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STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
Local Public Hearing
February 28, 2011
Volume 11
In the Matter of Union)
Electric Company d/b/a)
AmerenUE's Tariffs to) File No. ER-2011-0028
Increase its Annual)
Revenues for Electric Service)

Kennard Jones, Regulatory Law Judge

Robert Kenney, Commissioner

Reported by:
Jeanne M. Pedrotty, CCR/CSR
Midwest Litigation Services

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A P P E A R A N C E S

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 (Starting time of hearing is 7:30)

3 JUDGE JONES: We're going to go a head and
4 get started. This is the local public hearing, those
5 of you that are intending to leaving ahead and did
6 that, but I have to have this come to order. My name
7 is Kennard Jones and I'm a regular law judge who will
8 be overseeing this local public hearing. This is in
9 the matter of Union Electric doing business as Ameren
10 UE Missouri Tariff increase to annual revenue for
11 electric service, 2011-022. There people near the
12 exit and we can hear you down here, if you could
13 perhaps go outside and discuss what you're discussing
14 it would be better. At this time we'll take
15 appearances from the attorneys that are present
16 beginning with Ameren UE.

17 MR. MITTEN: Russell Mitten, Brydon,
18 Swearngen, & England, 312 East Capitol Avenue,
19 Jefferson City, Missouri, 65102, appearing on behalf
20 of Ameren Missouri.

21 JUDGE JONES: And the office of public
22 counsel?

23 MR. MILLS: On behalf of the office of
24 public counsel and the public, my name is Lewis Mills.
25 My address is Post Office box 360, Jefferson City,

1 Missouri, 65102.

2 JUDGE JONES: And for the staff and the
3 commission.

4 MS. KLIETHERMES: On behalf of the staff of
5 the public service commission, Sarah Kliethermes, 800
6 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri, 65101.

7 JUDGE JONES: Is there any other party
8 present who would like to enter an appearance. I
9 don't see any. This is the on the record portion.
10 We'll ask you all to come down and give sworn
11 testimony at this microphone at the center of the
12 stage. I hope you have had an opportunity to get your
13 question answered during the first portion of this
14 event. During this time, however, you will not be
15 able to ask questions of myself or the commissioner to
16 my right. After you're done with your testimony, I
17 ask that you remain at the microphone to perhaps
18 receive questions from the commissioner, myself, or
19 the parties that are present. And if during the
20 course of this on the record portion questions come to
21 mind, you're certainly welcome to remain after and
22 perhaps get your question answered or speak with our
23 consumer affairs department. And I hope you all have
24 gotten information about the 1-800 number to call and
25 get your question answered by the office of public

1 counsel. At this time I'm going to turn it over to
2 commissioner Robert Kenney, who is to my right who
3 perhaps may want to make opening remarks.

4 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Good evening,
5 everybody. As Judge Jones indicated. My name is
6 Robert Kenney. I'm one of five commissioners at
7 Missouri Public Service Commission, and as you
8 probably have already gathered from the earlier part
9 of the evening, this part of the local public hearing
10 is so that your comments and records can be
11 transcribed by the court reporter and be made a part
12 of the official record. In later April and early May
13 there will be an evidentiary hearing with respect to
14 Ameren's request for a rate increase. And at that
15 time, your comments that are placed on the record will
16 be part of the evidence that's included in the case.
17 There are four other commissioners and we have tried
18 to divide the local public hearing so that all at
19 least one of us is present, but because your testimony
20 will be transcribed, the other four commissioners will
21 have the opportunity to read and consider the
22 testimony that you have provided here today. So, let
23 me just say before we begin thank you very much for
24 coming. Your voice is a critical part of this process
25 and the opportunity that you have to participate in

1 the case is something that we take very seriously.
2 And we appreciate your willingness to come out and
3 take part in the process tonight. Thank you and we
4 look forward to hearing what you have to say.

5 JUDGE JONES: Let's go ahead and jump right
6 in. The first witness sign up to testify is Charlotte
7 Glover. And Ms. Glover, would you please raise your
8 right hand. Do you solemnly affirm that the testimony
9 that you're about to give is the truth?

10 MS. GLOVER: I do.

11 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed.

12 MS. GLOVER: May I sit down? I'm here
13 tonight because of this raise that they want on this
14 electric bill. And before I was forced to go into
15 retirement, which I had to take early, but anyway I
16 had redone my house. I have got extra insulation in
17 the roof. I have got insulation behind the new
18 siding. I had \$12,000 worth of brand new windows put
19 in my house, triple windows, energy efficient and
20 still, you know, apparently from what I have been
21 hearing tonight it's because they are trying to raise
22 back the money to pay for the coal, which is added
23 almost 22 -- for municipal charges -- \$22 extra on my
24 bill not counting the electricity that I used. And
25 I'm on Social Security and I had to retire before I

1 really wanted to due to an accident where I fell and
2 broke my back and couldn't work no longer. And I'm
3 trying to make it on just barely over \$800 a month. I
4 still have my house payment I have to make, which is
5 over \$500 a month. It's not easy when you start
6 talking those kinds of bills to pay all of it. And we
7 don't get a raise on our checks. And the businesses
8 they are having to pay more for their electricity, you
9 know they are going to passing that on to us, the
10 consumers, they are going to have to. So, any food I
11 buy or any clothing I might need, I'm going to pay
12 extra on it to. I don't know where it's to end. I
13 really don't. But I know somebody needs to do
14 something about it because this is getting to be
15 ridiculous. I'm going to end up losing my house
16 before it's all said and done if we have to keep
17 dealing with these kinds of raises. That's all I want
18 to say. Thank you.

19 JUDGE JONES: Do you have questions?

20 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Ms. Glover, thanks
21 for taking the time and coming. We certainly
22 appreciate everything that you just articulated. I
23 wanted to ask you a little bit about the energy
24 efficiency measures that you put in place. Was that
25 something that you did on your own or was it because

1 you saw an advertisement that any utilities put out?

2 MS. GLOVER: That was something I did on my
3 own and I did this back when I was able to still work
4 and I paid for it. I didn't get anything back for
5 energizing my home to try to insulate to where it
6 would keep down electric bills. My house is totally
7 electric, so, you know, therefore, my heat and air
8 conditioning, and everything goes through electric.
9 And that's why I wanted to get this done because I was
10 losing a lot of energy through my windows. The seals
11 had broken. I put in very expensive windows that I
12 don't ever have to worry about ever replacing them
13 because I didn't want to have to deal with that over
14 and over every time that the seals would break. I
15 didn't want that. I have got a lifetime warranty on
16 my windows.

17 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: At the time you did
18 it did you notice a decrease in your bills?

19 MS. GLOVER: Yes. Yes, I did. Quite a big
20 increase.

21 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Increase or decrease?

22 MS. GLOVER: Decrease, I'm sorry.

23 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Okay.

