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STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Local Public Hearing

January 10, 2017
Mexico, Missouri
Volume III

In the Matter of Union Electric)
Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri's) File No. ER-2016-0179
Tariffs to Increase its Revenues)
for Electric Service)

JUDGE MORRIS WOODRUFF, Presiding
CHIEF REGULATORY LAW JUDGE

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Mr. Daniel Hall, Chairman
Mr. William Kennedy,
Mr. Stephen Stoll,
Ms. Maida Coleman,
Commissioners

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

2 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Well, good evening,
3 everyone, once again. All right. There we go.
4 Okay. I just can't figure out the technology and
5 figure out how to turn on the button, so we'll --
6 we're now ready for the on-the-record portion of
7 this proceeding.

8 Again, my name is Morris Woodruff. I'm
9 the Chief Regulatory Law Judge for the public
10 Service Commission, and I'll be presiding providing
11 here this evening. I'm not a Commissioner, but I
12 do have three of the Commissioners here with me.

13 To my right is Commissioner Daniel Hall.
14 He's the Chairman of the Commission. To my
15 immediate left is Steven Stoll, who is also a
16 commissioner. And to his left is Maida Coleman,
17 also a Commissioner.

18 And the purpose of our being here tonight
19 is to hear your view, to hear your comments, to
20 take your testimony. So I'll ask you to come on up
21 to the podium here, and I'll swear you in to tell
22 the truth, whole truth and nothing but the truth,
23 and I'll give you a chance to testify.

24 And then after you've testified, stay at
25 the podium for a little bit, and we'll have

1 questions -- may have questions from myself or from
2 Commissioners or from the attorneys for the
3 parties.

4 And I'll -- everything you testify to --
5 testimony you give to us will be transcribed by the
6 court reporter and we'll be made parts of the
7 record. And the Commissioners -- all the other
8 Commissioners who aren't here tonight, there are
9 two others, will not be -- or will have an
10 opportunity to -- to review that testimony.

11 And before we call the first witness, we
12 need to take entries of appearance from the
13 attorneys who are here representing the parties.
14 So I'll begin with Ameren Missouri.

15 MS. GIBONEY: For Ameren Missouri, I'm
16 Sarah Giboney. And the court reporter has
17 previously been provided with my contact
18 information.

19 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And for the Staff?

20 MR. JOHNSON: For the Staff, Mark Johnson,
21 and I've previously provided my information to the
22 court reporter.

23 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. And for the
24 Office of Public Counsel?

25 MR. OPITZ: Thank you, Judge. For the

1 Office of Public Counsel, I'm Tim Opitz. My
2 address is P.O. Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri,
3 65102.

4 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. And I'll
5 turn to the Commissioners. Do you wish to make any
6 statements before we started?

7 CHAIRMAN HALL: Good evening. My name
8 is Daniel Hall. I'm the Chairman of the -- of the
9 Missouri Commission.

10 I want to say first and foremost,
11 thank you very much for being here. These -- these
12 local public hearings are a very important part of
13 the rates case process.

14 As I believe has been explained to you,
15 there will be a hearing in Jeff City where we will
16 take evidence from economists, from accountants,
17 auditors, engineers, et cetera.

18 But what we don't typically have in
19 those hearings is actual testimony from individuals
20 who are impacted by the rates that we are setting.
21 And that's why these hearings are so important
22 because this is our opportunity to hear from you.

23 This is the second of 13 hearings that
24 we have around the state. Missouri is relatively
25 unique in the country in terms of the amount of

1 local public hearings that we have. I think it's a
2 good thing. And I look forward to hearing your
3 testimony. Thank you.

4 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. We've been
5 joined by a fourth Commissioner, Mr. Bill Kenney.
6 All right. The first name on list of witnesses is
7 Robert Marty. Come on up to the podium. Would you
8 please raise your right hand?

9 ROBERT MARTY,
10 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
11 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

12 MR. MARTY: As far as I know. I take it
13 from sources that I mean it to be true.

14 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. I'll accept
15 that. So go ahead and proceed.

16 MR. MARTY: I'd like to say that my
17 friend, Harold Enslin, and I have been appearing at
18 these hearings for 36 years of water, gas and
19 electricity.

