# **BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

## **OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of Union Electric Company d/b/a ) AmerenUE for Authority to File Tariffs Increasing ) Rates for Electric Service Provided to Customers ) in the Company's Missouri Service Area. )

Case No. ER-2008-0318

### **NOTICE REGARDING EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Issue Date: February 6, 2009

On February 5, 2009 my office was forwarded the attached document by electronic mail from our Consumer Services Department, concerning an email received from Sue Hathaway regarding the AmerenUE rate increase. Due to the fact the case is still pending before the Commission, I responded to Ms. Hathaway that I was unable to comment on the proceedings at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. Claston III

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this  $6^{th}$  day of February 2009.

# Clayton, Robert

To: tallsquawsue@hotmail.com

Cc: Parish, Dana; Clayton, Robert

Subject: FW: Tuesday's Rate Hike for Ameren UE

#### Ms. Hathaway

Thank you very much for your e mail. The Ameren case is still pending before us and I cannot comment on the proceedings at this time. I appreciate your concerns and will convey them to all of the other commissioners and parties in the case.

Robert Clayton

From: Parish, Dana Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2009 9:40 AM To: Clayton, Robert Subject: FW: Tuesday's Rate Hike for Ameren UE

From: Dunham, Courtney
Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2009 9:37 AM
To: Parish, Dana
Cc: Poole-King, Contessa; Fred, Gay
Subject: FW: Tuesday's Rate Hike for Ameren UE

Dana,

This e-mail came to PSC Info. I have submitted it as a public comment under Ameren's rate case ER-2008-0318.

Thanks,

# Courtney Dunham

Consumer Šervices Specialist Missouri Public Service Commission P.O. Box 360, 200 Madison Street Jefferson City, MO. 65102 Consumer Hotline number (800) 392-4211 Phone number (573) 751-4308 Fax number (573) 526-1500 E-mail: Courtney.Dunham@psc.mo.gov

From: Sue Hathaway [mailto:tallsquawsue@hotmail.com] Sent: Thursday, February 05, 2009 8:47 AM To: PSC Info (Public Info Email Address) - PSC Subject: Tuesday's Rate Hike for Ameren UE

Mr. Clayton:

I became so angry with my leaders in power, which are supposed to protect it's citizens from such greed and exploitation, when I read that Ameren UE was allowed a rate hike. I appreciate that you did not vote for this rate hike.

I did consider myself medium income; however, I am quickly slipping into the "poor" income bracket, because companies like Ameren have been allowed to drain the public. Most people don't get "rate hikes", and many people are even losing their jobs.

I am truly concerned about our City, State, and our Country. I am going to be 60 years young soon, and my hopes of hanging onto my home even another year are slipping away. I live in a tiny home in Jeff. My utility bill was \$206, and I kept the thermostat on 65 degrees. I basically froze my behind off and still had an exhorbitant bill. Gas was the biggest part of this utility expense.

Citizens are being forced out of their jobs, out of their homes, into poor health (due to lack of funds for doctors/medical prescriptions), and into poverty. The sad thing is I have a decent job (for now), a home, medical insurance, but there are lots of people right here in Jeff that cannot afford both a home and then to heat that home. They also can't sell their home to get out from under the payment. They have to walk away and lose their equity. Rent has become very expensive, so where does that leave people like that??

Someone has to stand up to huge companies like Ameren, even if they need to be split up. Three Rivers Electric is a great Co-op and gives money back to its customers. Why can't Jeff allow Three Rivers Electric to become a service option, which would provide some competition for Ameren UE. Why doesn't the State of MO have it's own electric Co-op? We both know why.

The time of having one trash service or one utility service in a city should no longer be an option. This doesn't provide any protection for the citizens' pocket books. These kinds of situations provide an environment for sanctioned monopoly.

I truly have high hopes that Governor Nixon will be fair with Missouri's citizens, and not put up with large utility companies becoming too powerful, or any company for that matter. We are being squeezed hard and pushed to the brink of our bank accounts, so please pass this on to someone that can truly make a difference in this regard.

Thanking you so much.

Sue

Windows Live™: E-mail. Chat. Share. Get more ways to connect. Check it out.