24 MS. GLOVER: And now it's started to go
25 back up again. Well, I don't want to spent money for

1 something that's not going to benefit me, you know,
2 and they are saying that the charges is for the coal
3 that they have to burn to produce electricity. Well,
4 I'm wondering why if somebody doesn't have there house
5 energy efficient like that, am I going to pay for part
6 of the coal for their bill. It just it don't make
7 sense. None of it makes sense. I mean the economy is
8 so bad right now and they want to raise our electric
9 bills that much more. You know, I just don't see how
10 we're going to make it.

11 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Thank you very much
12 for your time. I don't have any other questions.

13 JUDGE JONES: Any questions from any of the
14 parties? Thank you, Ms. Glover.

15 MS. GLOVER: Thank you.

16 JUDGE JONES: Next we'll hear from Ron
17 Keeven; K-e-e-v-e-n. Mr. Keeven, can you raise your
18 right hand. Do you solemnly affirm that the testimony
19 you're about to give will be the truth?

20 MR. KEEVEN: Yes, I do.

21 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed.

22 MR. KEEVEN: I'm here to point out that in
23 January of '09 the Public Service Commission approved
24 an eight percent or \$163 million rate increase to
25 Ameren UE, six months later, July of '09, another ten

1 percent or \$226.3 million was distributed to UE.
2 While this is taking place, there is \$140 million paid
3 to UE in fuel surcharges. Now, we're asked to pay
4 another 11 percent, another \$263 million from rate
5 payers. I run a small business, gentlemen. I have
6 not been able to pass anything on to my consumers. I
7 am working on '09 flat rate. I am working with my
8 people on '09 salaries. I tried to pass on some rate
9 increases for fuel, and got a tremendous outcry from
10 my customers on fuel surcharge. So I'm not getting to
11 be reimbursed on fuel surcharge, but Ameren is. Every
12 time they pay another nickel for a lump of coal we as
13 rate payers are carrying the burden. Small business
14 cannot succeed with 29 percent increase in electrical
15 rates. And if small business fails, our economy is
16 going to and so is the state. So please, look at this
17 very carefully. And thank you for the opportunity to
18 testify.

19 JUDGE JONES: Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: I don't have any
21 questions. Thank you very much for coming.

22 JUDGE JONES: Thank you, sir. Next is
23 Twila Ashworth. Can you please raise your right hand.
24 Do you solemnly affirm that the testimony that you are
25 about to give is the truth?

1 MS. ASHWORTH: I do.

2 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed.

3 MS. ASHWORTH: First I want to thank you
4 for letting me have the opportunity to give my opinion
5 on the Ameren rate hike. I believe that Ameren is
6 asking for way too many rate hikes. Every year they
7 ask for a rate hike. Last year I believe they asked
8 for two and received it. And this issue isn't just
9 about putting a burden on the elderly. It's also
10 putting a burden on people like myself who have lost
11 their full time job. I am working part time jobs
12 wherever I can get them. They are not a permanent
13 part time job even. They are part time jobs whenever
14 they need me. And when they are done then I'm out
15 there looking for another part time job. And these
16 part time jobs are not paying good salaries. They are
17 just minimum wage jobs. And I'm a single person who
18 has lost their full time job and I'm making house
19 payments, and I'm paying all these utilities. Rate
20 hike payment every time you turn around. It isn't
21 just Ameren asking for rate hikes. It's every utility
22 company asking for rate hikes. And it is really a
23 burden when you consider in today's economy the gas
24 prices keep going up, food prices keep going up. The
25 cost of clothing, everything has gone up to the point

1 that people are just barely making it. So it isn't
2 just an issue for the elderly. It's an issue for
3 every American family and person working that's trying
4 to eek by the best they can. And the vast majority of
5 us are not making million dollar salaries. If we
6 were, we wouldn't mind paying the rate hike. We would
7 have plenty of money to do that. But it's to the
8 point now where you can't save any money at all. If
9 you have an emergency, you have to put it on credit
10 card which increases credit card debt. And in today's
11 economy they tell us we need to jump start the economy
12 by getting people to spend money. How can they spend
13 money when all they are doing is just making house
14 payments, car payments, and utilities costs. So, I
15 would appreciate the commission just listening to the
16 general public and realizing that somewhere along the
17 line these rate hikes have to stop. Thank you.

18 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: No questions, Ms.
19 Ashworth, but again thank you for coming and sharing
20 your opinions.

21 MS. ASHWORTH: Thank you.

22 JUDGE JONES: Next we'll hear from John
23 Althausser. Would you raise your right hand, do you
24 solemnly affirm that the testimony you're about to
25 give is the truth.

1 MR. ALTHAUSER: I do.

2 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed.

3 MR. ALTHAUSER: My name is Jon Althausser.
4 I'm the managing attorney for the Legal Service of
5 Eastern Missouri office here in Union, Missouri. And
6 I'm presenting this testimony on behalf of the lower
7 income community that we sever. Legal Services of
8 Eastern Missouri provides free legal services and
9 assistance to elderly in 21 counties of eastern
10 Missouri. The outcome of legal assistance, our
11 clients achieve meaningfull economic opportunities on
12 disability, increase in self sufficiency, increase
13 debt problems through enforcement of consumer law
14 effort. Shelter, safe and secure house, safety from
15 freedom from violence and abuse, health security
16 well-being, and secondary to healthcare, basic
17 nutrition and basic disability benefits, education,
18 access to proper educational opportunities for long
19 time self surety. If a stability through assistance
20 with family law issues, human dignity, and for work
21 for homeless' civil rights, and refugees. We serve 21
22 counties in Missouri which are Clark, Franklin,
23 Jefferson, Knox, Lewis, Lynn, Cox, Mason, Marion,
24 Monroe, Scott, Shelte, St. Charles, Montgomery, Pike,
25 Rawls, St. Louis City, St. Louis County, Warren, and

1 Washington county. Most of these counties will be
2 affected by the proposed rate increase. LSM provides
3 service to legally stabilize clients. That's a team
4 of lawyers, paralegal, and social workers that provide
5 not only legal representation, but community education
6 and outreach. We have several public, including
7 senior citizens' handbook and programs affecting
8 seniors, and handbook on rights and responsibility of
9 landlord entitled You and Your Landlord. For over 50
10 years LSM has cooperated with full access with the
11 help of our association and volunteer lawyers. Our
12 team works closely with over 150 Social Security
13 agencies who have 36 task forces to assess problems in
14 violence and foreclosure. In May annually LSM
15 concluded the needs assessment survey of low income
16 persons throughout our area and help focus groups who
17 represented of counties throughout eastern Missouri
18 service area. Problems with paying utilities were
19 among the top needs identified in both surveys and
20 focus groups. LSM also knows from professional
21 service service agencies with whom we work that
22 problems paying utilities are among the greatest
23 problems destabilizing low income households. Low
24 income population cannot survive these proposed rate
25 increases, yet they need services maintain safe,

1 remain safety and health. Many public comments
2 already we citizens reflect the same conclusion.
3 Programs like budget billing are not sufficient to
4 meet the needs of this population. Similarly, other
5 programs designed to help low income households like
6 low income energy assistance program which assists low
7 income folks with heating bills in January, February,
8 and March and energy crisis intervention program which
9 assists low income customers who have gas or electric
10 discontinued for nonpayment or received disconnection
11 notice are underfunded and will never be increased.
12 That this proposed increase will phase on those least
13 able to bear it. According to the 2006 American
14 community survey, 2000 US census, 14.3 percent of
15 residents. That's about one in 7 and 21 counties
16 service area, which including the counties I listed
17 earlier are considered below the poverty level. 18
18 percent of the children under age of 18 in service
19 area are living below federal poverty level.
20 Additional approximately 34,000, or 3400 -- excuse me
21 -- of the 977 high school dropouts or 30 percent
22 reside in LSM's 21 county service area according to
23 2000 kids count collected community level information
24 on kids. More than 393 people are surviving on
25 marginal income below 25 percent of poverty level.

