

1 STATE OF MISSOURI
2 PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
3
4 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
5 Public Hearing
6 January 11, 2007
7 Jefferson City and Excelsior Springs, Missouri
8 Volume 10
9
9 In the Matter of Union Electric)
Company d/b/a AmerenUE for)
10 Authority to File Tariffs)
Increasing Rates for Electric) Case No. ER-2007-0002
11 Service Provided to Customers in)
the Company's Missouri Service)
12 Area)
13
13 In the Matter of Union Electric)
Company d/b/a AmerenUE for)
14 Authority to File Tariffs)
Increasing Rates for Natural Gas) Case No. GR-2007-0003
15 Service Provided to Customers in)
The Company's Missouri Service)
16 Area)
17
17 HAROLD STEARLEY, Presiding,
REGULATORY LAW JUDGE
18
18 JEFF DAVIS, Chairman,
19 CONNIE MURRAY,
STEVE GAW,
20 LINWARD "LIN" APPLING,
COMMISSIONERS.
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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 JUDGE STEARLEY: All right. Well, good
3 evening. It's Thursday, January 11, 2007, and the
4 Missouri Public Service Commission has set this time for a
5 local hearing in Case Nos. ER-2007-0002 and GR-2007-0003
6 in which AmerenUE seeks to implement a rate increase for
7 its electric and gas services.

8 I am Harold Stearley. I'll be the
9 Regulatory Law Judge presiding over this hearing tonight.
10 With me tonight are Commissioner Gaw and Commissioner
11 Murray. And I want to advise you-all that this is an
12 official hearing, that the statements, the testimony that
13 any of you witnesses are going to give tonight will be
14 taken under oath and will be recorded by our court
15 reporter. All the Commissioners will have the opportunity
16 to examine the records from this hearing tonight.

17 Since we are doing two different locations,
18 what I plan on doing is we'll call witnesses one by one in
19 the order in which you've signed up on our witness lists.
20 We'll be taking a witness from each location
21 alternatively. So we'll be taking a witness from
22 Jefferson City to start with, followed by one from
23 Excelsior Springs, and we'll go back and forth to the
24 different locations until all of the witnesses have had an
25 opportunity to give their testimony.

1 Are there any questions about the way we're
2 going to proceed tonight?

3 (No response.)

4 JUDGE STEARLEY: Okay. Well, hearing none,
5 we will begin with our public hearing on the cases in the
6 matter of the Union Electric Company doing business as
7 AmerenUE for authority to file tariffs increasing rates
8 for electric service provided to customers in the
9 company's Missouri service area. It's Case No.
10 ER-2007-0002. And in the matter of Union Electric Company
11 doing business as AmerenUE for authority to file tariffs
12 increasing rates for natural gas service provided to
13 customers in the company's Missouri service area.
14 It's Case No. GR-2007-0003.

15 We'll begin by taking entries of appearance
16 from counsel. We have a large number of parties in this
17 case, and I don't believe they're all represented. So
18 rather than me going down the list, I'm just going to ask
19 counsel who are present to identify themselves and enter
20 their -- make their entry of appearance. We can begin
21 with you, Mr. Mills.

22 MR. MILLS: Thank you. On behalf of the
23 Office of the Public Counsel and the public, my name is
24 Lewis Mills. My address is Post Office Box 2230,
25 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

1 MS. SHEMWELL: Good evening, Judge, and
2 thank you. Lera Shemwell. I represent the Staff of the
3 Missouri Public Service Commission. I am the lead
4 attorney on the natural gas case. Address is Post Office
5 Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102. Thank you.

6 MR. BYRNE: Your Honor, I'm Tom Byrne,
7 representing AmerenUE in this case. My address is
8 1901 Chouteau Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63103.

9 JUDGE STEARLEY: All right. Are there any
10 other counsel present in Jefferson City?

11 (No response.)

12 JUDGE STEARLEY: Do we have any counsel
13 present at our Excelsior Springs location?

14 MR. WOOD: No, we do not, Judge.

15 JUDGE STEARLEY: All right. Thank you very
16 much. Let the record reflect the entry of appearance of
17 Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, the
18 Office of the Public Counsel and of AmerenUE. All other
19 attorneys for the other parties in this case did not
20 appear at our local public hearing.

21 We'll begin by asking the Commissioners if
22 they would like to make any opening remarks. Commissioner
23 Gaw? Commissioner Murray?

24 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: I don't really have
25 any opening remarks. We're here to hear what you have to

1 say this evening, and I really appreciate you being here.

2 COMMISSIONER GAW: We'd just like to
3 welcome everyone who's here this evening, and we look
4 forward to hearing from you. Thanks.

5 JUDGE STEARLEY: And I would like to extend
6 our thanks to our host in Excelsior Springs. If it
7 weren't for our ability to video conference with some of
8 our outlying locations, we wouldn't have the opportunity
9 to reach so many members of the public in our cases, so
10 our thanks to them.

11 Okay. We will begin with our first witness
12 here in Jefferson City, and I will call Sid Doerhoff to
13 our witness stand. Mr. Doerhoff, I will swear you in.

14 (Witness sworn.)

15 SID DOERHOFF testified as follows:

16 JUDGE STEARLEY: All right. Would you
17 please state and spell your name for our court reporter.

18 MR. DOERHOFF: Sid Doerhoff. Last name is
19 D-o-e-r-h-o-f-f.

20 JUDGE STEARLEY: And will you state your
21 address for the record, please?

22 MR. DOERHOFF: My personal address is Post
23 Office Box 82, St. Elizabeth, Missouri. I represent the
24 St. Elizabeth R-IV School District. Their address is
25 240 Church Street, St. Elizabeth, Missouri.

1 JUDGE STEARLEY: All right. And are you a
2 customer of AmerenUE for electric or gas service?

3 MR. DOERHOFF: The school district is a
4 customer of AmerenUE, and I'm the superintendent of the
5 district.

6 JUDGE STEARLEY: Very well. You may
7 proceed.

8 MR. DOERHOFF: I've prepared a few
9 statements here, and then I would entertain any questions
10 after I make those statements. As I said, I'm the
11 superintendent of the St. Elizabeth R-IV School District.
12 Our community of -- the community of St. Elizabeth
13 receives electrical service from both AmerenUE and Three
14 Rivers Electric Cooperative. The school and most of the
15 local businesses are on AmerenUE for electrical service.

16 My primary concern is for the quality
17 electrical service and the current lack thereof.
18 According to AmerenUE engineer David Hagan, the
19 St. Elizabeth area experienced six power outages over an
20 eight-month span in 2006. I would submit this is not
21 nearly the extent of our electrical power loss problems in
22 St. Elizabeth. We have had numerous outages that were
23 just brief enough to shut down computer systems and then
24 the power would come back on. These alone are very
25 frustrating and costly in time and money.

