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STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
Local Public Hearing
March 2, 2011
Jefferson City, Missouri
Volume 13

In the Matter of the Union)
Electric Company d/b/a)
AmerenUE's Tariffs to Increase) File No. ER-2011-0028
Its Annual Revenues for)
Electric Service)

DANIEL JORDAN, Presiding
REGULATORY LAW JUDGE.

ROBERT KENNEY,
JEFF DAVIS,
ROBERT CLAYTON, III,
TERRY JARRETT,
COMMISSIONERS.

REPORTED BY:
PAMELA S. GENTRY, CCR

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A P P E A R A N C E S

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Service Commission

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

2 JUDGE JORDAN: Today, the Commission is conducting
3 a public hearing regarding File No. ER-2011-0028 in regard
4 to the rate increase request of Ameren Missouri.

5 My name is Daniel Jordan. I'm the Regulatory Law
6 Judge proceeding over this proceeding. My job will be to
7 conduct an orderly proceeding. The Regulatory Law Judge
8 assigned to this case will, makes the final decision.

9 With us -- I will make some introductions, from my
10 left to my right with us is Commissioner Terry Jarrett, is
11 Commissioner Robert Clayton, III, Commissioner Jeff Davis,
12 and Commissioner Robert Kenney. The Chairman,
13 Commissioner Gunn, is not physically present.

14 He is probably watching from his office because,
15 as I mentioned, we are webcasting. In any event, anyone
16 will be able to review a transcript of this proceeding and
17 know what you have testified to.

18 I will begin with entries of appearance, starting
19 with Staff.

20 MS. SHEMWELL: Good afternoon. Thank you, Judge
21 Jordan.

22 Lera Shemwell representing the Staff of the
23 Missouri Public Service Commission, Post Office Box 360,
24 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101.

25 Thank you, Judge.

1 THE COURT: Thank you.

2 For the Office of Public Counsel?

3 MR. MILLS: May it please the Court, on behalf of
4 the Office of Public Counsel and the Public, my name is
5 Lewis Mills. My address is Post Office Box 2230,
6 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

7 THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel; and, finally, for
8 the Company Ameren Missouri.

9 MR. MITTEN: Thank you, your Honor.

10 If it please the Commission, appearing on behalf
11 of Ameren Missouri, I'm Russ Mitten of Brydon, Swearengen
12 and England, Inc., 312 East Capital Avenue, Jefferson
13 City, Missouri 65102.

14 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you.

15 Our purpose here today is to take testimony that
16 will be part of the official file. It will be recorded by
17 the Court Reporter. The Company is not presenting
18 evidence right now.

19 When you testify, please come to the stand as I
20 call your name from the list of those who have signed up.
21 If you have an exhibit, a document that you want the
22 Commission to consider, please have the Court Reporter
23 mark it for you.

24 You may come to the podium if you wish, or if it's
25 more comfortable for you there's a chair right there

1 (indicating) next to Staff Counsel where you may speak and
2 testify. Speak into the microphone to make sure everybody
3 can hear you. It will be under oath and it will be
4 recorded. I will probably ask you a few questions before
5 we get started.

6 In respect of everyone's time, please be concise.
7 If someone has already said what you want to say, come and
8 tell us that you agree with that, but you don't have to
9 say anything more than that. Commissioners may have
10 questions for you, parties may have questions for you, so
11 stay at the microphone until we've excused you.

12 And, with that, I will begin taking testimony.

13 I have one request to go out of order, and that is
14 for, that is from one Wilma H. Partee.

15 WILMA PARTEE, a witness, being duly sworn by Judge Jordan,
16 testified as follows:

17 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you.

18 Please state your name, and spell it for our
19 Reporter?

20 MS. PARTEE: My name is Wilma Partee. That's
21 W-i-l-m-a P-a-r-t-e-e.

22 JUDGE JORDAN: Ms. Partee, are you a customer of
23 Ameren Missouri?

24 MS. PARTEE: Yes, I am.

25 JUDGE JORDAN: Please tell the Commission what you

1 would like the Commission to hear.

2 MS. PARTEE: I would first like to thank the
3 Commissioners for the opportunity to present to you with
4 this testimony. I respectfully request that the request
5 in the instant case for rate increase be denied or, in the
6 alternative, delayed until our economy has recovered
7 sufficiently to allow Ameren's customers to more easily
8 make their payments.

9 These are difficult economic times. Not only are
10 some of their clients unemployed, but it is certain that
11 some will encounter difficulty in their attempts to re-
12 enter the job market. The State of Missouri is our
13 largest industry; State government as we often refer to
14 it. These are difficult economic times, and the State of
15 Missouri is, in some instances, downsizing to more
16 properly adjust its budgets.

17 Budget reductions which, in many instances, mean
18 reductions in force many many times mean unemployment for
19 the citizens of the great State of Missouri. Conversely,
20 lessened revenue received by the State of Missouri means a
21 lowered ability to increase job hires. Additionally,
22 given the fact that those who are fortunate enough to be
23 employed must do so and do all within their power to
24 remain employed.

25 I respectfully request that hearings such as this

1 one give some consideration to the fact that there may be
2 State workers who would also want to present testimony but
3 are unable to do so at this time. But I respectfully
4 request that, in considering this rate request, the
5 Commission gives some consideration that allows many of
6 Ameren's customers to retain their dignity and do so in a
7 manner that does not require them to go cold or go without
8 power, or go without service.

9 Many Missourians are proud. Many are not able to
10 suffer an additional increase in their rates. Please,
11 please consider them when you're considering this
12 adjustment, this increase.

13 I'm not saying that I'm not for advancement,
14 because, as we all know, we must make advancements, but
15 I'm asking in the alternative that you consider allowing
16 these advancements, should you deem them to be necessary,
17 to be made at a future time after our economy has
18 recovered sufficiently to allow Ameren's customers to bear
19 the brunt of this weight.

20 I thank you very much for the opportunity to speak
21 with you today.

22 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you.

23 Questions from the parties? Staff?

24 MS. SHEMWELL: No questions. Thank you.

25 JUDGE JORDAN: LPC?

1 MR. MILLS: No questions.

2 JUDGE JORDAN: Mr. Mitten?

3 MR. MITTEN: No questions.

4 JUDGE JORDAN: Commissioners?

5 COMMISSIONER CLAYTON: No questions. Thanks for
6 coming, Ms. Partee.

7 MS. PARTEE: Thank you.

8 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you.

9 (Whereupon, Ms. Partee left the podium.)

