

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of an Investigation into Whether)
Ratepayers are being Held Harmless from the) Case No. ER-2008-0015
Taum Sauk Disaster)

STAFF'S FIRST STATUS REPORT

Comes now the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission in response to the December 26, 2007 Order Directing The Staff Of The Missouri Public Service Commission To File Status Reports And Directing The Office Of The Public Counsel To File A Position Statement. In response the Staff states as follows:

1. In the Staff's last filing in this case, the Staff related that it expected to conduct discovery sporadically over the remainder of 2007 and into the first quarter of 2008 not to vex AmerenUE or needlessly prolong the Staff's inquiry, but as being necessitated by the busy schedule of filings, hearings and holidays in the remainder of 2007 and early 2008, which the Staff and others face. Due to the demands of these filings and hearings before the Commission and the requirements of Commission cases in forums other than the Commission, undersigned Staff counsel has only in the last ten days submitted to Union Electric Company, d/b/a AmerenUE (AmerenUE) interrogatories and request for the production of documents, which the Staff drafted, in part, based on input from the Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel). The Staff sought Public Counsel's input in an effort to address the concerns which caused Public Counsel to raise Taum Sauk regulatory capacity as an issue in AmerenUE's recent rate increase case, Case No. ER-2007-0002. AmerenUE is in the process of responding to the Staff's interrogatories and request for the production of documents.

Wherefore the Staff files the above as its First Status Report respecting its investigation of whether AmerenUE's ratepayers are being held harmless from the Taum Sauk disaster, especially with regard to lost Taum Sauk regulatory capacity sales.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Steven Dottheim
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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, or transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail to all counsel of record this 15th day of January 2008.

/s/ Steven Dottheim