1 I would compare this number of outages to
2 those at my personal residence which is less than a mile
3 away but is served by an electric cooperative to a total
4 of two outages since April 2004, for a total time without
5 service of five hours and ten minutes. There is an
6 obvious difference in the service provided in the same
7 immediate area.

8 After the extensive power outages Ameren
9 experienced at the end of August 2006, when power was
10 finally restored, a surge of electricity destroyed \$11,927
11 worth of computers and related technological equipment at
12 the school. After having an AmerenUE engineer
13 investigate, his response was that this was due to
14 lightning.

15 At least five other businesses or private
16 homes in the city of St. Elizabeth experienced similar
17 types of equipment damage at the same time, so I
18 questioned their engineer on the probability that
19 lightning could strike in six separate buildings within
20 less than a mile. He said it could.

21 He later sent me a detailed printout of the
22 location of each lightning strike on that evening in
23 question for the St. Elizabeth area, and although there
24 was considerable lightning in the area, his own
25 information verified that there were none within the city

1 of St. Elizabeth, and the school is in the center of the
2 city.

3 This seemed to verify that our damage was
4 caused by a power surge and not lightning. At or around
5 this same time a manufacturing plant in Meta, Missouri
6 just nine miles away also experienced considerable losses
7 when a surge of power destroyed numerous electric motors
8 in their plant, and it is my understanding -- I have not
9 seen documentation of this effect -- that AmerenUE paid
10 for all or part of this damage, thus reinforcing my claim
11 that all the damage in the area was not caused by
12 lightning.

13 Clearly the electrical service at
14 St. Elizabeth has been substandard by any comparison.
15 I've been told by one of their engineers that they're
16 trimming trees and replacing specific insulators which
17 they believe will improve our service. I would maintain
18 that this is not sufficient effort to provide quality
19 service.

20 AmerenUE basically has a monopoly, and the
21 customer has not choice but to subscribe to their service.
22 Therefore, complaints can generally receive only nominal
23 attention and need not be addressed to continue their
24 customer base. This situation has taken away all
25 incentive for them to provide quality care in the area of

1 St. Elizabeth.

2 As someone who works for the public and
3 constantly deals with complaints, and I've been in the
4 school business for 29 years, so I understand public
5 complaint. I don't believe anyone should complain without
6 also offering possible solutions to the problem.

7 With this in mind I would recommend the
8 following: Offer consumers in areas where there is more
9 than one provider of electrical service the option of
10 switching providers as long as the provider that is taking
11 on additional customers believes this would be cost
12 effective for them.

13 Eliminate any union or labor regulations
14 that prohibit or inhibit service people from other
15 electrical entities from assisting in immediately
16 restoring power. And here I'm referring to an earlier
17 lengthy outage in the St. Louis area where a televised
18 interview with the electrical providers in the Columbia
19 area indicated their staff members were ready to provide
20 much-needed assistance but Ameren chose not to utilize
21 their services, which in turn resulted in a much longer
22 power outage for the St. Louis area residents.

23 If union or labor rules within the company
24 prohibit getting service restored in a timely fashion, I
25 believe the Public Service Commission is the only group

1 with enough oversight responsibility to assist in
2 improving the situation.

3 I would request that the State of Missouri
4 do a complete audit of AmerenUE and make those specific
5 results public. I know an audit was referred to earlier
6 here. The intent would be to see if sufficient resources
7 are allocated to the maintenance and updating of
8 facilities and lines that directly affect the service to
9 our customers as compared to other electrical providers.

10 In light of the fact that they're
11 requesting a huge rate increase, it would also be prudent
12 to analyze what percentage of the AmerenUE budget is spent
13 on administration and overhead. And I would refer here to
14 if a person has ever tried to establish new electrical
15 service to a residence, there is no comparison in how much
16 red tape there if you look at what is required to hook up
17 to AmerenUE compared to an electric cooperative. The
18 layers of bureaucracy, there is no comparison between the
19 two. It is much more difficult to get hooked up to
20 AmerenUE because of the layers of bureaucracy.

21 Next, I think the ability to obtain
22 information from the company concerning the length of
23 outage is impossible to obtain, or virtually impossible I
24 should say, and then it is far from accurate. We've
25 dismissed school early on two occasions because we were

1 promised that when the power was shut off it would be
2 restored within a short period of time and was not. My
3 solution for this is to sufficiently staff emergency
4 telephone lines in times of outages so that consumers can
5 speak to a human being rather than a machine. Get rid of
6 the automated system that they have. It has proven very
7 frustrating to customers and unreliable.

8 There also needs to be periodic surveys of
9 customers done by an agency other than AmerenUE to ensure
10 that they continue to provide quality electrical service.
11 This information would prove very valuable in any rate
12 hearing in the future.

13 In summary, this is basically the only
14 forum that electrical subscribers have to express their
15 concerns about electrical service because under the
16 present system, they are at the mercy of the electrical
17 provider. I would emphatically urge the Public Service
18 Commission to not only deny any rate increase, but to
19 consider a rate reduction until proper service to all
20 areas can be documented over a longer period of time.

21 And I'd like to thank you for the
22 opportunity to present. I'd entertain any questions that
23 you have at this time.

24 JUDGE STEARLEY: We'll begin with
25 Commissioners. Commissioner Murray, do you have any

1 questions?

2 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Thank you,
3 Mr. Doerhoff. I have a couple of questions. One, you
4 mentioned that you received service from both AmerenUE and
5 from Three Rivers Electric?

6 MR. DOERHOFF: The residents of
7 St. Elizabeth receive service from both. No one specific
8 entity receives both, but both provide service in close
9 proximity, within a mile of each other.

10 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: And you mentioned
11 something about a difference between the outages that have
12 been experienced at your residence?

13 MR. DOERHOFF: My residence is within a
14 mile of the school building, but I'm served by an electric
15 cooperative, not AmerenUE.

16 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: All right. And the
17 reason that you brought that up was to point out the
18 difference in service quality between the two?

19 MR. DOERHOFF: Absolutely.

20 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: And I believe you
21 said you had two outages at your residence since 2004?

22 MR. DOERHOFF: Yes, ma'am.

23 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: All right. The
24 equipment damages from the surges that you spoke about,
25 this was computer equipment?

1 MR. DOERHOFF: Yes, ma'am. Computer
2 equipment and surge protectors.

3 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: All right. And were
4 they -- were the computers ruined? Were they --

5 MR. DOERHOFF: Absolutely.

6 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Did you determine how
7 many?

8 MR. DOERHOFF: I've got the bills here with
9 me. I'm going to talk off the top of my head here for the
10 sake of speeding time. I think there were 12 computers,
11 30 surge protectors, and one or two power sources that are
12 designed to keep power running when electricity shuts off.
13 I've got detailed information here, but that's in a
14 nutshell what it amounted to.