10 JUDGE JORDAN: The next name on my list is J.R.
11 Renick. Would J.R. Renick like to come to the stand and
12 testify?

13 JAMES R. RENICK, a witness, being duly sworn by Judge
14 Jordan, testified as follows:

15 JUDGE JORDAN: Please be seated.

16 State your name, and spell it for the Court
17 Reporter, please?

18 MR. RENICK: My name is James R. Renick, J-a-m-e-s
19 R. R-e-n-i-c-k, J.R.

20 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you, sir.

21 MR. RENICK: Yes, sir.

22 JUDGE JORDAN: Are you a customer of Ameren
23 Missouri?

24 MR. RENICK: Yes, sir, I am.

25 JUDGE JORDAN: You may go ahead and testify.

1 MR. RENICK: Okay. Now, I've never done this
2 before and I didn't think I'd be up here at this
3 particular moment.

4 But it worries me and troubles me what they're
5 doing to the people of Missouri. Uh, I'd like to start
6 off first, inasmuch as what our legislators are trying to
7 do, I believe Mike Kehoe had some kind of a legislation
8 going in the House or whatever up there and, um, I'm a
9 little confused of what he's trying to represent the
10 people by. Um, if I stop and talk -- I was wounded in
11 Viet Nam. I was shot in the back of my head (indicating),
12 and I'm a little short-circuit, so please forgive me of my
13 thoughts and my terminology here.

14 But I was, I was wondering what that involved and
15 what these people from Ameren was trying to offset or
16 whatever. It was never mentioned here. I definitely
17 don't want the politicians to get up in there and vote on
18 anything. If there's any vote at all, it needs to go to
19 the people of the State of Missouri.

20 And, um, um, they mentioned, I can't think of his
21 name, the President, what was his name? The man that
22 stood up here (indicating) and talked?

23 MS. SHEMWELL: Mr. Baxter?

24 MR. RENICK: Mr. Baxter. He mentioned something
25 about, finally got to the point where he mentioned about

1 the cost of facilities, but he didn't say -- and he
2 mentioned cost of coal which, I believe, is probably the
3 cheapest energy going today, and a transformer to coal,
4 whatever, to St. Louis, but I think he failed to, as I
5 understand -- and I use this for hearsay -- but I was told
6 that the plants down in St. Louis, the coal plants, are so
7 old they're going to have to be replaced because of high
8 maintenance.

9 Now, he didn't say anything about that, so I
10 figure, well, why not nail the nuclear plant? So, I'm not
11 against nuclear plants, no. But they kind of got me
12 confused. They had, they want two hundred and sixty-three
13 million. I thought it was supposed to go to getting a
14 permit for the land. Not only that, it goes to scrubbers,
15 mentioned one of their documents, and scrubbers go to coal
16 factories. So, they want us to pay for their operation
17 again. Now, um, I don't think that's right.

18 Uh, I think it's unconstitutional to be imposed on
19 something that we don't have. Um, I'd love to talk to Mr.
20 Baxter. You could get a Federal and State grant for me.
21 I'd like to reopen the Saturn Automobile Corporation down
22 in wherever it was, Tennessee, and then I can be just like
23 him, running a factory and have the people pay for it.
24 And that's not a bad idea. I would think if we was, I
25 think the stockholders should be paying for this. He

1 didn't mention how much stockholders, they paid out. Now,
2 if I'm a stockholder of a corporation, my deal is, would
3 be high or low, depends on what costs to run the company.
4 So, it shouldn't never come back to the public of this
5 State; and, besides, if they do get this, then the people
6 of Missouri are shareholders as well.

7 And the way I look at it, the people here could
8 get credited for the amount or they could add more to it.
9 I'm all for maybe building two plants, but it's like a
10 bank. When you borrow money, you pay interest. So, okay,
11 if they get it off and they charge us this amount, now I'm
12 confused on two dollars and nine dollars, and something I
13 read back there, it mentioned, I don't know what that
14 means, the increase or whatever, but I think the State
15 should tax it. I think they should tax them for every
16 penny that Missouri pays for that 200-and-whatever-it-was
17 million dollars, and then plus interest, and then take it
18 back and give, reimburse the taxpaying people at the end
19 of the year. Now, that's how I would do business if I was
20 going to loan money to somebody, but this is a bigger
21 scale.

22 And, um, the other point I really would want to
23 talk about is our, I think the people in the State of
24 Missouri -- I wouldn't know how to go about it -- but I do
25 believe we should own the nuclear power plant. Not the

1 government, not the Federal government, not the State of
2 Missouri, but people like me and everybody else in this
3 country, state, needs to own that company, because I don't
4 trust Ameren, because I don't even trust the oil
5 companies. They're talking about \$5 a gallon. I look for
6 it to go higher. Are they going to hold the kilowatt
7 against us, too, especially when our country's not
8 prepared for this kind of situation we have today?

9 Think about it. If the people of this State owned
10 that company, we could probably cut our energy bill in
11 half, plus maintain and operate that facility. If Mr.
12 Baxter couldn't do it, I bet you I could if I was sitting
13 in his chair. I think it would be a big asset to the
14 country in our times and needs. We could bring our
15 people, our soldiers back home from overseas. We could be
16 an independent country.

17 Cheap energy is the way for our future. Not to be
18 held over our head by a bunch of, I like to call them
19 mafia pickers, or some kind of people like that, because
20 they don't have no care about us down here. They don't
21 care about people on fixed incomes. It wasn't too long
22 ago they sent somebody over there to Callaway County, they
23 shut a whole bunch of people's power off. They couldn't
24 pay. You have to -- it would make our power worth more.
25 We won't have to be in China. We could pay our way out of

1 debt with cheap energy. It would get us back on our feet.

2 Um, well, I think that would be about all I need
3 to say.

4 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you, Mr. Renick. Thank you
5 for your time.

6 MR. RENICK: Thank you very much.

7 JUDGE JORDAN: I think you will find there are
8 people who are available to figure out which numbers would
9 apply to which.

10 MR. RENICK: I'm sure of that.

11 JUDGE JORDAN: There are representatives out at
12 the table --

13 MR. RENICK: What they're doing to the public here
14 is wrong.

15 JUDGE JORDAN: Questions from the parties? Staff?

16 MS. SHEMWELL: No questions. Thank you.

17 JUDGE JORDAN: Office of Public Counsel?

18 MR. MILLS: No. Thank you.

19 JUDGE JORDAN: From the Company?

20 MR. MITTEN: No questions.

21 COMMISSIONER CLAYTON: I don't have any questions,
22 Mr. Renick. Thank you for the sacrifices. Thank you for
23 the sacrifices you made.

