## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Union Electric Company, d/b/a AmerenUE's Tariffs to Increase Its Annual Revenues for Electric Service

) Case No. ER-2010-0036

### NOTICE REGARDING EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION

Issue Date: July 30, 2009

On July 30, 2009, we received the attached email and letter from State Representative Jamilah Nasheed, et al.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert M. Clayton III Chairman

in Gunn

Commissioner

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 30<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2009.

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#### Neuner, Joyce

From: Jamilah Nasheed [Jamilah.Nasheed@house.mo.gov]

Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2009 12:22 PM

To: Clayton, Robert; Davis, Jeff; Gunn, Kevin; terry.jannett@psc.mo.gov

Subject: Letter of Opposition to Ameren Utility Rate Increase Request

Attachments: opposeAmerenRateIncrease.doc

I have attached a letter of opposition to Ameren's recent utility rate increase request. Please do not hesitate to contact myself or any of the elected officials listed if you have any questions.

Jamilah Nasheed State Representative District 60

CAPITOL OFFICE State Capitol 201 West Capitol Avenue Jefferson City, MO 65101-6806 Tele: (573) 751-4415 Fax: (573) 522-9180 E-Mail: Jamilah.Nasheed @ house.mo.gov

> DISTRICT ADDRESS 4710 Lee Street St. Louis, MO 63115 Tele: (314)-385-6293

> > July 30, 2009

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

Dear Missouri Public Service Commissioners,

We write in opposition to the request submitted by AmerenUE to raise utility rates by \$402 million. We know that you will perform due diligence in reviewing this request and investigating what we believe to be an inappropriate proposal given the current economic climate. As you look closer at AmerenUE's proposed increase, we hope you will consider their 1.2 million customers in Missouri who are struggling to make ends meet in the midst of an economic crisis.

While AmerenUE has tried to soften the blow by stating the increase will mean only an additional 50 cents per day for customers, the truth is that this rate hike comes at a time when Missourians simply cannot afford it. While everyone else in this state is tightening their belts and cutting back on expenses in order to survive, AmerenUE has the audacity to ask to increase their rates by the enormous figure of 18 percent. When you couple this request with the rate increase they received just months ago and the one they received in 2007, it's a clear cut example of a company that is not operating with the concerns of its customers in mind but is instead adding to the economic hardships experienced by the hardworking families of this state. We cannot in good conscience allow AmerenUE to add to the financial hardships already being experienced by so many Missourians.

We ask you to take all of these factors into consideration as you probe deeper to determine the validity of AmerenUE's request. We are certain you will find this proposed increase is completely out of line given the state of our economy. AmerenUE should be working to tighten its own belt, just as its customers have, in order to survive these trying times. Until our economy bounces back and stabilizes, there is no way to support an increase that will further stretch the budgets of Missouri families. We urge you to reject this request and do what is right for the many hardworking men and women who make up AmerenUE's customer base.

Sincerely,

State Representative Jamilah Nasheed, District 60 State Representative Chris Carter, District 61 State Representative Talibden El-Amin, District 57 State Representative Belinda Harris, District 110 State Representative Michele Kratky, District 65 State Representative Mike McGhee, District 122 State Representative Margo McNeil, District 78



Member: Appropriations-Public Safety and Corrections Crime Prevention and Public Safety Special Committee on Financial Institution

Special Committee on Urban Issues

#### **COMMITTEES**

# MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JAMILAH NASHEED

State Representative District 60