20 And we both have former served in the City
21 Council and both were former Mayors of the City of
22 Mexico and both served on the School Board. Harold
23 outdid me in both cases, but we served in both of
24 those.

25 And among other things, I did serve on the

1 Children's Trust Fund. And I have to acknowledge
2 that I served with Senator Coleman, and I recognize
3 her easily and know her beyond this meeting.

4 Also, you'll notice that we are gifted
5 chronologically, Commissioner. And that means when
6 we're done talking, we're out of here. We're not
7 going to be drinking beer or telling stories or
8 nothing. We're out of here. So if you don't mind,
9 we're not being rude, when we're done, we're out of
10 here.

11 I want to say the first thing about the
12 service of the -- of the local -- local office, the
13 local business here of Ameren. They've done a good
14 job. I have two things, good and bad, to comment.

15 One is I wish they'd get a system to
16 review the lights that are out. The only way we
17 can get it done now, most recently, and I can't
18 remember if any of you were here when we were here
19 in January 15th, but the -- the Mayor had to send
20 the police around to find the lights.

21 And I had suggested at different times
22 that somebody -- verbally, never put it in writing
23 -- that somebody ought to go around once a month
24 and check on the lights.

25 We, the City, put in our booklet out how

1 to report it. And I'm going to give you this copy.
2 But these things are located 7 feet above the
3 grounds, and they're hard to -- hard to get to.
4 You've got to park a car and walk over. And that's
5 not easy to do, particularly, if it's in traffic.
6 Little old ladies aren't going to do it, and I'm
7 getting to where I'm not going to be able do it.

8 We try to get the public to help. But I
9 think Ameren ought to pick up and help us with the
10 lights. This is how it's publicized. Do I give it
11 to you?

12 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Give it to me first and
13 I'll mark it.

14 MR. MARTY: Okay.

15 JUDGE WOODRUFF: That will be fine. I'll
16 mark it as Exhibit 1, and it will be received into
17 the record.

18 (Exhibit 1 was offered and admitted into
19 evidence.)

20 MR. MARTY: Okay. I want to tell you the
21 good news. Among other things, of course, I've
22 told other people, and she told me if I tell that
23 story about the miniskirt anymore, she's going to
24 slap me silly.

25 But whenever I needed anything, I called

1 Kelly Smith. That solves a lot of problems.

2 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Just for the benefit of
3 the people that might not know, can you tell us who
4 Kelly Smith is?

5 MR. MARTY: Kelly Smith is the PR lady or
6 whatever that runs the office of Ameren here in
7 Mexico. And she might be in here. I couldn't --

8 JUDGE WOODRUFF: She is.

9 MR. MARTY: There she is. We had a couple
10 -- Senator Coleman, she appeared once a year in
11 front of the City Council to give a report on how
12 Ameren was doing for the community and what the
13 outlook was. And she showed up in a miniskirt.

14 MS. SMITH: Not true.

15 MR. MARTY: And, I mean, those -- those
16 guys never heard a word. They said, Why didn't you
17 say anything? They said, Well -- well -- but
18 anyway, she's helped me personally get things
19 accomplished.

20 Anyway, I want to talk about a good thing
21 is that the tree cutter -- and I just met the guy.
22 I hope I can find his name. Danna King. That's a
23 real person that works for Ameren. And he's in
24 charge of tree cutting.

25 And in ten years, I've had to call for

1 help at Ameren to take down some trees that were
2 very dangerous. In my idea, it was dangerous. The
3 first two were over transformers.

4 And Ameren only -- only Ameren has the
5 real equipment to reach up above the wires, get a
6 hold of it and take it back out. Now, the most
7 recent one is about three blocks from here at Shupp
8 and Washington.

9 And I went to the City about it first.
10 And a 96-year-old lady called me worried about it.
11 She was afraid it was going to fall in and she'd
12 lose her power and melt her ice cream. So you've
13 got to respond. You know, you have to respond.

14 So I went and looked at the tree, and it
15 looked -- could be dangerous, but the City wasn't
16 very interested in it. So I called Ameren -- and
17 in the middle of the night, like 8:00. That's the
18 middle of the night for old folks.

