Exhibit No.:

Issues:

Alternative Regulation

Plan: Quality of Service

Witness:

Deborah Ann Bernsen

Sponsoring Party: MoPSC Staff

Type of Exhibit: Surrebuttal Testimony

Case No.: EC-2002-1

Date Testimony Prepared: June 24, 2002

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

UTILITY SERVICES DIVISION

SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

FILED³

JUN 2 4 2002

DEBORAH ANN BERNSEN

Missouri Public Service Commission

UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a AMERENUE

CASE NO. EC-2002-1

Jefferson City, Missouri June 2002

** Denotes Proprietary Information**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

The Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commissio Complainar vs. Union Electric Company, d/b/a AmerenUE,) Case No. EC-2002-1
Responder	nt.)
AFFIDAVIT OF DEBOR	AH ANN BERNSEN
STATE OF MISSOURI)) ss. COUNTY OF COLE)	
the preparation of the following Surrebuttal Testim	that the answers in the following Surrebuttal dge of the matters set forth in such answers; and
Subscribed and sworn to before me this	day of June, 2002.
M. CHAR	Janua Charler Notary Public

TONI M. CHARLTON NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF MISSOURI COUNTY OF COLE My Commission Expires December 28, 2004

1	TABLE OF CONTENTS OF
2	SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF
3	DEBORAH ANN BERNSEN
4	UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY
5	d/b/a AMERENUE
6	CASE NO. EC-2002-1
7	
8	CUSTOMER SERVICE LEVELS2
9	DEFICIENCIES WITH ALTERNATIVE REGULATION PLAN8
10	SERVICE INDICATORS REPORTING11
11	

1	SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY
2	OF
3	DEBORAH ANN BERNSEN
4	UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY
5	d/b/a/ AMERENUE
6	CASE NO. EC-2002-1
7	Q. Please state your name.
8	A. My name is Deborah Ann Bernsen.
9	Q. Please state your business address.
10	A. My business address is P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.
11	Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?
12	A. I am employed as a Management Analyst for the Missouri Public Service
13	Commission (Commission or PSC).
14	Q. Describe your educational and professional background.
15	A. I graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1975 with a
16	Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. I completed a Masters degree in
17	Public Administration in 1990 from the same university. I have passed three of the four
18	parts of the Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) exam. I presently serve as the Chair of the
19	National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Staff
20	Subcommittee on Competition and Performance Analysis.
21	I have been employed by the Commission since 1976 when I began a
22	graduate internship. I subsequently entered the Consumer Services Department of the
23	PSC as a Consumer Services Specialist responding to consumer complaints and inquiries.

I entered the Management Services Department in 1978 as a Management Analyst and since that time have had responsibility for conducting and directing reviews of management operating and control systems at utility companies under the Commission's jurisdiction. I was the Staff's representative and a member of the Consumer Interest Working Group within the Missouri Public Service Commission's Retail Electric Competition Task Force in 1999. The name of the Management Services Department was changed to the Engineering and Management Services Department (EMS) in February 2000.

- Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?
- A. The purpose of my testimony is to discuss the assertions of Union Electric Company, d/b/a AmerenUE (Company) regarding excellent service, to identify several deficiencies with the Company's proposed alternative regulation plan, and recommend that the Company initiate reporting to the PSC on customer service indicators if the Commission decides to accept any form of a further alternative regulation experiment as a result of this case.

CUSTOMER SERVICE LEVELS

- Q. Has the Company made assertions of excellent customer service?
- A. The Company has repeatedly made assertions regarding the high level of service it believes it is providing its customers and the level of customer satisfaction.

 These assertions appear in the rebuttal testimony of several Company witnesses, specifically Gary L Rainwater, Warner L. Baxter and Thomas R. Voss.
 - Q. Are the Company's assertions accurate?

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A. No. While the Staff is not making assertions that the Company provides inadequate customer service, the indicators used by the Company are not definitive indicators of outstanding customer service.

- Q. What does the Company use to illustrate its assertion of outstanding customer service?
- A. In its testimony, the Company points to the 2001 report by the University of Michigan Business School detailing the results of the American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI) data. The ACSI is an indicator that measures customer satisfaction with the quality of goods and services that are purchased in the United States. The scores are based upon data collected from telephone interviews. ACSI scores are segregated by industry. Baseline information is included wherever possible to incorporate results from 1994 going forward. To further explain the index, I have provided the following quote from the ACSI website which is located at www.theacsi.org:

Established in 1994, the American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI) is a uniform and independent measure of household consumption experience. A powerful economic indicator, the ACSI tracks trends in customer satisfaction and provides valuable benchmarking insights of the consumer economy for companies, industry trade associations, and government agencies. The ACSI is produced through a partnership of the University of Michigan Business School, the American Society for Quality (ASQ), and the international consulting firm, CFI Group. ForeSee Results sponsors the e-commerce measurement and Market Strategies, Inc. is a major corporate sponsor of the ACSI. The ACSI is funded in part by corporate subscribers who receive industry benchmarking data and company-specific information about financial returns from improving customer satisfaction.

I have attached a copy of the survey rankings for the year 2001 as Schedule 1. The third page of the schedule shows the category of gas and electric service providers and includes the listing for "Ameren Corporation."

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Does the Staff believe that the ACSI is a useful indicator of the level of O. customer service that the Company is providing?

A. Yes, the ACSI can provide one useful indication of any trend in the level of the customer service that the Company is providing. The Staff does question the validity of any comparative ranking of companies based upon their ACSI score.

- Q. Why does the Staff believe that this ranking does not represent the best indicator of customer service?
- Α. It is difficult to conduct true comparative analysis among companies. There are so many variables affecting the Company's operating environment that such comparisons are of limited value. Such variables can include, for example, demographics, customer mix and power supply. These differences make it difficult to select true comparators when attempting to make conclusions on the basis of performance indicators. One runs the risk of comparing apples to oranges, making the conclusions drawn from the exercise, of very little value. Dr. Dennis Weisman on page 13 of his rebuttal testimony for the Company also refers to and admits the difficulty associated with such undertakings.

