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2	STATE OF MISSOURI	
3	PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION	
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7	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS	
8	Evidentiary Hearing	
9	March 6, 2015	
10	Jefferson City, Missouri	
	Volume 28	
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12		
13	In the Matter of Union)	
	Electric Company d/b/a)	
14	Ameren Missouri's Tariff) File No. ER-2014-0258	
	to Increase Its Revenues)	
15	for Electric Service)	
16		
17		
18	MORRIS L. WOODRUFF, Presiding,	
	CHIEF REGULATORY LAW JUDGE.	
19		
20	STEPHEN M. STOLL,	
	SCOTT T. RUPP,	
21	COMMISSIONERS.	
22		
23	REPORTED BY:	
24	KELLENE K. FEDDERSEN, CSR, RPR, CCR NO. 838	
	MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES	
25		

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Page 1923 PROCEEDINGS 1 2 (WHEREUPON, the hearing began at 3 10:00 a.m.) JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. Let's go 4 5 ahead and get started. We're here for another day of the Ameren rate case hearing, ER-2014-0258. We 6 7 have only one issue to be heard today, which is the Labadie ESP issue. 8 9 Before we get started on that next issue, Ms. Tatro, I understand there's been another 10 settlement or another one in the works? 11 MS. TATRO: There is. There's a 12 13 settlement currently between the company and Office of Public Counsel, I think Staff, I'm not -- I 14 think those three parties at least, on FAC issues. 15 Division of Energy. Anyway, with a group of 16 17 parties on the FAC, which would remove most of the need for most of the witnesses. 18 19 It doesn't fully resolve the FAC as between Ameren Missouri and MIEC. So you will 20 21 still need to hear Mr. Haro and Mr. Dauphinais. But I believe that settlement, which has not yet 22 been filed but should be filed today, will resolve 23 the rest of those witnesses' issues. 24 25 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. That's good

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- 1 to know. I'll let the Commissioners know.
- MS. TATRO: And the fuel one did get
- 3 filed yesterday.
- JUDGE WOODRUFF: Yes. I saw that.
- 5 Okay. And just to let the parties know, I'm going
- 6 to go ahead and submit those stipulations and
- 7 agreements that were filed last Monday for next
- 8 week's agenda on the assumption that there won't be
- 9 any objections to them. Of course, if there are
- 10 objections that are made, we'll vary that practice.
- 11 Okay?
- MS. TATRO: Great.
- JUDGE WOODRUFF: For the Labadie
- 14 ESPs, then, we'll begin with Ameren for mini
- 15 openings.
- MR. MITTEN: If it please the
- 17 Commission?
- In late 2014 Ameren Missouri
- 19 completed construction of and placed in service
- 20 electrostatic precipitators, commonly known as
- 21 ESPs, on Units 1 and 2 at the company's Labadie
- 22 Energy Center. These ESPs were required to bring
- 23 those units into compliance with federal mercury
- 24 and air toxic standards, or MATS, that apply to
- 25 existing power plants.

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1	Ameren Missouri's MATS compliance	
2	efforts began several years ago, and the company's	
3	plans initially called for the staged installation	
4	of ESPs on all four generating units at Labadie.	
5	And although ESPs will be installed on Labadie	
6	Unit 4 by early 2016, emissions improvements	
7	achieved through the installation of ESPs at	
8	Units 1 and 2 will allow Ameren Missouri to defer	
9	installation of ESPs on Labadie Unit 3.	
10	As is the case with any capital	
11	investment a utility seeks to include in rate base	
12	in a general rate case, the Commission must	
13	determine two things: First, whether the cost of	

- With the exception of costs
- 18 associated with damaged collector plates, an issue

the investment is reasonable, and second, whether

the investment is used and useful in providing

- 19 which the parties resolved as part of a broader
- 20 stipulation which has previously been filed with
- 21 the Commission, no party contends the amount Ameren
- 22 Missouri spent to acquire and install the Labadie
- 23 ESPs is unreasonable. And no party contests
- 24 Staff's conclusion that the ESPs satisfied all
- 25 in-service criteria prior to the December 31st,

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service.

Page 1926 2014 true-up date and are, therefore, used and 2 useful. 3 So at least insofar as the considerations relevant to this rate case are 4 5 concerned, there is no question the Commission should allow the cost of the Labadie ESPs in the 7 rate base used to set rates in this case. Then why are we hearing this issue? 8 9 One party, the Sierra Club, argues Ameren 10 Missouri's investments in the Labadie ESPs was imprudent, and the basis for Sierra Club's argument 11 12 is its contention that the company failed to 13 justify its investment through evidence establishing the long-term viability of the Labadie 14 15 Energy Center. 16 But Sierra Club's argument is flawed 17 for at least two reasons. First, a general rate case is not the proper forum for the Commission to 18 consider and for the parties to present evidence 19 regarding the long-term viability of base load 20 21 generating units like Labadie. The integrated resource planning, or 22 IRP, process is the vehicle the Commission has 23 24 established for examining what resources a utility

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plans to use to meet its service obligations to

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Page 1927 customers over a 20-year planning horizon. 1 2 Ameren Missouri made its most recent 3 triennial IRP filing in October 2014, and that filing is currently under consideration in 4 5 Commission File No. E0-2015-0084. The company's plan for that Labadie Energy Center over the 6 7 relevant planning horizon is thoroughly described in the company's IRP filing, and Sierra Club is an 8 intervenor and an active participant in that case. 10 Questions regarding the long-term viability of Labadie are relevant to and are 11 12 already under consideration in the current IRP case, and they need not be and should not be issues 13 14 in this rate case as well. The second flaw in Sierra Club's 15 argument is the fact its concerns about Labadie are 16 17 based on greenhouse gas rules that have not yet been issued in final form. The EPA has announced 18 its rules implementing the greenhouse gas 19 limitations included in the Clean Power Plan will 20 21 not be issued in final form until sometime this 22 summer. 23 Because those rules won't be issued 24 until weeks and perhaps months after the operation of law date in this case, it would be virtually 25

