

In the Matter of:

UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a AMEREN MISSOURI's TARIFFS TO ADJUST, etc.

ER-2021-0240 AND GR-2021-0241, VOL. X

October 08, 2021



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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

STATE OF MISSOURI

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

PUBLIC HEARING

October 8, 2021

HEARING VIA WEBEX

Volume 10

In The Matter Of Union Electric)
Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri's)
Tariffs to Adjust Its Revenues For) File No. ER-2021-0240
Electric Service)
In The Matter Of Union Electric)
Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri's)
Tariffs to Adjust Its Revenues For) File No. GR-2021-0241
Natural Gas)

MORRIS WOODRUFF, Presiding
REGULATORY LAW JUDGE.
Maida J. Coleman,
Glen Kolkmeyer.
COMMISSIONERS.

REPORTED BY:
Lisa M. Banks, CCR
TIGER COURT REPORTING, LLC

A P P E A R A N C E S

1
2 JAMES LOWERY, Attorney at Law
3 3406 Whitney Court
4 Columbia, Missouri 65203
FOR: Ameren Missouri

5 CURT STOKES, Legal Counsel
6 Governor Office Building
7 200 Madison Street, Suite 800
8 P.O. Box 360
9 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
FOR: Staff Of Missouri Public Service Commission

10 MARC POSTON, Counsel
11 Governor Office Building
12 200 Madison Street, Suite 650
13 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
14 FOR: Office Of Public Counsel
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 JUDGE WOODRUFF: This is Case Number
3 ER-2021-0240, which is Ameren Missouri's request for a rate
4 increase for their electric service. This portion of the
5 proceedings tonight is intended to allow members of the public
6 to offer testimony for the Commission's consideration when
7 they're making their decision in the case. I want to emphasize
8 that hopefully you've got your questions answered in the earlier
9 portion of the proceeding.

10 During this portion of the proceeding the
11 commissioners and I cannot answer your questions. We have to
12 remain impartial in order to make an honest -- a decision in
13 the evidentiary portion of the case. This hearing is being
14 recorded and it's being transcribed by a court reporter. The
15 transcript will become part of the file and it can be -- will be
16 reviewed by all of the commissioners. If you want to have a
17 copy of the -- if you want to be able to view the file, you can
18 do so at the Commission's website, which is PSC.mo.gov.

19 I believe we have two commissioners on the line.
20 First of all, Commissioner Coleman, would you like to make any
21 opening statements or greetings?

22 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: Yes. Thank you, Judge.
23 I would just like to thank those who are participating tonight,
24 and let you know that as the judge has mentioned that this
25 testimony is for the record. All commissioners will be able to

1 review it and consider it prior to a decision being made.

2 Again, thank you for your time tonight. Thank you, Judge.

3 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Commissioner Kolkmeyer.

4 COMMISSIONER KOLKMEYER: Yes, thank you, Judge.

5 I want to echo the Commissioner Coleman's remarks. We really do
6 appreciate your testimony and what you have to say. So thanks
7 again for participating this evening.

8 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. The first thing
9 we're going to do is take entries of appearances from the
10 attorneys. We do this just to -- for the record to show who is
11 here on behalf of the parties. So beginning with Ameren
12 Missouri.

13 MR. LOWERY: Thank you, Your Honor. Appearing
14 on behalf of Ameren Missouri, James B. Lowery, 3406 Whitney
15 Court, Columbia, Missouri 65203.

16 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. And for the Staff.

17 MR. STOKES: Good evening, Judge. This is Curt
18 Stokes, C-U-R-T Stokes, on behalf of the Staff.

19 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you, and for Office of
20 Public Counsel.

21 MR. POSTON: Good evening, Marc Poston appearing
22 on behalf of the Office of the Public Counsel.

23 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. I had a couple of people
24 that signed up in advance for this hearing, so I'll call their
25 names first. Once I call you, just unmute yourself and speak up

1 and I'll administer the oath and get you to swear to tell the
2 truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, and then I'll
3 let you make your statement. And I may have some questions for
4 you and the commissioners may have some questions for you
5 afterward, and I'll give the parties a chance to ask you some
6 follow-up questions also, if they want to.

7 So the first name on my name on my list is
8 Christine Alt? Is Ms. Alt here?

9 MS. ALT: Yes, I am.

10 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. Could you please raise
11 your right hand?

12 Ms. Alt, are you still there? Well, hopefully
13 we didn't lose her. Well, all -- I'm saying is that you,
14 Ms. Alt?

15 MS. ALT: Hello.

16 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Yes. Can you hear us?