The basic idea is to create a "yardstick" by which the regulator can evaluate the relative performance of the utility even though the utility may not face actual competition. While this is inherently a very difficult undertaking and can often not be achieved with precision, the key point is that the utility's performance is measured and rewarded or penalized based on a comparison with other utilities that provide service under comparable conditions.

- Q. Is there a better indicator of the Company's performance than the comparative rankings?
- A. The Company's own performance measured against itself over time provides a better assessment of whether present levels of service have deteriorated or

improved. The ACSI website notes the usefulness of the information to provide trend data and valuable benchmarks.

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Q. Did the Staff make any attempt to evaluate the list of companies included in the ACSI for their comparability?

The Staff did a preliminary review of the companies that were included

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with Ameren in the year 2001 ACSI within the category of providers of gas and electric service. For each of these companies, the Staff attempted to determine the states where

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they were providing electric and gas distribution services. Staff then selected the

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following two variables to apply to the list of companies: 1) whether these states had

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retail electric competition and/or 2) whether these states had alternative regulation

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programs in place.

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the 14 companies that were included in the 2001 rankings. The results of this analysis are

The Staff's review showed wide variations in both criteria for

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contained in Schedule 2. Fundamental differences among these companies will reduce

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the validity of any comparative ranking with Ameren Corporation (Ameren).

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Q. Are there other problems associated with the use of the 2001 ACSI data to

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support the Company's assertion of excellent customer service?

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A. Ameren participated in the ACSI survey for the first time in the year 2001.

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This is the information that is the sole basis for its assertions of outstanding service.

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Current data through the end of the first quarter of 2002 shows a decline in Ameren's

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ranking from year 2001 to the first quarter of 2002. Schedule 3 is a copy of the first

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quarter results from 2002. The Company's score declined from 78 to 76 and dropped it

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from its prior position of third to fourth. There were eighteen companies ranked and

	Surrebuttal Testimony of Deborah Ann Bernsen
1	Ameren was the only company in the top ten of the rankings that suffered a reduction in
2	its index.
3	Q. Does Mr. Voss's Schedule 4 show that the prior program, the
4	Experimental Alternative Regulation Plan, (EARP) effected a greater rate of
5	improvement in customer service than that which occurred without the EARP?
6	A. No. This schedule actually shows that the rate of improvement in
7	favorable responses from consumers was reduced during EARP. The Company's
8	performance was fairly flat over the period of 1996 to 2000.
9	Q. Are there other sources of information regarding the levels of customer
10	satisfaction in addition to Mr. Voss's testimony?
11	A. Yes. Attached as Schedule 4 is a portion of the material provided in
12	response to OPC Data Request No. 669. This schedule was classified as proprietary by
13	Ameren. I believe this material provides a more accurate representation of how Ameren
14	actually views its level of customer satisfaction.
15	Q. What specifically does Schedule 4 show?
16	A. Schedule 4 contains ** P
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18	P
19	P
20	P
21	P P



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Q. Does Staff have an opinion regarding the quality of customer service that Ameren provides to its customers?

A. Yes. Union Electric is providing safe and adequate service. This service can be improved at this Company as it can at any company. The Staff did complete a review of the Company's primary customer service functions in May of 1999. The final report included 28 recommendations which identified potential areas for improvements at the Company. The Company responded to the audit report in August of 1999 with an Audit Recommendation Implementation Plan. This Implementation Plan provided the Company's responses to the audit and delineated the actions that the Company intended to take to address the recommendations. Since that time, the Staff has performed a preliminary review of the Company's actions and intends to conduct a detailed review and produce a formal report in the summer of 2003. This review will provide the Staff with information on the Company's actions to address potential improvements, allow the Staff to witness operating procedures and also include a review of present levels of service.



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1 Q. Was the Staff's audit of customer service functions in any way tied to the 2 Company's participation in an alternative regulation plan? 3 A. No. The audit was initiated as a part of the Staff's ongoing program of 4 conducting reviews of the customer service functions at utilities regulated by the 5 Commission, regardless of whether the utility operates under traditional regulation or an 6 alternative form of regulation. 7 Q. Is it possible that some of the customer service improvements that have 8 occurred over the last three years are attributable to recommendations made by the Staff's 9 audit? 10 Yes. The Staff's audit report made 28 recommendations for improvement 11 potentials in the area of customer service that are independent of the EARP. It is not 12 likely that all of the improvements that the Company asserts it has implemented are due 13 to the existence of an EARP. 14 **DEFICIENCIES WITH ALTERNATIVE REGULATION PLAN** 15 Q. Do you have any comments regarding the structure of the alternative 16 regulation plan as submitted by the Company in its rebuttal testimony? 17 A. Yes. I do have a few comments to make regarding the design of the 18 alternative regulation plan from the viewpoint of a management analyst. My evaluation 19 focused upon the components of the Company's proposal as a properly structured 20 alternative regulation plan. My comments concentrate on what I believe are deficiencies 21 in the following two areas: 22 ?? The lack of a response mechanism to declining performance; and

?? The lack of any stated objectives.

Q. Is the exclusion of a response mechanism within the alternative regulation plan a deficiency?

A. Yes. I would suggest that the alternative regulation plan be modified to incorporate a default provision to address situations where the Company is unable to meet its service objectives. The focus of the proposed alternative regulation plan seems to be based on the achievement of a return on equity (ROE) and the monies that will be given to customers when the Company achieves various returns. The alternative regulation plan does not address the issue of what occurs if there is a deterioration of customer service in order to achieve an ROE level. In effect, the Company is given the opportunity to earn higher returns but has no risk if customer service suffers. While it may appear that there is an "incentive" to perform better financially, there is no disincentive to achieve these financial results as a consequence of decreased customer service. A default provision would help ensure that financial results are not achieved at the expense of customer service levels.