15 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: And this was during
16 one particular day --

17 MR. DOERHOFF: Yes, ma'am.

18 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: -- is that correct?

19 MR. DOERHOFF: Yes, ma'am.

20 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: All right. And you
21 mentioned something in your recommendations that you made
22 about eliminating union or other rules that would prevent
23 other workers from coming in to help during a time of
24 outage --

25 MR. DOERHOFF: Yes, ma'am. Yes.

1 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: -- or some other
2 emergency?

3 MR. DOERHOFF: Yes.

4 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Is it your opinion or
5 do you have knowledge that the reason that AmerenUE turned
6 workers away at the time in question was because it was
7 against some union rules?

8 MR. DOERHOFF: I don't know. I'd be very
9 interested to know why they turned them away. If I lived
10 in St. Louis, I would be an irate customer to see that
11 they turned them away and I did without power for a
12 considerable amount of time after that because they said
13 they didn't have time to get it fixed yet.

14 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: And when was that, do
15 you recall?

16 MR. DOERHOFF: I don't have the exact date
17 on it.

18 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: All right. I think
19 that's all the questions I have. Thank you very much.

20 JUDGE STEARLEY: Commissioner Gaw?

21 COMMISSIONER GAW: Thank you. Is it
22 Dr. Doerhoff?

23 MR. DOERHOFF: No, sir.

24 COMMISSIONER GAW: Mr. Doerhoff?

25 MR. DOERHOFF: Yes, sir.

1 COMMISSIONER GAW: Am I getting the name
2 close?

3 MR. DOERHOFF: Yes, sir.

4 COMMISSIONER GAW: You-all have this thing
5 down here where I have difficulty knowing whether it's
6 Doerhoff or Doerhoff.

7 MR. DOERHOFF: As I said the last time,
8 I've been called much worse. That's fine. Thank you.

9 COMMISSIONER GAW: Let me say -- let me ask
10 a few questions. First of all, the service that's being
11 received, you mentioned a number of different issues.

12 MR. DOERHOFF: Sure.

13 COMMISSIONER GAW: When you have had
14 discussions with Ameren about the quality of service
15 issues, what kind of response do you get when you have
16 those discussions?

17 MR. DOERHOFF: A lot of that depends on who
18 I talk to and how many times I've had conversations.

19 COMMISSIONER GAW: All right. I'm going to
20 ask you generally how many times you think you've had
21 conversations with them about this subject.

22 MR. DOERHOFF: Probably I'm going to say
23 six to eight.

24 COMMISSIONER GAW: Over what course of
25 time?

1 MR. DOERHOFF: Period of two or three
2 months. And in one of those instances I did have an
3 engineer admit to me that we have problems providing
4 electrical service to St. Elizabeth, and in his words they
5 have not isolated that problem yet.

6 And we were referring to the brief periods
7 of time that it goes down and comes back, and I don't
8 think they had isolated it at the time. I think now their
9 contention would probably be that that's due to those
10 insulator problems that they've had. I don't know enough
11 about electrical service to tell if that's the case.

12 COMMISSIONER GAW: Do you have an
13 understanding about the insulator problems at all?
14 Generally, did they say more than there were some problems
15 with the insulators?

16 MR. DOERHOFF: I don't have enough
17 expertise to respond on that one.

18 COMMISSIONER GAW: And I'm just looking for
19 what they might have told you.

20 MR. DOERHOFF: He was talking about a
21 different type of insulator that they planned on
22 installing. The two things that they said they were going
23 to do was trim more trees, and they were in the process of
24 that, and install a different type of insulator that they
25 thought had contributed to the problem?

1 CHAIRMAN GAW: This particular
2 conversation, about when did it occur, do you know, just
3 generally speaking?

4 MR. DOERHOFF: Let me get in the ballpark
5 here. Probably in October. I had --

6 COMMISSIONER GAW: October of '06?

7 MR. DOERHOFF: Yes, sir.

8 COMMISSIONER GAW: Okay.

9 MR. DOERHOFF: Something to that effect.

10 COMMISSIONER GAW: The tree trimming
11 that -- vegetation management that goes on around
12 St. Elizabeth by Ameren, have you had cause to notice what
13 kind of tree trimming management is done?

14 MR. DOERHOFF: I've seen them there, yes.
15 I'll say that. I'm not a judge of quality of tree
16 trimming service. I know it takes them -- well, I'll stop
17 with that.

18 COMMISSIONER GAW: Well, I'm interested in
19 what you observed. So if there's something you can tell
20 me about that, it would be helpful.

21 MR. DOERHOFF: I'm not an expert at that.
22 I'll tell you what, my father lives there in
23 St. Elizabeth, and he made the comment to me that they
24 spent three days directly across from his house on one
25 tree. Now, I can't imagine that that's the case. It's

1 not a speedy process is the point that I would make, and I
2 think it could be done in a much quicker fashion than it
3 is, but I'm not --

4 COMMISSIONER GAW: Do you know how far back
5 they're trimming trees away from the lines? The reason
6 I'm asking is because we've had other reports in other
7 areas about trees not being trimmed very often or trees
8 not being trimmed very far back and not back off of the
9 lines, some of the tree limbs still overhanging the lines
10 after tree trimming is done. Can you give me any idea
11 about whether that's different in St. Elizabeth?

12 MR. DOERHOFF: I don't -- I don't know what
13 Ameren -- what level they're trimming to. I can tell you
14 what Three Rivers is because I just am bringing them in to
15 develop some lots, and they require 15 feet each side of
16 the line clear.

17 COMMISSIONER GAW: As an easement?

18 MR. DOERHOFF: As an easement, and clear.

19 COMMISSIONER GAW: Does it appear to you
20 that Ameren has that type of clearing?

21 MR. DOERHOFF: I can't answer that
22 question. I really don't know. I can look.

23 COMMISSIONER GAW: That's all right. Just
24 if you know. When again did this power surge occur that
25 took out all of your computer equipment?

1 MR. DOERHOFF: Last week of August. I
2 think it was the 26th or 27th --

3 COMMISSIONER GAW: Again of '06?

4 MR. DOERHOFF: -- when the power came back
5 on. Yes.

6 COMMISSIONER GAW: And how long was the
7 power out, approximately?

8 MR. DOERHOFF: I can't answer that because
9 it happened over a weekend, and I'm not -- I'm not
10 serviced by AmerenUE at my personal residence.

11 COMMISSIONER GAW: That explains why you
12 can't answer.

13 MR. DOERHOFF: I think it was over a
14 weekend. If I'm not mistaken, it was part of Friday and
15 Saturday. I'm not sure.

