

Missouri Dublic Service Commission

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June 7, 1999

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Missouri Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

JUN 7 1999

Missouri Public Service Commission

RE: Case No. EC-99-327 - Missouri Coalition for Fair Competition v. Union Electric Company

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Commissioners

SHEILA LUMPE

Chair

HAROLD CRUMPTON

CONNIE MURRAY

ROBERT G. SCHEMENAUER

M. DIANNE DRAINER

Vice Chair

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned case are an original and fourteen (14) conformed copies of a STAFF MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF THE STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT.

This filing has been mailed or hand-delivered this date to all counsel of record.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

cra L. Shemwell

Assistant General Counsel

(573) 751-43792

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LLS/wf Enclosure

cc: Counsel of Record

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STATE OF MISSOURI

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FURT

In the Matter of the Complaint of the) Missouri Coalition for Fair Competition.)

Case No. EC-99-327

STAFF MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF THE STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) and in support of the Stipulation and Agreement filed in this case states:

- 1. On February 3, 1999, the Missouri Coalition for Fair Competition (Coalition) filed a complaint against Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE (UE) alleging, among other things, that UE violated sections 386.754 through 386.764 RSMo (Cum. Supp. 1998) by engaging in Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) services and by sending a bill insert that contained information concerning the "On-Call Appliance Plan" that did not include a disclaimer that the service was not regulated by the Missouri Public Service Commission.
- 2. On February 4, 1999, the Commission issued a Notice of Complaint, giving Respondent UE thirty (30) days to respond to the complaint, or to seek mediation.
- 3. On March 8, 1999, UE filed its response and acknowledged that the bill inserts were inadvertently published without the disclaimer required by statute. UE indicated that the message was removed from any additional outgoing bills and that the inventory cards that were printed without the required disclaimer were destroyed. In addition, UE stated that it subsequently had made "significant efforts to assure" that such materials would meet the requirements of the statute.
- 4. UE offered to settle this issue by, among other things, discontinuing all HVAC-related services until at least December 31, 2001. This is a reasonable resolution that all Parties find acceptable.

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- 5. Staff supports the Stipulation and Agreement as a satisfactory resolution because it removes the opportunity for UE to inadvertently violate the statute by, among other things, advertising the "On-Call Appliance Plan" again. UE began offering the "On-Call Appliance Plan" prior to the passage of the HVAC Services statute. The discontinuance of HVAC-related services until at least December 31, 2001 allows UE to re-evaluate its HVAC opportunities with regard to the HVAC Services statute, and to assure that any future HVAC activities are advertised and conducted in compliance with the statute.
- 6. Staff recommends acceptance of the Stipulation and Agreement as a satisfactory resolution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

DANA K. JOYCE General Counsel

Lera L. Shemwell

Assistant General Counsel Missouri Bar No. 43792

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered to all counsel of record as shown on the service list below this 7th day of June, 1999.

Lera L. Shemwell

Service List For Case No. EC-99-327 June 7, 1999

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