 either utilities or the house payment. It's not a 23 joke. It's not an exaggeration. I don't buy expensive shoes. I don't buy expensive clothes. 24 Ι 25 don't have the time or money. I have helped kids who

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1	had no place to live. Young people and that is
2	where my little extra money went before but there's no
3	extra money any more but I will still give whatever I
4	can. What are they giving? They are just taking. So
5	I need to get back to my husband and hope he has
6	finally had something to drink today because I can't
7	get him to drink anything when I am not there and
8	there is nobody else there to take care of him and you
9	multiply this by all these people that have nobody and
10	they can't afford to have anybody in the house.
11	And oh, as far as the power outages. I
12	started laughing because, yeah, we don't have long
13	ones too often anymore but if I put them on my
14	calendar, yeah, often there is little blinkings and
15	the problem with that is they fry the control panels
16	on everything and that's expensive. And, you know,
17	you want to get down to brass tax, everything has
18	digital control panels. It is costly, it's very
19	costly. And all the food that we have thrown away.
20	You are our guardians. We need you. Plain and
21	simple, we need you. No more company store. It's not
22	right. We shouldn't have to sell our souls and lose
23	everything like the miners used to. Please do your
24	job, there is too many of us depending on you.
25	And since I moved into Missouri I could not

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1	believe the good ol' boy and the politics. I live in
2	Jefferson County and the people who have relatives and
3	know Jefferson County tell me it's better now. We
4	have a very corrupt government in Jefferson County,
5	very corrupt and it's not the judge I spoke with
6	definitely told me that that's Missouri or that's
7	Illinois, that's federal law. This is Jefferson
8	County, I make the law. And what my concern is, are
9	we letting Ameren do the same kind of tyranny or are
10	we going to have people stand up? As soon as I can
11	know that my husband is safe enough and it's not I
12	am going to fight for what has happened to me in
13	Jefferson County but right now I'm going to make sure
14	I can keep the air conditioner on and the heat on and
15	when people are ill they can't handle that and
16	Missouri is worse for air quality than many states and
17	many places and it has gotten worse because of the
18	environmental changes.
19	People need air conditioning to breathe.
20	You need air conditioning to breathe and you're still
21	taking all your medicines and over-the-counter ones
22	and everybody has lost all this insurance and all this
23	that and the other. We are not a prosperous country
24	like we were. We can be but not if companies like
25	Ameren are not held accountable. I also would like to

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1	have my stocks go up but I don't think that I should
2	get rich off the back of somebody else I am making
3	poor. If I want to get something I think I should
4	earn it. Are they earning their money? Who sets the
5	rates? Who sets their pay? Who sets their bonuses,
6	what's it based on? They do. Of course they do a
7	good job and they want to do something so they want
8	more and it's nice to live prosperous and it's fine
9	but is it right? If I had the ability I would put up
10	a windmill and quite honestly, I was thinking, you
11	know, how they have the manure and everything going
12	on, we should be doing more of that and doggy manure
13	and everything else. The trash heaps. Forced
14	recycling, whatever, there are other ways to get
15	electric. We don't have to make the everyday worker
16	not be able to make a living either but these
17	exorbitant, exorbitant bonuses, it's crazy. It's not
18	right and neither is taking away people's ability to
19	breathe. When you're so hot you can't do anything
20	except vegetate and you have to work and the little
21	businesses have been beat and beat and beat down to
22	the ground. You can't say oh, it's a business let's
23	charge them more, they don't have it either. I am not
24	saying that we don't want people to make a good living
25	if they do their work, I'm saying how do you justify a

Page 95 raise every year practically like that? 1 2 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. 3 CHAIRMAN GUNN: Thank you for your 4 testimony. 5 JUDGE JONES: Norris Roessler? Raise your right hand, please. Do you solemnly affirm that the 6 7 testimony you are about to give is the truth? 8 MR. ROESSLER: Absolutely. 9 JUDGE JONES: Thank you, sir. And can you spell your last name for the court reporter? 10 MR. ROESSLER: R-O-E-S-S-L-E-R. 11 12 JUDGE JONES: And thank you. You may 13 proceed. MR. ROESSLER: I apologize, for not -- I 14 didn't know we were going to have this opportunity and 15 I just wrote things as I thought of them. I could 16 17 have done it in a better manner. And I am glad to see we have this young girl taking notes so it's official. 18 19 I am a retired engineer from Boeing and when 20 we made a proposal to the government for doing a 21 missile or whatever, we had a technical proposal, which was always engineering and a cost proposal and I 22 had to do the estimates of costs for both engineering 23 and cost. And you may think this is odd, but for 24 government we had to go down to things like a shipping 25