1 When we consider homeless persons and immigrants who
2 are not likely counted by the census number of low
3 income persons would only increase. The desired
4 circumstances of these many thousands of low income
5 people must be considered by the PSC in evaluated
6 rather to grant a rate increase for utilities. A
7 member of the client community recently explained the
8 problem to us simply. She said with the trouble
9 clients are having paying utilities bills, this large
10 increase will make it much harder to pay. We cannot
11 afford it. The increases in utility bill certainly
12 negative affect the ability of our clients to find and
13 maintain housing. Recently a disabled mother with
14 children sought assistance from our office. She was
15 homeless and trying to obtain housing through a
16 shelter program. The shelter program was unable to
17 locate housing for her due to outstanding utilities
18 bills of over \$1000. She cannot afford the
19 reconnection fees and remains homeless to this day.
20 Single and married couples on retirement and Social
21 Security disability find it very hard to balance their
22 budget between medication and utilities. When
23 utilities fluctuate, when you have cold and very hot,
24 while the cost of energy goes up, cost of living
25 adjustments for disabled and retired has not and will

1 not increase for the next few years. Typical increase
2 is usually \$20 a month as a raise in benefits. Budget
3 bills can become impossible when the family gets
4 behind on utilities payments, they force new budget
5 analysis and some very large increases in the budget
6 bill payment, which they cannot afford. Therefore, on
7 behalf of clients and their families in our service
8 area, I ask the PSC reject the rate increase.

9 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Mr. Althausser, thank
10 you for coming tonight and thanks for the work that
11 Legal Services does. Please tell them I said hi. I
12 have a few questions for you.

13 MR. ALTHAUSER: I will.

14 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: What kind of legal
15 problems does Legal Services see are attributable to
16 problems paying utilities bills. I know that there is
17 the homeless not able to find a new apartment because
18 of an outstanding bill, what other kind of problems
19 might be encountered because of trouble paying
20 utilities bills?

21 MR. ALTHAUSER: Well, I mean simply you
22 have to make choice between which bills you're going
23 to pay. If you're going to choose to pay the electric
24 bill rather than like your full rental amount, because
25 maybe you feel like you can, you know, you can talk to

1 your landlord, you can't talk to Ameren. So you might
2 be able to, but at some point if you choose to pay
3 your electric bill rather than your rent, you're going
4 to face eviction. So, basically, because it comes to
5 that choice. I can see that as direct legal problem.

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: So landlord tenant
7 issues.

8 MR. ALTHAUSER: Yes.

9 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Has Legal Services
10 had any experience with working with community action
11 agencies to partner clients with community action
12 agencies that can provide that kind of assistance?

13 MR. ALTHAUSER: Not to my knowledge, but
14 that doesn't mean that we haven't. You're speaking of
15 like Jefferson Action Corporation.

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Jefferson County or
17 in St. Louis Human Development Corporation, something
18 of that sort.

19 MR. ALTHAUSER: If they have, not to my
20 knowledge. I can try to find that out and maybe
21 submit further comments about that.

22 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: How about any contact
23 with Ameren in working out those problems in the
24 course of maybe trying to resolve a landlord tenant
25 issue?

1 MR. ALTHAUSER: To my personal knowledge,
2 in cases where there is a reconnection fee or
3 something like that, any kind of communication that we
4 have are pretty ineffective because if the
5 reconnection fee is not paid, you know, they you don't
6 get electricity and you can't move into that place.
7 So I have had clients that have had that particular
8 issue and, you know, they end up having to live with
9 somebody else that may not be a safe environment or
10 where they don't really, you know, basically a guest
11 in somebody else's house, so that's an issue.

12 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Just one more. You
13 said 18 percent of children in the Legal Services area
14 are below the poverty level. What's the federal
15 poverty level these days.

16 MR. ALTHAUSER: I don't know that off the
17 top of my head actually. I'm sorry.

18 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Okay. Well, again,
19 thanks for the work you did, and thanks for coming and
20 giving your comments.

21 JUDGE JONES: Any questions from any of the
22 parties? Okay. Thank you. Next we'll hear from
23 Reichert. Could you raise your right hand? Do you
24 solemnly affirm that the testimony you're about to
25 give is the truth?

1 MR. REICHERT: As I know it.

2 JUDGE JONES: Thank you, sir. Could you
3 spell your last name?

4 MR. REICHERT: R-e-i-c-h-e-r-t.

5 JUDGE JONES: Thank you.

6 MR. REICHERT: Thank you. I'd like the
7 opportunity -- we are here tonight because of one
8 reason; Ameren wants more money. To the laymen, what
9 Ameren is proposing appears as gibberish. Posting
10 about tonight's hearing seems to state that Ameren is
11 proposing both a rate increase and a priorly approved
12 surcharge extention. Just having the audacity to
13 suggest such a thing establishing the chain of facts
14 that Ameren has an attitude about its monopoly on
15 electricity which far exceeds capital minimum. I'm
16 already a stockholder really has been don't absorb any
17 of the cost of doing business that would negatively
18 impact the profit margins, but go ahead and negatively
19 impact all those who have to buy your product or be
20 cold and in the dark. Apparently, Ameren isn't
21 content with the good profit margin in the last two
22 rate increases gave them, they naturally want even
23 more. This is the way of the corporation. It is even
24 noted that the CEO of Ameren profit handsomely by
25 Ameren's profit performance. Now this corporation