- Q. How would you suggest that a default provision be developed and applied?
- A. The actual structure of a default provision would be dependent upon the structure of the alternative regulation plan. One method may be to develop current objectives for service based upon historical levels and present technology. These objectives should encompass a range of functions to ensure that overall customer service does not suffer in order to show an improvement in certain customer service areas. If the Company's performance does not meet its service objective, an adjustment would be made to the sharing grid to retain an amount of earnings that would have gone to the

Company as a result of an alternative regulation plan. The Company's share of the earnings would be retained subject to the recommendations of the parties and /or order of the Commission respecting the Company not having met a service objective. I address a specific reporting of information and associated responses later in this testimony.

- Q. You have also cited the lack of defined objectives for the proposed alternative regulation plan. Why is this a deficiency?
- A. Without stated objectives and expectations and the associated methods of tracking the actual performance of the alternative regulation plan, the Company, as well as the Staff, would be unable to actually measure the success of the plan. At this stage, no one knows what the alternative regulation plan is designed to accomplish other than to avoid a large rate reduction. The Company has not included any proposals on methods of assessing the effectiveness of the alternative regulation plan, and without these, it will not be possible to determine specifically what the alternative regulation plan actually accomplished. A similar lack of comprehensive objectives was identified as a deficiency in the previous plans, the Experimental Alternative Regulation Plans (EARPs). While the proposed plan includes the reporting of information on service levels at the call center and distribution reliability standards, it still does not offer any specified objectives for determining the performance of the alternative regulation plan in other areas.

The issue raised by the Staff in the past regarding customer benefits is still valid. The fundamental measure of success will be whether Missouri electric customers receive benefits under an alternative regulation plan that they would not have had available to them under traditional regulation. The failure to address this issue will

greatly increase the probability that the parties will be in a similar proceeding at the expiration of any new alternative regulation plan.

SERVICE INDICATORS REPORTING

- Q. Has the Company suggested service quality indicators as a part of its proposed alternative regulation plan?
- A. Yes, these indicators and their reporting are discussed in the rebuttal testimony of Warner L. Baxter. The details of the monitoring reports that the Company is proposing are contained on page 15 of Schedule 1 to Mr. Baxter's rebutted testimony. These monitoring reports include information on call center service quality and distribution system reliability.
- Q. What is the Staff proposing in this case regarding the provision and reporting of service indicator information?
- A. The Staff believes that such indicators and their reporting is essential to any alternative regulation plan. As a consequence, Staff is recommending that the Company be required to provide the service indicator information to the Commission Staff on a regular basis, if the Commission decides to allow the Company to operate under any alternative regulation plan.
- Q. Can the use of service indicators provide complete assurance that customers are receiving a high level of service?
- A. No. While the use of indicators can provide a useful management tool and can be used to help direct further inquiry, an indicator cannot provide assurance that deficiencies are not present in other facets of customer service. The Staff maintains that indicators do provide a useful tool to monitor changes and trends in specific areas. These

trends alert the Company, Staff and other parties to deviations from expected or required levels of customer service as well as potential problems in the Company's operation.

Q. Should objectives be set for specific indicators?

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A. Yes. The Commission should direct the Company to develop and adopt objectives for each of the indicators being monitored. These objectives should be set based upon historical performance and present technology and should represent meaningful yet challenging objectives. The parties to this proceeding should agree to these objectives. If the parties are unable to reach an agreement on the level of objectives to be utilized, the Commission would be required to consider the proposed alternatives and select the objectives to be used within the performance monitoring. Objectives should be reviewed on a yearly basis to determine their ongoing appropriateness.

Q. What is the Staff recommending for a reporting mechanism for these indicators?

A. The Staff recommends that the Commission require the Company to provide actual monthly performance information regarding its customer service indicators. My focus in this surrebuttal testimony is upon the Company's call center performance. Staff witness James L. Ketter of the Commission's Energy Department addresses the issue of distribution system reliability in his surrebuttal testimony. Staff witness Michael Proctor also sets out in his surrebuttal testimony important requirements for an alternative regulation plan and he includes a discussion of other performance indicators.

It is important to note that the Company presently maintains information on all of the indicators noted here. These indicators are the same as those suggested by

Mr. Baxter and presented in his Schedule 1. At a minimum, the information that should be reported includes the following:

- ?? Call Center Abandoned Call Rate (ACR), including call volumes
- ?? Call Center Average Speed of Answer (ASA)
- ?? Distribution Reliability Customer Average Interruption Duration Index (CAIDI)
- ?? Distribution Reliability System Average Interruption Frequency Index (SAIFI)
- ?? Distribution Reliability System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI)

Staff recommends that the Company file this information in an electronic format within 30 days of the end of each month. Additionally, Staff recommends the Company file within 45 days after the end of each 12-month period, a report with the Commission that includes actual performance on these indicators for the year, explanation of any significant deviations from prior performance by the present indicators, anticipated actions to be undertaken to improve performance, estimated costs to complete these actions and the estimated dates of completion. In addition to these formal procedures, it is recommended that the Staff and Company meet informally to discuss significant changes in either the performance of or the measurement technique for these indicators whenever such occur.

- Q. What do the indicators previously listed measure?
- A. Staff witness Ketter addresses in his surrebuttal testimony the distribution reliability indicators, and I address the indicators that relate to the call center's performance.

The Abandoned Call Rate (ACR) is the percentage of telephone calls that are terminated by the customer after the call has been answered and placed in the network

queue. Typically, a call is abandoned because the wait time for it to be responded to becomes excessive in the customer's mind and the customer terminates the call. These are counted as abandoned calls and are calculated against calls received to derive a percentage of calls abandoned.

The Average Speed of Answer (ASA) is the number of seconds that the caller waits before the call is answered by an employee who will process the call.