17 MS. ALT: Yes. I can hear you.

18 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. Did you swear to
19 tell the truth?

20 MS. ALT: Yes, I did.

21 (Witness sworn.)

22 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. I'm sorry. We lost you
23 for just a little bit there.

24 MS. ALT: Yeah, I don't know what happened. I
25 hit *6, but then it looked like it wasn't on the phone again, so

1 I hit it a second time.

2 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And that probably took you off.
3 Okay. If you could spell your name for us just so the court
4 reporter can have it for us.

5 MS. ALT: Yes, Christine with a C-H, so
6 C-H-R-I-S-T-I-N-E last name Alt, A-L-T.

7 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. And which city do
8 you live in?

9 MS. ALT: I live in Labadie.

10 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. What would you like to
11 tell us?

12 MS. ALT: First off, I really appreciate the
13 Public Service Commission giving us the opportunity to go ahead
14 and express our concerns to you this evening in regards to
15 especially the Ameren Missouri \$299 million rate increase that
16 they're requesting. According to what I have read and I kind of
17 understand, Ameren would get an average of somewhere between ten
18 and 12, as the questioning kind of went, more on each month bill
19 for customers. And I think that's too much at this time. I
20 also read somewhere that Ameren Missouri is seeking this from
21 their customers while it has profits in excess of 200,000 for
22 the second quarter in a row. So at that rate, it would be --
23 they've been making profits of \$800 million a year of profits.
24 And I think the company and shareholders could then do without
25 an increase at this time, especially at this time.

1 During the pandemic, it doesn't seem appropriate
2 to further burden people when they are already concerned with
3 loss of wages, loss of jobs, illnesses and even deaths within
4 their families. What about communities like mine? I live in
5 Labadie. I'm close to the Labadie plant where we are already
6 burdened with the true cost of producing electric from dirty
7 coal at the Labadie plant without any scrubbers on their plan.
8 We see ads on TV and I see billboards on the highway when I
9 drive that they -- that Ameren is investing in a clean future
10 and clean energy while we pay rate increases and bear the cost
11 of all the pollution. Cancer, allergies, asthma, it impacts us
12 all. Maybe they should show their ability to clean up the
13 Labadie mess and we would actually believe them.

14 I'm also curious, because I'm a member of an
15 environmental group and how they feel about an increase on the
16 bill each month. Perhaps they could have asked and we could
17 have just checked it off when we sent in our money.
18 I don't think you probably have heard anyone sharing how excited
19 they are at the opportunity to pay more each month while Ameren
20 Missouri is allowed to continue to use dirty coal, no scrubbers,
21 and pollute our air, water, and land. Are they being told to
22 quit violating the Clean Air Act? If their violations are
23 responsible for contributing to as many as 300 premature deaths,
24 can we recover an average of \$12 per month per customer because
25 they're killing us? How much is a heart attack worth?

1 Sometimes when people have heart attacks,
2 there's an estimate that following a person with a heart attack
3 for the first 90 days is almost \$40,000 in costs with an
4 additional 14,000 spent for the year following the heart attack.
5 So could we be reimbursed for these since Ameren is causing
6 heart attacks? How about children suffering with asthma, could
7 we recover \$12 or more per month because Ameren is causing more
8 people to suffer? I would like for them to clean up the mess
9 that they have in Labadie because my family already pays too
10 much. Thank you.

11 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you, Ms. Alt. Any
12 commissioners have any questions for Ms. Alt or the parties?
13 All right. Thank you.

14 COMMISSIONER KOLKMEYER: Not at this time,
15 Judge. Thank you.

16 MS. ALT: Thank you.

17 JUDGE WOODRUFF: The other name that I had
18 registered was Jane Vonkaenel. I hope I pronounced that right.
19 Are you on the line? Okay. I'm not hearing from her. If she
20 is on the line, just speak up and we'll take you when you get
21 on. Is -- that's the only two names I had that were on the
22 list. Is there anyone else who -- that is on the line now that
23 wants to testify? Anyone wish to speak up?

24 MS. COOPER: My name is Mildred Cooper, I'm from
25 St. Louis, Missouri. Can I speak at this time?

1 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Yes, you can. That was Mildred
2 Cooper.

3 MS. COOPER: I echo everything the previous
4 speaker has stated.

5 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Ms. Cooper, if you wouldn't
6 mind, I need to swear you in.