	Page 96
1	container, give the cost of it, okay. Now, we
2	engineers, we try to do a good job from previous
3	programs, similar programs, et cetera but management
4	put a percentage on top of that when we provided to
5	the customer, 10, 15 percent. Now, there is no doubt
6	in my mind that UE has done the same thing. No doubt
7	in my mind. It's typical.
8	I can't believe that Ameren has asked for an
9	8 to 9 percent profit. And that you said you would go
10	for a lower percent, 8 percent. That is
11	unconscionable and unreasonable. I can't believe that
12	UE has a conscious, in these economic times, to do
13	that. So a lot of these people on social security,
14	how can they afford it? They haven't gotten any
15	increases. You have heard some sad stories. I would
16	hate to be one of you guys going to bed tonight and
17	thinking of these stories. You've got a tough
18	decision but I say it's a slam dunk. There is no
19	consideration about 8, 9 percent, what they are asking
20	for, et cetera. The stories you heard today, that's
21	what you have to think about. And you cannot raise a
22	rate for people that are, I don't know, 60,000 above,
23	and not those 20,000 below, you can't do that. You
24	have no means. So it's got to be across the board.
25	And in the presentation and discussion I

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1	refuse to be talked down to, okay. And I am sure
2	these people in this room refuse to be talked down
3	also. My generation, I'm 74, is most probably the
4	most highly educated generation since our first
5	period, first time. Our parents and grandparents were
6	not educated like us. They didn't have the chances we
7	had. And if you have a meeting like this with our
8	parents or grandparents well, first of all, you
9	couldn't. They would just accept what you are saying.
10	They didn't have the ability to analyze what they are
11	asking for and what's reasonable. We do. And believe
12	me, the generation that follows me, my boys, they're
13	all engineers and their kids, all the generations
14	after me will be more and more educated and they will
15	do analysis for whatever Ameren asks for or anybody
16	else asks for. They are not going to fall over and
17	play dead. They are not going to do it. I hope they
18	have the capability of changing it but it's not going
19	to happen. Like I said, I cannot believe you said we
20	will go for the lower percent profit, 8 percent. It
21	should be 3, 4, 5 percent. I'm retired. These people
22	aren't getting those kind of raises. Social Security
23	isn't getting those type of raises. Why do you see
24	senior citizens working in McDonalds, Burger King, et
25	cetera? Because they can't live on the money that

Page 98 comes in. Now, that's sad. They hope to retire 1 2 pretty comfortably but they can't. A lot of people 3 cannot. And the economics -- or the economy now is 4 just horrendous. Everything is going up: gasoline, 5 food, clothing, everything. Yet Ameren -- especially, 6 7 you know, cars, insurance, houses, automobile 8 insurance. Now, there are some things you must have, 9 a house for you and your family. You have to have food. I imagine a lot of people instead of eating 10 hamburgers they're now eating steak -- I mean, not 11 12 steak -- hot dogs or something. 13 I can remember the Great Depression. Now is the Great Recession, bull. I can remember my mom and 14 15 dad having a very tough time. My dad was an 16 upholster. No people during the Depression, except 17 very, very rich people, had furniture upholstered -reupholstered. They had it tough and I can remember 18 that. Fortunately, it's not getting that tough now 19 20 but it is tough for a family to live. 21 The 12 VPs, that is -- I cannot believe that. I appreciate the lady that said the United 22 States of America has one VP and Ameren UE has 12. 23 It's kind of funny that 20, 25 years ago we had a 24 layoff, we were then McDonnell, not Boeing, and again, 25