1 wants more. Oh, it's only \$9.30 a month more. Tell
2 that to the people living on \$800 a month, that \$9. 30
3 a month is really going to impact Ameren CEO's base
4 salary has increased \$150,000 in the past year. How
5 can you possibly pay his fuel adjustment on that
6 paltry sum. Oh, for the record, the CEO's
7 compensation \$4.7 million in 2010, not bad for a
8 corporation struggling to keep the doors open due to
9 increase costs of doing business and all the incurred
10 expense of defending the actions of the corporation in
11 numerous lawsuits. And who knows the CEO might even
12 get his electricity free eliminating that pesky need
13 to come up with additional \$9.30 as Missouri Post
14 Dispatch reported there was a demand to have rate roll
15 back and Ameren is dreaming and if that were to happen
16 we would all be in the dark. Oh, the sky is falling,
17 scare them tell them that there won't be any
18 electricity. Then they will buy another surcharge
19 outside the general increase. No, the profit margins
20 will go down and stockholders wouldn't make as much
21 money. The corporation wouldn't go back up. They
22 won't have to pull the plug. And it states apparently
23 Ameren is defying a valid court order by not rolling
24 rates \$226 million right now. Ameren is also being
25 pursued by the federal government because some of it's

1 attempts to increase profit by not complying with
2 federation on the federal level. One must think about
3 the verbiage Ameren is using the art notes that Ameren
4 states it stands to lose \$300 million by August if the
5 rates are rolled back. Is that actually a lost or
6 just losing \$300 million in additional revenue. Quite
7 a big difference. Losing \$300 million in additional
8 revenue cuts into the generous profit levels to be
9 shared by the stockholders and Ameren's claims that
10 this roll back would drastically reduce its spending
11 on items critical to providing reliable service.
12 Scare tactics again. How about running your finances
13 the same way the common taxpayers has to. Eliminate
14 discretionary spending, et cetera, and concentrate
15 upon fulfilling the trust people have in your monopoly
16 to provide them with reliable service. What will we
17 become like Iraq with rolling blackouts on specific
18 days. The Post Dispatch also reports that although
19 energy conservation is most cost efficient Ameren
20 could propose the shareholders would have to take a
21 reduced profit margin at least temporarily. As much
22 as we want to pursue energy efficiency. We have to do
23 it in a way that's in our shareholder's best interest
24 as well as Steve Kidwell of Ameren. So the
25 shareholders come first in ever decision and that is

1 why we are here again tonight. The shareholders want
2 more return. It has not been established that this
3 hearing is based upon need but rather want. Ameren
4 exists to please its stockholders. And when they are
5 happy, the bonus and salary increases naturally flow.
6 This is the same corporation which is adamant about
7 forcing coal ash landfill on the property next to its
8 power plant in Labadie. That's right. Coal ash
9 landfill in one of the most environmentally sensitive
10 areas of the nation. Why, simply because it would be
11 the cheapest way to deal with the issue. Recommend
12 area and exist solely to maximize investor return. It
13 just complies electric to generate revenue stream
14 whatever the corporation can do to increase the return
15 is fair game. Even if it helps thousands of its 1.2
16 million customers into starvation. And eventually
17 causes catastrophic environmental damage. A
18 corporation has no sole. A corporation has a
19 dedicated staff of people whose job it is to formulate
20 ways to try to increase revenue influencing population
21 and commissions as needed such is the case here again
22 tonight. Also apparently only \$140 million of the
23 requested \$263 million is tied to the fuel surcharges
24 so that leaves \$123 million in totally new rate
25 increase. This increase of additional \$123 million

1 would be on top of \$390 million in rate increases
2 already approved in the past two years so let's see,
3 Ameren has increased it's revenue by \$390 million a
4 year plus additional \$140 million fuel surcharge
5 yearly and this is not enough. They almost demanding
6 additional \$123 million in new revenue and
7 additionally \$140 million they already have been
8 receiving. So if this is allowed and stands to
9 receive an additional revenues approximately \$513
10 million a year plus \$140 million. Not a bad revenue
11 stream and they don't even have to provide additional
12 service to receive it. Stockholder will regard top
13 providers reward top blame in this entirely our
14 expense. I challenge the Public Service Commission to
15 do the only responsible thing and just say no. I know
16 that's kind of after the fact because you already said
17 you're probably will be going to give them \$72
18 billion, but that's what happens going forward. If
19 everything goes back to stone age because the
20 management of Ameren can't keep the doors open we can
21 always come graveling back and pay them whatever they
22 want for their product. After all this issue only
23 exists because Ameren is a monopoly. P. S.. Don't do
24 as you routinely do, don't give them half, give them
25 nothing. This time make Ameren live within its means

1 even if the CEO and top brass and shareholders have to
2 share the sacrifice we'll all must make. Thank you.

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Mr. Reichert, I
4 appreciate your well-thought through and well written
5 statement. Thank you for sharing it. I want to just
6 make a point that no decision has been made yet and
7 there is a hearing at the end of April and
8 beginning -- first two weeks in May at which time all
9 the parties will present evidence and will be
10 additional hearings and the commission will reach a
11 decision. So no decision has been made yet, but I
12 think it's very important -- you're obviously paying
13 close attention to these issues, and that only aids in
14 the process. So thank you for your time.

15 MR. REICHERT: Can I ask a question please?

16 JUDGE JONES: You can ask it. I won't be
17 able to answer, but I can point it.

18 MR. REICHERT: I'll have to ask it outside.
19 I appreciate it. Thank you very much.

20 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Thank you.

21 JUDGE JONES: Next we have Rosalyn Pursley.
22 Please raise your right hand. Do you solemnly affirm
23 that the testimony that you are about to give is the
24 truth?

25 MS. PURSLEY: I do.

1 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed.

2 MS. PURSLEY: I'd like everyone else here
3 tonight attending this meeting because I prefer not to
4 have an increase in my electric rates. However, I
5 tried to look at this objectively and perhaps there
6 are some points we need to consider to make an
7 intelligent decision. And that's why I tried to look
8 at it objectively, not subjectively. Two years ago
9 before discarding some ten year old electric receipts,
10 just for the fun of it, I tallied up the total from
11 1999 and then my receeaccepts from 2009. I was really
12 surprised, my annual bill total for 2009 was only \$30
13 more than 1999. And we had added air conditioning, a
14 heat pump, a computer, and a TV. During that same
15 period of time my school tax increased over \$364,
16 about 48 percent. Everything is increasing.
17 Likewise, we could make a similar comparison of price
18 increases on the cost of gas and diesel at the pump,
19 propane to heat our homes, or the increase in the
20 price of groceries and health care. Ameren actually
21 decreased their summer raise from June to September in
22 2002 and continued to decrease the rate per kilowatt
23 hour until September 2006. The cost of bringing
24 electric into our home has been affected by the rising
25 prices of transporting coal, gas or diesel for their

1 vehicles, labor costs, and the demands leveled by
2 Mother Nature with tornadoes, wind damage, ice storms
3 and lightening strikes to their transformers. I hear
4 no one complain about this service. If there is a
5 power outage, their trucks are out immediately to
6 repair downed lines and poles. The storm last night
7 will carry a hefty price tag or Ameren. I have heard
8 the radio ad that Ameren has collected millions of
9 dollars more in recent years, but households have
10 added more TVs, dishwashers, computers, a second
11 refrigerator and freezer. And how many wash lines do
12 you see in today's back yards. Many people are
13 heating with space heaters because they can no longer
14 afford propane. They still feel it's more economical
15 to run their electric heater than to pay for propane.
16 Would have become accustomed to the conveniences and
17 there is a price tag on modern amenities. I do hope a
18 reasonable compromise will be acceptable to all
19 parties concerned and the excellent service and
20 reliability rendered by Ameren will not be affected
21 and will be a key factor in the final decision.