16 COMMISSIONER GAW: Has Ameren offered to
17 compensate the school district for any of that loss?

18 MR. DOERHOFF: Absolutely not.

19 COMMISSIONER GAW: I assume that you've
20 requested some compensation at some point?

21 MR. DOERHOFF: I didn't make that specific
22 statement, but after they looked at our equipment and he
23 told me what he thought, I smiled and politely said,
24 that's the answer that I expected when you came. I
25 didn't -- I didn't want to get in a back and forth with

1 them, but I didn't expect them to offer to pay anything.

2 COMMISSIONER GAW: So were those computers
3 and surge protectors replaced or not?

4 MR. DOERHOFF: Yes, sir.

5 COMMISSIONER GAW: Where did the money come
6 from to do that?

7 MR. DOERHOFF: Well, school district funds,
8 and then I had to turn in a claim to our insurance
9 company, which in turn will increase our insurance rates.

10 COMMISSIONER GAW: You said something about
11 it being a lot more difficult to connect through Ameren
12 than it is through Three Rivers.

13 MR. DOERHOFF: Absolutely.

14 COMMISSIONER GAW: Give me a little bit
15 more specific information if you would about what you're
16 talking about there.

17 MR. DOERHOFF: I'll have two points of
18 reference here. We build a building trades house every
19 year. In order for that house to be connected to AmerenUE
20 as compared to Three Rivers Electric, there is no
21 comparison. First of all, it takes more than one person
22 to come out there and just look at it, not do anything,
23 just look at it. And then they require more equipment on
24 our side before they'll bring anything in. Bottom line,
25 it costs a lot more just to get electricity hooked up

1 regardless what the cost is.

2 My second point of reference would be we're
3 building a new track there, a running track, and that
4 track has electrical service on both sides of it, one from
5 Three Rivers and one from AmerenUE. And I asked the folks
6 from AmerenUE, I said, I would like to have a pole light
7 on each end of that for security purposes. What would it
8 take?

9 And when he came in -- and I can't remember
10 the gentleman's name. He started out and he listed, first
11 of all the pole costs this and we want this in conduit.
12 It was over \$3,000 to get a pole light, two pole lights at
13 the track. That is not what Three Rivers Electric will
14 charge. It will be much less than that. And we had to do
15 part of the work for Ameren. We had to run the cable for
16 them.

17 I mean, there are 16 house lots in that
18 same area that if they wanted any business, if this were a
19 private business they would have an active interest in
20 obtaining service in that area. There was no interest on
21 their part. There's no incentive on their part to do
22 that. Take it or leave it. They realize you can get it
23 at a lower cost, go ahead. That's their impression.

24 COMMISSIONER GAW: You said the automated
25 system doesn't work well when you're trying to find out

1 something. Give me a flavor of what you have experienced
2 in dealing with that system.

3 MR. DOERHOFF: When I find out we're
4 without electricity prior to the start of school, I have
5 to decide whether or not to have school, and I have to
6 make that decision by six o'clock in the morning for
7 reasons of babysitters and whatnot.

8 To try and contact that automated telephone
9 system, you go through numerous layers of press one, press
10 two, listen to this recording and so on to get to someone
11 that, based on zip code, might give you an estimate of how
12 long it is before they expect to restore service.

13 Now, I understand, they're working under
14 adverse conditions and they're under the gun. They might
15 not hit on this thing. But whether or not I have school
16 is based on what I get from them, and I'll give you an
17 example of one day that we called off, I called them and
18 they said it'll be on at 8:30. I said, that's fine. We
19 can make it. We start school at eight o'clock.

20 Wasn't on at 8:30. We call the next time,
21 it'll be on at 10:30. Didn't come on. We don't know when
22 it's coming on. I missed three times on that. Finally we
23 sent our kids home at 11:30 because to have school without
24 electricity is a challenge. I sent our kids home. We did
25 that twice now because AmerenUE couldn't decide when it

1 would come back online.

2 In fairness to them, I will say this: I
3 have been able to obtain cell phone numbers of several
4 employees that they have, which now gives me access to
5 them. They didn't give me that. I had a contractor that
6 gave me that said, Sid, you can't get to them any other
7 way. And I keep that in my wallet, and that's the only
8 way I can make contact with some of these folks off hours.

9 COMMISSIONER GAW: Yes, sir. You also --
10 Commissioner Murray asked you about this as well, but you
11 were talking about the situation in St. Louis and that you
12 had heard an interview regarding workers being not -- or
13 workers being refused by Ameren from Columbia?

14 MR. DOERHOFF: Yes, sir.

15 COMMISSIONER GAW: And I want you to know,
16 that's -- that's not the first time I've heard this
17 either. And on this storm damage question and answer that
18 we had a couple of weeks ago, I asked Staff specifically
19 to look into that, and my understanding is that we're
20 going to get some response on that. I don't know if we're
21 going to get that in this case or not, but since it's been
22 brought up in this case, perhaps whatever is determined
23 there might ought to be also filed in this case. I'm
24 looking at Ms. Shemwell.

25 MS. SHEMWELL: Who's nodding.

1 COMMISSIONER GAW: Yes, who is nodding. In
2 any event, I think I'll stop there, and thank you very
3 much for taking the time to come.

4 MR. DOERHOFF: Thank you.

5 JUDGE STEARLEY: Please remain seated,
6 Mr. Doerhoff. I have a question for you, and Commissioner
7 Appling is joining us. He might have a question for you,
8 and I want to give the attorneys who are present an
9 opportunity to see if they have questions for you as well.

10 Commissioner Appling, I realize you just
11 walked in the door, but it was timely. I don't know if
12 you were able to see any of Mr. Doerhoff's testimony on
13 our web casting, but would you have any questions for him
14 at this time?

15 COMMISSIONER APPLING: Thank you, Judge,
16 but I have no questions of the witness at this time.
17 Thanks very much for coming, sir.

18 JUDGE STEARLEY: And, Mr. Doerhoff, I
19 believe you mentioned there was some property damage to
20 another company nearby?

21 MR. DOERHOFF: Yes, sir.

22 JUDGE STEARLEY: And what was that company
23 again?

24 MR. DOERHOFF: Diamond Pet Foods in Meta,
25 Missouri.

1 JUDGE STEARLEY: And you said they
2 sustained some damage. Do you know what type of damage
3 they --

4 MR. DOERHOFF: It had to do with damage to
5 electrical motors, and I don't know the extent of it, but
6 I do know that they also receive kind of a unique type of
7 service. They need probably, I don't know, I would say
8 three phase or different service than we do. But I know
9 they have motors that are very sensitive to the amount of
10 electricity that they receive, and knowing some employees
11 that are there, I know they incurred considerable loss,
12 and I think they had the clout to get Ameren's attention
13 and I didn't.

14 JUDGE STEARLEY: You said that Ameren did
15 compensate them for their losses?

16 MR. DOERHOFF: I don't know that for a
17 fact. I've been told that. I can't state that as a fact.
18 I think that would be a great question to ask Ameren.

