

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

Noranda Aluminum, Inc., et al., Complainants, v.)
Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri,) Case No. EC-2014-0224
Respondent.)

NOTICE OF COMMUNICATION

Issue Date: May 28, 2014

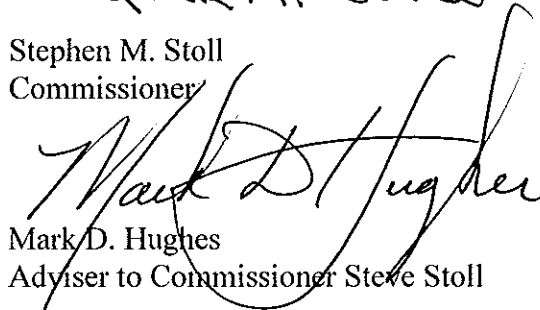
I received the attached letters, via US mail, regarding the above referenced case.

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,



Stephen M. Stoll
Commissioner



Mark D. Hughes
Adviser to Commissioner Steve Stoll

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
On this 28th day of May, 2014.



✓

Jefferson City
Area Chamber of Commerce

May 9, 2014

Robert S. Kenney, Chairman
Stephen M. Stoll, Commissioner
William P. Kenney, Commissioner
Daniel Y. Hall, Commissioner
Scott T. Rupp, Commissioner

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

Dear Honorable Chairman and Commissioners:


The Jefferson City Area Chamber of Commerce would like to express its strong concern about the negative impact the rate shift case filed by Noranda Aluminum would have on many of our local area businesses and would like to voice our opposition to this rate shift case.

With a low rate for electricity that is already 60 percent below rates paid by the average Ameren Missouri residential customer, Noranda Aluminum's request for an additional 25 percent rate reduction goes too far. This reduction would shift costs to other Ameren customers including those in Cole County.

With this in mind we urge the Missouri PSC to deny Noranda's proposal.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



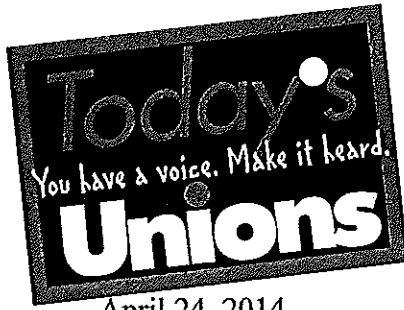
Randall G. Allen, President/CEO
Jefferson City Area Chamber of Commerce

CC: Bob Gilbert, Chairman of the Board
Senator Mike Kehoe
Representative Mike Bernskoetter
Representative Jay Barnes

your business
OUR FOCUS.

Greater St. Louis Labor Council,

AFL-CIO



3301 Hollenberg Drive
Bridgeton, MO 63044
Phone: 314-291-8666
FAX: 314-291-8676
E-mail: Slclc.org

April 24, 2014

Commissioner Stephen M. Stoll
Missouri Public Service Commission
200 Madison Street
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

Dear Commissioner Stoll:

There is a rate request pending before you that will undoubtedly have a huge effect on 900 working families in Missouri. Noranda Aluminum is the single largest employer of union labor in Southeast Missouri and an important economic engine in our state's economy. For these bread and butter economic reasons, the Greater St. Louis Labor Council *wholeheartedly* supports Noranda's filing for rate relief before the PSC.

For decades we have watched as good paying Midwestern manufacturing jobs have been shipped overseas. Nowhere has this been truer than when it comes to aluminum smelters. In 1980 there were 32 aluminum smelters operating in the U.S., providing thousands of good-paying union jobs and lifting up this country's middle class. Today there are only nine aluminum smelters left. Meanwhile, aluminum production in China has skyrocketed.

Of those nine remaining smelters, Noranda's plant in New Madrid pays the second-highest electricity rates. The New Madrid plant is also one of only two U.S. smelters not currently receiving any type of economic development support for power cost.

The future of Noranda workers is dependent on reducing these electricity costs. We are pleased that Noranda has proposed to do this in a manner that is friendly to consumers. Contrary to aluminum smelters in other states, Noranda has developed a proposal along with consumers groups that significantly reduces the burden this rate relief will cause other ratepayers. It also saves consumers more than the alternative – Noranda closing the plant or being forced to buy electricity on the private market. Under these scenarios, the remaining Ameren customers would pay larger electricity rate increases.

Missouri Public Service Commission

April 24, 2014

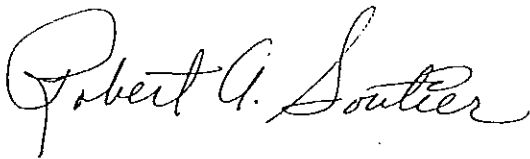
Page two

We also appreciate that this proposal won't cost Ameren a single penny of revenue. For decades Ameren Missouri has been a good corporate citizen and union employer and will continue to be so for years to come.