19 Danna called me on the phone and said,
20 Look, I've got a crew in Boonville, but we'll be
21 there in two or three weeks, and we'll take care of
22 it. And he did. He came and took care of it over
23 there on Shupp and Washington. And he took the bad
24 stuff down, which can only be taken down with there
25 equipment. Then he cut it up in fire wood size so

1 it could be used by whoever was in the
2 neighborhood.

3 I liked that. That's high class work. He
4 was very responsive. So I want you to mark -- mark
5 that down.

6 Now, here we go. We want you to know
7 this, that whatever increase you want, the utility
8 company wants, the City charges those who use the
9 utility 6.3 percent.

10 Not everybody in the City understands.
11 They see it and they call it a charge of some sort
12 and it has different names. They don't understand
13 they're paying for it. They charge the utility.
14 the utility puts it on our budget.

15 As a matter of fact, the City of Mexico
16 makes 50 percent more money off of the charge
17 against utilities than it does off of real estate
18 taxes.

19 And I haven't got enough time to go --
20 there's too many windmills, Senator. I can't get
21 to them all. I can't get to every one.

22 But that means this -- any increase you
23 give is -- has a lug on it of 6.4 percent that
24 comes from the City. Plus, there's a City sales
25 tax, which is 2 percent. So it's -- it's quite a

1 significant thing.

2 Any -- anything you raise hurts us. Now,
3 different City Managers -- different City Managers
4 have been more responsive. The current City
5 Manager -- and if he's here, that's fine. That
6 would be -- I wish he was.

7 He figured out, of course, even though we
8 raised the rates in the City of New Mexico has to
9 pay a higher rate for its own utilities. The money
10 they make from all the rest of us far exceeds that.
11 So they don't object to the rate increase.

12 But we're objecting to the rate increase
13 for residential. Talking to Mr. Wood, who has now
14 become a close personal friend of mine. Where is
15 Mr. Wood?

16 MR. WOOD: I'm over here, Bob.

17 MR. MARTY: Close personal friend. Am I
18 right about that?

19 MR. WOOD: Yes.

20 MR. MARTY: He said that they rose about 7
21 or 10 percent -- I'm not -- the number's not right.
22 Say 7 percent of their sales when the aluminum
23 company went out. And they are recovering.

24 And one of the notices that they sent,
25 they said the loss from major company -- major

1 customer, and that's what they want to do is
2 increase the rates so they can cover for the lost
3 customer.

4 Well, I asked him, What have you done to
5 do anything? Have you -- have you -- have you done
6 anything to rationalize your own -- your own self?
7 have you reduced your staff?

8 Now, I don't think that the people working
9 on the line like my tree cutter, don't -- I don't
10 want to mess with him. But I'm talking about
11 executive, lobbyists and so forth that they could
12 possibly take a cut.

13 And as a matter of fact, how about this?
14 How about the -- how about the Chairman, President
15 of the utility take a pay cut?

16 In the weekend Wall Street Journal, it
17 says headline here, Apple Performance Slips, CEO's
18 Payment Cut. So, Judge Woodruff, I'm going to give
19 you this. I lost my stuff. I need a better thing.
20 Thank you. Very kind of you.

21 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And the article you're
22 talking about is the Apple Performance Slips?

23 MR. MARTY: Just -- just that one. You
24 can have just that one. So he -- he -- Apple's guy
25 took a cut. I mean, the company is now smaller

1 than it was. You're not managing your company --
2 it's a hundred -- you're managing when it's 90, and
3 it would be reasonable to say that the Executive
4 Staff and that, of course, is my close personal
5 friend, Mr. Wood, would have a pay -- pay cut.
6 It's happened. It happens.

7 When the city of Mexico lost two major
8 manufacturing factories, AP Green and National
9 Factories that had different names lost several
10 thousand workers plus lots of taxes.

11 While we rationalize, and that's a decent
12 word, we rationalize the City itself, the City
13 workers itself. There's some people you absolutely
14 have to have. But there's others we found out that
15 we could double up the work. We could have one
16 person doing two things, or, in some cases, we
17 didn't need them at all.

18 So then we did a thing, which is unique in
19 the City, in the State of Missouri. We put our
20 Fire Department and our Police Department together.
21 And we're the only one of three or four in the
22 whole state, and maybe just a few in the nation,
23 where our firemen are our policemen, and our
24 policemen are our firemen.