7 MS. COOPER: Okay. I'm sorry.

8 JUDGE WOODRUFF: That's all right.

9 (Witness sworn.)

10 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. And your name is
11 Mildred Cooper?

12 MS. COOPER: Yes.

13 JUDGE WOODRUFF: What would you like to tell us?

14 MS. COOPER: First of all, I'm thankful that I
15 received this insert from Ameren Missouri, and I'm one of those
16 cautious people that always reads stuff that come in the mail
17 pertaining to whoever sends it, I at least look at it and see do
18 it effect me. But I wanted to speak up in essence in -- to what
19 the prior speaker has spoken up as far as the rate increase.
20 Basically, we see increases no matter what the thing might be,
21 it's like as if we are stockholders of Ameren Missouri and we're
22 not. It seem like the prices are being passed along to the
23 consumer, no matter what. I have tried my best and I live in
24 the home by myself, so naturally I -- when I learned -- when I
25 learned about different things to say electricity I apply them

1 like unplugging things that are not in use, not keeping all the
2 lights on and so forth and so on. So basically I do not have a
3 complaint against Ameren in that aspect, except for one thing.
4 And I went back and only can go back to 2020, because I had
5 really destroyed the other bills. I wish I had saved them,
6 because a charge kept on coming up on my bill, and I had never
7 seen it before, and it was the electric company charge for
8 residency. And there was a \$9.08 bill. What -- a charge I'm
9 sorry. What triggered me was like another consumer had stated
10 that normally in the -- you use more electricity in the summer
11 when you use your air conditioning, when you use a whole home
12 air conditioning and in the wintertime your rates go down. And
13 the gas goes up in the winter. So, you know, you used to be
14 able to budget and -- but I started seeing that my Ameren bill
15 was just as high as my gas bill was, and that's when I started
16 reading line for line as to what was on there.

17 I had made a call into them -- to Ameren, and
18 they said, oh, this is a charge that has always been on your
19 report, and that's a lie, because it hadn't. It hadn't always
20 been on there. And by chance I had a bill from 2014 and it does
21 not show that. It shows a fuel adjustment charge, the energy
22 efficient -- energy efficiency investment charge, St. Louis city
23 municipal charge, and that was the only charges that we had back
24 then. I cannot say when everything changed and all. All I know
25 is with these, with taxes, with everything else, they coming out

1 of the woodwork and we as a consumer are being charged, being
2 ripped -- it's being added onto our bills and no real -- proof
3 or, you know, no consolation. So I'm grateful and thankful for
4 being able to be able to speak to the Public Service Commission
5 commissioners, because I've always threatened to write
6 pertaining to not only Ameren, but all of the utilities. They
7 have gone crazy. Like our name is Rockefeller, like we've got
8 money pulled from air.

9 And I'm talking as a citizen, a retired citizen
10 on a fixed budget. No, I do not -- no, I'm not poor. I'm not a
11 hundred and whatever percentage or rate as far as low income
12 where you get some benefits or whatever. And I'm not rich. So
13 that means I'm the one stuck in the middle that the public is
14 now waking up to see we are the ones that are shouldering the
15 heavy burden of everything. If you're poor, you get assistance.
16 But if you don't, and you pay your bills faithfully every month,
17 you seem like you being penalized. If you do everything you
18 supposed to, you being penalized. And that's the reason why I'm
19 speaking up and speaking out for the people that think that, oh,
20 you just talking in the wind. Yes, well, I'm going to talk to
21 the wind, but your voices in the airways, because I'm
22 appreciative. I'm not on the computer. I thank God for those
23 that are on the computer that can -- that have the technical
24 mind, but I am on the telephone and I use it greatly, because of
25 the fact that the utilities have gone crazy.

1 Ameren is down low on the agenda as far as the
2 crazy, but as far as whether it is a percentage of \$12 month
3 increase or whatever. Any increase, if I'm not using it, is
4 like a person having a gun to your head, sticking you up, and
5 you don't have no recourse. You have to pay up. I feel that we
6 are being stuck up when it comes to the utilities. I think the
7 Public Service Commission are not doing their due justice and
8 truly looking like the first person stated, as to their profits.
9 I'm not -- I'm not getting no profit. I'm not getting nothing
10 out of it. All I seem to be doing, all we little people seem to
11 be doing is continually paying. And it is time to wake up, and
12 the others will wake up and find out that if you open up your
13 mouth and talk, then maybe something might be done, and that's
14 why I'm on this line and that's the reason why I'm testifying
15 today, because I am fed up. Doing right, yet still then paying
16 the price for other people lack of paying or getting over or
17 getting out or whatever it might be. I don't care. I can only
18 talk about my place and my place says that my checks are not
19 getting any bigger. Everything else -- everybody has their hand
20 in the pot and they feel that we should be paying them and
21 paying for their profit and I feel that we should not. Thank
22 you so very much for taking my testimony into consideration, but
23 I still would like to know the answer for the electric customer
24 charge on \$9.08, where did it come from, if it was not there
25 before, because like I stated, I knew that there was a