22 JUDGE JONES: Thank you, Ms. Pursley. I
23 appreciate your testimony.

24 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: I don't have any
25 questions, but thank you for your time and thanks for

1 your testimony.

2 MS. PURSELEY: Thank you.

3 JUDGE JONES: The next name we have here is
4 Donna Kelly. Petta Haynes. Please raise your right
5 hand. Do you solemnly affirm that the testimony that
6 you're about to give is the truth?

7 MS. HAYNES: I do.

8 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed.

9 MS. HAYNES: Thank you for giving me this
10 opportunity to testify tonight. Ameren states that
11 the reason for their proposed customer rate increase
12 is shortfall in its fuel and purchased power off
13 system sales probably due to economic slump. What
14 that means is the increase is not being sought to
15 cover rising costs, but to compensate for decline in
16 electricity sales to customers outside the utility's
17 service area. It appears that the company intends to
18 pass this loss of revenue on to their customers by
19 increasing our electric rates again. Ameren Missouri
20 has conceded that investment in conserving energy are
21 far cheaper than building new plants, but the company
22 is pursuing plans for new plants anyway while cutting
23 efficiency program. Programs encouraging customers to
24 use less power and environment, but under current
25 regulatory system in Missouri energy efficiency hurts

1 the company's bottom line up to \$30 million annually
2 as one Ameren executive said. Their own numbers show
3 that aggressive energy efficiency plants will keep
4 electricity bills lower than any other plant. It
5 appears that the company is looking out solely for its
6 shareholders' profit. Mr. Kidwell, the Ameren
7 vice-president said and I quote, "If we went after the
8 potential energy efficiency that we've seen in our own
9 study, we won't have to build another power plant for
10 20 years. And we could retire Meramec and we'd be
11 okay. But we'd lose \$30 million a year, and we just
12 can't do that. It's that simple." As a footnott, I
13 would like to add that Ameren chief Thomas Voss was
14 paid \$4.7 million last year including a \$1 million
15 dollar bonus and \$2.5 million in stock awards. His
16 base salary was raised twice in six months; 9 percent
17 in July 2010 and 11 percent on January 1, 2011 more
18 than doubling his compensation from 2009. I will
19 leave the Public Service Commission and public to draw
20 your own conclusion. Thank you.

21 JUDGE JONES: Thanks, Ms. Haynes. Do you
22 have any questions.

23 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Your testimony, what
24 conclusion do you draw from that?

25 MS. HAYNES: Well, I think well, two

1 things. It seems like Ameren could manage to do
2 things within the scope of their energy efficiency
3 program to prevent having to raise their rates. And
4 they for some reason chose not to do that. And again
5 with this economic climate to issue those types of
6 raises to management or executives while people are
7 struggling to pay their existing rates without another
8 increase. This will be the third one in about a year.
9 I know we saw one at least one last year one that took
10 effect earlier this year and this other one's coming
11 up. I think there is a morale issue to be considered.
12 In my opinion, it's unethical.

13 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Thank you for your
14 time, Ms. Haynes.

15 JUDGE JONES: Next we'll hear from Patricia
16 Schuba. Can you raise your right hand? Do you
17 solemnly affirm that the testimony you're about to
18 give is the truth?

19 MS. SCHUBA: Yes, I do.

20 JUDGE JONES: Thank you.

21 MS. SCHUBA: My name is Schuba, that's a
22 "B". Thank you very much for having this hearing in
23 in Union tonight. We appreciate being able to be
24 heard and I guess some of my comments are kind of
25 simple comments, but they may address things slightly

1 different. And that's the concern about what things
2 Ameren can recover costs of doing business for. And I
3 think it was previously discussed in the question and
4 answer period that there is some issues about maybe
5 rate of return, fuel price, and adjustment for pay
6 roll. I think the previous testimony commented on
7 what management at Ameren is making and some of the
8 adjustments that have been made over the past year and
9 we know we're in an economic downturn. I also would
10 ask the commission if possible to consider sort of
11 will of the people of Missouri to have cleaner energy
12 and safer energy. Prop C was evidence of that. And
13 Ameren is currently purchasing wind power from outside
14 of the state. There are things that could be done to
15 improve the economics of Missouri by actually
16 implementing what people want. In prop C there is
17 real cost as burn coal at a coal fired plant that make
18 our electric expensive. We really don't have a
19 choice. I don't have a choice when I need to power up
20 my computer to purchase a different type of power and
21 I think what Missouri has said is we want some change,
22 movement towards change. So my concern is if we hand
23 over rate increases as they request them, we don't
24 move them to do different things because we don't have
25 another option. We can't go to company X, Y, Z and

1 say I'm going to purchase your product that provides
2 me energy. I only have one choice. So I think we
3 have to look critically at these issues of
4 over-earning, complaints, reimbursement for management
5 costs, adjustment of pay roll, what they are actually
6 paying for their fuel and really critical. And I know
7 you guys are doing that critically looking at those
8 numbers and fall on side of people of Missouri. Where
9 many of us are having a difficult time paying all
10 their bills. I'm one of those people with an advanced
11 degree that lost my job in this economy. So there are
12 a lot of us that are trying to make due with what we
13 have and do the rational thing. I don't want a rate
14 increase. I don't mind paying for clean energy. I do
15 mind paying for dirty energy that puts me at risk of
16 increased health care costs, increase risk to
17 community over time. I think it was mention in
18 Labadie, they are proposing a coal ash waste land,
19 land in the flood plain. That's part of doing
20 business. And under new status, they can recover that
21 from us and that puts us at a 50 percent higher risk
22 of cancer in my life time because I have to live next
23 to that plant, and more importantly my nieces and
24 nephews have to. They are within two miles of that
25 plant. So again, in any way that you can send an

1 economic indicator to the company that we need cleaner
2 energy and I hope that in the long run that's cheaper
3 energy. But I know it will be cheaper for all of us
4 who don't have to pay for the health care costs. I
5 appreciate your time. Thank you.

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: I appreciate your
7 time here. You're obviously paying attention to this
8 issue and that's very important. Have you given any
9 thought to how much you would be willing to pay
10 additional for reliable energy or clean energy?