25 And we save -- you can imagine what that

1 bill is. Thirty-some workers would be a decent
2 part. We save that because they're put together.

3 And that's the kind of thing we're looking
4 for Ameren to do. And I think if they did that,
5 they would probably -- probably their stock would
6 go up if people know you're saving money.

7 But they didn't do too bad that last year.
8 They went up 25 percent in one year. I'll give you
9 this to you, Judge. This is from the Columbia
10 Tribune. Stock has gone up 25 percent.

11 JUDGE WOODRUFF: I'll mark this as Exhibit
12 3 and take it into evidence. Or into the record.
13 The other -- the Wall Street journal article was
14 Exhibit 2, and I'll take receive that, also.

15 (Exhibits 2 and 3 were offered and
16 received into evidence.)

17 MR. MARTY: If there they're worried about
18 expenses -- and they should be. And I know some
19 people have told me in the past, Well, this stuff
20 doesn't go against the utilities. It's got another
21 source of money, and I wonder where it is.

22 They gave away 35,000, don't nail me to
23 that number, thousands of replica of Busch Stadium
24 to Cardinal fans. I wonder -- I have no idea how
25 much that cost, but it wasn't cheap. Replicas of

1 Busch Stadium. Maybe some of you got them when you
2 were kids, were given away this last summer.

3 This was after they lost a major customer.
4 Plus, and I know it will make them hurt, but they
5 run ads. They run ads there in the stadium,
6 AmerenUE in the stadium. Why would you advertise
7 electricity?

8 Who -- this isn't Campbell's Soup or cars
9 or insurance. You've got a captive audience. Why
10 be advertising at all? You shouldn't have any of
11 that expense lugged on us.

12 Also, I notice -- and I don't want to be a
13 -- a bad guy. They support Ameren's Thanksgiving
14 parade. That's got to cost some money, and it's
15 got to come from somewhere. I'll give you this,
16 too, Judge Woodruff.

17 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. We'll mark it as
18 Exhibit 4. And this is a photograph of the --

19 MR. MARTY: It's from St. Louis Post
20 Dispatch.

21 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Ameren Thanksgiving
22 Parade.

23 (Exhibit 4 was offered and admitted into
24 evidence.)

25 MR. MARTY: Yeah. So I can't see why they

1 would need advertising or supporting stuff like
2 that. And now they're advertising on TV right now.
3 They're doing ads on TV right this very minute.

4 Here's another problem we have. In a
5 different piece of paper, which I don't have, they
6 said because the interstate -- energy saving
7 tactics that they have promoted under pressure, I
8 might add, they have reduced the amount of their
9 sales.

10 And because, in other words, we're using
11 more energy efficient light bulbs, more energy
12 efficient furnaces and so forth, why, we're using
13 less of the energy, less of the electricity. And,
14 therefore, they have to raise their rates because
15 we reduced our usage.

16 Now, that's -- you guys are too young, I
17 can tell, but there was a novel called Catch 22.
18 And every time he got up to the 22 air flights,
19 they raised some more.

20 That means the money -- the more we save
21 personally in our own homes, the higher our rates
22 are going to go? That's a rhetorical question.
23 You don't have to answer that. But that's what it
24 sounds like. They're saying we didn't get the
25 money; therefore, we're going to raise the rate to

1 you for that so we can cover that.

2 It's challenging for Public Service
3 Commission, as I talked to one of the ladies back
4 so far is to look so deep and check out their
5 management, but I call this to your attention.

6 In the 19 -- late 1980s, 1980s -- is that
7 right? Yeah. 1980s, there was a hearing in Mexico
8 City Hall, and I pointed that Ameren, at that time,
9 owned three companies, which they were the only
10 stockholder.

11 But each company had an office in Jeff
12 City, had staff at -- had lobbyists, attorneys and
13 so forth. And that, obviously, was a redundancy.

14 Well, eleven months later -- and like Yogi
15 Bear said, and you can look this up, eleven months
16 later, why, they -- instead of asking for a rate
17 increase, they reduced the rate 5 percent. Reduced
18 the rate 5 percent.

19 And when the papers asked them, How come
20 you did that now? Why didn't do you it earlier?
21 They said, Because the Public Service Commission
22 never said anything.