24 MR. RENICK: Just trying to say what's on my mind
25 here. Haven't done it before.

1 COMMISSIONER JARRETT: You did a great job.

2 MR. RENICK: Well, thank you, sir.

3 MR. KENNEY: No questions. Thank you, sir.

4 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you, sir. You're excused.

5 (Whereupon, Mr. Renick left the table.)

6 JUDGE JORDAN: The next name on my list is Mike

7 Wolter.

8 MR. WOLTER: Judge, I would like to decline at

9 this time. Thank you.

10 JUDGE JORDAN: You may. That's fine.

11 The next name on my list is Warren M. Hollrea.

12 JUDGE JORDAN: Will you state your name and spell

13 it for us first?

14 MR. HOLLREA: Warren, W-a-r-r-e-n, M. Hollrea,

15 H-o-l-l-r-e-a.

16 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you.

17 Now, please your right hand.

18 WARREN M. HOLLREA, a witness, being duly sworn by Judge

19 Jordan, testified as follows:

20 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you.

21 Mr. Hollrea, are you a customer of this --

22 MR. HOLLREA: Former employee of Ameren. I'm from

23 Fulton, Missouri, and Ameren Callaway Nuclear Plant is a

24 major presence in our community and does provide service

25 to some of the smaller municipalities in Callaway County,

1 but I live in Fulton. I'm originally from St. Charles, so
2 my family is served by Ameren but I'm served by the Fulton
3 Municipal Utilities.

4 JUDGE JORDAN: Please tell us what you have to
5 say.

6 MR. HOLLREA: I just wanted to say, I was
7 listening to the radio advertisements. That's how I found
8 out about this hearing. The Fair Energy Tax, or Fair
9 Energy Organization, and I just wanted to come to testify
10 because they are opposed to the rate increase and I just
11 wanted to say something in favor of Ameren Union Electric.

12 They are a good neighbor in Callaway County and
13 Central Missouri and, of course, two-thirds of the State
14 of Missouri, and I believe they provide a good service,
15 and I came more specifically to talk about the future
16 rates for the nuclear power plant in Callaway County. I
17 know that specifically this is on other issues, but I'm
18 originally from St. Charles County.

19 The plant is important and, as is mentioned, the
20 coal is 80 percent of Ameren's load, and with the
21 regulatory climate in Washington, D.C., with EPA, energy
22 costs is from fuel and coal. As a matter of fact, the
23 present environment on the Federal level, we want the
24 energy rates to rise because we want people to use less
25 energy, and I'm going to say a fraud of climate change,

1 climate global warming is an issue that is driving rates
2 up.

3 And with the regulatory climate, I think Ameren
4 needs all the support it can get, and especially to do the
5 nuclear power plant in Callaway County. As they said,
6 it's the lowest base for rates in their system now, and
7 there might be some costs up-front in the future rate
8 regulations, so I would like to address that, for the site
9 permit.

10 But all the utilities in the State of Missouri,
11 including the municipal utilities and the co-ops, are
12 supportive of this because they realize there might be
13 some up-front costs, but in the long term nuclear will
14 save money for the ratepayers and also generate a lot of
15 economic development in the State of Missouri.

16 I appreciate the opportunity to speak.

17 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you.

18 Do we have questions from the parties, starting
19 with Staff?

20 MS. SHEMWELL: Thank you.

21 Sir, would you tell me what you did for Ameren,
22 what your position was at Ameren?

23 MR. HOLLREA: Oh, no. I was not an employee of
24 Ameren. I was -- when I lived in St. Charles, I was a
25 customer, and my families are customers. I am a former

1 City Councilman of Fulton, runs Fulton Municipal
2 Utilities, but no, I have not been or ever been an
3 employee of Ameren.

4 MS. SHEMWELL: Thank you.

5 MR. MILLS: No questions.

6 JUDGE JORDAN: From the Company?

7 MR. MITTEN: No questions.

8 JUDGE JORDAN: Commissioners?

9 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: I just had one.

10 Mr. Hollrea, you said you were from St. Charles?

11 MR. HOLLREA: Originally, yes, sir.

12 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Are you related to Scott
13 Hollrea?

14 MR. HOLLREA: Yes.

15 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: I went to college with Scott,
16 and he was a fantastic baseball player.

17 MR. HOLLREA: Well, I appreciate hearing that. I
18 think Scott's father is my first cousin, so he would be
19 first cousin once removed, yes.

20 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Thank you.

21 MR. HOLLREA: There's a lot of Hollreas in St.
22 Charles. A German family. Thank you, sir.

23 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Thanks for the comment.

24 JUDGE JORDAN: No further questions. Thank you.

25 (Whereupon, Mr. Hollrea left the podium.)

1 JUDGE JORDAN: The next name on my list is Bob
2 Ketler. Bob Ketler.

3 (No response.)

4 JUDGE JORDAN: I don't see any Bob Ketler
5 responding, so I'll move on down the list.

6 The next name is Clara Tremaine. Clara Tremaine
7 would like to testify.

8 JUDGE JORDAN: Please raise your right hand.
9 CLARA TREMAINE, a witness, being duly sworn by Judge
10 Jordan, testified as follows:

11 JUDGE JORDAN: Please spell your name for our
12 Reporter.

13 MS. TREMAINE: Clara, C-l-a-r-a, Tremaine,
14 T-r-e-m-a-i-n-e.

15 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you, Ms. Tremaine.

16 Are you a customer of Ameren Missouri?

17 MS. TREMAINE: Yes, I am.

18 JUDGE JORDAN: Please go ahead and tell the
19 Commission what you would like it to hear.

20 MS. TREMAINE: Well, again, this is my first time.
21 I found out about it two days ago when a gentleman come to
22 my house and told me, and I'm usually pretty good at the
23 news, although I don't take the paper. Um, but, uh, once
24 I found out about it, I wondered if what I had to say
25 would make any difference; and since there's not, like, a

1 public vote on it, uh, I wanted to come and tell you from
2 my perspective.

3 It's not your fault that I chose a life of service
4 which was nursing, and I didn't make a lot of money and I
5 have went out on disability for, like, 10 years, and I'm
6 officially retired now. And, uh, haven't had a cost of
7 living increase for three years; and with the gasoline and
8 the food prices and everything else going up, it's very
9 hard, and to be able to pay the same amount on, uh, my
10 bill, I had to, um -- my, a year ago, well, had my heat
11 set on 65. And this year it's over \$200 this past time,
12 and I've had it set on 60, and then 50 whenever I leave,
13 and I just don't know if my bones can take less than 60.