1 difference in my bill from the summer months to the winter
2 months and all. And if I can get an answer some kind of way
3 through whatever resources, I truly would like to know. Because
4 I think me being told something and I know it's a lie, don't
5 make it no truth.

6 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you.

7 MS. COOPER: Others might have money and might
8 give up, but I'm not going to give up. I need to know the
9 answer. Thank you so very much, and I think that you all hold
10 the answers. When you don't look at all of these other little
11 fees that they got on there, which is great.

12 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. Thank you,
13 Ms. Cooper. Do any commissioners have any questions for
14 Ms. Cooper? Or the parties? All right. Well, thank you.
15 Anyone else wish to testify?

16 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: Judge? This is
17 Commissioner Coleman.

18 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Yes, go ahead,
19 Ms. -- Commissioner --

20 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: I would like you to ask
21 Ameren or the Office of Public Counsel, someone to reach out to
22 Ms. Cooper to provide her with the information she's asking
23 about.

24 JUDGE WOODRUFF: I think that's an excellent
25 idea. Mr. Poston, can you do that on behalf of Public Counsel?

1 MR. POSTON: Yes, I can. I would need --
2 actually probably have her reach out to me to get her
3 information. I can --

4 MS. COOPER: Okay.

5 MR. POSTON: I can provide a number for you.
6 Are you ready? If you can call 866-922-2959, we can help you
7 out.

8 MS. COOPER: And that's the number. Thank you.

9 JUDGE WOODRUFF: That's for the Office of Public
10 Counsel.

11 MR. POSTON: Yes.

12 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Did you get that number okay?

13 MS. COOPER: Yes, I got the number. My question
14 is, what are your hours of operation?

15 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Mr. Poston, you're muted.

16 MR. POSTON: I'm sorry. Tuesday morning eight
17 o'clock, Monday is a State holiday, but we will be back here
18 Tuesday morning.

19 MS. COOPER: At what time, nine o'clock?

20 MR. POSTON: Eight o'clock.

21 MS. COOPER: Thank you.

22 MR. POSTON: All right. Thank you.

23 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. Is there anyone
24 else wishing to testify?

25 MS. SCHUBA: I would like to testify, please.

1 Can you hear me?

2 JUDGE WOODRUFF: I can hear you loud and clear.

3 What's your name?

4 MS. SCHUBA: My name is Patricia Schuba.

5 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay.

6 MS. SCHUBA: And that's -- should I spell that
7 for you?

8 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Yes, if you would, please.

9 MS. SCHUBA: It's P-A-T-R-I-C-I-A, last name
10 Schuba, S-C-H-U-B-A.

11 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay.

12 MS. SCHUBA: And I live in Labadie, Missouri.

13 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And if you would please raise
14 your right hand, I'll swear you in.

15 (Witness sworn.)

16 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. What would you like
17 to tell us?

18 MS. SCHUBA: So I'd like to say thank you to the
19 commissioners that are on tonight and the Commission in general
20 for posting these type of hearings. I'm not certain how else
21 you would know how the public feels about some of these rate
22 cases that are before you. And I appreciate everyone who is
23 able to stay on the call tonight. I know it was a very long
24 period of time when we were asking questions. And I actually
25 wanted -- the thing I wanted to testify about is actually that

1 monthly fixed rate, which the previous caller was talking about
2 and was confused as to why that showed up on her bill. And my
3 understanding was that that was approved in a previous rate
4 case. And what I'm concerned about is that Ameren has said that
5 they hoped that that charge will eventually go up to \$24 per
6 month as a fixed charge. And that would be whether you're
7 living in a small apartment or you lived in a mansion in Ladue.
8 Everyone would be paying \$24 per month. And that's a concern to
9 me as both a resident, a farm owner.