19 JUDGE STEARLEY: That's all the questions I
20 have. Are there any questions from attorneys?

21 MR. BYRNE: Yes. Mr. Doerhoff, I'm Tom
22 Byrne from Ameren. I was just wondering, did you submit a
23 claim for any of your property damage to Ameren?

24 MR. DOERHOFF: No. I'm sorry for smiling
25 when I respond there, but after my conversation with the

1 engineer, he left me with no doubt in my mind what their
2 position was, and they were not going to take the blame
3 for anything that happened at our school district.

4 MR. BYRNE: Okay. Thanks.

5 JUDGE STEARLEY: Any other questions?

6 COMMISSIONER GAW: Mr. Doerhoff, in light
7 of that question, perhaps it would be timely for you to
8 follow up on that, on those losses, and we have some staff
9 here tonight that can assist with consumer complaints, and
10 perhaps you might be able to do that if you have a moment,
11 and perhaps we can hear back about the result of that at
12 some point in time.

13 MS. SHEMWELL: Mr. Doerhoff, I would direct
14 you to Gaye Fred who's head of our consumer services
15 department, and she's right back there, and please feel
16 free to visit with her.

17 MR. DOERHOFF: Okay. Thank you.

18 JUDGE STEARLEY: Are there any other
19 questions for Mr. Doerhoff?

20 COMMISSIONER GAW: Just real quick. The
21 outages that you mentioned in your testimony, how long is
22 the minimum on those outages when you're -- when you're
23 saying --

24 MR. DOERHOFF: The six that I referred to,
25 I don't have the exact length of time on them.

1 COMMISSIONER GAW: Just a general idea.

2 MR. DOERHOFF: Some of them are three and
3 four hours in length. For example, when we're off at 6:30
4 in the morning or 6 o'clock in the morning and we don't
5 come and -- in one case we came on at exactly 11:30 when
6 we had the buses loaded to send kids home. The other time
7 we didn't come on by 11:30. So I know we were out five
8 and a half hours both times.

9 COMMISSIONER GAW: Thank you.

10 JUDGE STEARLEY: All right. Seeing no
11 further questions, I'd like to thank you for your
12 testimony, Mr. Doerhoff.

13 MR. DOERHOFF: Thank you.

14 JUDGE STEARLEY: I'd like to now move to
15 our Excelsior Springs location. Unfortunately, I have a
16 blue screen here. I can't see you-all there, but I
17 understand you can see us; is that correct?

18 MR. WOOD: Yes, we can see you and hear
19 you.

20 JUDGE STEARLEY: All right. Is that
21 Mr. Wood who's speaking?

22 MR. WOOD: It is.

23 JUDGE STEARLEY: Mr. Wood, do you have a
24 witness list?

25 MR. WOOD: Yes, I do, and our first witness

1 that's signed up is Larry R. Petty.

2 JUDGE STEARLEY: All right. And,
3 Mr. Petty, if you would please take whatever witness stand
4 or chair they may have set up for you there in Excelsior
5 Springs and raise your right hand and I will swear you in.
6 Can you hear me, Mr. Petty?

7 MR. PETTY: Yes.

8 (Witness sworn.)

9 LARRY R. PETTY testified as follows:

10 JUDGE STEARLEY: And, Mr. Petty, could you
11 please state and spell your name for our court reporter?

12 MR. PETTY: Larry R. Petty, P-e-t--
13 L-a-r-r-y, P-e-t-t-y.

14 JUDGE STEARLEY: And could you please state
15 your address for us?

16 MR. PETTY: 427 Benton, Excelsior Springs,
17 Missouri.

18 JUDGE STEARLEY: And are you a customer of
19 AmerenUE's for either electricity or gas?

20 MR. PETTY: Electrical, yes.

21 JUDGE STEARLEY: All right. You may
22 proceed with your testimony.

23 MR. WOOD: Proceed with your testimony.

24 MR. PETTY: I'm here just to approve the
25 bill increase, and I have no complaints on the service.

1 JUDGE STEARLEY: Do you have anything
2 further to add, Mr. Petty?

3 MR. PETTY: No, sir.

4 JUDGE STEARLEY: All right. If you'll just
5 stay where you're at for a moment, I'll see if the
6 Commissioners have any questions for you, beginning with
7 Commissioner Murray.

8 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Thank you. Good
9 evening, Mr. Petty. Did I understand you to say that you
10 are here to testify in favor of the increase that has been
11 requested?

12 MR. PETTY: Well, only if it's just \$6 a
13 month for me.

14 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Okay. And you said
15 that you have no complaints with your service; is that
16 right?

17 MR. PETTY: Yes, right.

18 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: So you're not
19 experiencing the power outages like you just heard the
20 last witness testify to?

21 MR. PETTY: No, ma'am.

22 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: All right. Have you
23 ever had occasion to call the customer service department
24 at AmerenUE?

25 MR. PETTY: Yes. Yes.

1 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: And have you been
2 treated with respect when you've called?

3 MR. PETTY: Yes, but I usually don't get
4 in.

5 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Meaning what, you're
6 on a -- you're put on hold or you just don't get through?

7 MR. PETTY: I just don't get through.

8 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Are you hearing a
9 recording when you call?

10 MR. PETTY: Yes. Uh-huh.

11 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Okay. So for what
12 purpose have you called?

13 MR. PETTY: Tried to get something repaired
14 on the house, and that's why I came here today. I found
15 somebody to complain to.

16 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: All right. So you
17 have talked to an AmerenUE representative this evening?

18 MR. PETTY: Yes.

19 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Okay. Good. I'm
20 glad to hear that. Thank you for your testimony.

21 MR. PETTY: Thank you.

22 JUDGE STEARLEY: Commissioner Gaw?

23 COMMISSIONER GAW: I'd just like to know a
24 little bit more about what your complaint was, sir. Can
25 you tell me the reason for your complaint?

1 MR. PETTY: It was a cable that came off
2 that I think needed to be addressed before our storms come
3 back because I've had mine pulled out the last storm. I
4 want it to be fixed before it come back again.

5 COMMISSIONER GAW: When was that?

6 MR. PETTY: That was about two years ago
7 when we had that very bad windstorm come through.

8 COMMISSIONER GAW: And you had some cable
9 pulled out two years ago?

10 MR. PETTY: Yes.

11 COMMISSIONER GAW: And --

12 MR. PETTY: It came out of the house. I
13 had to pay to have electrician come and do the inside
14 work, and then UE did it after it was approved through
15 re-hookup.

16 COMMISSIONER GAW: Okay. And was there
17 something still wrong with it after that?

18 MR. PETTY: No. I just think that
19 something has pulled out. I don't know if it was a short
20 cable by now or what. I'm just trying to get it addressed
21 before the winds come -- seems to come back in the spring.