14 And whenever Mr., um, I forgot his name --

15 MS. SHEMWELL: Baxter?

16 MS. TREMAINE: -- Baxter said that they had a
17 profit of 300-and-some million dollars, I have to ask
18 myself, uh, there's a lot of people that are in my
19 condition that have it hard financially that have cut back
20 and done everything that they can possibly do, uh, to
21 squeeze by and still pay everything and that.

22 And, so, I just want you to know that there's a
23 lot of people having a hard time, especially in the
24 economy and stuff the way it is, and I would really
25 appreciate it if, um, the powers-to-be would decide not,

1 uh, to do this increase on us. And I thank you for
2 letting me speak my peace.

3 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you for your comments.

4 Are there questions from the parties?

5 MS. SHEMWELL: No. Thank you.

6 JUDGE JORDAN: Staff? OPC?

7 MR. MILLS: No questions.

8 JUDGE JORDAN: The Company?

9 MR. MITTEN: No questions.

10 JUDGE JORDAN: Anything from the Commission?

11 COMMISSIONER JARRETT: No. Thank you very much.

12 MS. TREMAINE: Thank you.

13 JUDGE JORDAN: Next name on my list is Max S.

14 Earl. Max Earl.

15 (No response.)

16 JUDGE JORDAN: Max Earl like to testify?

17 (No response.)

18 JUDGE JORDAN: I'm not seeing anyone come forward,

19 so I'll go to the next name on the list.

20 The next name on my list is Sandra Callahan.

21 Sandra Callahan.

22 (No response.)

23 JUDGE JORDAN: Sandra Callahan. Would Sandra

24 Callahan like to testify?

25 (No response.)

1 JUDGE JORDAN: I do not see anyone coming forward,
2 so I will go to the next name on my list.

3 And this name looks like Ernie Cobrias (ph).
4 Anyone named Ernie present who wants to testify?

5 COMMISSIONER CLAYTON: Say the address.

6 JUDGE JORDAN: 13311 Railroad Avenue.

7 (No response.)

8 JUDGE JORDAN: Oh, you know, there are two names
9 here, and I saw two people leave earlier together. These
10 two addresses are the same. So, I think they've already,
11 they already heard what they want us to hear, so we will
12 move on to the next name.

13 The next name is Leonard, Leonard Stella? Leonard
14 Stella?

15 (No response.)

16 JUDGE JORDAN: Leonard Stella on Ladue Road in
17 Jefferson City.

18 (No response.)

19 JUDGE JORDAN: I'm not seeing anyone come forward
20 in answer to that name. So, down the list.

21 Looks like Brenda Ziegler. Brenda Ziegler.

22 (No response.)

23 JUDGE JORDAN: I don't see any Brenda Ziegler,
24 from Jefferson City on Fox Creek Road.

25 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: She was just here, but I

1 don't see her here anymore.

2 JUDGE JORDAN: Okay. I'm sorry.

3 Then I will proceed to the next name, and that is
4 Jim Nichols. Would Jim Nichols like to testify?

5 (Indicating.)

6 JUDGE JORDAN: Please come forward and be sworn.

7 Please state your name and spell it for the
8 Reporter.

9 MR. NICHOLS: My name is Jim Nichols, N-i-c-h-
10 o-l-s, and I am an Ameren customer and I live in Jefferson
11 City.

12 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you.

13 Please raise your right hand.

14 JIM NICHOLS, a witness being duly sworn by Judge Jordan,
15 testified as follows:

16 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you.

17 Please proceed.

18 MR. NICHOLS: Well, I would like for you to
19 forgive me. I don't get too much of a chance to speak in
20 front of all these high-powered folks, so I'm a little
21 nervous. Please forgive me. I would like to thank
22 everyone here for allowing me to speak in a proceeding as
23 important as this one.

24 I would like to tell you, I am not an expert in
25 this field. My observations will only be general. Uh,

1 and I think, if I were an Ameren executive, I would charge
2 everything I could, and I'm not pro-Ameren. But I
3 understand about shareholders. And I think it's very
4 important for this company, if it's going to continue to
5 provide the level of service that it does, that it be
6 adequately reimbursed. Now I will have some caveats to
7 that here in just a minute.

8 I think Ameren does a great job. Two winters ago,
9 I think two winters ago, when the ice was so bad, I lost
10 both 7.2 KBA transfer poles, transfer across the street
11 from me on Country Club, and I also lost my distribution
12 transformer, and the Ameren line folks moved heaven and
13 earth to get power back to my residence. It didn't cost
14 me a cent. Or not directly a cent.

15 Um, I have worked for years -- and I just like to
16 get a little lick in here. I've worked for years as an
17 electrical engineer, and I would like to put my vote in
18 for all the nuclear power that we can get. And I also
19 think that we should be highly concerned about drilling on
20 our own shores. It's -- I know that doesn't concern us
21 directly, but I think if we don't start waking up and
22 becoming a society that has the same common sense that our
23 forefathers had, I think we can commit economic suicide
24 here.

25 I can't imagine anybody having any real objections

1 to nuclear power, but that's, and I'm voting for another
2 plant. That's just personally. Um, I would also like to
3 point out that individuals face the fact, just like Ameren
4 faces the fact, anytime I go to Conoco or Shell or
5 somewhere, they always want a little more. So it's not --
6 and I know Ameren has hundreds and thousands of trucks, so
7 I understand their position, so it's just -- but it's
8 getting, it's getting tighter for all of us. And I would
9 like to say that, in the long run, what is best for Ameren
10 is also best for its consumers, or customers.

11 And the essential question that I have for the
12 Commission today is what are the unintended consequences
13 that we face as Americans to what might be happening here?
14 Um, I don't think any of us have really thought -- and I
15 know there are a lot of important people here and I think
16 you have some pretty comfortable salaries -- and I don't
17 think a lot of us have ever thought of the prospect of not
18 having a salary. But, you know, I saw the Berlin Wall
19 fall and, basically, in 72 hours, and some great societies
20 came crashing down, and I'm, I'm terribly worried about
21 the economic conditions of the United States.

22 If, if a boxer takes a really vicious upper cut or
23 a body blow or something, um, he might not be able to
24 continue, but if the bell rings, is allowed to go to his
25 corner and recover a little bit, then maybe he could come

1 out, you know, maybe he's a little more fit to go on. But
2 I think in our economic situation today, I think I would
3 say that I think this rate hike's a good idea, but I'm not
4 sure it's a good idea just now.

5 I think, um, I think more persons are closer to a
6 catastrophic failure than you might suspect, and if enough
7 of those common folks like the folks that have just been
8 up here go down in flames, we will all go down in flames,
9 and it won't be for a year or two, it might be for a long
10 long time. In fact, we may not, by other powerful
11 nations, be allowed to recover. What's happening here
12 today I think is only a microcosm of what's happening in
13 the rest of the country.

