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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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In the Matter of the Application and)
Request for Expedited Treatment of)
Union Electric Company for Approval)
of Decommissioning Cost Estimate and) **CASE NO. EO-97-86**
Funding Level of Nuclear)
Decommissioning Trust Fund, and)
Contingent Request for Waiver of)
Quarterly Funding Requirement.)

ORDER GRANTING AN EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE TESTIMONY
IN SUPPORT OF STIPULATION

Union Electric Company (UE) filed an application for approval of the funding level of nuclear decommissioning costs for its Callaway Plant with the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) on September 3, 1996. On April 22, 1997, the parties filed a Unanimous Stipulation And Agreement (Stipulation). In an order issued on September 24 the Commission directed the Staff of the Commission (Staff) to file its suggestions in support of the Stipulation no later than October 24, or, in the alternative, an explanation of why it is unable to comply with the Commission's directive. Staff filed a response to the Commission's order on October 24, stating that David Broadwater of the Staff was in the process of drafting testimony in support of the Stipulation, and that the testimony would be filed on or before October 31. Staff also indicated that the testimony would provide a short narrative detailing the Missouri specific history of the nuclear decommissioning issue as it relates to the Callaway Nuclear Plant.

By letter dated October 31, Staff stated that it would not be able to file the testimony by that day as previously indicated. Staff requested that it be permitted to file the testimony on or before November 6 instead.

Staff explains that it has been endeavoring to complete the testimony and provide copies of the final draft to UE and the Office of the Public Counsel (OPC) for review, but that other Commission business has prevented the completion of the testimony. Staff further indicates that it has communicated with counsel for UE and OPC, and that they have expressed no objection to the request.

The Commission has considered Staff's request, and finds the request to be reasonable. The Commission notes that no one has objected to the request for additional time. The Commission finds that Staff should be granted until November 6 to file testimony in support of the stipulation.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the Staff of the Commission is granted until November 6, 1997, to file testimony in support of the Unanimous Stipulation And Agreement.
2. That this order shall become effective on November 6, 1997.

BY THE COMMISSION



Cecil I. Wright
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

Elaine E. Bensavage, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant to
4 CSR 240-2.120(1) (November 30, 1995)
and Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 6th day of November, 1997.