## **BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

## **OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

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Noranda Aluminum, Inc., et al., Complainants, v. Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri, Respondent.

Case No. EC-2014-0224 Case No. EC-2014-0223

## **NOTICE OF COMMUNICATION**

Issue Date: September 29th, 2014

We received the attached e-mail on September 26, 2014 from Mr. Emil Ramirez, United Steelworkers District 11 Director, regarding the above referenced case.

The Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") has promulgated rules denoted as the "Standards of Conduct" at 4 CSR 240-4.010 and 4.020. Section 4 CSR 240-4.20 specifically deals with Ex Parte and Extra-Record Communication Rules. This notice is filed in conformance with the rule.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Stephen M. Stoll Commissioner

William P. Kenney Commissioner

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Daniel Y. Hall Commissioner

Scott T. Rupp Commissioner

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, On this 29th day of September, 2014.

Mark D. Hughes Advisor to Commissioner Stoll

Cachel M Alwin

Rachel M. Lewis Advisor to Commissioner Kenney

Amy Moore Advisor to Commissioner Hall

Rachel Hassani Advisor to Commissioner Rupp

From: Sent: To: Subject: Attachments: Ramirez, Emil Friday, September 26, 2014 2:23 PM Stoll, Steve; Kenney, Bill; Hall, Daniel; Rupp, Scott Noranda Aluminum 09-15-14 Missouri Public Service Commission Ltr.pdf

Honorable Commissioners: Good afternoon Gentlemen. As a resident of Kansas City, Missouri and in my position as United Steelworkers District 11 Director, I'm writing to ask for your support for the Office of Public Counsel's compromise stipulation pertaining to Noranda Aluminum, where the United Steelworkers union represents 900 employees in good paying jobs. I ask you to grant the Office of Public Counsel's motion for a rehearing in this case. I have attached a letter from the United Steelworkers International President Leo Gerard, that was emailed and sent by U.S. Mail last week. After following up, I understand this letter was placed into the PSC's "public comment" file, rather than in the proper case file. Thank you for your consideration and for your service to the residents of Missouri.

Emil Ramirez, Director United Steelworkers, District 11 2929 University Ave SE. Suite 150 Minneapolis, Mn. 55414 (O) 612-623-8045 (F) 612-623-8854





**UNITY AND STRENGTH FOR WORKERS** 

September 15, 2014

Sent via email to: pscinfo@psc.mo.gov

Missouri Public Service Commission 200 Madison Street Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of the United Steelworkers' 1.2 million North American members and retirees, I urge you to lower the electricity rate at Noranda's New Madrid aluminum plant. Noranda Aluminum is the largest union employer in Southeast Missouri and a vital part of the Missouri economy. Your support for the Office of Public Counsel's compromise stipulation will not only save 900 family-supporting jobs in New Madrid, it will help prevent the further erosion of good-paying manufacturing jobs in America's heartland.

The United Steelworkers are bullish on the future of the aluminum industry. From cars to home building materials, the uses for aluminum are growing every day and will continue to do so. However, the process our skilled workers go through to make aluminum is highly energy intensive. The New Madrid plant's short-term survival and long-term viability is tied directly to the cost Noranda pays for electricity.

Currently, the New Madrid plant's electricity bill is more than \$160 million annually. That outrageous sum means Noranda pays the second-highest electricity rate of any U.S. smelter. This power rate represents a recipe for economic disaster and ultimately will lead to the elimination of jobs that simply won't ever return to Missouri.

Thirty-five years ago this country was home to 32 aluminum smelters. These smelters employed thousands of men and women in organized labor. These were the type of jobs that personified a growing middle class, the true key to America's economic well-being. Today only nine smelters remain. We cannot allow New Madrid to become the next Ormet, or Goldendale or Ravenswood. The power to save these jobs and this plant lies squarely in your hands.

The beauty of the Office of Public Counsel's compromise stipulation is that it protects ratepayers, as evidenced by the support of leading consumer groups in Missouri, while holding Ameren harmless, and yet still provides Noranda the affordability it needs to thrive.

United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union

The United Steelworkers ask you to grant the Office of Public Counsel's motion for a rehearing in this case, and ultimately to accept the OPC's compromise stipulation.

As International President, my focus is to preserve and create union-wage jobs that support middle-class families and their communities. There are no more important union-wage, middle-class jobs in Southeast Missouri than these, and the communities they support.

Thank you for your public service and your dedication to Missouri. But most importantly, thank you for giving every consideration to this important case. What you do in this instance will have a profound effect on the Missouri middle class.

Sincerely, Loo W. Nevard

Leo W. Gerard International President

c: The Honorable Jay Nixon, Governor of Missouri