The prior descriptions are somewhat generic to all call center measurement systems. However, the Staff has found subtle differences in how some companies calculate these indicators. The Company will need to supply a detailed description of how it computes these indicators b assure the understanding of these measurements.

Q. What does the Staff recommend if the Company's filed report indicates that it has not met its service objectives?

A. The Staff recommends that there should be a response mechanism in the event that the Company does not meet the service objectives that have been set. The Staff believes there should be a mechanism that would initially place the Company's share of earnings, based on the sharing grid, into a retention account. Based upon the issues identified in the Company's reports associated with the decline in service, the parties may agree that the retained funds should be released for Company use. However, if the deterioration in service is seen as having been due to Company actions or inactions, the parties might recommend for the Commission's decision that a portion of the funds be credited to customers and the remainder be directed at efforts to improve the Company's performance. This procedure serves to compensate the customer for receiving less than

targeted service and provides an incentive with the retention of funds to take and successfully complete actions designed to improve the actual service level.

The appropriate amount of funds to be credited to customers should be based upon a number of factors such as the amount of the variance from the objective, the number of objectives that have not been met, and the estimated amount that may be required to conduct actions designed to improve the service levels to attain the objective. If the Company and the parties cannot agree on the amounts, necessary remedial action, timing of achieving improvements, etc., recommendations would be filed with the Commission for its decision on these issues.

- Q. What other criteria may need to be specified within this response mechanism?
- A. Staff recommends that the response mechanism clearly specifies that there should be no changes in the measurement techniques. Service should not be compromised to artificially enhance the indicators.
- Q. Would verification of the information supplied by the Company on service levels be conducted?
- A. Yes. The Staff would conduct a verification of the Company's assertions regarding service levels within the context of the annual audit report that the Staff would file to report on the Company's financial information relating to the alternative regulation program. Thus an audit of Company service level performance would be performed in conjunction with the Staff's other responsibilities in assessing the effectiveness of the alternative regulation plan at the conclusion of each year of the proposed three-year time frame for its alternative regulation plan.

Q. Are there other items that should be included in a reporting mechanism to assist in monitoring the success of any alternative regulation plan approved by the Commission?

A. Yes. The Company should report a list of "best practices" that it implements for the customer services area during the term of an alternative regulation plan.

Q. What are "best practices?"

A. Best practices are normally defined as documented strategies, methods and programs that are viewed as particularly effective and efficient, that represent a break from the established methods to reach greater efficiencies or effectiveness. These

programs that are viewed as particularly effective and efficient, that represent a break from the established methods to reach greater efficiencies or effectiveness. These methods are judged as being superior to other available approaches. A best practice may actually represent a more effective way to address a particular issue or procedure. It is important to keep in mind that cost analysis is an important aspect of making the decision to implement what might be viewed as a best practice. As an example, a company may be recognized for a customer guarantee program that offers the customer financial reimbursement for missed appointments with the customer. This reporting would give the Company an opportunity to identify its accomplishments to improve service and efficiency in areas it believes its methods are outstanding.

- Q. Does Staff receive reports on service indicators and best practices from other utilities?
- A. Yes. Currently, the Staff receives reports from Missouri Gas Energy,
 Atmos Energy Company, Missouri Public Service Division of Aquila, Inc. and MissouriAmerican Water. These reports are received in order to monitor the level of customer

service being provided on matters related to call centers and distribution reliability.

These reports are a result of merger cases over the last three years at the Commission.

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The reporting of service indicators has allowed the Staff to better identify

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level of service being provided to customers. It provides the Staff with indications of what customers are experiencing when they attempt to contact the company. It has also

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presented opportunities for the Staff and companies to pinpoint problems revealed by the

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indicators and discuss solutions focused on resolving these problems expeditiously.

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Q. Should the reporting and maintenance of this information limit the

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Commission's, the Staff's or the Office of the Public Council's (OPC) ability with

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respect to discovery or any other regulatory action concerning the area of customer

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1 service?

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A. No. The reporting and maintenance of information on customer service

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indicators should in no way hinder or impair the Commission's, the Staff's or OPC's

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responsibilities to review, question or address inquiries or complaints regarding customer

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service functions at the Company. One of the basic responsibilities of the Commission,

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the Staff and OPC is to ensure that the utilities under the Commission's jurisdiction

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provide safe and adequate service.

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Q. Does the Staff presently maintain any information on the number of

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complaints that the Commission's Consumer Services Department has received on the

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Company?

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A. Yes. The Staff maintains this data for all of the companies that the

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Commission regulates. The information is periodically reviewed to monitor trends in the

number of complaints that a company is receiving. I have attached information pertaining to the Company labeled as Schedule 4.

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Q. What does Schedule 4 illustrate?

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A. The graph shows the number of complaints on the basis of complaints per 1,000 customers for years 1998 through March 2002. The number of complaints for year 2001 was dramatically reduced from years 1998, 1999 and 2000. Information for the first quarter of 2002 has however shown an increase. It should be noted that for the years 1998 through 2000 the Company operated under the second EARP. The second EARP expired in June 2001.

The Staff will monitor this indicator to determine if it continues to trend upward. If the trend continues, there should be no restriction created by an alternative regulation plan that restricts the Staff's ability to bring these matters to the Commission's attention.

- Ο. Does the Company mention the impact of the EARP upon the implementation of projects designed to enhance customer service in rebuttal testimony?
- A. Yes. Thomas R. Voss on page 10 of his rebuttal testimony notes what he characterizes as a "positive impact" that EARP had upon the implementation of projects designed to enhance customer service functions. He specifically mentions the automated reading system, the customer billing system, and call center functions.

The Staff is concerned by the inferences noted here and made throughout the Company's filing that the achievement of what it terms as quality customer service is the direct result of the EARP, and that these advances and achievements may not have occurred absent it. Other companies in Missouri regulated by this Commission have

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implemented similar programs and processes without the "incentive" of an EARP. For example, Kansas City Power and Light was reading the majority of its residential meters by an automated system by December of 1997. For another example, the Staff would cite the installation in year 2001 of a virtual hold system at the Atmos Energy Company call center to assist in reducing customer wait. These companies have seen these programs as necessary, efficient and cost justified to provide customers with good service.