The Greater St. Louis Labor Council fights vigorously to retain and grow family supporting manufacturing jobs in this state. The 900 Noranda employees deserve all of our help and support in ensuring that they continue to work for years to come. By supporting Noranda's proposal for rate relief, the Missouri Public Service Commission will be aiding Missouri's economy, protecting ratepayers, and helping hundreds of workers.

We appreciate your public service and thank you in advance for your hard work on this important economic matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert A. Soutier".

Robert A. Soutier

President

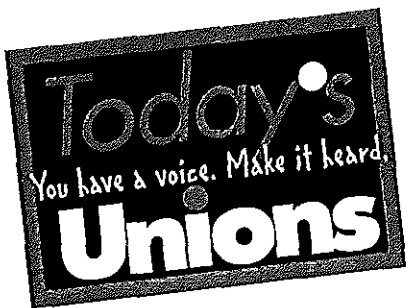
RAS:ks

opeiu #13

cc: Chairman Robert S. Kenney
Commissioner Bill P. Kenney
Commissioner Daniel Y. Hall
Commissioner Scott T. Rupp
Charles Skoda, Noranda

Greater St. Louis Labor Council,

AFL-CIO



3301 Hollenberg Drive
Bridgeton, MO 63044
Phone: 314-291-8666
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April 29, 2014

Commissioner Stephen M. Stoll
Missouri Public Service Commission
200 Madison Street
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

Dear Commissioner Stoll:

On April 24, 2014 you received a letter from me regarding Noranda's request for rate relief by the PSC. I am retracting the letter due to several statements which I have found to be incorrect.

The St. Louis Labor Council has supported Ameren and its commitment to the State of Missouri and its workforce in the past, and will continue to do so. Organized Labor is not taking a stance either for or against the PCS decision to grant rate relief to anyone. Our position has and will remain on the side of workers.

Ameren has a strong record of providing good quality jobs which benefit the workers we represent at the Council, and for this reason I ask you to disregard the April 24, 2014 letter.

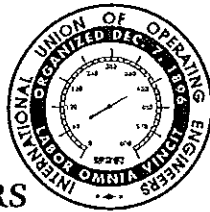
I am truly sorry for any confusion created by my error and will, in the future be quicker to investigate the facts and examine all the information required for a thorough response.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Soutier, President

RAS:kl

LOCAL
148
OPERATING ENGINEERS
AFL-CIO



Missouri Office: 2929 South Jefferson Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63118
Phone - 314-865-1300
Fax - 314-865-1423

Illinois Office: 1406 North 5th Street
Vandalia, IL 62471
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May 9, 2014

Chairman Robert S. Kenney
Missouri Public Service Commission
200 Madison Street
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

RE: EC-2014-0223
EC-2014-0224

Dear Commissioner Kenney:

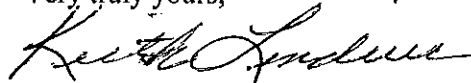
As the Business Manager of the Operating Engineers Local 148 which represents over 1000 Ameren employees, I am writing to communicate the position of my union regarding the above matters.

Case EC-2014-0223 alleges that Ameren earned more than it should have during the period of October 2012 through September 2013. This assertion ignores that fact that, in setting the current rates, the PSC thoroughly reviewed Ameren's books and records. Moreover, Ameren has been required to invest a tremendous amount in capital improvements, including infrastructure, renewable energy projects, and energy efficiency programs. These investments have benefited the local community by generating good-paying jobs and have benefited Ameren's customers by giving us safe, reliable and cleaner energy. Ameren's revenues flow directly back to the public in the form of decent wages to its employees and the employees of its subcontractors, a steady supply of power and a better environment.

Case EC-2014-0224 is an effort to shift Noranda's rates to the rest of the community. The fact is that Noranda already pays rates which are 60% lower than the rates paid by Ameren's residential customers. Common sense dictates that if Noranda's rates are reduced even further, the cost will be borne by other customers and businesses. The suggestion that Noranda should be subsidized at the expense of everyone else is patently risible.

For the above reasons, both of the above cases are without merit.

Very truly yours,


KEITH LINDERER
Business Manager

cc: Commissioner Bill P. Kenney
Commissioner Stephen M. Stoll
Commissioner Daniel Y. Hall
Commissioner Scott T. Rupp

KL:sr/ibew1455



"we keep the lights on"



International Brotherhood
of Electrical Workers
Local No. 1439
Affiliated with A.F.L. – C.I.O.