23 So there's the challenge. There's the
24 challenge to really get in there and mix it. And
25 so we got the 5 percent decrease. But think of all

1 the years we've carried that lug that we shouldn't
2 have been carrying that lug. Makes you wonder.

3 Well, anyway, Ameren has another problem.
4 They've got a record of poor recordkeeping. In the
5 1990s, now we're getting closer to where Mr. Wood
6 remembers, I appeared -- they wanted to raise the
7 gas rate, and I'm not sure what the right word is.
8 What is it for the gas for one person, for one
9 house? A base rate. That's it. Base rate.

10 They wanted to raise the base right by
11 three -- three times. So some will tell you it was
12 five. They wanted to make it 15. It was seven and
13 they wanted to make it 20.

14 So I appeared, and I said, Well, that's
15 very strange that you want to do this because now
16 you read your meters from the satellites. You've
17 done away with the meter reader. And whenever I
18 call on the telephone, I get a mechanical voice.
19 You don't even have anybody answering the phones.

20 Well, sometimes ask. And they came back
21 and said -- Ameren said, and you can look this up,
22 we don't need three times. We need about 60
23 percent. And the press said, Well how come you
24 changed your mind? They said, because we used --
25 this is a direct quote in the papers, we used the

1 old figures.

2 So they went in front of the Public
3 Service Commission with the wrong figures. So
4 there's two problems there. Either incompetence or
5 the other one.

6 Anyway, have I told you how much I
7 appreciate you all being here and allowing us to do
8 this? It's very important to us that we do this.

9 I want to tell you one more thing. I'm --
10 I don't mean to bore you. When I was Mayor, I
11 testified like this and I didn't understand fully
12 what the court reporter was doing.

13 So I summarized what I said and mailed it
14 on City, signed the Mayor of Mexico and sent it to
15 the Public Service Commission. Almost immediately,
16 I got a letter back saying I have violated the law
17 trying to influence the Public Service Commission
18 outside of the -- of the hearings and the only
19 reason you weren't going to fine me was they
20 figured I was too stupid to know the law.

21 Now, of course, we can write at any time
22 and give you our thoughts. But that's a fact. You
23 can look that up. It's in my personnel file with
24 the Public Service Commission somewhere. I got
25 nailed for that.

1 Anyway, I think what really you're looking
2 at is about -- about a 5 percent reduction instead
3 of this increase. I think that their request for
4 seven is primarily made up of feathers and smoke
5 with the sauce of some arrogance. I think a 5
6 percent decrease would be very good.

7 I also want to say to you, as I told some
8 of you before, remember we've got three good
9 Mexican restaurants in this town. One is right --
10 if you go on down Jefferson Street, you'll be a
11 block away from it.

12 There's one on the exit on Highway 22 and
13 one on the exit at Highway 54. And any money you
14 spend in this City, we greatly appreciate it.

15 Oh, I have one more. Excuse me, Judge. I
16 -- stuff's up here and sixes and sevens. I can't
17 get good help anymore. I can't get good help.

18 We met in January of '15 on a very cold
19 night out at the 4-H, and we had a very good
20 hearing in there, too. And Ameren complained about
21 how much putting the pressure on them, this and
22 that.

23 Well, that -- that September, it turned
24 out that they -- Ameren and some other lobbyists
25 that took a bunch of simple-minded Missouri

1 Legislators down in Dallas, Texas, to a steakhouse
2 and bought them a dinner down there.

3 And then -- then the lobbyist -- I wonder
4 if she's here today. I couldn't tell. I couldn't
5 tell. Anyway, the lobbyist wrote down as if they
6 all were there, the entire -- the entire
7 Legislature.

8 Well, somebody besides me tracked it down.
9 Missouri Ethics Commission tracked it down and
10 found it was wrong.

11 And it got -- and then Warren Wood, my
12 close personal friend, said that the lobbyist was
13 among those listed, and he said the lobbyist
14 amended her disclosure report when she learned not
15 every lawmaker had been there.

16 First of all, I'm -- I mean, and I kind of
17 think -- but you're taking advantage -- Ameren
18 should be ashamed taking advantage of these country
19 boys taking them -- they haven't been out of their
20 own county. You take them down to Dallas Texas and
21 give them steaks, that's ridiculous.