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1	they laid off engineers. They didn't lay off any
2	management. This one fellow of mine, he was worried
3	about being laid off, he said the same thing. He had
4	a sign on his desk, the main aisle, how come the
5	United States has one VP and I think we had 20 or 25
6	at that time. What can they do? I mean, it's
7	ridiculous. And I would love to see their
8	organizational chart. You know, if President Obama
9	can put pressure on the banks to cut out some
10	management or something, why can't you at least
11	recommend it? I mean it's ridiculous.
12	Yeah, I feel that since you guys recommended
13	the lower end of 8 percent, I think you just rolled
14	over and played dead. There should have been you
15	know, do you have a best and final offer? We do that
16	in engineering.
17	CHAIRMAN GUNN: Let me stop you just for a
18	second, just to clarify. Our staff is recommending
19	that. We haven't made any decisions. They act as an
20	independent party in this case and we can decide to
21	take that recommendation or not. So we haven't made
22	any decision and I hate to interrupt you and I hate to
23	do that but I just didn't want you to get upset about
24	something that hasn't happened yet. Our staff acts
25	just like any other party in the case. Just like the

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utilities and the Office of Public Counsel and they do
independent recommendations and we are free to discard
those or not. Thank you.

MR. ROESSLER: Okay. Well, I hope you will 4 5 think of 3, 4 -- 3, 4 percent, top 4 percent. I know a lot of engineers still at Boeing now. They haven't 6 7 had any increases for two or three years and they are 8 working them hard, more hours. We don't get paid for 9 overtime because they have laid off some engineers but they know the engineers will work their butts off and 10 11 still do the job with less people.

12 Oh, another thing. I think it was a fireman back here, I think he said it was a \$20,000 fee for 13 something or whatever and he called UE and they 14 15 couldn't break it down. Now, that's not very honest. Like I said, we broke down things to a shipping crate 16 17 for the government and they would critique those. The cost government guys would come in and they say why do 18 you have this amount for that and we would have to 19 20 substantiate that. Now, I think they should also. 21 You know, it's easy to pick up, yeah, we want this amount, we want this percent of profit, et cetera, et 22 cetera. And then also it was -- somebody asked where 23 does the money come from for the president, vice 24 president? Where does it come from? It comes from 25

Page 101 profits. Who pays for the profits? The users. We're 1 2 paying for it. I don't care what you call the money, 3 money is green everywhere. And one other thing, maybe I didn't read it 4 5 in the paper recently, what happened to the 6 incremental increase? I don't expect you to answer, 7 but you know instead of the 15 percent that would be 8 2 percent, whatever the numbers are, over three years, 9 five years or so. What happened to that? 10 I think you also ought to look at co-ops. 11 They are run fantastically. We used to have a clubhouse down by Potosi, we had a co-op. I mean, 12 13 they have to run lines through forests. I mean, there is a lot of upkeep there and you know, if the line 14 15 went down due to a storm or something they were out there within a few hours. I'm talking about deep in 16 17 the forest. The rates were reasonable, very responsible, responsive to the customers, et cetera. 18 19 And again, I ask the question: Why does Ameren UE need 12 vice presidents? That is 20 21 ridiculous. Again, stuff I didn't mention about cost 22 efficiency. I wonder if Ameren UE even has a 23 24 department or whatever to look at it. I mean, I have heard of some other companies recently that have 25

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1	really done some good stuff in cutting costs and are
2	they just doing things as they did before, I don't
3	know. Hopefully they saved some money but I bet there
4	is a lot more out there that they could save.
5	Oh, you know, the economy is terrible.
6	People have to pay for their gasoline, housing, food,
7	et cetera. Now, there are somethings you have to have
8	for your family: food and housing and you have to
9	drive somewhere to work so they can't much cut cost on
10	those other than, like I said, eating hot dogs instead
11	of hamburgers or whatever, hopefully it's not that
12	bad. And I think the one lady said her dad, I think
13	had the electricity cut off and I thought I heard that
14	it cost \$280 to restore it. Ridiculous. What is it,
15	flip a switch at UE or come out on a pole and connect
16	the wire or whatever or the meter. It's ridiculous.
17	And the comment about coal is cheaper being
18	transported by train instead of barge, I don't believe
19	that. I do not believe that. It was said something
20	about clean coal and all that jazz, I don't believe
21	it. Maybe not the Mississippi now since it's so low
22	but I don't believe it.
23	I don't know if I mentioned this, in the
24	presentation there were a lot of motherhood-type words
25	which are made in all businesses but their motherhood