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2121 59th Street
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May 16, 2014

Chairman Robert S. Kenney
Missouri Public Service Commission
200 Madison Street/PO Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

RE: EC-2014-0223
EC-2014-0224

Dear Chairman Kenney:

This correspondence is in regard to the above-captioned cases before the commission.

As the Business Manager of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 1439, I represent 755 members who are employed by Ameren/Missouri.

As to Case # EC-2014-0223, it is virtually impossible for me to assert that Ameren earned more than it was allowed during the period of October 2012 through September 2013. Local 1439, like all customers of Ameren, seriously depend on the Public Service Commission to make that determination. However, I can confidently speak to the requirements of Ameren to update and improve an aged electric infrastructure.

We can all be proud of the safe, reliable and economical electric which is provided to the citizens of Missouri. I would be more than glad to explain my opinion and perception of Ameren's operations if so requested.

As to Case # EC-2014-0224, it is my opinion that Noranda is attempting, by virtue of the Public Service Commission, to negotiate an even larger discount on their electric rates. As I understand it, Noranda is requesting that the remainder of the customers in Missouri basically subsidize their business. Presently, Noranda pays 60% less than I do for their electricity. I find it difficult to find any justification for such a proposal.



I sincerely appreciate your willingness to consider my correspondence regarding these matters. Again, I would be more than willing to provide any more information to which I can accurately speak.

Very truly yours,



Michael D. Walter
Business Manager

MDW:kk

cc: Commissioner Bill P. Kenney
Commissioner Stephen M. Stoll ✓
Commissioner Daniel Y. Hall
Commissioner Scott T. Rupp

#1455



1700 Rainbow Boulevard
Excelsior Springs, MO 64024

816/630-6081

Fax: 816/629-2701
www.eshospital.org

May 19, 2014 ✓

Robert S. Kenney, Chairman
Stephen M. Stoll, Commissioner
William P. Kenney, Commissioner
Daniel Y. Hall, Commissioner
Scott T. Rupp, Commissioner

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

Dear Honorable Chairman and Commissioners:

This letter is to express our opposition to Noranda Aluminum's request for a lower electric rate from Ameren Missouri.

If approved, the rate reduction for this company would cost other Ameren Missouri customers over \$500 million dollars over the next ten years.

Noranda claims that it needs the rate reduction due to financial hardship. We are a small Critical Access Hospital and will be burdened with tremendous payment cuts from Medicare and Medicaid over the next ten years. There are 35 Critical Access Hospitals in Missouri like us; seven are in the Ameren Missouri service area. These hospitals provide emergency and hospital services to rural areas that would otherwise have no access to lifesaving care. Most of us are community-owned and all are not-for-profit. We are suffering from financial hardship too and cannot afford to subsidize Noranda's energy cost.

It is estimated that our electric bill will increase over \$60,000 over the next ten years if you approve the rate reduction. We can't afford this increase and we will receive no direct benefit from the increased cost.

Noranda already has the lowest electric rate in Missouri. They are a Tennessee-based company and pays 60% less than what I do for electricity.

In rural areas, hospitals are the communities' life-line. We have eight Critical Access Hospitals in Missouri that are currently struggling and are in danger of closing. Please do not add to the financial stress we are already under by shifting the cost of this company's energy onto us.

We can't afford it and it simply isn't fair.

Sincerely,

Sally Nance, CEO
Excelsior Springs Hospital



**M-D Building
Products**



Loren A Plotkin
President/CEO

May 19, 2014

Stephen M. Stoll, Commissioner
Public Service Commission
State of Missouri
PO Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

Dear Commissioner Stoll,

I am writing to ask you to deny Noranda's February 12th Public Service Commission (PSC) request for an electric rate reduction. This request will soon come to a vote and I urge you to vote 'NO'. Today, Missouri already has higher electric rates compared to other states in which we do business. Approval of the request will further compound this competitive disadvantage to doing business in Missouri.

M-D Building Products in Hayti, MO employs over one-hundred and fifty (150) local residents. Since the plant's inception as part of the Loxcren Corporation in the mid-70s, the manufacturing facility has created stability and jobs in the "Bootheel". Today, we already pay a 15% premium on electricity in comparison to our plant in Oklahoma City. Noranda's request will negatively impact our annual rates (based on current usage) by another \$130,000. At that point, our comparable electric costs will equate to greater than a quarter-million dollars (\$250,000) annually, at which point we would seriously evaluate relocation. Relocation of our facility will reduce one-hundred and fifty (150) jobs in a corner of Missouri which desperately needs employment.

The PSC plays a vital role in the competitiveness of Missouri's business environment as it relates to electric rates. I am urging the commission to not only deny Noranda's request for a rate decrease, but also to evaluate overall competitiveness of Missouri's electric rates in relation to nearby states' rates.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Loren Plotkin
President & CEO