14 I know this company needs a rate hike. You know,
15 I mean, if they don't please their shareholders, they're
16 not going to be able to give us the quality of service
17 that we've all come to expect. And I really appreciate
18 them doing that. I also recommend our understanding that
19 these proceedings are really too complex for most of us.
20 When we say we want to own the company ourselves or we
21 want somebody else to do something, we know at the end of
22 the day it's going to have to be you all that make these
23 decisions because you understand it. It's just, it's just
24 too complicated for most of us.

25 Um, so all I'm saying is, as a citizen and as a

1 fairly-satisfied Ameren customer, I think Ameren should
2 proceed with caution. I think we're going to have a lot
3 of better days, I think we can have, uh, some really good
4 economic times ahead of us, but it really scares me when I
5 see a lady like this one (indicating) turning her
6 thermostat down to 50 degrees. You know, maybe we should
7 have a special rate for folks who just simply can't afford
8 to live with the way prices across the country have
9 increased for the years.

10 The last thing I would like to say, it could be
11 taken as pretty negative, but it isn't. I hear people on
12 the street every day -- and I don't want you to think for
13 a minute that I believe this, because I don't -- but the
14 average guy out on the street who knows nothing about the
15 PSC thinks, a lot of them think that the PSC is in bed
16 with the big utility companies. Now, I know that's not
17 true. But if I were the PSC and if I were Ameren, I would
18 move heaven and earth to make sure that the, that the
19 average American knows that that isn't true. Because the
20 average American is, is our survival.

21 Thank you very much.

22 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you, sir. Thank you for your
23 comments.

24 Are there any questions from the parties? Staff?

25 MS. SHEMWELL: No; but thank you, sir.

1 MR. NICHOLS: Thank you.

2 JUDGE JORDAN: From the Office of Public Counsel?

3 MR. MILLS: No questions. Thank you.

4 JUDGE JORDAN: The Company?

5 MR. MITTEN: No.

6 JUDGE JORDAN: Any from the Commission?

7 MR. KENNEY: No.

8 MR. JARRETT: No. Thank you, sir.

9 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you.

10 (Whereupon, Mr. Nichols left the podium.)

11 JUDGE JORDAN: The next name on my list looks like
12 Richard Mansur. Richard Mansur.

13 (Indicating.)

14 JUDGE JORDAN: Am I correct? have I got that
15 right?

16 MR. MANSUR: Yes, sir.

17 JUDGE JORDAN: Very good.

18 Please come forward and be sworn.

19 JUDGE JORDAN: I'll ask you to state your name and
20 spell it for our Reporter first.

21 MR. MANSUR: My name is Richard Mansur, R-i-c-h-
22 a-r-d, M-a-n-s-u-r, and I am an AmerenUE customer.

23 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you.

24 Please raise your right hand.

25 RICHARD MANSUR, a witness, being duly sworn by Judge

1 Jordan, testified as follows:

2 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you.

3 Go ahead with your testimony.

4 MR. MANSUR: Well, I'd like to ask a couple of
5 questions first. Those being, I don't really understand
6 why all of the Commissioners aren't here, why one of them
7 is watching this from his office as opposed to being in
8 front of the people here. It seems to be arrogant.
9 However, like I say, you know, we have three members of
10 the Board here.

11 JUDGE JORDAN: Four. Four out of five
12 Commissioners are present.

13 MR. KENNEY: Yes.

14 MR. MANSUR: My first question is is what
15 precisely is this 11 percent going to pay for? I've heard
16 a lot of beating around the bush but I have not yet heard
17 what precisely this 11 percent -- and, by the way, I pay a
18 hundred dollars a month, at least, for my electricity and
19 an 11 percent increase is not \$2 a year but rather a
20 hundred twenty dollars a year.

21 The other thing I would like to know -- and, for
22 one thing, I'm a bit confused as to why this meeting has
23 been held in the order it has been, because, as you can
24 see (indicating), three-fourths of the gallery is not here
25 and we have missed at least eight people who wanted to

1 testify and they have left because they were worn out.
2 They couldn't stay any longer. They had parking tickets
3 to avoid and lunches to eat, and jobs to go back to. Um,
4 and so I am asking the company several things.

5 What is the intended purpose of this 11 percent?
6 Which, for me, is a hundred twenty dollars a year, not
7 this ridiculous two dollars that I hear.

8 (No response.)

9 MR. MANSUR: Do you have no answer from the
10 Company?

11 JUDGE JORDAN: This is not the question-and-answer
12 time. The Company will not be, will not be answering
13 questions or making a presentation anymore.

14 MR. MANSUR: I thought they were earlier.

15 JUDGE JORDAN: They did earlier.

16 MR. MANSUR: But, with me, they're not.

17 JUDGE JORDAN: This is your time. This is your
18 time to speak. And to make your statement.

19 COMMISSIONER CLAYTON: Hang on, Judge. I think we
20 need to make it clear.

21 Our local public hearing process has changed in
22 recent years, so, if you have been to one of these in the
23 past, we are doing it a different way. We had so many
24 people that had questions and the actual hearing is
25 designed to get testimony from you. But what we've done

1 is we start off with the first part which is question-and-
2 answer, that's why it went so long. We go as long as
3 people ask questions, and then at some point we have to
4 cut it off to start receiving the testimony.

5 MR. MANSUR: I understand that.

6 JUDGE JORDAN: But what I want to say is we could
7 --

8 COMMISSIONER CLAYTON: We encourage the Company to
9 meet with you following this hearing or even step outside
10 right now, and if you want to come back in and provide
11 testimony, we can do that, but I'm sure they will be
12 available to answer questions.

13 MR. MANSUR: Right. I was just interested in the
14 gallery hearing all I have to say as opposed to the four
15 that were left. I would like to hear the other people who
16 testified, signed up, but left because they needed to.
17 I'm sure they didn't want to go. I think I was 17 on the
18 list. But at any rate.

19 I don't know whether anyone here -- I guess you
20 (indicating) can answer the question -- I don't know if
21 anyone here can explain, I'm sure you're all aware of,
22 most anyone who lives in Jefferson City is, Speaks (ph)
23 doubled the size of their restaurant. Their customers did
24 not pay for that in advance, and I'm not certain that
25 there's anyone here on the Board or anyone in the office

1 who can name any business in this town whose customers had
2 to pay to build a new facility before they could come in
3 and buy the product from that facility. And I don't see
4 why Ameren should be any different than that.