22 But anyway -- and I don't know how that
23 ends up on our tab, but somebody pays for that tab.
24 And, Judge, I'm going to give you this from the
25 Mexico Ledger, September 1st, 2015.

1 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. We'll call it
2 Exhibit 5.

3 MR. MARTY: Yeah.

4 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And receive into the
5 record.

6 (Exhibit 5 was offered and received into
7 evidence.)

8 MR. MARTY: So, I mean, we're -- we're not
9 playing here. We're talking -- my friend, Harold,
10 will tell you about the conditions of some people
11 who were -- where the weather rate and the utility
12 rate is very critical to them.

13 And we want Ameren to be serious. They
14 say they are serious. But we would like a little
15 more. Nevertheless, I do appreciate what Ameren
16 does and I appreciate specifically you all being
17 here.

18 And as I've told you, we are
19 chronologically gifted. That means when we're
20 done, we're going to leave. Senator, if you don't
21 mind, we're going to leave. We're old, and we've
22 got to get home in time. So thank you.

23 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Any questions? Any
24 questions?

25 MR. MARTY: Anybody got any questions?

1 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Questions from the
2 Commissioners?

3 MR. MARTY: Come on now. By God, what do
4 you think of that? Yeah. Please, please,
5 Commissioner Stoll.

6 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Yeah. I would like
7 to mention that I don't know about the Mexican
8 restaurants, but you have a fine public library
9 where I spent several hours today.

10 MR. MARTY: Yes. And if you look at that
11 library, we took a Carnegie -- a Dale Carnegie
12 library, which was several blocks away, and we
13 moved that Dale Carnegie library and attached it to
14 whatever we -- it was a post Office. It was an old
15 Post Office.

16 And we rolled it up the street. I wish we
17 had the video of that. And attached it to the back
18 there. And that was quite a thing. So we're very
19 inventive in doing a lot of things.

20 COMMISSIONER STOLL: I did not know that,
21 but I was warmly welcomed and spent several hours
22 there today.

23 MR. MARTY: Good. I'm glad to hear that.
24 I'll pass that on to them.

25 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Please do.

1 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: Mr. Mayor, it's
2 always good to see you.

3 MR. MARTY: Thank you, Senator.

4 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: You know, I just
5 wanted to note, though, that your comment that you
6 said that those guys were pretty impressed by the
7 miniskirt that is denied to be -- have been worn.

8 MR. MARTY: Yeah.

9 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: But if I remember
10 correctly, this is not the first time I've heard
11 that story. So, evidently, you were pretty
12 impressed, also.

13 MR. MARTY: Yeah. I was impressed.

14 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: -- by that
15 miniskirt.

16 MR. MARTY: There's no question about
17 that. I was impressed. Yeah. You caught me,
18 Senator. You caught me. Any -- she got me.
19 Anybody else want to take a chance?

20 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. Thank you,
21 sir.

22 MR. MARTY: Okay. Thank you. Thank you
23 all very much.

24 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: Thank you.

25 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. The other

1 name on my list is Harold Enslin.

2 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Judge, I'm curious
3 if I could ask a question while both Mayors are
4 still there?

5 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Yeah.

6 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: When were you Mayor,
7 sir?

8 MR. MARTY: Oh, I was Mayor in late,
9 middle '80s?

10 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Sir, and you?

11 MR. ENSLEN: 1972 to '73.

12 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Were one of you
13 responsible for hitting your constituents with that
14 6.2 percent surcharge?

15 MR. MARTY: Well, that's gone on
16 continually. But you know that -- we inherited
17 that. We were not -- I was not sophisticated
18 enough to know that that was what was happening.

19 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Why didn't you get
20 rid of it for your constituents?

21 MR. MARTY: Yeah. You're right. And I've
22 been working on that since.

23 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: But you were the
24 Mayor.

25 MR. MARTY: But Mayor is just one here.

1 But you've got a good point because, as Senator --
2 as the Senator pointed out, I told the Senator,
3 there's too many windows. But you're absolutely
4 right. Good point. It's abusive. The charge is
5 abusive, and that's the lower charge, 7 percent on
6 gas, 7 percent on water, 5 percent on cable.

7 But I want to tell you about Harold one
8 more time. Harold -- Harold served 11 years on the
9 City Council to my six. And he served on the
10 School Board how long, Harold?