11 MS. SCHUBA: I think there is a good number
12 of people -- it would be interesting to ask folks in
13 this room would they be willing to pay this rate
14 increase for even in part to cleaner energy resources
15 in Missouri. Literally we voted -- 66 percent of
16 Missouri voted for prop C. I'm not quite certain, but
17 I know it was a pretty hefty majority so most people
18 who are voters took a look at that issue and said yes
19 we want something different. And I'm sure they knew
20 that meant it would be a higher cost. I think there
21 are many things Ameren could be doing to be more
22 efficient and provide other options currently that
23 they are not doing I think for this reason that it's a
24 conundrum how do you make money for your shareholder.
25 I think there is also a lot of shareholders that have

1 stood up and said the same thing. We don't want to be
2 know as owning stock that you pollute the community
3 later on done the lane for recuping cost of cleanups.
4 This coal waste issue is huge and it's being debated
5 at the federal level. And there are folks were I used
6 to live in Boston when I was young and making my way
7 in my career, after moving here and living out there,
8 that community outside of Boston right now is \$62
9 million I think to clean up a site that was in Salem,
10 Massachusetts. So somebody is paying for that. So we
11 pay for all these things one way or another. We need
12 to move towards together. That makes more sense and I
13 think Ameren knows they need to do that. There is
14 plenty of people at Ameren who probably want to do
15 that. But again, economy pushes things. They talk
16 about the carrot and the stick. This is the stick
17 part. This is saying no, you can't do this at the
18 expense of our children and we take responsibility for
19 that. So we move to something different. And we pay
20 a little bit more. I suspect we won't pay a lot more
21 and I would push them to give us those numbers. I'm
22 not certain that I think it's going to be hugely more
23 expensive.

24 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Well, thank you for
25 being engaged and thank you for taking the time to

1 come down tonight.

2 MS. SCHUBA: Thank you. We appreciate what
3 you do. And I was here at meeting last year when it
4 was icyoutside and we really appreciate you making it
5 to the site for your hearings. Thank you.

6 JUDGE JONES: Randy Downes. Is Randy
7 Downes present. Cathy Holloway. Is Cathy Holloway
8 present? Ed Gass. Can you raise your right hand. Do
9 you solemnly affirm that the testimony you're about to
10 give is the truth?

11 MR. GASS: Yes, sir.

12 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed.

13 MR. GASS: The other gentlemen that talked,
14 I think he said the most for everybody in the whole
15 building here. He had a pretty good speech it sounded
16 like. But anyway, the thing I'd like to say is when
17 you look at their rate increase, maybe scrutinize it
18 the best you can and maybe look to see if there is
19 some ways you can help UE or Ameren cut back or maybe
20 take some pay freezes or scale back. Chrysler
21 corporation did that a few years back when things were
22 down. Their employees took a pay reduction for
23 several years that supposed help them. Maybe you can
24 look at ways to help Ameren do something like that.
25 But the other thing, if you give -- whatever you give

1 them as an increase and that goes on our bill. There
2 is also the other effect where you have your increase
3 our utilities tracks that's on there, and you have the
4 increases that the other people your business are
5 going to put on you for fuel, or widgets, or whatever
6 they are making. So that goes up. And in this
7 economy, we know our motor fuel is going to go up and
8 there is not a certain thing we can do about that.
9 That's out of all of our control. There is nothing
10 nobody can do about that it doesn't look like. And it
11 looks like it's going to continue to go. So our tax
12 on UE fuel is going to be increasing on your bill
13 because their charges are going to go up. So, you
14 know what do you do? UE is probably the finest
15 company you can find. They do a good job on
16 everything that you see. Maybe they are doing too
17 good of a job. Maybe these why price are too high.
18 Maybe we have to go back like it was when we were a
19 lot younger in the 50's and early 60's and every time
20 the clouds came up you had a little power outage.
21 Maybe that's the way we're going to have to go for a
22 while, but anything you can do to reduce the amount
23 that they are wanting or maybe help them reduce their
24 costs to where they can still gain what they are
25 looking for. It's a vicious cycle and there is so

1 many people out of work today and those people are
2 really having a hard time. A lot of fellas I know,
3 young operating engineers haven't worked for a year or
4 over a year. And they are at their wits' end. They
5 don't see nothing coming down to create any
6 employment. And so I don't know what to tell you.
7 You got a tough job. That's about all I got to say.
8 I guess one more thing, too. The city I live in there
9 cost is going to go up with the increase, street
10 lights, power to run pumps are going to go up. The
11 amount of electricity at city hall is going to go up.
12 That's going to take a bite. Certain programs will
13 have to be decreased a little bit to make up those
14 differences. So it's a vicious circle.

15 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Mr. Gass, no
16 questions that you for coming down tonight. Thanks
17 very much.

18 MR. GASS: Okay.

19 JUDGE JONES: We have gone through the list
20 of those signed up to give testimony. Is there anyone
21 else who has come in late who wants to do so? Can you
22 please raise your right. Do you solemnly affirm that
23 the testimony you're about to give is the truth?

24 MR. UNNERSTALL: So help me God.

25 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. Can you state

1 your name and spell it?

2 MR. UNNERSTALL: Shaun U-n-n-e-r-s-t-a-l-l.

3 JUDGE JONES: You may proceed.

4 MR. UNNERSTALL: I'm here not on behalf of
5 myself, on behalf of the gentleman who just spoke or
6 the lady that spoke earlier. I'm here on behalf of
7 the country and to enlighten people on the fact that
8 greed is taking over our freedom and people like
9 Charlie Sheen that want three million an episode,
10 that's ironic because people don't realize that this
11 increase cost for the little guy. It's advertising
12 that pays Hollywood and all its sponsorship. And we
13 in a sense pay that through our taxes and advertising
14 and every time we buy a product. Albert Pujols, he
15 wants 30 million a year. That raises tickets for the
16 price of the game. Five dollars for a pretzel is out
17 of line, ten dollars for a beer is out of line, but I
18 enjoy living in the country that I live in and I would
19 like to start a welding business one of these days.
20 I'm laid off for my job and I'm better off than a lot
21 people in here, but with the cost of electric the more
22 I weld the more my bill goes up. So the dream of that
23 business goes down the tube with the rest of it. If
24 the rates go up to where we can't afford it and I love
25 living in free country. I don't want it run to turn

1 in a country like Libya or Egypt where they are
2 fighting now. And that's the way we're headed if we
3 can't get control over corporate greed. Our fuel it's
4 out of line. The fact that they only pay less than a
5 quarter for a gallon over in Iraq for a gallon of
6 gasoline, and I find it very ironic that here, we're
7 need to go pay over three dollars a gallon. It's just
8 out of line. Corporate rate greed is ruining our
9 country, and I want you to take this thought to your
10 highest boss or your highest administrator in the
11 company doing good job supplying power, but 90 percent
12 of our revenue is controlled by 90 percent of the
13 people back in the 60's and today 90 percent of our
14 revenue is in the hands of only three and a half to
15 four, less than 4 percent of the people. Which means
16 there is fewer people making the abundance of money
17 and to me this is just wrong. It's the same as
18 stealing. And if you're living your life just for
19 yourself and greed it's a sin. And I'm not here to
20 preach morals to you guys, but if you're living your
21 life like there is no God or no heaven, you better
22 pray you're right. Thank you.