5 I'm also curious as to know what the salary of the
6 CEO of AmerenUE is this last year. We already know what
7 their profits were, and the profits, as everyone should
8 know, go to shareholders. Um, no one helps me out when
9 something's wrong with something. No one gives me money
10 to build something in advance so that I can sell them
11 something later. That just doesn't happen. Um, and so
12 it's the shareholders who profit, and it's the share-
13 holders who probably, more or less, control AmerenUE, and
14 probably major shareholders are people with the most
15 money.

16 And, so, I don't understand why the ratepayer
17 should pay for upkeep, maintenance, and improvements of
18 the facility when everyone else has to do that themselves.
19 And I'm talking about personally as well as small
20 business, of which there are many in this town. They
21 don't have the advantage of AmerenUE, and everyone should
22 know it is the Commissioners who approved the 26 percent
23 that has increased in the last two years already. So,
24 it's not just AmerenUE. It's the PSC, as well. Because
25 they've approved it.

1 Um, and I guess the other thing I'm curious about
2 is to how much AmerenUE spent on radio and television
3 advertising during the last month or month-and-a-half. I
4 know it's extensive. I know what television advertising
5 costs, and I know what times they were and what sort of
6 things they were, and I know what was said. And,
7 basically, a pack of mistruths, a way to try to convince
8 people who don't know any better, who can't run the
9 numbers, who don't have the education to run the numbers
10 to figure any of it out. But I'm educated enough to be
11 able to do that.

12 And so I suppose, um, since I'm not going to get
13 any answers, I suppose that's what I have to say. But the
14 Board's responsible, AmerenUE is responsible, I don't know
15 any business anywhere that gets their business set up for
16 them by their customers who then come in and pay for it.

17 JUDGE JORDAN: Mr. Mansur, you can probably get
18 the answers, a lot of the answers that you want,
19 especially with regard to numbers, from the people at the
20 tables outside.

21 MR. MANSUR: I understand that's a possibility. I
22 also know that who are giving me those numbers and that
23 they have a vested interest in those numbers. And when I
24 do that personally, no one else hears the answers to those
25 questions, because the way this meeting has been

1 organized, as in we've seen, the questions and answers
2 really ought to follow testimony. Seems reasonable, as
3 you see (indicating), we've lost a lot of people and we've
4 lost a lot of people who wanted to testify. And they
5 would have been here if you would be in the reverse.

6 Thank you.

7 JUDGE JORDAN: Hang on just a second. There may
8 be questions from the parties and from Staff.

9 MS. SHEMWELL: No questions. Thank you, sir.

10 JUDGE JORDAN: Anyone else? From PC?

11 MR. MILLS: No questions.

12 JUDGE JORDAN: From the Company?

13 MR. MITTEN: No questions.

14 JUDGE JORDAN: Any questions from the
15 Commissioners?

16 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: I don't have a question so
17 much and not to respond directly to the question-and-
18 answer process, we're not set up to work that way, but the
19 concern that you expressed was expressed -- we've had
20 public hearings all across the eastern region, and we have
21 additional local hearings scheduled in the future. And
22 all five of us aren't always able to attend all of the
23 public hearings that occur throughout the State.

24 MR. MANSUR: But one, apparently, is in his office
25 here (indicating) in this building.

1 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: I'm not going to speak to
2 that directly. Let me finish what I was going to say.

3 But the important part with this testimony portion
4 of the local public hearings that the Court Reporter
5 transcribes it, there is a written transcript of
6 everybody's testimony, and all of the Commissioners take
7 the time to consider the testimony that's entered into the
8 case during the deliberative process before we actually
9 render a decision. Um, and so, I'm not directing this
10 necessarily to you, you're not the only one that's
11 expressed it, but I would say those attending the local
12 public hearings are not to assume by the absence of a
13 Commissioner that that indicates any disinterest in the
14 process, because we take our job very very seriously and
15 --

16 MR. MANSUR: It is the public perception, though,
17 when the Commissioners, only five or six of them can
18 attend the public hearings that are being set up for this
19 purpose and the other one is in his office.

20 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: That certainly isn't the
21 impression that we intend to give, and I can assure
22 everyone that we take this process incredibly seriously
23 and devote a substantial amount of time to deliberating
24 before we render any decisions.

25 MR. MANSUR: I guess there is one more thing I

1 would like to comment on.

2 AmerenUE recently put in poles along Halifax Road
3 where I lived, and more or less, well, they bought an -- I
4 guess what the word is -- an easement from the people to
5 put in a pole. Although, I was threatened if I didn't let
6 them have that easement they were going to enact eminent
7 domain and take it anyway. In the process of doing so,
8 they varied some lines.

9 They ripped up a ditch that's right in front of my
10 house, which water runs all the time. When I finally
11 complained about it enough, they came out and did a slip-
12 shod job, leaving part of the grading uphill so a big
13 large pond would fall -- I'm sorry -- would occur with any
14 rain. Then they came out once again at my request and put
15 down seed and straw. They put down straw this thick
16 (indicating). There is no grass coming up there. It's
17 eroding like crazy.

18 They didn't even know how to seed and straw in the
19 fall. Something I've known since I was a child. You
20 don't put three or four inches of straw on top of
21 something that you expect to come up that's very tiny and
22 has very tiny roots. So, Ameren going to fix that? They
23 need to.

24 JUDGE JORDAN: Okay. Hang on just a second.

25 Since you had nothing more to say but ask

1 questions, I would ask if there are any questions from the
2 parties.

3 From Staff?

4 MS. SHEMWELL: No questions.

5 MR. MILLS: No questions.

6 MR. MITTEN: No questions.

7 JUDGE JORDAN: From the Commissioners?

8 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: No questions.

9 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you for your comments.

10 (Whereupon, Mr. Mansur left the podium.)

11 JUDGE JORDAN: The next name on my list is Joy
12 Sweigart. Joyce Sweigart.

13 (Indicating.)

14 JUDGE JORDAN: Please raise your right hand.

15 JOY SWEIGART, a witness, being duly sworn by Judge Jordan,
16 testified as follows:

17 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you.

18 Please state your name, and spell it for our Court
19 Reporter.

20 MS. SWEIGART: Okay.

21 My name is Joy, J-o-y. My last name is Sweigart,
22 S-w-e-i-g-a-r-t.

23 JUDGE JORDAN: Ms. Sweigart, are you an Ameren
24 Missouri customer?

25 MS. SWEIGART: Yes, I am.

1 JUDGE JORDAN: Please tell the Commission,
2 Commission what you would like the Commission to hear.

3 MS. SWEIGART: First of all, I'm not a non-
4 progressive person. I think that we need to have, um,
5 facilities so that people can have jobs. I believe that,
6 uh, to a certain extent AmerenUE is probably doing an
7 excellent job. Um, but I do have, um, in my thought
8 process some concerns.