- Q. Does this conclude your surrebuttal testimony?
- A. Yes, it does.

Page 19

American Customer Satisfaction Index

University of Michigan Business School

ACSI Home . What It Measures . Methodology

Transportation/Communications/Utilities & Services Sector, Industry, and Company Scores 1995-Q1/2001 May 21, 2001

COMMENTARY/ANALYSIS ON FINDINGS Transportation/Communications/Utilities & Services	E-Mart This Page

Sector/Industry/Comp (In descending order All scores are on 100-	From Previous Year	From first year measured								
	Q4 Q4 Q4 Q4 Q4 Q4 Q4 Q7 Baseline* 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 200									
TRANSPORTATION - COMMUNICATIONS - UTILITIES	75.5	75.1	75.5	71.6	71.2	70.3	70.6	68.4	- 3.1%	- 9.4%
Parcel delivery- express mail	81	81	85	80	78	79	81	78	- 3.7%	- 3.7%
Federal Express Corporation	85	85	6'8	82	80	83	83	82	-1.2%	-3.5%
United Parcel Service of America, Inc.	82	83	87	82	77	79	81	78	-3.7%	-4.9%
U.S. Postal Service- Package & Express	69	70	74	70	75	75	75	73	-2.7%	5.8%
	Baseline*	Q4 1995	Q4 1996	Q4 1997	Q4 1998	Q4 1999	Q4 2000	Q1 2001	% Changes	% Changes
U.S. Postal Service	61	69	74	69	71	71	72	70	- 2.8%	14.8%
Airlines-scheduled	72	69	69	67	65	63	63	61	- 3.2%	- 15.3%
Southwest Airlines Corporation	78	76	76	76	74	72	70	70	0.0%	-10.3%
Continental Airlines, Inc.	67	64	66	64	66	64	62	67	8.1%	0.0%
All Others	NM	70	74	70	62	67	63	64	1.6%	-8.6%
AMR Corporation (American Airlines)	70	71	71	62	67	64	63	62	-1.6%	-11.4%

Delta Airlines, Inc.	77	72	67	69	65	68	66	61	-7.6°°	-20.8°.
USAir Group, Inc.	72	67	66	68	65	61	62	60	-3.2%	-16.7
United Corporation (UAL)	71	67	70	68	65	62	62	59	-4.8%	-16.9°
Northwest Airlines Corporation	69	71	67	64	63	53	62	56	-9.7°°	-18.87
——————————————————————————————————————	Saseline ⁻	Q4 1995	Q4 1996	Q4 1997	Q4 1998	Q4 1999	Q4 2000	Q1 2001	% Changes	% Changes
Telecommunication				75	74	73	72	70	- 2,8° o	- 6.7°
Telecommunication- long distance	82	82	81							
All Others	NM	ММ	80	78	76	75	77	74	- 3.9%	- 7.5°»
AT&T Corporation	85	83	83	80	81	79	75	73	-2.7°°	-14,1%
Verizon Communications, Inc.´ (GTE)	NM	MZ	NM	77	73	74	73	72	-1.4%	-6.5° s
Sprint Corporation	79	83	80	76	76	74	70	71	1.4%	-10.13
MCI WorldCom	75	75	78	72	74	73	70	70	0.0%	-6.7°:
Telecommunication- local	79	78	77							
BellSouth Corporation	83	83	83	78	78	76	75	74	- 1.3%	- 10.8° 5
Verizon Communications, Inc. (Bell Atlantic/GTE)	NM	МИ	NM	NM	71	73	71	73	2.8%	2.8⁵₃
SBC Communications (includes Ameritech)	NM	NM	NM	NM	71	71	70	66	-5.7%	-7.0° :
All Others	77	76	74	71	72	71	70	64	-8.6%	-16.9°°
Owest Communications (US WEST)	77	76	74	71	68	67	64	51	-4.7%	-20.8°÷
	Baseline*	Q4 1995	Q4 1996	Q4 1997	Q4 1998	Q4 1999	Q4 2000	Q1 2001	% Changes	% Changes
Broadcasting-TV	77	76	70	62	65	62	64	62	- 3.1%	- 19.5° s
Energy Utilities	75	74	75	73	73	74	75	69*	- 8.0%	- 8.0° s
Gas Service										
KeySpan	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	68	NA	NA
Electric Service										

		<u></u>			,					
The Southern Company	78	78	76	77	79	78	80	80	0.0%	2.6° 5
Duke Energy Corporation	82	80	83	79	78	80	79	79	0.0%	-3.7°°
American Electric Power Company (includes CSW)	78	80	82	77	78	77	79	76	-3.8%	-2.6°°
Northeast Utilities	70	70	72	67	65	68	72	76	5.6%	8.6°°
DTE Energy (The Detroit Edison Company)	78	78	78	75	74	74	75	74	-1.3%	-5.1°6
New England Electric System (NEES)	NM	NM	NM	МИ	NM	NM	NM	73	NA	NA
The FPL Group, Inc.	77	77	74	69	75	74	76	73	-3.9%	-5.2°%
FirstEnergy	NM	ММ	NM	МИ	МИ	NM	NM	72	NA	NA
GPU (General Public Utilities Corporation)	77	79	79	69	75	75	78	72	-7.7%	-6.5%
PacifiCorp	NM	NM	МИ	NM	МИ	NM	NM	72	NA	NA
TXU (Texas Utilities / Company, Inc.)	73	74	77	70	76	74	76	71	-6.6%	-2.7%
Entergy Corporation	75	76	75	70	70	69	74	69	-6.8%	-8.0%
All Others	75	73	75	74	75	74	76	68	-10.5%	-9.3%
Reliant Energry	NM	NM	NM	68	73	73	75	67	-10.7%	-1.5%
Exelon (ComEd/Unicom & PECO)	NM	МИ	NM	MN	NM	NM	NM	66	NA	NA
SCECORP (SoCalEdison/Edison International)	76	74	77	78	75	73	78	60	-23.1%	-21.1%
					_					
	Baseline*	Q4 1995			Q4 1998	Q4 1999		Q1 2001	% Changes	% Changes
Gas and Electric Service									۰	
PPL Corporation	NM	МИ	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	80	NA	NA
Allegheny Energy, Inc.	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	79	NA	NA
Ameren Corporation	NM	NM	МИ	ММ	NM	NM	ИМ	78	NA	NA
Progress Energy	NM	ИМ	NM	NM	NM	ММ	NM	76	NA	NA
CMS Energy Corporation	79	76	77	75	73	76	76	75**	-1.3%	- 5.1%
Public Service Enterprise Group	79	80	77	75	74	73	78	75**	-3.8%	-5.1%
Energy East	NM	NM	NM	NM	МИ	NM	NM	73	NA	NA
Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation	69	73	64	65	68	68	69	69**	0.0%	0.0%