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1	and they don't mean anything. Reasonable return.
2	Reasonable. What is that, 4 percent, 9 percent?
3	Reasonable. We couldn't use those type of words when
4	we made a proposal to the government. It had to be
5	black and white.
6	Public service. Like that was a big deal,
7	sure you are going to provide public service. Safety,
8	of course you are. Why even mention it, other than
9	well, it sounds good and all that. Every business
10	provides that. That's no big thing.
11	According to about cost projected cost
12	is not reasonable at all. Because, again, I had to do
13	that in engineering and it is tough to do. It is
14	tough to do. You know because you don't know about
15	labor costs, you have to assume something for that,
16	management puts on a 10, 15 percent, et cetera. It's
17	really tough to do but yet the government will come in
18	and sit you down and for this engineering task or this
19	piece of equipment, show me that price, why is it
20	that? And they couldn't provide a cost breakdown. I
21	think it was for this fireman, the \$20,000 and that's
22	\$20,000. That's ridiculous. People shouldn't accept
23	that, of course, they have no choice. You're the only
24	game in town. You have got to be very, very
25	responsible of what you do and not take advantage of

	Page 104
1	that. Competition does a lot. When we bid on
2	proposals, Lockheed Martin was our big company that we
3	had to compete with. They were tough. They would
4	always bid low and get happy later on with add-ons, et
5	cetera. So, you know, that happened all the time. So
6	we would have to bid low and hopefully be able to do
7	it to compete with them or maybe we had some
8	advantages with our engineering or something but
9	that's the way it's run with the government.
10	I, for sure, would like to know what
11	happened to the you ought to tell the people what
12	happened to the incremental increase rather than the
13	full increase right away.
14	You know, other things have happened too. I
15	know for a fact because I collect money. Donations to
16	church have really gone down. Why is that? Because
17	people are laid off. Their bills are going up, et
18	cetera. And the government, you know, they say
19	unemployment is 8.1 percent. How far from the truth.
20	Unemployment, when you consider people that are under
21	unemployed, flipping hamburgers, et cetera and quit
22	looking for a job off of employment, it's between 14
23	and 15 percent. So people at, you know, like UE, they
24	have to think of these things. I mean, do they even
25	consider the economy and how bad it is and how people

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1	are losing jobs, et cetera, when they came up with
2	that money. I mean, sure, it cost them so much but,
3	you know, people don't believe it should cost that
4	much and some people say the increase was
5	substantially over the last few years or whatever, I
6	mean, a lot of companies are being greedy at the
7	expense of the people that pay the bills.
8	You know, again, these are reasons hopefully
9	that they will cut costs. Tuition at private schools
10	has gone up substantially. As an engineer there's
11	not many US kids going into any engineering schools
12	right now. It's tough but the parents can't afford
13	it. But what's happening and this was mentioned on
14	KMOX, we have a lot of students coming from India,
15	China, et cetera. They are super smart people, young
16	men. Yes, we have some very smart people too but not
17	as many as they have. They come here to go to the
18	college and the colleges love them because their
19	parents are rich and they pay a full boatload for the
20	tuition. A lot of our kids go for grants, et cetera.
21	And then we take another hit, either they go back to
22	their country so we're losing their technology and
23	helping their own country or they stay here and
24	possibly take another job that one of our kids could
25	have taken. Those things are happening, believe me.