22 COMMISSIONER GAW: Okay. And you tried to
23 call Ameren and could not get through to anybody to tell
24 them about the problem?

25 MR. PETTY: On the phone.

1 COMMISSIONER GAW: Would you say that
2 again. I think I talked over the top of you.

3 MR. PETTY: I couldn't get through to
4 somebody using the phone.

5 COMMISSIONER GAW: And so you -- that's why
6 you came this evening is to try to get somebody to help
7 you with that?

8 MR. PETTY: Yes.

9 COMMISSIONER GAW: Okay. Thank you, sir.

10 JUDGE STEARLEY: All right. Commissioner
11 Appling?

12 COMMISSIONER APPLING: Mr. Petty, this is
13 Lin Appling, and I don't think I have any questions, but
14 I'm pretty sure that Ameren is happy to hear one person
15 out there saying that they're not complaining tonight. So
16 thank you for showing up. Okay?

17 MR. PETTY: Yes, sir. Good.

18 JUDGE STEARLEY: All right, then. Do any
19 of the attorneys have questions for Mr. Petty? Seeing
20 none, and I have none to add. Mr. Petty, I'd like to
21 thank you for your testimony.

22 MR. PETTY: Thank you.

23 JUDGE STEARLEY: And we will move back to
24 the Jefferson City location, and I will call Solace
25 Simpson.

1 MS. SIMPSON: I'm not going to testify.

2 Thank you.

3 JUDGE STEARLEY: Moving down our list then,
4 how about Jeff Holzem. Hope I said that right.

5 MR. HOLZEM: Close enough that. It'll
6 work.

7 JUDGE STEARLEY: Mr. Holzem, I'll swear you
8 in.

9 (Witness sworn.)

10 JEFF HOLZEM testified as follows:

11 JUDGE STEARLEY: If you will please state
12 and spell your name for our court reporter.

13 MR. HOLZEM: Jeff, J-e-f-f, Holzem,
14 H-o-l-z-e-m, and I live at 1120 Moreau in Jefferson City,
15 Missouri. I have both gas and electric service at that
16 location from Ameren. I also have property at Lake Ozark
17 which receives electric service from AmerenUE.

18 JUDGE STEARLEY: All right. Please proceed
19 with your testimony.

20 MR. HOLZEM: Okay. I have two observations
21 I'd like to offer first of all. One is based upon what
22 I've read in the media regarding the incident at Taum Sauk
23 where, as you-all are aware, there was a spill of the dam
24 and water damage to the property. Fortunately not many
25 people were involved in this. But it's my perception from

1 what I've read in the media this could have been handled
2 more proactively ahead of time and this would not have
3 occurred. I believe that they should have had more
4 effective monitoring equipment and more actively managed
5 the site.

6 I think as a consequence of that belief, I
7 don't think it's fair for the consumers of this company to
8 bear the cost of that incident. I think it should be
9 borne by stockholders of the company. That's one of the
10 expenses of doing business.

11 The second item I'd like to mention is
12 regarding the outage in St. Louis. I didn't personally
13 see this, but a friend of mine stated that he understood
14 that several linemen, a large crew from Ameren was
15 based -- was housed at an Adams Mark Hotel. Now, I know I
16 typically don't stay at Adams Mark, and I wouldn't think
17 that you would as an effective manager of a business house
18 a large crew at an expensive place such as that.

19 I think that expenses are not being watched
20 as carefully as they could be, and that consumers should
21 not be bearing the cost of these kinds of expenses.

22 Those are the two concerns I have as far as
23 the management of the company. The other thing is more of
24 a question. Since we've had an incident at Taum Sauk, I
25 would like to offer this to the Commission: Are we taking

1 adequate measures to ensure that we don't have anything
2 such as this at Bagnell Dam? That could be even more
3 catastrophic if a failure were to occur there. I'd like
4 to raise that.

5 The other thing I have is in the form of a
6 question. I know that I've gone through the permit
7 process both for a dock and a seawall, and I guess what
8 I'm wondering is, is that process regulated or can these
9 fees just be determined by the company solely with their
10 own discretion? That's all I have to offer.

11 JUDGE STEARLEY: Mr. Holzem, we're greatly
12 appreciative of your testimony, and the Commissioners may
13 have some questions for you. Regarding your individual
14 question, that's another matter that can perhaps be -- our
15 staff can assist you with when we're a done taking
16 testimony tonight.

17 We'll begin by asking if there's any
18 questions from Commissioner Murray.

19 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Good evening. Thank
20 you for being here. You didn't mention, at least unless I
21 missed it, any particular service problems. Have you had
22 any service problems yourself?

23 MR. HOLZEM: There have been some outages
24 at my residence, but I don't think those are extreme or
25 disproportionate. I think we can go too far with trimming

1 trees back and cause damage the other way. So I have no
2 issues with that level of service I'm receiving either in
3 Jefferson City or at the Lake.

4 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Okay. And have you
5 had occasion to call the service department for anything?

6 MR. HOLZEM: Not recently. I did have them
7 redo power at the Lake at one point in time, and that was
8 -- their response was acceptable. We had to disconnect
9 the transformer to replace a pole on my property, and I
10 have no issues with the way that was handled.

11 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Okay. Thank you very
12 much.

13 JUDGE STEARLEY: Commissioner Gaw?

14 COMMISSIONER GAW: No, sir. Thank you very
15 much for coming.

16 JUDGE STEARLEY: Commissioner Appling?

17 COMMISSIONER APPLING: Jeff, I have no
18 questions of you, sir. Thank you very much for coming.

19 MR. HOLZEM: Thank you.

20 JUDGE STEARLEY: Do any of the attorneys
21 have questions for Mr. Holzem?

22 MR. MILLS: I don't have any questions, but
23 I want to thank my neighbor for coming out and testifying
24 about his experience with the utility company. I
25 appreciate you being here.

1 JUDGE STEARLEY: Thank you, Mr. Holzem.

2 We'll now go back to our Excelsior Springs
3 site. Mr. Wood?

4 MR. WOOD: Yes. Our next witness is
5 Barbara L.K. Walker.

6 JUDGE STEARLEY: All right, Ms. Walker, if
7 you'll please take the witness stand or chair, whatever
8 they have set up for you there, and raise your right hand,
9 I will swear you in.

10 (Witness sworn.)

11 BARBARA L.K. WALKER testified as follows:

12 JUDGE STEARLEY: And would you please state
13 and spell your name for our court reporter?

14 MS. WALKER: My name is Barbara,
15 B-a-r-b-a-r-a, L.K., Walker, W-a-l-k-e-r.

16 JUDGE STEARLEY: And could you please state
17 your address for us?

18 MS. WALKER: 219 Kibler, that's
19 K-i-b-l-e-r, Road, Excelsior Springs.

20 JUDGE STEARLEY: All right. And are you a
21 customer of AmerenUE for either electricity or gas?

22 MS. WALKER: I am for electricity.

23 JUDGE STEARLEY: All right. You may
24 proceed with your testimony.

25 MS. WALKER: I originally came to this

1 hearing this evening to have some questions answered about
2 the proposed voluntary green program tariff that has been
3 submitted to the Missouri Public Service Commission on
4 July 7 according to the document that we received.

