

Commissioners

KEVIN GUNN Chairman TERRY M. JARRETT ROBERT S. KENNEY STEPHEN M. STOLL

Missouri Public Service Commission

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January 17, 2012

WESS A. HENDERSON **Director of Administration** and Regulatory Policy

STEVEN C. REED Secretary/General Counsel

CHERLYN D. VOSS **Director of Regulatory Review** 

Thomas M. Byrne Ameren Missouri P.O. Box 66149 (MC 1310) St. Louis, MO, 63166-6149

Dear Mr. Byrne:

As you are aware, the timing of your most recent notice of intended rate case filing was only a few days prior to several major filings by Kansas City Power and Light and its related entity, Kansas City Power & Light-Greater Missouri Operations. While I understand that there can be a number of valid reasons guiding a utility when it files notice of a major case, I have some concern over the possibility that rate cases have been timed to overwhelm the resources of the Commission staff, the Office of Public Counsel and any other intervener. This would be especially troublesome if there was evidence of communication between the utilities, or internal utility communications, to file cases closely together. Under RSMo 393.140 (5), I have the authority to inquire and investigate these possibilities.

However, before opening a formal inquiry, I want to give you the opportunity to respond to and take any actions you feel appropriate to alleviate my concerns. In your response to this letter, please specifically address the issue of communication between Ameren Missouri and any other investor-owned utility as well as any internal communications regarding the timing of your rate case filing. Your responses should be forwarded to the Commission General Counsel Steve Reed and should be received by close of business on January 27, 2012. Once any responses have been filed, I will determine what actions, if any, will be required.

Please be assured that I take this matter very seriously and your responses will be reviewed closely. Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter.

Sincerely, Kevin D. Gunn

Chairman

cc: Lewis Mills, Public Counsel