9 I don't necessarily think it's individual people
10 that work for the company just like, you know, I'm sure
11 that you gentlemen are absolutely wonderful people, you
12 represent a job, people perceive that job is however it
13 may be. Same thing with people associated with AmerenUE,
14 they may think negative or positive. I do think that as a
15 corporation that they need to work as hard as they can in
16 clearing up their name for whatever that may be. If
17 there's a lot of people that have negative thoughts
18 towards a certain company, then it tells me that there's
19 got to be a problem somewhere. Um, just like if where I
20 work, if there's a lot of negative and people think
21 certain things, then I think it would be up to the
22 employees to want to rectify and correct that situation.

23 As an individual who is on a fixed income because
24 we don't get pay raises, um, the gas company went up 20
25 cents a gallon of gas within a week. Um, you know, the

1 groceries keep going up, the medicine keeps going up, but
2 our pay doesn't. And while I don't have any problems with
3 AmerenUE raising their prices, or any other company, to
4 make a profit so they can make an end, you know, make
5 money for themselves, however, I think your timing is
6 wrong.

7 And I agree with everybody else that has stood up
8 here. You have a lot of people that are just hanging on
9 by the threads. If my electricity goes up, I have to come
10 up with X number of dollars in my budget to pay for that
11 or I run the risk of being shut off. So, I have to find
12 that money somewhere out of my pocket, and I think
13 AmerenUE, as a company, needs to do this as well. I think
14 we all need to live within our means, and I don't have any
15 problems with, you know, it expanding. I have no problems
16 with nuclear if that's going to cost us less money in the
17 future, but I think timing has a lot to do with
18 everything.

19 Right now, our economy in the world situation,
20 whether it doesn't have a direct impact on us right now,
21 it will. It truly will. And I think that maybe we need
22 to set an example. If raising your prices is something
23 that you wanted to do, maybe we need to go into a co-op
24 like Three Rivers. I used to be a Three Rivers customer,
25 and believe it or not, I was treated better and I liked it

1 better than AmerenUE. I think Ameren has gotten so big
2 and so powerful that they don't look at the individual
3 people, and they really don't. As was Three Rivers, they
4 do. Um, that's just an example of something. Maybe it
5 could be considered down the road.

6 I know my parents are 82 and 83 years old. My dad
7 is a World War II and a Korean and a Viet Nam veteran.
8 His money doesn't go up but his electricity bill does, his
9 gas at the pump does, his groceries does. So, I mean, you
10 know, when you're considering things like that, I think we
11 need to consider things, you know, how people are going to
12 pay for those bills. Because you're going to be like the
13 banks and you're going to have all this electricity going
14 to these houses and there's not going to be anybody to pay
15 it.

16 Thank you for your time. I appreciate it.

17 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you for your comments.

18 Are there any questions from the parties? Staff?

19 MS. SHEMWELL: No. Thank you.

20 JUDGE JORDAN: OPC?

21 MR. MILLS: No questions.

22 JUDGE JORDAN: The Company?

23 MR. MITTEN: No questions.

24 JUDGE JORDAN: From the Commissioners?

25 COMMISSIONER CLAYTON: Ma'am, could you -- you

1 said that you felt that you were treated better by Three
2 Rivers Co-op better than you were treated --

3 MS. SWEIGART: Yes.

4 COMMISSIONER CLAYTON: Could you give me some
5 examples or just detail of how you say that, why you say
6 that?

7 MS. SWEIGART: Sure.

8 Well, um, I lived out at Westview Heights. They
9 have it. Um, at the end of the year, if you didn't, if
10 they made a profit, you saw it in the paycheck. You just
11 didn't have it whatever. So, I may have received a check
12 for fifty or sixty dollars. That shows me that they cared
13 enough about me to save money or, you know, use your money
14 and their talents a lot more wisely than AmerenUE.

15 Now, they say that it comes back to us. I don't
16 see it. I mean, I really don't. I don't know that the
17 average person looks at their bills and could understand
18 exactly what it is that they're saying or doing, or I
19 didn't see a check come in, or whatever. I mean, to me,
20 that just shows a little more personal touch.

21 COMMISSIONER CLAYTON: Thank you very much.

22 MS. SWEIGART: You're welcome.

23 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you.

24 Any further questions from the Commission?

25 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Ma'am, could you read to me

1 what's on your yellow sticker there on your lapel?

2 MS. SWEIGART: Sure.

3 "Don't raise our utility rates".

4 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Can you read the fine print
5 below that?

6 MS. SWEIGART: Can I read that (indicating)?

7 Heavens, no. I don't have my glasses on. I'm sorry.

8 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Okay. Okay. That's fine.

9 And just, in your opinion, do you think that those
10 buttons could influence us, those stickers?

11 MS. SWEIGART: Do I think it influences you as us?

12 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Do you think those buttons
13 are designed to either directly or indirectly influence
14 the Commission?

15 MS. SWEIGART: You know, I don't know. I honestly
16 can't answer that. I know when I go to vote and I put
17 that "I Voted" sticker on me, I hope that will influence
18 other people to vote. But I hope this (indicating)
19 represents what I feel and what I'm asking you personally
20 not to do or whatever, and that's why I, you know, wear
21 it.

22 So, I don't know if it's going to influence you or
23 not, but at least it lets you know how I feel.

24 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Okay. Thank you, ma'am.

25 JUDGE JORDAN: Commissioner, would you like the

1 sticker to be put into evidence as an exhibit?

2 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: It's her sticker.

3 COMMISSIONER CLAYTON: I think there are plenty
4 out there.

5 JUDGE JORDAN: You can keep your stickers.

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Thank you very much for your
7 time.

8 COMMISSIONER JARRETT: Thank you, ma'am.

9 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you very much. You're
10 excused.

11 MS. SWEIGART: Thank you.

12 (Whereupon, the Witness left the podium.)

13 JUDGE JORDAN: The next name I have on my list is
14 H. Wrenminster (ph)? I'm sorry about the mis-
15 pronunciation. I cannot read the signature. No. That's
16 not it.

17 COMMISSIONER CLAYTON: On Highway AA.

18 JUDGE JORDAN: In Barnett, Missouri. Anyone from
19 Barnett, Missouri, wanting to testify?

20 (No response.)

21 JUDGE JORDAN: Okay.

22 Then we go next to E. West. E West. From
23 Jefferson City, Missouri.

24 (No response.)

25 JUDGE JORDAN: E. West.

1 (No response.)