5 I am also a member of the Heartland
6 Renewable Energy Society as their communications chair,
7 and in that facility we received a letter from Ameren
8 asking the organization to support this program, and we
9 are in the process of drafting a letter to Ameren and have
10 decided to include it also to the Missouri Public Service
11 Commission to make sure it is seen by the Missouri Public
12 Service Commission.

13 We haven't finalized it at this point, but
14 I would be happy to provide some of our qualifications to
15 support; the first being that they show that half of the
16 program demand will be met by renewable generators located
17 within Missouri and Illinois. The program will support
18 only newly installed renewable energy capacity 2002 and
19 later with 75 percent of customer demand supporting wind
20 farms and the balance supporting bio gas, landfill gas and
21 solar generators regionally.

22 The Heartland Renewable Energy Society
23 understands that there are limited availability of green
24 tags from Missouri and Illinois at the present time.
25 However, we would like to see a stipulation being made

1 that 100 percent of the monies collected from Missouri
2 customers through this voluntary green tariff program be
3 used specifically for construction of new renewable energy
4 generators within Missouri. We recommend that Missouri
5 subsidizing renewable generators in Illinois is not in the
6 best interests of the Missourians.

7 About the affordable premium of 1.5 cents
8 per kilowatt hour, which is below national average, and we
9 agreed to that; however, we are concerned that Ameren has
10 not addressed the reality that renewable generators will
11 produce lower cost electricity than current fossil fuel
12 production. And as the program reads now, the tariff is
13 going to be an added cost to fossil fuel production, and
14 so those customers who participate will also pay more for
15 their energy for non-participants.

16 We recommend that Ameren include a discount
17 provision for those customers who are participating in the
18 voluntary green tariff program which will lower their per
19 kilowatt price of electricity to match the lower price of
20 renewable generation. And we refer Ameren to programs
21 that are already in place in Texas which provide just such
22 benefit to their customers.

23 Ameren's renewable program is being listed
24 as not a contribution program, that Ameren will purchase
25 certified renewable energy certificates equal to

1 100 percent of the electricity needs of residential and
2 small commercial customers that sign up in increments of
3 1,000 kilowatts for medium and large businesses. The
4 Heartland Renewable Energy Society does not agree with
5 this preceding statement that it is not -- excuse me --
6 that it is not a contribution program because a green tag
7 or a renewable energy credit is a viable tracking
8 mechanism and is an excellent way to engage in the
9 renewable energy generation movement.

10 However, the document provided to the
11 Missouri Public Service Commission as Schedule No. 5,
12 Sheet 220 and 221, it states, and I quote, the company
13 will purchase RECs from its contractual partner Three
14 Phases Energy, and it continues on to say, title to the
15 RECs will rest with the company, and the company will in
16 turn retire such RECs on behalf of the customers
17 participating in the program. And that closes the
18 quotation.

19 Now, as I understand it, legally only the
20 entity which has the REC in its possession can claim that
21 it is purchasing a green electricity product. Therefore,
22 if the REC is not passed on to the customer of Ameren who
23 is paying the 1.5 cents per kilowatt, they are only making
24 a contribution for Ameren to purchase the REC.

25 We recommend that Ameren expand its program

1 to provide a physical representation of the REC's purchase
2 to the customer along with a full documentation of its
3 production and breakdown.

4 And also, I did ask this question earlier
5 of Ameren and received a very satisfactory answer that
6 because their certification by Green E having the program
7 certified is part of the charter program, we can be
8 assured that that will take place. That was a concern.

9 Ameren also states that it has elected to
10 work with a third-party marketer which has demonstrated to
11 dramatically increase customer enrollments, and Heartland
12 Renewable Energy Society agrees that Three Phases is a
13 credible marketing partner. We are, however, concerned
14 that Ameren has only accounted for its .001 cents per
15 kilowatt hour sold as program administrative costs.

16 We're concerned that since they are
17 partnering with Three Phases, we believe that disclosure
18 of how the balance of that 1.5 cent per kilowatt hour sold
19 is distributed, that being for the purchase of the RECs,
20 the administration costs of Three Phases or any other
21 costs, so that the customer would know exactly where their
22 money's going to and how much of it is actually going to
23 the construction of new renewable generation.

24 There are a few points about the Ameren
25 voluntary green tariff program that the Heartland

1 Renewable Energy Society requires clarification about. It
2 appears that as the Ameren voluntary green tariff program
3 will be represented as a line item on the customer's
4 utility bill, it will be taxed. Since it is possible to
5 purchase RECs from other sources and not be taxed, we hold
6 that the Ameren customer participating in the pure power
7 program should not pay additional tax for doing so.

8 Also, it appears that there is no pilot or
9 sunset provision for the Ameren voluntary green tariff
10 program. If the five-year period that Three Phases has
11 been contracted for is the pilot period, we believe this
12 is appropriate and that the should be subject to revision
13 and/or updates based upon the inventions and progress of
14 the renewable generation movement during that period.

15 And an additional point is Heart of
16 America -- excuse me -- the Heartland Renewable Energy
17 Society encourages Ameren to support to creation of true
18 net metering, time of use metering and simple
19 interconnection standards in Missouri. Otherwise, it is
20 possible that the current situation of allowing major
21 corporations to benefit from green programs while
22 simultaneously offering no real net metering or
23 interconnection options to their customers could be
24 perceived by the public and the media as an attempt to
25 stifle the potential growth of green energy.

1 This could have a negative impact on both
2 Ameren and their green program. It could also have an
3 unwarranted negative impact on the growing green movement
4 as a whole in this region.

5 We are going to be submitting this letter
6 in a written form at a later date once we have gotten some
7 of these clarifications from Ameren, and that ends my
8 testimony. Thank you.

9 JUDGE STEARLEY: All right. Thank you,
10 Ms. Walker. We'll see if the Commissioners have any
11 questions for you, beginning with Commissioner Murray.

12 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Thank you,
13 Ms. Walker, for your testimony. I'll look forward to
14 reading the letter when you submit it to the file.

15 Is the Heartland Renewable Energy Society,
16 you're not an intervenor in this case; is that correct?

17 MS. WALKER: I'm sorry. I'm not sure what
18 you mean by intervenor.

19 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Have not entered an
20 appearance to intervene as a party in this case?

21 MS. WALKER: You are correct, I am not.

22 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Okay. This Heartland
23 Renewable Energy Society, how many states does it operate
24 in?