11 MR. ENSLEN: Oh, about four years.

12 MR. MARTY: Four years to my six. So it
13 wasn't just a passing thing. So anyway -- okay,
14 Harold.

15 MR. ENSLEN: Okay.

16 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Mr. Enslin, please raise
17 your right hand, and I'll swear you in.

18 HAROLD ENSLEN,
19 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
20 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

21 TESTIMONY OF HAROLD ENSLEN

22 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. You may
23 proceed.

24 MR. ENSLEN: Okay. Well, I've been here
25 before talking about the same thing I talked about

1 before to start with.

2 Bob Marty and I have been to a number of
3 these meetings besides the Ameren meetings. And I
4 have a number of friends that I see daily that
5 complain about their utilities.

6 I said, Okay, they're having a meeting out
7 here. Well, I ain't going. And they don't come.
8 Anyway, somebody's got to represent them.

9 Audrain County and Mexico together has
10 now, and I stand corrected on this number because I
11 didn't -- wasn't able to find it before I got here
12 today -- about 20 or 22, 23 percent of Seniors in
13 the City and in the County.

14 And we do have people that retire and move
15 to Mexico because of -- of what they see in the
16 community. Back to the Seniors that have -- are
17 living today, just like today, this week, the week
18 before Christmas, and it was cold.

19 And they will spend -- they move into the
20 kitchen. They move their bedding into the kitchen.
21 I don't have a name that I can give you, but I can
22 find some information if you needed it. I don't
23 have a name to give to you personally, but it is
24 true. There's a number of people.

25 My wife is with me tonight, and we do

1 close off a room to -- that nobody's using so we
2 don't have to heat it. And that -- that really
3 grabs me that -- that they would move into the
4 kitchen.

5 Well, that's where the bedroom is. That's
6 where the -- they eat, and that's -- they move a TV
7 in there if they have it. Anyway, that does
8 happen.

9 And we find that many -- that in Mexico,
10 there's about 230 public housing units. And most
11 -- over 200 of them are rented all the time. And I
12 know some of the folks that -- that I've talked to
13 those -- we have contact with those people that
14 live in these units. And they have -- they have to
15 pay their utilities, and they've got to do whatever
16 they can to save on it.

17 I don't have any complaints against
18 Ameren. I have asked them over the years about
19 trimming trees where -- they didn't belong to me
20 but I saw them on -- close to some wires and they
21 would take care of it and the tree is trimmed.

22 And Kelly back there, she's the person
23 that I've always went to, and I'm waiting to -- to
24 talk to her now about a tree. But the last time we
25 had one was in our neighborhood. And our

1 neighborhood, the utilities are all underground.
2 But the wiring to it is in the air, and there's
3 trees growing around it.

4 And so I'm concerned about the community
5 of the aging people in any community that Ameren
6 services where they want to increase their
7 utilities and -- and don't take -- they don't take
8 the time to come out here to talk about it.

9 And, basically, that's my -- my story
10 today. And when I leave here, I probably will wish
11 I'd have said something else. And Marty will say,
12 Well, why didn't you tell them this? Why didn't
13 you tell them that? He didn't give me any notes
14 when he got done.

15 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. Well, thank
16 you, sir. Any questions?

17 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: No.

18 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your
19 testimony.

20 CHAIRMAN HALL: Thank you.

21 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. Those were
22 the only names on my list of people who wanted to
23 testify. Is there any other customers here who
24 want to testify?

25 All right. Well, thank you all for coming

1 out this evening. And with that, we are adjourned.

2 (The proceedings were concluded at 6:45 p.m. on
3 January 10, 2017.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF MISSOURI)
) ss.
COUNTY OF OSAGE)

I, Monnie S. Mealy, Certified Shorthand Reporter,
Certified Court Reporter #0538, and Registered Professional
Reporter, within and for the State of Missouri, do hereby
certify that I was personally present at the proceedings as
set forth in the caption sheet hereof; that I then and there
took down in stenotype the proceedings had at said time and
was thereafter transcribed by me, and is fully and accurately
set forth in the preceding pages.

Monnie S. Mealy

Monnie S. Mealy, CSR, CCR #0538
Registered Professional Reporter

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