NiSource, Inc. (Nipsco	A I A A	N18.4	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	67	NA	A.L
Industries)	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	67	NA NA	 -
Sempra Energy	NM	NM	IAIAI	IAIAI	IAIAI	ININ	INIVI	6/	INA	I NA
Consolidated Edison Company of New York	77	76	74	71	69	73	71	65	-7.0%	-14.3%
Dominion Resources, Inc.	74	75	72	74	75	74	75	85**	-13.3%	-12.2%
Xcel	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	65	NA	NA
Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E)	73	71	72	71	68	71	73	49**	-32.9%	-32.9%
* 2001 Energy Utilities and electric service ** As of 2001 ACSI incl companies	·									
								<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
	Baseline*	Q4 1995	Q4 1996	Q4 1997	Q4 1998	Q4 1999	Q4 2000	Q1 2001	% Changes	% Changes
Publishing- newspaper	72	68	69	69	66	69	68	68	0.0%	-5.6%
SERVICES	74.4	74.2	71.2	67.7	72.2	70.4	69.4	68.8	- 0.9%	- 7.5%
Hotels	75	73	72	71	71	72	72	71	- 1.4%	- 5.3%
Marriott International Corporation	80	76	77	76	76	77	74	77	4.1%	-3.8%
Hilton Hotels Corporation (including Promus)	75	75	75	75	72	74	77	74	-3.9%	-1.3%
Hyatt Corporation	76	75	77	77	75	73	74	73	-1.4%	-3.9%
Holiday Inn	69	69	NM	NM	69	68	71	71	0.0%	2.9%
Starwood Hotels and Resorts Worldwide, Inc.	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	73	71	-2.7%	-2.7%
All Others	NM	73	71	71	70	71	72	70	-2.8%	-4.1%
Ramada Inns	70	69	70	64	67	67	69	66	-4.3%	-5.7%
Hospitals	74	74	71	67	72	70	69	68	- 1.4%	- 8.1%
Motion Pictures	77	77	74	71	76	71	68	71	4.4%	- 7.8%

^{*} All baseline measurements were taken in Summer, 1994.

The ACSI is updated quarterly, with results for a different set of industries each quarter.

University of Michigan ACSI Study AmerenUE/EC-2002-1

2001 COMPANY NAME Rank		STATE	RETAIL COMPETITION	ALTERNATIVE REGULATION PROGRAMS
l	PPL Corporation	Pennsylvania	Yes	No
2	Allegheny Energy, Inc	Maryland	Yes	No
2	Allegheny Energy, Inc	Ohio	Yes	No
2	Allegheny Energy, Inc	Pennsylvania	Yes	No
2	Allegheny Energy, Inc	Virginia	Yes	No
2	Allegheny Energy, Inc	West Virginia	Yes	No
3	Ameren Corporation	Misouri	No	No
3	Ameren Coporation	Illinois	Yes	Yes-Ended in 2002
4	Progress Energy	Florida	No	No
4	Progress Energy	S. Carolina	No	No
4	Progress Energy	N. Carolina	No	No
5	CMS Energy Corp.	Michigan	Yes	No
6	Public Service Enterprise Group	New Jersey	Yes	No
7	Energy East	Maine	Yes	Yes
7	Energy East	New York	Yes	Yes
7	Energy East	Connecticut	Yes	No
8	Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation	New York	Yes	Yes-Ended in 2002
9	NiSource, Inc. (Nipsco)	Kentucky	No	No
9	NiSource, Inc. (Nipsco)	Maryland	Yes	No
9	NiSource, Inc. (Nipsco)	Ohio	Yes	No
9	NiSource, Inc. (Nipsco)	Pennsylvania	Yes	No
9	NiSource, Inc. (Nipsco	Virginia	No	No
10	Sempra Energy	California	Yes	Yes
11	Consolidated Edison Co. of New York	New York	Yes	Yes
11	Consolidated Edison Co. of New York	Pennsylvania	Yes	No
11	Consolidated Edison Co. of New York	New Jersey	Yes	No
12	Dominion Resources, Inc.	Virginia	Yes	No
12	Dominion Resources, Inc.	North Carolina	No	No
12	Dominion Resources, Inc.	Ohio	Yes	No
12	Dominion Resources, Inc.	Pennsylvania	Yes	No
12	Dominion Resources, Inc.	West Virginia	Yes	No

University of Michigan ACSI Study AmerenUE/EC-2002-1

2001 Rank	COMPANY NAME	STATE	RETAIL COMPETITION	ALTERNATIVE REGULATION PROGRAMS
13	Xcel Energy	Arizona	Yes	No
13	Xcel Energy	Colorado	No	Yes
13	Xcel Energy	Kansas	No	No
13	Xcel Energy	Michigan	Yes	No
13	Xcel Energy	New Mexico	No	No
13	Xcel Energy	North Dakota	No	Yes
13	Xcel Energy	Oklahoma	No	No
13	Xcel Energy	South Dakota	No	Yes
13	Xcel Energy	Texas	Yes	No
13	Xcel Energy	Wisconsin	No	No
13	Xcel Energy	Wyoming	No	No
14	Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E)	California	Yes	Yes