23 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Mr. Unnerstall, no
24 questions, but I want to be clear. We don't work for
25 the company. We work for the Public Service

1 Commission, but thank you for taking the time to come
2 out tonight.

3 MR. UNNERSTALL: You're welcome.

4 JUDGE JONES; anyone else that would
5 like -- yes, ma'am. Would you raise your right hand.
6 Do you solemnly swear that the testimony your about to
7 give is the truth?

8 MS. BERGER: Yes. So help me God.

9 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. Can you state and
10 spell your name for the court reporter?

11 MS. BERGER: My name is Marge Berger;
12 B-e-r-g-e-r. And I am a small business owner like Mr.
13 Keeven up there. And I was really hurt by the last
14 increase we had. Within the last two years my
15 business has been self employed business of pet
16 grooming and competition has increased. And when
17 competition increases it affects you as a business
18 owner because you have to keep your expense down. You
19 have to keep what you charge the consumer down if you
20 want to be in competition. And it's a sad thing and
21 nobody is denying how good Ameren UE is. When there
22 is an outage they are out there. Rain, snow, sleet,
23 whatever that's great, but, you know what, that's what
24 they are paid to do. They are paid to do that and we
25 pay them well. As a consumer, I haven't had a price

1 increase in two years. I can't afford to. I do not
2 carry health insurance. I'm not married. I have no
3 one else to fall back on. My mother lives with me.
4 She is on Social Security so I have her to be a
5 consideration for. But last two years I had to take
6 another job to help supplement my income. I had to
7 lose that job because their hours decreased. They
8 couldn't let me work more hours that I need to work in
9 order to supplement my income. In doing so, I found
10 out about this also rate increase when I had to pay my
11 electric bill that used to be around about 80 bucks a
12 month and I'm only open 12 days a month. I'm open now
13 more since I had to quit that job. But last couple of
14 months ago when I asked them -- I said hey, I'm only
15 open 12 days a month and my bill went from \$80 to
16 \$135. Now, you know we're talking about usage. I
17 have cut back on everything. Our home my brother is a
18 carpenter. He is come in, thank you God, and he is
19 put in new windows. Although we had to pay for the
20 stuff he put anything free on his own labor and
21 everything. We've done everything UE says in the
22 little book about cutting back on usage, but you know
23 what, you got to live and you have to have electricity
24 to do so. And for UE to be able to go and just keep
25 demanding increase after increase after increase and

1 then it falls back on the little people, I think there
2 comes a point where the snowball needs to stop
3 rolling. It's getting bigger and bigger and bigger
4 until it's going to force people out of jobs. It's
5 going to force people to have to give up on their
6 dreams, the American dream to pursue happiness. I
7 love this country and love what it stands for, but
8 corporate greed has good to stop at some point like
9 the gentleman said before we. It puts a big burden on
10 your shoulder because you guys need to help control
11 this. And like it's all been said all the way through
12 tonight, something needs to give somewhere. And these
13 corporate people, I don't see them giving. I don't
14 see them sacrificing. I see them wanting more and
15 more and more. And we as little people have to be the
16 ones that put up the burden and the burden is getting
17 too heavy. It's breaking our backs and something has
18 to give or we are going to be more and more jobless
19 homeless people not only in the state of Missouri, but
20 in this country it needs to stop from the White House
21 all the way down and the big man needs to learn hey, I
22 got plenty of money to live on, I can freeze my income
23 for a while and take a decrease in order to help the
24 burden of small people. And that's all I have to say.

25 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Ms. Berger, thanks

1 for coming down and sharing with us tonight. I wanted
2 to quickly ask you about the energy efficiency measure
3 that you put in place with your windows and your
4 brother helping you, was that solely because of the
5 what you were charge for Ameren or something you need
6 today do anyway because it's good idea. How did you
7 come to make those improve?

8 MS. BERGER: We had to do that because our
9 -- my home was desperately in need of upgrades. We
10 had to do within the last seven years we had to put
11 roof, on new siding double pane windows, I mean
12 everything I had to purchase those products, but he
13 put them in. Thank you God, I had a brother who is
14 carpenter to do that. Many people that spoke earlier
15 did not have those privileges, but we did it because
16 we knew, you know, the hike increase within 2009 and
17 we had to make those choices to do those things, but
18 in doing that it hasn't helped. They say we need to
19 start using cold water to do wash. You need to do
20 this, do that. We've all done all the things we need
21 to do to make our home energy efficient. I had to --
22 the Franklin county put a burden on my shoulder by my
23 septic having to be upgraded within the last year. I
24 had to put a second mortgage on my home to upgrade my
25 septic in order to upgrade my septic I had to move my

1 well. In order to move my well, I had to upgrade my
2 electric panel because the new septic system was going
3 to have to be new unit which requires electric. I
4 have been put a burden after burden on. I have been
5 going on four months behind on mortgage, people. I'm
6 about to lose everything that I had to work for 25
7 years for, but I don't see any of these -- they are
8 standing here in suits they can wear probably having
9 steak for dinner. I haven't had steak since I can't
10 tell you when. And it's like the gentleman said, Mr.
11 Unnerstall, it's immoral to keep putting burden on
12 young, old -- not old, but poor people. And my God
13 just the government, it's froze our citizens' Social
14 Security wages for the next three years. I mean and
15 then we're going to keep raising rates. They have to
16 choose between their medication so they can live to
17 whether they can heat or cool their homes and live
18 without being found dead in an apartment or something
19 without. Good Lord. We hear that on the news in St.
20 Louis already. The elderly are choosing to cut off
21 their heat, cut off their cooling because they can't
22 afford it. I mean, come on, something has got to be
23 done and stopped. It's just got to quit. But we did
24 what we had to do because in some cases were forced to
25 and some cases knew what was happening. But to be

1 increased again, this is unbelievable.

2 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Thank you, Ms.
3 Berger. Thank you for coming down.

4 JUDGE JONES: Is there anyone else that
5 would like to testify? If you have questions, you
6 might want to reserve that after the question -- let
7 me restate you can't ask questions right now. If you
8 have questions, it's best for you to wait until after
9 the hearing so you can actually get your question
10 answered. Unless it's a rhetorical question that you
11 don't want answered, you can state it. But if you
12 want to make a statement, come back down to the
13 microphone and do so. Can you raise your right hand?
14 Do you solemnly affirm that the testimony you're about
15 to give is the truth?

16 MR. HURST: Yes.

17 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. Can you state
18 your name and spell it for the court reporter please?

