

Cheryl Nelson  
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January 3, 2007

The Honorable:

Jeff Davis  
Chairman  
Judge

Linward Appling  
Commissioner

Steven Gaw  
Commissioner

Cherlyn D. Voss  
Regulatory Law

Public Service Commission of the State of Missouri  
Governor Office Building, Suite 900  
200 Madison Street, PO Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

Dear Commissioners:

Thank you all for conducting the Missouri Public Service Commission Public Hearing regarding the Ameren UE Rate Increase (Ameren UE Electric Case ER-2007-0002) at the Wohl Community Center on Tuesday, January 2, 2007, 5:30pm.

I preface my recorded e-mailed comments by stating that I am the 5th Ward Committeewoman in the City of Saint Louis and the Human Development Corporation Low Income Representative who finds it quite troublesome and unsubstantiated for Ameren UE to request an electric rate increase as there has been insufficient and inequitable customer service and satisfaction provided to the citizens of the City of

Saint Louis, as well as, Saint Louis County. The storms of July 19 and November 30, 2006 caused crippling and devastating losses ~ loss of food spoilage, severe discomfort for our elderly and medically dependent population, and most impacting - the loss of friends and loved ones. As food spoilage and weather discomfort can be reconciled, *human expiration from loss of electricity is irreconcilable.*

As Ameren UE has so boldly approached, filed, and petitioned the Missouri Public Service Commission for a rate increase, on behalf of my constituents, I ask each of you, as public servants to **deny Ameren UE's request for an electric rate increase.** As stated in the Information sheet on Ameren's Request for Electric Rate Increase, *"In proceedings before the Missouri Public Commission, rates are set to give the utility company an opportunity - **but not a guarantee** - to earn a reasonable return on its investment after recovering its prudently incurred expenses,"* making profit provision through *"a reasonable return"* vehemently delves into the pockets of the elderly, low income, minimum wage earners, retired fixed income population, and the poorest of our communities.

On behalf of my constituents, know that we stand in opposition of a rate increase for Ameren UE. **We do ask that the Missouri Public Service Commission consider the following;**

- 1. Deny Ameren UE's request for Electric Rate Increase,**
- 2. Penalize Ameren UE with a rate reduction for ratepayers,**
- 3. Propose an agreement not to entertain an Ameren UE electric rate increase until 2012.**

Thank you for your time and considerations.

## Cheryl Nelson

5th Ward Committeewoman

City of Saint Louis

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