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1	Oh, and some of the comments, some of these
2	stories are just terrible but what happens to senior
3	citizens if they don't have any kids to look over
4	them? You know, we look over my mother-in-law but
5	she's doing very well at 88 but, you know, as far as
6	financial situations, et cetera but you got to keep
7	if they are living in their home by themselves you
8	have got to keep track of things like gas bills,
9	electric bills, water bills. You know, some of them
10	don't have that capability anymore.
11	I guess in closing, I have other stuff here
12	but in closing, like I said, I would hate to be you
13	guys going to bed tonight because you got a tough
14	decision but again, I think it's a slam dunk. You
15	can't accept that increase they're asking for and you
16	can't accept that profit. You just cannot. Thank
17	you.
18	CHAIRMAN GUNN: Thank you, sir.
19	JUDGE JONES: At this time I want to ask are
20	there any objections to Exhibit 2 submitted by Ryan?
21	MS. TATRO: Was that the email?
22	JUDGE JONES: Yes.
23	MS. TATRO: No objection.
24	MR. MILLS: No objection.
25	MS. SLACK: No objection.

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1	JUDGE JONES: Exhibit 2, Ryan, is admitted
2	into the record. Is there anyone else who would like
3	to testify? Gentlemen in the back, his hand was up
4	first. Raise your right hand, sir. Do you solemnly
5	affirm the testimony you are about to give is the
6	truth?
7	MR. BLAND: Yes.
8	JUDGE JONES: Thank you and can you state
9	and spell your name for the court reporter?
10	MR. BLAND: My name is Steve Bland,
11	B-L-A-N-D.
12	JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed.
13	MR. BLAND: On December 2011 Ameren
14	increased their stock dividend. On February 12 or
15	February of 2012 they filed for a rate increase.
16	Their balance sheet for 2011 shows an increase in the
17	cash surplus and the company stock is at a 52-week
18	high as of right now, it has been for several weeks.
19	This would indicate a prosperous and profitable
20	company. I don't think they need a rate increase
21	instead they need to reduce their stock dividend, sell
22	more stocks, maybe cut employee bonuses and institute
23	a cost-saving and belt-tightening program, generate
24	the money internally versus continually asking for
25	rate increases. Thank you.

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1	JUDGE JONES: Thank you. And you, ma'am?
2	Do you solemnly affirm that the testimony you are
3	about to give is the truth?
4	MS. TOLENTINO: Yes.
5	JUDGE JONES: Thank you and can you please
6	state and spell your name for the court reporter?
7	MS. TOLENTINO: My name is Donna Tolentino.
8	And it's spelled T-O-L-E-N-T-I-N-O. I have never done
9	anything like this before I don't know anything about
10	the statistics, the ups and downs, the rates and
11	anything but I am here as a common person. I'm not
12	retired, I work. I won't be able to retire for
13	another at least 10 years. I don't make it barely
14	now. How am I going to make it in 10 years? I don't
15	have the fancy things. I don't have iPhones. I don't
16	have cable. I get Channel 2, 4 and 11, when I can get
17	it, when the static doesn't come in and say weak or
18	low signal. I don't know how I am going to do it.
19	It's very scary. I don't have people that I can
20	depend on. I'm scared. I'm scared. I said and what
21	do other people do that do have the children, that
22	have kids that are on disability and that? I just
23	don't know. There is no way the common person I
24	just got capped. I have been at work, where I work,
25	for 25 years. I was told last week I will not make no
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1	more money because I am at my max. Well, my max is
2	probably poverty. So I don't know how I am going to
3	make it and I hope you guys take that into
4	consideration. Thank you.
5	JUDGE JONES: Thank you. Is there anyone
6	else who would like to testify? Okay. With that,
7	then we will close the record and you all have a good
8	afternoon.
9	(Exhibits 1 and 2 were marked for
10	identification by the court reporter.)
11	
12	(Public Hearing concluded at 3:53 p.m.)
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2	EXHIBIT	DESCRIPTION	MARKED	REC'D
3	Raisch 1	Document from Ms.	17	109
4		JoAnn Raisch		
5	Ryan 2	Document from Mr.	106	109
6		Edmond Ryan		
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1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
2	
3	I, Suzanne M. Zes, Certified Court Reporter,
4	within and for the State of Missouri, do hereby
5	certify that the witness whose testimony appears in
6	the foregoing deposition was duly sworn by me; the
7	testimony of said witness was taken by me to the best
8	of my ability and thereafter reduced to typewriting
9	under my direction; that I am neither counsel for,
10	related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the
11	action in which this deposition was taken, and further
12	that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney
13	or counsel employed by the parties thereto, nor
14	financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of
15	the action.
16	
17	
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