19 MR. HURST: Name is David H-u-r-s-t.

20 JUDGE JONES: And you may proceed Mr.
21 Hurst.

22 MR. HURST: What business are you in?

23 JUDGE JONES: Like I just said --

24 MR. HURST: I don't need -- this ain't got
25 nothing to do with Ameren. This has got to do with

1 people that are actually going to get doing this
2 thing. First off you're not fighting a corporation,
3 you're fighting lawmakers. They are the ones backing
4 this. That's a misstatement. The lawmakers are
5 backing this. I'm not one of the local people and
6 this woman up here, she is not one of the little
7 people. And this thing on the back of me says who is
8 about paying the bills. We have been paying the
9 bills. It's middle class. Now, whenever you guys
10 took over this law thing from all the way to ten, then
11 we started losing everything that was done in the
12 state of Missouri. They shipped all the manufacturing
13 out of Missouri and they gave it all to lawmakers who
14 turned around and now they are jacking the rates up.
15 But did the lawmakers take a cut whenever I lost my
16 job and everybody else lost their job did you guys
17 lose your job, did you take a cut in pay? How about
18 the Congress, how about all the senators, did they
19 take a cut in pay? Whoever paying their insurance and
20 who is paying their wages. A lot of people ain't got
21 insurance and a lot of people haven't got wages. So I
22 say it this way. Whoever is backing this, the
23 lawmakers, let that bureaucracy pay for them. Not the
24 people. Cut their wages, take them out. If Ameren
25 wants this kind of money then Ameren can pay their

1 insurance and Ameren can pay their wages, and any
2 swinging lawmaker out there that thinks they want part
3 of the take because that's where they are getting it
4 from. When these people are getting their money from
5 these corporations and corporations dictate what's
6 going to happen to me, I feel objective. I feel very
7 objective for the simple fact that they are not making
8 my \$140,000 a year in taxes or everybody else. They
9 are making it from these major corporations in the
10 millions. And we are the ones paying their taxes for
11 their insurance, their housing and everything else.
12 Let the corporation pay for it. And if they have
13 something to say in our state legislation or anyplace
14 else about making law, let them put it second place.
15 The people that get paid for doing their job. The
16 people that are out there getting the tax money for
17 doing their job and they are not taking money under
18 the table, let their word go first because they are
19 working for the people. Not the ones working for the
20 businesses and bureaucracy. They are making multiple
21 millions, we got senators in there right now they
22 don't even need to be in there because they don't talk
23 for me and they don't talk for the people getting
24 gouged. They talk for the businesses. It's true.
25 Are you going to fight me on the truth? I don't care

1 if you are a lawyer. I don't care if you're a judge.
2 The fact of it is they are eating me alive on my
3 taxation and turn around and shove it up my butt or
4 cutting my throat, whichever direction you want to see
5 it from. That's wrong. If they are getting paid to
6 work for the government and they are get approximating
7 paid by the government. Then they need to be working
8 for me and these people out here and they are not
9 little people because they have been working for them
10 the whole time. If they can't do their job, get them
11 out. I want to see who is backing it. I want to see
12 the names behind this. If they are backing
13 multi-billion dollar corporations across the state of
14 Missouri, they are not backing it for me because if
15 I'm losing 11 percent just on my bill how much
16 taxation are you going to put on the 11 percent plus
17 what I'm paying. This is where I'm at. I live in a
18 home. It's a modular. It's got six inches walls
19 fully insulated. I got ten inches over the ceiling
20 and got six to eight inches under the floor and I paid
21 \$300 last month. I paid \$275 this month. I got one
22 of the best insulated house you can get. And guess
23 what, you're going to try to raise that 11 percent.
24 You got to be out of your blessed mind and then tax
25 and I'm putting my money into these people. Now, I

1 want to know who is backing them. Who is backing this
2 thing that's making multiples of millions of dollars
3 off of people that can't afford it. And then turn
4 around and there the ones that are writing in the
5 paper to take all the job of the state of Missouri
6 because they are scared they won't get back into
7 office again. Get them out. Get them out. Find out
8 who they are. Put their names out in front instead of
9 hiding behind the curtain all the time. That's crap.
10 That is. I hope you're getting all of this because
11 when I heard this I wasn't even going to show up. I
12 said you know what, it's about time somebody got to
13 say something. We lost billion of dollars in tax
14 revenue because of the same people that are backing
15 this. That's right. Because we couldn't get up and
16 say anything in enough numbers. We couldn't promote
17 it in enough numbers to be able to tell that you can't
18 live without this. But they did it. They shipped it
19 away, all of it. And you want to know why you're
20 starving to death in the state of Missouri. They want
21 to make it right to work state. It's because of these
22 people. Put them out in front. Put it up there on
23 the board. Why do you take and plaster it all over
24 the state of Missouri. These are corporate and these
25 are the people that are backing the corporate. These

1 are the ones your tax money is going into. I don't
2 want them in there. They are not for me. I'm a
3 taxpayer, the corporation isn't. That's already been
4 proven. They don't pay taxes. They just take taxes.
5 If you get them out, okay, here this is real simple,
6 if you're working for somebody other than the
7 government why should they pay you. If you got Joe
8 walking out there with a sign on his back promoting
9 his bid, why should he get government funds. There is
10 no reason for that. And if he did this his whole
11 life, getting government funds, why in the world
12 should Joe have to pay his insurance. These people
13 are out there promoting big business, but yet we're
14 paying for that. That's hog wash. They are making
15 millions of dollars a year to do this. Not this
16 little pittance that they get from government, but
17 whenever they get ready to retire like this old geezer
18 that just got out of the senate, who is paying for his
19 insurance. The companies, you got to be kidding. He
20 is a multi-millionaire, but he gets his Medicaid and
21 Medicare out of my pocket even though he is the one
22 that sold me out. He got rid of the corporations in
23 the St. Louis area and all across the state. He did
24 it. But you got jets coming out of the city of St.
25 Louis, Kansas City, jets for what. Are we at a war?

1 You can't get revenue in the state of Missouri because
2 these people won't allow it. They are afraid they are
3 going to get ousted. That's crap. Find out who they
4 are and if you know put it up on the billboard. These
5 are the people that are taxing you. These are the
6 people backing big government. Don't lie about it.
7 And if they got a problem with it, my name is David
8 Hurst, find out where I live, then find out and don't
9 come over here hiding behind some kind of shield, come
10 out in my front yard. I don't have the opportunity to
11 go up there and talk to this bunch of bozos face to
12 face. Because they got all the people in the world
13 protecting their stinking butt. If they want to come
14 to me one on one we can talk about this. But we're
15 going to do it on my turf. Sell them out if you got
16 the guts. You want to know what I think, that's what
17 I think. I think they shouldn't get a dime when they
18 leave office. None. No Medicare, no Medicaid,
19 homeless, take all the money they were given away from
20 them and put them out on the street just like they did
21 to everybody else. And let them see what it's like.
22 I got a wife that's dying out there and we're paying
23 out the butt even though I got insurance. I can't get
24 ahead with that. And I won't. Why won't they let
25 everybody have influence. Because they are afraid.

1 They are chicken. Thank you.

2 JUDGE JONES: Thank you, Mr. Hurst. Is
3 there anyone else that would like to testify? Okay I
4 don't see anyone. With that, then we will do, do you
5 want to make closing remarks, Commissioner.

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Thank you all for
7 coming out. Thank you for participating in the
8 process. Again, your voices are very important and
9 your words are heard. Thank you.

10 JUDGE JONES: Okay. We're off the record.

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