DLPH EXI

June 9, 2014

ELECTED COUNTY OFFICIALS OF NEW MADRID, DUNKLIN PEMISCOT, STODDARD, SCOTT, & BUTLER COUNTIES

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION 200 MADISON STREET PO BOX 360 JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65102-0360

## FILED<sup>3</sup> FEB 1 7 2015

Missouri Publie Service Commission

## RE: CLOSURE OF NORANDA ALUMINUM DUE TO INCREASED ELECTRIC RATES

Dear Commissioners:

We, the Elected County Officials of New Madrid, Dunklin, Pemiscot, Stoddard, & Butler Counties, write you today as a collective group to express our extreme concern for the economic well-being of our communities should the unthinkable event of the closure of Noranda Aluminum occur due to increased electric rates charged by Ameren Missouri.

As it is certainly understandable that a company such as Noranda could not survive an increase of \$44 million over six years for a single overhead item such as electricity, we support the rate reduction requested by Noranda. We respect the heavy burden this decision places upon you as Public Service Commissioners and request that you consider the disastrous effects to our region that the closure of Noranda will cause in your deliberations.

What we can say with certainty is the dire economic ramifications that the closure of Noranda Aluminum would have on our region. Noranda is not simply the foundation for the economy of New Madrid County, it is in many ways the bedrock to multiple sectors of the economy for this entire region.

The loss of 900 high paying jobs with substantial benefits will cause irreparable cascading damage to many business sectors that rely on both serving as vendors for the supply and maintenance of the smelter as well as those businesses that rely on the patronage of those employees of Noranda.

Date 1-26-15 Reporter TE

It is difficult to conceive of a business sector that will not be devastated by the loss of these 900 high paying jobs with substantial benefits. The housing market will plummet in all counties, with the epicenter falling in New Madrid and cascading across the surrounding counties. The construction industry, including hardware supply stores, carpenters, plumbers, and electricians, will suffer as 900 fewer high paying jobs means far less new home construction in the region.

The banking industry will suffer crushing numbers of defaults and home foreclosures when these 900 families suddenly face the grim reality of having far less or no income to pay their notes. The list goes on and on...

The scenario that plays out throughout this region upon the closure of Noranda Aluminum can be summed up in one word: *dire*.

The citizens of this region are a proud, resilient people. They pride themselves on working hard and being self-sufficient and self-sustaining. The sad reality of this situation is that should Noranda shutter its doors, no matter how determined the people are, we will not recover. This area and its proud history will be forever damaged and its people forever injured. The socio-economic fabric of this region will never be the same.

Therefore, we the Elected Officials of New Madrid, Dunklin, Pemiscot, Stoddard, & Butler Counties implore you in your deliberations to consider the citizens of our counties and the drastic effect your decision will have on each and every one of their lives.

To preserve our regional economy and way of life, we respectfully request that you grant Noranda Aluminum their requested rate reduction.

## RESPECTFULLY,

The Elected County Officials of New Madrid, Dunklin, Pemiscot, Stoddard, Scott & Butler Counties (see attached signature pages)

NEW MADRID COUNTY OFFICIALS

n. thuis

CLYDE HAWES PRESIDING COMMISSIONER

Pon Pay

DON DAY ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

ake an MARK BAKER

ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

munt Cravens CLEMENT CRAVENS

COUNTY CLERK

KIMST. MARY HALL **RECORDER OF DEEDS** 

Ruin Smm

Bon RONNIE SIMMONS ASSESSOR DEWAYNE NOVE

STEVE RILEY TREASURER

MARSHA HOLIMAN CIBCUIT CLERK

au PAULA SCOBEY

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR

enn TERRY SEVENS SHERIFF

LEWISRECKER

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

DUNIELIN COUNTRACEPICIALS ms

DON COLLINS PRESIDING COMMISSIONER

JEANIE MOORE HERBST ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

PATRICK MEHANEY

ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

sul Hinile

CAROL HINESLY COUNTY CLERK

1 u C SUSAN LUCE

RECORDER OF DEEDS

Jaren land wer KARON VANDIVER ASSESSOR

thy Kasbern KATHY 0 TREASURER/COLLECTOR

Toula D 00 PAULA GARGUS

CIRCUIT CLERK me my

SHAWNEE TROIDBRIDGE

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR

SA BOB HOLDER STEVE SOKOLOFF PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

PEMISCOT COUNTY OFFICIALS JIMATCHISON PRESIDING COMMISSIONER BEN BALLER ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

STEVE WATKINS ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

Pan Jaure Pantreece

<

COUNTY CLERK Than budge Yam,

PAM STRAWBRIDGE RECORDER OF DEEDS

XIII PATSY HINKLE ASSESSOR

enn KETTHIEAN inger Terr COLLECTOR

FRANKIE STEWART TREASURER

n KELLY MANERS CIRCUIT CLERK

1 CAROL MILLER

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR

0 TOMMY GREENWELL

SHERIFF

cano м BILL CARTER

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

BUTLER COUNTY OFFIC ED STRENPEL

PRESIDING COMMISSIONER

darson on n DON "BUTCH" ANDERSON ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

JEFP DARNELL

ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

mui Delland TANYI DEFFENDAL

COUNTY CLERK

Then DEBBY LUNDSTROM

MARION TIBBS ASSESSOR

BRENDA FOX COLLECTOR JOE HUMPHREY ASUREE form CINDI BOWMAN CIRCUIT CLERK 1 manon SHARRON PAYNE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATO 2 MARK DOBBS SHERIFE

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

• •

KEVIN BARBOUR