

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Noranda
Aluminum, Inc.'s Request for
Revisions to Union Electric
Company d/b/a Ameren
Missouri's Large Transmission
Service Tariff to Decrease Its
Rate for Electric Service

Case No. EC-2014-01__

STATE OF MISSOURI)
COUNTY OF Cole)

SS

Affidavit of Senator Doug Libla

Senator Doug Libla, being first duly sworn, on his oath states:

1. My name is Doug Libla. I am a Member of the Missouri Senate representing the 25th District. My address is 5287 Hwy 67 North, Poplar Bluff, MO 63901.
2. Attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes is my direct testimony, which was prepared in written form for introduction into evidence in Missouri Public Service Commission Case No. _____.
3. I hereby swear and affirm that the testimony is true and correct.

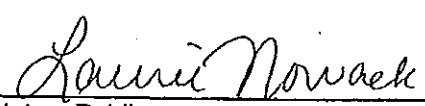


Doug Libla

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2nd day of December, 2013.



LAURIE NOWACK
My Commission Expires
January 28, 2017
Cole County
Commission #13859152



Notary Public

1 Q PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.

2 A Doug Libla, 5287 Hwy 67N Poplar Bluff, Missouri 63901.

3

4 Q WHAT ELECTED POSITION DO YOU HOLD?

5 A I am a member of the Missouri Senate, and I represent the 25th District.

6

7 Q HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A MISSOURI STATE SENATOR?

8 A I was first elected to the Missouri Senate in 2012.

9

10 Q WHERE IS THE 25th DISTRICT?

11 A My district includes eight (8) counties in Southeast Missouri.

12

13 Q DOES NORANDA ALUMINUM, INC. OPERATE A PLANT IN YOUR
14 DISTRICT?

15 A Yes, Noranda operates an aluminum smelter in New Madrid County, which is a
16 part of the district I represent in the Missouri Senate.

17

18 Q WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

19 A To provide information concerning the impact of the Noranda smelter on my
20 constituents in Southeast Missouri.

21

22 Q ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE OPERATIONS AT THE NORANDA PLANT IN
23 SOUTHEAST MISSOURI?

24 A Yes. I am familiar with the operations at the Noranda plant. The employees of
25 the plant live throughout Southeast Missouri. I have known employees of the

1 plant over the many years the plant has been in operation. These jobs have
2 transcended several generations of my constituents with good paying family
3 sustaining jobs.

4 **Q DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS THAT YOU WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE**
5 **WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**
6 **REGARDING THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NORANDA'S OPERATIONS IN**
7 **SOUTHEAST MISSOURI?**

8 A Noranda employs 970 people, and its operations have a major impact on the
9 economy of Southeast Missouri. Noranda's employees are some of Southeast
10 Missouri's leading citizens, and enjoy a high rate of pay and benefits. This
11 enables them to make a positive impact on the communities where they live—
12 both economically, and as leaders contributing to the overall quality of life.
13 Noranda also provides almost 18 percent of the property taxes paid in New
14 Madrid County and just over 28 percent of the taxes paid for the New Madrid
15 County Central R-1 School District, so not only do they provide excellent paying
16 jobs, but the company also shoulders a large part of the tax burden in New
17 Madrid County which provides a benefit to everyone who lives there. Noranda is
18 very important to our region, and it is important that the company remain
19 profitable and continue to operate.

20

21 **Q HOW HAVE NORANDA'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TAX BASE IN NEW**
22 **MADRID COUNTY BENEFITED THE COMMUNITY?**

23 A The property taxes paid by Noranda make a big impact. Because of these taxes,
24 we have an excellent public school district in New Madrid County, with some of
25 the best facilities and educators in the state. The quality of our schools has a far

1 reaching impact on our citizens and their ability to prepare for jobs and contribute
2 to society.

3

4 **Q HAVE YOU BEEN INVOLVED IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN YOUR**
5 **ROLE AS A STATE SENATOR?**

6 Yes. I have worked on legislation designed to foster economic development. I
7 also have experience working with economic development professionals. I have
8 learned through these experiences that attracting manufacturing jobs to the state
9 of Missouri is challenging. Advances in technology have eliminated many
10 manufacturing jobs, and many manufacturers have moved their operations
11 overseas. Job creation and retaining the jobs are both essential to the quality of
12 life in Southeast Missouri. If the Noranda smelter were to close, it would be very
13 difficult to replace the lost jobs with similar high paying jobs. Losing these jobs
14 would have an huge impact on this region, and would be felt statewide.

15

16 **Q HOW IMPORTANT ARE MANUFACTURING JOBS SUCH AS THOSE THAT**
17 **EXIST AT THE NORANDA PLANT TO THE ECONOMY OF SOUTHEAST**
18 **MISSOURI?**

19 **A** Compared to the other jobs available in our area, Noranda's jobs are better
20 paying and provide more benefits. This is generally true of manufacturing jobs.
21 Manufacturing also contributes to job growth in related industries; those that
22 supply products and services needed for production. Over the past 20 years or
23 so, it has become increasingly difficult to attract and keep manufacturers in our
24 area. The jobs at Noranda are extremely important to the economy of Southeast
25 Missouri.

1

2 **Q ARE THERE ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE?**

3 A The 25th Senate District of Missouri faces a number of economic challenges, with
4 job creation and retention being at the top of the list. Being a part of the 8th
5 Congressional District we are currently the 11th poorest district in the United
6 States. New Madrid County and three other Southeast Missouri counties in my
7 district are consistently the poorest in Missouri. When I look out over our
8 community, and consider which companies are making an impact, Noranda
9 definitely stands out. Noranda contributes over 900 good paying jobs with health
10 benefits, including retirement plans. Noranda pumps millions of dollars into the
11 regional economy. Noranda's continued operations and profitability are of utmost
12 importance to all of the people of Southeast Missouri.

13

14 **Q DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY AT THIS TIME?**

15 A Yes, it does. Thank you for the privilege of providing my views on this issue.

16