D Methodology D Predictive Capabilities

Scores & Commentaries

Market of the second of the se

Products & Services

ACSI Related Subscriber Research Area

Contact The ACSI

First Quarter Scores

Transportation/Communications/Utilities & Services

Sector: Transportation/Communications/Utilities

Industries: parcel delivery, US Postal Service, airlines, telecommunications,

broadcasting/TV, publishing/newspapers, utilities

Sector: Services

Industries: hotels, hospitals, motion pictures

Next Update: May 19, 2003

Commentary by Professor Claes Fornell

Sector/Industry/Comp (In descending order All scores are on 100		From Previous Year	From first year measured								
	Baseline*	Q1 1995	Q1 1996	Q1 1997	Q1 1998	Q1 1999	Q1 2000	Q1 2001	Q1 2002	% Changes	% Changes
TRANSPORTATION											
COMMUNICATIONS - UTILITIES	75.5	75.1	75.5	71.6	71.2	70.3	70.6	68.4	70.2	2.6%	- 7.0%
Parcel Delivery- Express Mail	81	81	85	80	78	79	81	78	79	1.3%	- 2.5%
Federal Express Corporation	85	85	86	82	80	83	83	82	82	0.0%	-3.5%
United Parcel Service of America, Inc.	82	83	87	82	77	79	81	78	80	2.6%	-2.4%
U.S. Postal Service- Package & Express	69	70	74	70	75	75	75	73	73	0.0%	5.8%
	Baseline*	Q1 1995	Q1 1996		Q1 1998	Q1 1999	Q1 2000		Q1 2002	% Changes	% Changes
U.S. Postal Service	61	69	74	69	71	71	72	70	73	4.3%	19.7%
Airlines-Scheduled	72	69	69	67	65	63	63	61	66	8.2%	- 8.3%
Southwest Airlines Corporation	78	76	76	76	74	72	70	70	74	5.7%	-5.1%
All Others	NM	70	74	70	62	67	63	64	72	12.5%	2.9%

Continental Airlines							_			 	
Continental Airlines, Inc.	67	64	66	64	66	64	62	67	68	1.5%	1.5%
Delta Airlines, Inc.	77	72	67	69	65	68	66	61	66	8.2%	-14.3%
Northwest Airlines Corporation	69	71	67	64	63	53_	62	56	65	16.1%	-5.8%
United Corporation (UAL)	71	67	70	68	65	62	62	59	64	8.5%	-9.9%
AMR Corporation (American Airlines)	70	71	71	62	67	64	63	62	63	1.6%	-10.0%
USAir Group, Inc.	72	67	66	68	65	61	62	60	63	5.0%	-12.5%
	Baseline*	Q1 1995	Q1 1996	Q1 1997	Q1 1998	Q1 1999	Q1 2000	Q1 2001	Q1 2002	% Changes	% Changes
Telecommunication				75	74	73	72	70	71	1.4%	-5.3%
Telecommunication- Long Distance	82	82	81								<u>- </u>
Sprint Corporation	79	83	80	76	76	74	70	71	74	4.2%	-6.3%
Verizon Communications, Inc. (GTE)	NM	NM	NM	77	73	74	73	72	74	2.8%	-3.9%
All Others	NM	NM	80	78	76	75	77	74	73	- 1.4%	- 8.8%
AT&T Corporation	85	83	83	80	81	79	75	73	73	0.0%	-14.1%
WorldCom	75	75	78	72	74	73	70	70	70	0.0%	-6.7%
Telecommunication- Local	79	78	77			-			<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
BellSouth Corporation	83	83	83	78	78	76	75	74	74	0.0%	- 10.8%
All Others	77	76	74	71	72	71	70	64	73	14.1%	-5.2%
SBC Communications (includes Ameritech)	NM	NM	NM	NM	71	71	70	66	67	1.5%	-5.6%
Verizon Communications, Inc. (Bell Atlantic/GTE)	NM	NM	NM	NM	71	73	71	73	67	-8.2%	5.6%
Qwest Communications (US WEST)	77	76	74	71	68	67	64	61	56	-8.2%	-27.3%
Cable/Catallite T/	2124	2120	N12.5	N18.0	NM	NM	NM	64	61	-4.7%	-4.7%
Cable/Satellite TV DIRECTV, Inc.	NM NM	NM NM	NM NM	NM NM	NM	NM	NM	70	70	0.0%	
EchoStar	INIVI	INIVI	INIVI	INIVI	INIVI	IVIVI	INIVI	+ "	1,0	0.076	0.0%
Communications Corporation	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	71	68	-4.2%	-4.2%
All Others	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	62	63	1.6%	1.6%