2 JUDGE JORDAN: Not seeing any E. West, or am I?

3 Am I?

4 (No response.)

5 JUDGE JORDAN: No. No one responding to E. West.

6 The last name I have on my list is Deborah L.

7 Greer.

8 MS. GREER: It's actually Deborah S., D-e-b-o-r-

9 a-h, S. Greer, G-r-e-e-r.

10 COMMISSIONER CLAYTON: Looks like an S to me.

11 MS. GREER: Sorry. Maybe I'm picking up doctors'

12 bad habits.

13 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you for the clarification.

14 Please raise your right hand.

15 DEBORAH S. GREER, a witness, being duly sworn by Judge

16 Jordan, testified as follows:

17 JUDGE JORDAN: Are you a customer of Ameren

18 Missouri?

19 MS. GREER: Yes.

20 JUDGE JORDAN: Please tell the Commissioners what

21 you want them to hear.

22 MS. GREER: Like a couple of other women alluded

23 to earlier, um, I don't think there's a total under-

24 standing of exactly how many people are on fixed incomes,

25 how many people have not gotten raises for a couple of

1 years, but everything keeps going up except what we have
2 to spend and pay our bills with. AmerenUE has gotten the
3 last two increases they've asked for without any problem;
4 it seems like, and there's not enough energy assistance to
5 go around for everybody now. If they raise their rates
6 again, there definitely won't be enough energy assistance.

7 So, I just want to emphasize that problem. Maybe
8 they can cut back on other areas like donating smart
9 boards, lampposts, railway spurs, maybe they can cut back
10 on that for awhile.

11 JUDGE JORDAN: Okay. Thank you for your comment.
12 Any questions from Staff?

13 MS. SHEMWELL: No. Thank you.

14 JUDGE JORDAN: Office of the Public Counsel?

15 MR. MILLS: I have no questions. Thank you.

16 JUDGE JORDAN: Anything from the Company?

17 MR. MITTEN: No questions.

18 JUDGE JORDAN: Commissioners, any questions.

19 COMMISSIONER CLAYTON: I don't have any questions.

20 I know we're very concerned with the reduction in
21 assistance that are out there, and certainly understand
22 that. Thank you for bringing that to our attention.

23 MS. GREER: If you aren't there at the first of
24 the month at the Samaritan Center, I mean absolutely on
25 the first, forget it. And then your bill gets cut off.

1 You have to have a cutoff notice first, but, before you go
2 to ask for assistance, but -- and the same shortage is
3 over at the Community Action Center.

4 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you for your testimony on
5 those points.

6 Nothing else from the Commissioners?

7 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: No. Thank you for your
8 time, ma'am.

9 COMMISSIONER JARRETT: Thank you, ma'am.

10 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you.

11 (Whereupon, the Witness left the podium.)

12 JUDGE JORDAN: That was the last name that I had
13 on my list. Does anyone else want to testify before I
14 close the local public hearing?

15 (No response.)

16 JUDGE JORDAN: I am not seeing anyone responding.

17 So, with that --

18 (Indicating.)

19 JUDGE JORDAN: Yes, sir. There was a hand raised
20 in the back.

21 MS. KOEPP: I did.

22 JUDGE JORDAN: Oh, ma'am. I thought it was the
23 gentleman behind you. Sorry about that.

24 MS. KOEPP: That's okay.

25 JUDGE JORDAN: You may stand or sit, whatever is

1 more comfortable with you.

2 MS. KOEPP: I'm okay.

3 JUDGE JORDAN: Very good.

4 Please state your name and spell it.

5 MS. KOEPP: Daphne, D-a-p-h-n-e, Koepp, K-o-e --

6 two Ps -- p-p; and I am an Ameren customer.

7 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you, ma'am.

8 Please raise your right hand.

9 DAPHNE KOEPP, a witness, being duly sworn by Judge Jordan,
10 testified as follows:

11 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you.

12 Go ahead and testify.

13 MS. KOEPP: Um, like some of them said before,

14 I'm, too, on a fixed income and I'm getting no increases.

15 I have a disability -- well, actually, it's kind of like a

16 disease -- that requires a lot of treatment, a lot of

17 medication. And when Ameren wants their increases, then

18 I'm, I'm stuck with the choice, you know, you have, as

19 they said, the gas has gone up, the groceries have gone

20 up, Ameren wants their increase, so there I sit turning my

21 thermostat down, you know, three, four quilts on the bed

22 to stay warm, because what am I going to do? Am I going

23 to give up my medication and my treatment? And my food to

24 pay the Ameren bill? I can't do that.

25 I mean, you have to understand that there are

1 these people that just cannot afford the increase; I being
2 one of them. And I think that, once again, as has been
3 brought up, Ameren is making quite a profit and it's time
4 for their shareholders to back off and see what is
5 happening. The economy is in the wastebasket right now.
6 And when people get no increases and they're on that fixed
7 income, you're left with making a choice, do I give up my
8 medication? Do I give up the food? My treatments? What
9 do you do?

10 I think that Ameren needs to look at themselves
11 and say, "Hey," you know, "we need to look at this and
12 maybe not charge or ask for an increase," because you've
13 had quite a few, and I think it's time for you to step
14 back and look at the people and look at the economy that
15 we're in right now.

16 That's all I have to say.

17 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you for your comments.

18 Any questions from Staff?

19 MS. SHEMWELL: No.

20 MR. MILLS: I have no questions. Thank you.

21 JUDGE JORDAN: The Company?

22 MR. MITTEN: No questions.

23 JUDGE JORDAN: Any questions from the
24 Commissioners?

25 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: No.

1 COMMISSIONER CLAYTON: No. Thank you very much.

2 COMMISSIONER JARRETT: Thank you.

3 JUDGE JORDAN: Thank you, ma'am.

4 (Whereupon, the Witness left the podium.)

5 JUDGE JORDAN: Well, that will conclude the
6 testimony then. I thank everyone for attending on behalf
7 of the Commission. Thank you for your comments; and, with
8 that, we'll close the local public hearing and we will go
9 off the record.

10 Thank you.

11 WHEREUPON, the public record was concluded.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF MISSOURI)
) ss.
COUNTY OF COLE)

I, Pamela S. Gentry, Certified Shorthand Reporter with the firm of Midwest Litigation Services, do hereby certify that I was personally present at the proceedings had in the above-entitled cause at the time and place set forth in the caption sheet thereof; that I then and there took down in Stenotype the proceedings had; and that the foregoing is a full, true and correct transcript of such Stenotype notes so made at such time and place.

Given at my office in the City of Jefferson, County of Cole, State of Missouri.

Pamela S. Gentry, CCR #426

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