10 We have multiple properties where maybe we just
11 have electricity to light up the barn for our cattle in the
12 evening. We're paying more in that fixed charge than we do in
13 actual electricity usage. At our one farm we had 88 kW usage
14 last month, but we paid the fixed charge. So it -- I know it's
15 only going up by \$2 this time, and that's in addition to that
16 potential \$10-\$12 per month, but that all kind of adds up. And
17 for people who do not have a lot of money to work with to begin
18 with, that's a concern. Whether you live in the city or you
19 live in the rural areas, there are a lot of people in Missouri
20 that don't make a significant amount of money per month, and
21 they're already paying potentially two, \$300 for electricity,
22 and then they have a fixed charge that will potentially be \$11
23 per month and maybe in the next rate case go up by even more and
24 eventually to \$24 per month. That's a huge concern to me,
25 especially since I am one of those people who want us to move to

1 clean energy so places like Labadie don't continue to produce
2 coal ash and put it in locations that are risky for the
3 environment and for our drinking water as was mentioned earlier
4 tonight.

5 The majority of people -- everybody in the state
6 drinks water that's groundwater. Whether it comes from their
7 public utility or it comes from your own well in your backyard,
8 you're drinking groundwater that potentially all these
9 carcinogens and toxic chemicals can get into, and that's just
10 from the burning of coal, not to mention all the other things we
11 do to produce energy and to transport energy. So my big concern
12 is that -- I was grateful to hear that the Staff themselves do
13 not want to see an increase in that fixed charge. I think
14 that'll be important especially during the pandemic and given
15 that people have lost family members, income, jobs. But I think
16 this is not the time to be asking for an increase in the fixed
17 rate per month.

18 And I think that possibly the Office of Public
19 Counsel would ask for that too. But that is my request, that
20 that fixed charge not increase for anyone in this rate case.

21 I also am a little concerned about the
22 disconnects that have happened. I read that there were 29,000
23 to 30,000 residential customers that lost service due to late
24 payments and there's another over 200,000 that are currently
25 behind on their bills, and this has just been since January.

1 So, again, I think there's this idea that we're coming out of
2 the pandemic, that things are getting better and that right now
3 is a good time to pass their rate increase across the board, and
4 I don't think it is. And I'm hopeful that better minds at the
5 Public Service Commission and with the Office of Public Counsel
6 can make that case for Missourians that we keep that cost down.

7 And I think the last thing I would like to say
8 is that I continue to be concerned that we're moving very slowly
9 on renewables, and that we're continuing to give this company a
10 lot of money to potentially move us in that direction. So I'd
11 like to see the company actually do more in the way of reducing
12 the ultimate long-term charges to the public by using more
13 renewables that once they're in place will be more efficient in
14 producing energy for the people of the state of Missouri while
15 decreasing the risk to our health, to our community, to our
16 property values, from the use of this -- of coal predominately,
17 coal and other fossil fuels.

18 So I think that's pretty much it. I know it's
19 been a long evening. I appreciate that you're having the
20 hearing. I hope that both the regulators and the utilities are
21 hearing us. There are a lot of concerns about how energy has
22 been produced in this state, and I'm hopeful that we'll move to
23 something that's more secure, more reliable, and reduces the
24 cost to all Missourians. So thank you for your time.

25 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. Any questions from

1 the commissioners or from the parties?

2 COMMISSIONER KOLKMEYER: No, Judge.

3 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you, Commissioner
4 Kolkmeyer. Is Jane Vonkaenel or Kaenel there now?

5 MS. VONKAENEL: Me?

6 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Pardon me.

7 MS. VONKAENEL: Can you hear me?

8 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Yes. Is this Jane?

9 MS. VONKAENEL: Yes.

10 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. Very good. I probably
11 butchered your name, so I apologize. Can you tell us your name?

12 MS. VONKAENEL: Don't worry about it. It's Jane
13 Vonkaenel, V-O-N-K-A-E-N-E-L, nine letters in my last name.

14 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay.

15 MS. VONKAENEL: And I live in St. Louis County.

16 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. All right. If you'd
17 please raise your right hand, I'll swear you in.

18 (Witness sworn.)

19 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. What would you like
20 to tell us?

21 MS. VONKAENEL: Okay. I would -- well, I don't
22 want to repeat, because it's been a long evening and I want to
23 thank the Public Service Commission for advocating for us and
24 the -- this is a tough time with the COVID pandemic, and I'm
25 very concerned about this new average residential electric

1 customer cost that each one of us would get charged no matter
2 our usage or our ZIP code, etc. It doesn't seem -- that seems
3 extremely unfair to me, whether it starts at \$2 then goes up to
4 12 to 24. I don't like charges like that. There's no
5 motivation in that to conserve energy. And the -- I have a
6 couple of people in my family with MBAs and I asked them to look
7 up some things for me and they tell me that Ameren stockholders
8 are doing pretty well and that they -- I won't bore you with
9 their figures because MBA graduates love to give dollar figures
10 and quarterly figures.