25 MS. WALKER: It's Missouri and Kansas.

1 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: So you have -- you
2 have knowledge of just what's gone on in those two states;
3 would that be accurate?

4 MS. WALKER: That would be accurate.

5 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Now, you mentioned
6 real time metering and true net metering. Have you
7 personally done -- made any studies of that type of
8 metering?

9 MS. WALKER: My husband has, yes.

10 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Okay. And are you in
11 your letter making any specific recommendations regarding
12 the kind of metering that you think needs to be, that we
13 need to move toward?

14 MS. WALKER: I don't believe we have gotten
15 to that detail at this point, no. But if that would be
16 something we should do, I will bring that up with the
17 committee to make sure that that is addressed.

18 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: All right. I will
19 look forward to reading what you submit. Thank you for
20 your testimony.

21 MS. WALKER: Thank you.

22 JUDGE STEARLEY: Commissioner Gaw?

23 COMMISSIONER GAW: Ms. Walker, thank you
24 very much for coming. Just a few questions. First of
25 all, I think I generally know what you mean when you say

1 true net metering, but if you could now or if you could in
2 your document that's submitted define that in more
3 specific ways, that would shall helpful.

4 MS. WALKER: The way I understand true net
5 metering to work is that when, for example, my home which
6 would have solar or wind generates electricity that is in
7 excess of what I use, and it basically turns my meter
8 backwards, I would be -- cent for cent the cost of that
9 production, I mean, from what I paid for it.

10 COMMISSIONER GAW: Yes. That's not --
11 that's not what Missouri law currently provides under the
12 provisions that they passed three or four years ago, is
13 it?

14 MS. WALKER: No, it is not.

15 COMMISSIONER GAW: In fact, would you say
16 that Missouri's net metering law is probably misnamed?

17 MS. WALKER: Yes.

18 COMMISSIONER GAW: Would it be -- would it
19 be possible for you to also, while you're submitting
20 comments about the proposal, would it be possible for you
21 to give a little bit of background on other issues that
22 you think ought to be considered by this Commission in
23 this case that might be not necessarily proposed by the
24 company?

25 MS. WALKER: I'm not quite following you as

1 to what kind of background.

2 COMMISSIONER GAW: Well, actually, it's not
3 background. What I'm looking for is if you have -- your
4 association has other ideas besides those that are
5 directly being proposed by Ameren on this topic, is it
6 possible that that might be included in your submission?

7 MS. WALKER: As long as it's acceptable to
8 be -- yes, I would be very happy to do that, yes.

9 COMMISSIONER GAW: I've noticed in some
10 other matters sometimes we have a lack of ideas submitted
11 for the Commission to consider on these topics, and
12 perhaps that provides another avenue for us if you have
13 the opportunity to do that.

14 MS. WALKER: Yes, sir. I would be most
15 happy to do that.

16 COMMISSIONER GAW: Okay. I think that's
17 all. Thank you very much.

18 JUDGE STEARLEY: Commissioner Appling?

19 COMMISSIONER APPLING: Ms. Walker, just
20 thank you very much for your testimony. We look forward
21 to getting your letter. Thank you very much for coming
22 out tonight. Thank you.

23 JUDGE STEARLEY: Do any of the attorneys
24 have questions for Ms. Walker?

25 MS. SHEMWELL: Yes. Thank you, Judge.

1 Good evening, Ms. Walker. My name is Lera Shemwell. I
2 just wondered what types of renewable energy you support.
3 Wind generation, is that one of the things that you
4 support?

5 MS. WALKER: Any kind of renewable energy,
6 you bet. Wind, solar, bio mass, landfill gas, whatever's
7 available in the state of Missouri, we would be happy to
8 support that.

9 MS. SHEMWELL: Do you put hydro in your
10 mix?

11 MS. WALKER: Hydro would be dependant upon
12 whether it inflicts danger to the environment.

13 MS. SHEMWELL: Thank very much.

14 JUDGE STEARLEY: Any other questions for
15 Ms. Walker?

16 (No response.)

17 JUDGE STEARLEY: Seeing none, I'd like to
18 thank you, Ms. Walker, for your testimony.

19 We will come back to the Jefferson City
20 site, and I do not have any other witnesses signed up on
21 my list. However, I would like to ask, is there anyone
22 who's present in our audience tonight who would like to
23 give additional testimony? I see no one volunteering here
24 in Jefferson City.

25 We'll go back to Excelsior Springs.

1 Mr. Wood, do we have any additional people on the witness
2 list there?

3 MR. WOOD: That was our last witness at
4 this end, Judge.

5 JUDGE STEARLEY: Is there anyone else in
6 the crowd there that would like to give testimony?

7 MR. WOOD: No, sir.

8 JUDGE STEARLEY: All right. In that case,
9 I'd like to thank all of our participants tonight. I'd
10 like to ask the Commissioners if they would have any
11 closing remarks, starting with Commissioner Murray.

12 COMMISSIONER MURRAY: Thank you. I just
13 would like to tell everyone who showed up tonight that we
14 appreciate your interest and we -- it's valuable to hear
15 from you. So thank you for your participation.

16 JUDGE STEARLEY: Commissioner Gaw?

17 COMMISSIONER GAW: I agree with that.
18 Thank you all for coming tonight. Appreciate it very
19 much.

20 JUDGE STEARLEY: Commissioner Appling?

21 COMMISSIONER APPLING: No questions.

22 JUDGE STEARLEY: And just for the record,
23 Chairman Davis has joined us. I know he's been a very
24 busy man today and would have liked to have been here a
25 little earlier. Would you have any remarks you would like

1 to make, Mr. Chair?

2 CHAIRMAN DAVIS: No, thank you.

3 JUDGE STEARLEY: All right.

4 CHAIRMAN DAVIS: Thank you for coming.

5 JUDGE STEARLEY: With that, that will
6 conclude our local public hearing for this evening.

7 WHEREUPON, the local public hearing was
8 concluded.

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1 C E R T I F I C A T E

2 STATE OF MISSOURI)
3 COUNTY OF COLE) ss.

4 I, Kellene K. Feddersen, Certified
5 Shorthand Reporter with the firm of Midwest Litigation
6 Services, and Notary Public within and for the State of
7 Missouri, do hereby certify that I was personally present
8 at the proceedings had in the above-entitled cause at the
9 time and place set forth in the caption sheet thereof;
10 that I then and there took down in Stenotype the
11 proceedings had; and that the foregoing is a full, true
12 and correct transcript of such Stenotype notes so made at
13 such time and place.

14 Given at my office in the City of
15 Jefferson, County of Cole, State of Missouri.

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17 Kellene K. Feddersen, RPR, CSR, CCR
18 Notary Public (County of Cole)
My commission expires March 28, 2009.

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