AOL Time Warner Inc.	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	63	61.	-3.2%	-3.2%
AT&T Corporation	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	62	56	-9.7%	-9.7%
Comcast Corporation	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	64	56	-12.5%	-12.5%
Charter Communications	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	63	53	-15.9%	-15.9%
	Baseline*	Q1 1995	Q1 1996	Q1 1997	Q1 1998	Q1 1999	Q1 2000	Q1 2001	Q1 2002	% Changes	% Changes
Broadcasting-TV	77	76	70	62	65	62	64	62	65	4.8%	-15.6%
Energy Utilities	75	74	75	73	73	74	75	69*	73	5.8%	-2.7%
All Others	75	73	75	74	75	74	76	68	74	8.8%	-1.3%
Gas Service							. •		, , ,	0.070	1.070
KeySpan	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	68	72	5.9%	5.9%
Electric Service										0.0 /	
The Southern Company	78	78	76	77	79	78	80	80	81	1.3%	3.8%
Duke Energy Corporation	82	80	83	79	78	80	79	79	79	0.0%	-3.7%
FirstEnergy (includes GPU)	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	72	77	6.9%	6.9%
American Electric Power Company (includes CSW)	78	80	82	7 7	78	77	79	76	75	-1.3%	-3.8%
Entergy Corporation	75	76	75	70	70	69	74	69	74	7.2%	-1.3%
Reliant Energry	NM	NM	NM	68	73	73	75	67	74	10.4%	10.4%
PacifiCorp	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	72	71	-1.4%	-1.4%
The FPL Group, Inc.	77	77	74	69	75	74	76	73	71	-2.7%	-7.8%
SCECORP (SoCalEdison/Edison International)	_76	74	77	78	75	73	78	60	66	10.0%	-13.2%
	Baseline*	Q1 1995		Q1 1997	Q1 1998	Q1 1999	'Q1 2000	Q1 2001	Q1 2002	% Changes	% Changes
Gas and Electric Service											
Allegheny Energy, Inc.	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	79	80	1.3%	
PPL Corporation	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	80	80	0.0%	
Progress Energy	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	76	77	1.3%	_
Ameren Corporation	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	78	76	-2.6%	-2.6%
CMS Energy Corporation	79	76	77	75	73	76	76	75**	76	1.3%	-3.8%

Enterprise Group	79	80	77	75	74	73	78	75**	76	1.3%	-3.8%
TXU (Texas Utilities Company, Inc.)	73	74	77	70	76	74	76	71	75	5.6%	2.7%
Consolidated Edison Company of New York	77	76	74	71	69	73	71	66**	74	12.1%	-3.9%
Sempra Energy	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	67	74	10.4%	10.4%
Xcel	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	65	74	13.8%	13.8%
Energy East	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	73	73	0.0%	0.0%
National Grid USA (Niagra Mohawk & NEES)	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	73	NA	NA
Northeast Utilities	70	70	72	67	65	68	72	76	72	-5.3%	2.9%
Dominion Resources, Inc.	74	75	72	74	75	74	75	65**	70	7.7%	-5.4%
Exelon (ComEd/Unicom & PECO)	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	66	69	4.5%	4.5%
DTE Energy (The Detroit Edison Company)	78	78	78	75	74	74	75	74	68	-8.1%	-12.8%
NiSource, Inc. (Nipsco Industries)	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	67	68	1.5%	1.5%
Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E)	73	71	72	71	68	71	73	49**	58	18.4%	-20.5%
* 2001 Energy Utilities	industry oor	A									
gas and electric servic ** As of 2001 ACSI inc companies	e										
gas and electric servic ** As of 2001 ACSI inc	ecludes the ga	as serv	ice of t	hese Q1	Q1 1998	Q1 1990	Q1 2000	Q1 2001	Q1 2002	%	% Changes
gas and electric service ** As of 2001 ACSI inc	e	as serv	ice of t	hese Q1		Q1 1999 69	Q1 2000 68	Q1 2001	Q1 2002	% Changes -7.4%	% Changes -12.5%
gas and electric service ** As of 2001 ACSI incompanies Publishing-	eludes the ga	Q1 1995	Q1 1996	Q1 1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	Changes	Changes
gas and electric service ** As of 2001 ACSI incompanies Publishing- Newspaper	Baseline*	Q1 1995 68	Q1 1996	Q1 1997 69	1998 66	1999 69	2000 68	2001 68	63	Changes -7.4%	Changes -12.5%
gas and electric service ** As of 2001 ACSI incompanies Publishing- Newspaper	Baseline*	Q1 1995 68	Q1 1996	Q1 1997 69	1998 66	1999 69	2000 68	2001 68	63	Changes -7.4%	-12.5% -5.6%
gas and electric service ** As of 2001 ACSI incompanies Publishing- Newspaper SERVICES	Baseline*	Q1 1995 68	Q1 1996 69	Q1 1997 69	1998 66 72.2	69 70.4	68 69.4	68 68.8	63 70.2	-7.4% 2.0%	-12.5% -5.6% - 5.3%
gas and electric service ** As of 2001 ACSI incompanies Publishing- Newspaper SERVICES Hotels Hitton Hotels Corporation	Baseline* 72 74.4	Q1 1995 68 74.2	Q1 1996 69 71.2	Q1 1997 69 67.7	1998 66 72.2 71	70.4 72	68 69.4 72	68 68.8 71	63 70.2 71	-7.4% 2.0% 0.0%	Changes -12.5%

All Others	NM	73	71	71	70	71	72	70	70	0.0%	-4.1%
Holiday Inn	69	69	NM	NM	69	68	71	71	69	-2.8%	0.0%
Starwood Hotels and Resorts Worldwide, Inc.	NM_	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	73	71	69	-2.8%	-5.5%
Ramada Inns	70	69	70	64	67	67	69	66	67	1.5%	-4.3%
Hospitals	74	74	71	67	72	70	69	68	70	2.9%	-5.4%
Motion Pictures	77	77	74	71	76	71	68	71	70	-1.4%	-9.1%
Finance/Insurance			!	l, T	i		L	I]		<u>_</u>
Healthcare Insurance	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	68	NA	NA
All Others	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	70	NA	NA
Blue Cross Blue Shield Association	NM_	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	66	NA	NA
United Healthcare	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	66	NA	NA
Aetna, Inc.	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	64	NA	NA

^{*} All baseline measurements were taken in Summer, 1994.

<u>Home</u>

Top of Page

BERNSEN

SCHEDULE 4

DEEMED

PROPRIETARY

IN ITS ENTIRETY

Z 0 → 1998 → 1999 → 2000 ★ 2001 ★ 2002 S AmerenUE Complaints Per 1000 Customers V January 1998 - March 2002 Months Σ X Σ ш 0.8 9.0 0 0.4 (Calculated on an Annualized Basis) Complaints Per 1000 Customers