11 So I don't see when -- I don't see that this is
12 a good time for when the Company is doing well and it's a
13 regulated monopoly, and we don't have any choice that we get
14 this new charge put on our bills. And I also wanted to say that
15 the -- this -- this -- I said before, it doesn't motivate people
16 to upgrade appliances or get new windows, or conserve energy.
17 That removes incentives and that it's terribly aggressive charge
18 because it seems that a higher fixed charge like that would
19 impact lower income people. So the -- just to summarize about
20 Ameren's profitability -- profitability between 2016 and 2018,
21 it looks like Ameren's plants were -- costs \$347 million more to
22 operate as compared to market energy prices, thanks to all these
23 brilliant MBA grads.

24 So I -- I don't like that -- I wish that Ameren
25 could have retired coal plants more quickly. I know in other

1 states coal plants -- I learned from relatives in two other
2 states that their coal-fired power plants are being shut down.
3 And had Ameren Missouri done that, as so many other energy
4 companies in those other states did, they would have enjoyed
5 savings. And some of these savings to Ameren could have funded
6 a move more quickly to clean -- cleaner renewable energy
7 technologies.

8 So I'm testifying as a person that had -- that
9 served a president at the White House when solar panels were put
10 up in the 1970s. So I talked to some policy people and Ameren
11 just hasn't moved very quickly on renewables, and that
12 disappoints me. But I don't think that it's fair that they're
13 not retiring their coal plants very quickly and not moving to
14 renewables very quickly. I don't think that we should be asked
15 to pay for Ameren's past decisions. Had they done some of those
16 things, the customers might -- you know, Ameren might have had
17 more profits and maybe some of those profits could have been put
18 toward cleaner energy and perhaps a savings to customers.

19 But I find that this fee that they've asked,
20 they've petitioned, your commission to approve is -- it's
21 unjust, it's unfair, and the timing couldn't be worse. And it's
22 not going to get better in '22, '23, it's just not. So I would
23 ask the Commission to please protect us from a charge like this,
24 and to not -- to not permit Ameren to charge us the huge
25 increase that they wanted.

1 And I need to do some background for my written
2 statement. And I've researched many different things for --
3 just to talk tonight, but I will have a much more comprehensive
4 statement with footnotes that I'm pleading with the Public
5 Service Commission to please not okay that fixed charge. And I
6 agree with the people that have testified before. This is a
7 very uncomfortable uncertain time for us. And some of us are
8 helping out family members who work, put on to part-time, or who
9 completely were let go from their jobs.

10 So I think that concludes my statement and I
11 think that people for spending their Friday night after 8:00
12 p.m. to allow citizens to talk. Thank you.

13 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. Any questions from
14 the commissioners or from the parties? Okay. Thank you again
15 Ms. Vonkaenel.

16 MS. VONKAENEL: Thank you.

17 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Anyone else -- anyone else
18 wishing to testify? Is there anyone else here who would like to
19 testify at this time? I'm not hearing anything, unless somebody
20 speaks up, then we'll wind up the hearing.

21 Commissioner Coleman or Commissioner Kolkmeyer,
22 any final thoughts?

23 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: Judge, I'd like to thank
24 those who have participated tonight. Thank you very much for
25 your testimony. It is important to us and we appreciate your

1 time and efforts.

2 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you.

3 COMMISSIONER KOLKMEYER: Yes, Judge. I echo
4 those comments as well. We appreciate everyone's testimony
5 here. And, Judge, I want to thank you and the Office of Public
6 Counsel for reaching out and helping this one customer try to
7 solve some issues that they have. So I want to thank both of
8 you for that. So thank everybody for their testimony and we
9 really appreciate you all doing this on a Friday night. Thank
10 you, Judge.

11 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you, Commissioner. One
12 last chance, anybody want to speak?

13 All right. I'm not hearing anything, so at this
14 point, we are adjourned. Thank you.

15 (Adjourned.)
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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, Lisa M. Banks, CCR within and for the State of Missouri, do hereby certify that the witness whose testimony appears in the foregoing deposition was duly sworn by me; that the testimony of said witness was taken by me to the best of my ability and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction; that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this deposition was taken, and further, that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties thereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.



Lisa M. Banks, CCR No. 1081

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