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- 1 impossible for the Commission to consider the
- 2 impact on Labadie those rules will have even if it
- 3 were inclined to do so.
- 4 But the Commission should not even be
- 5 open to arguments regarding the Labadie ESPs based
- 6 upon the Sierra Club's speculation about what the
- 7 EPA's final rules will be. Speculation is neither
- 8 competent nor substantial evidence.
- 9 Ameren Missouri's witness on this
- 10 issue, Matt Michels, was one of the primary
- 11 draftsmen of the company's IRP filing, and his
- 12 filed testimony in this case explains how that
- 13 filing considers the potential impacts of the EPA's
- 14 proposed rules, including its plans for Labadie.
- I invite you to question Mr. Michels
- 16 about that filing, not because the long-term
- 17 viability of Labadie is relevant to this rate case,
- 18 but because his testimony will show the concerns
- 19 expressed by Sierra Club's witness in this case are
- 20 unfounded.
- I'd like to conclude my opening
- 22 statement the way I started it. The only issues
- 23 regarding the Labadie ESP that are relevant to this
- 24 case are whether the amount of Ameren Missouri's
- 25 investment is reasonable and whether the

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- 1 precipitators are currently used and useful.
- 2 Because there is no evidence in this case that
- 3 would justify a negative finding on either of those
- 4 issues, the Commission should include the value of
- 5 the Labadie ESPs in the rate base used to set rates
- 6 in this case.
- JUDGE WOODRUFF: Commissioners?
- 8 COMMISSIONER STOLL: No questions.
- 9 Thank you.
- 10 COMMISSIONER RUPP: No.
- JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. Staff
- 12 have an opening?
- MS. MAYFIELD: Your Honor, at this
- 14 time there's a quick preliminary matter. I need to
- 15 formally enter my appearance in this case on behalf
- 16 of Staff counsel. My name is Cydney Mayfield, and
- 17 I have provided our court reporter with my
- 18 information.
- 19 Your Honor, at this time Staff is not
- 20 contesting this issue. It has been pointed out by
- 21 the company, it is part of a settlement that has
- 22 been reached both with the company and with other
- 23 parties at this time. So really Staff has no
- 24 opening on this issue. Are there any questions?
- 25 COMMISSIONER STOLL: None. Thank

Page 1930 1 you. 2 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. Public 3 Counsel? MR. OPITZ: I'll waive opening, your 4 5 Honor. 6 JUDGE WOODRUFF: For Sierra Club. 7 MR. CMAR: Good morning. May it 8 please the Commission? I also need to enter my appearance in this matter. Thomas Cmar on behalf of Sierra Club. I provided my information to the 10 court reporter as well. 11 12 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. 13 MR. CMAR: Sierra Club urges the Commission to find that Ameren has not established 15 the investments in new electrostatic precipitators, or ESPs, at Labadie Units 1 and 2 are a prudent use 16 17 of ratepayer money. 18 Specifically, Ameren fails to present a net present value analysis showing that investing 19 in ESPs at Labadie Units 1 and 2 is a lower cost 20 21 option for ratepayers than a retirement alternative for these units. 22 23 Ameren's direct testimony barely even mentions the Labadie ESP projects. When Sierra 24 Club raised this issue in its testimony, Ameren 25

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- 1 responded on rebuttal by relying on its recently
- 2 filed IRP to try to meet its burden of proof on
- 3 this issue.
- 4 There are a number of deficiencies
- 5 and concerns that have now been raised in comments
- 6 on the IRP and are more properly addressed in that
- 7 docket. But for purposes of this case, there are
- 8 two main fatal flaws with Ameren's reliance on its
- 9 IRP analysis that cause Ameren to fail to meet its
- 10 burden here.
- 11 First, the IRP does not directly
- 12 analyze the prudence of the Labadie Unit 1 and
- 13 Unit 2 ESP investments. The IRP includes no
- 14 analysis of the possible retirement of individual
- 15 units at Labadie. It only looks at retirement of
- 16 the plant as a whole, and it only looks at it in
- 17 the year 2023 as opposed to the year 2016, which is
- 18 the operative year for the investments at issue in
- 19 this case.
- In rebuttal testimony in this case,
- 21 Ameren does attempt a kind of back-of-the-envelope
- 22 calculation to attempt to make up for this
- 23 deficiency, but this does not constitute an apples
- 24 to apples comparison of investments in ESPs at
- 25 Labadie Units 1 and 2 versus retirement of those

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- 1 units. That is a critical piece of evidence needed
- 2 to answer the prudence question in this case, and
- 3 Ameren has not provided it to the Commission.
- 4 Second, Ameren's IRP does not take
- 5 into account a reasonable range of risks from
- future environmental regulatory requirements,
- 7 including greenhouse gas regulations.
- 8 Even as Ameren claims to be taking
- 9 greenhouse gas regulations into account in its IRP,
- 10 in fact the company assumes an 85 percent
- 11 probability that the Labadie plant will face zero
- 12 costs as a result of greenhouse gas regulation,
- 13 even as it assumes that other coal-fired power
- 14 plants will retire in part as a response to those
- 15 same regulations.
- 16 In other words, Ameren assumes that
- 17 other plants will bear all the costs of compliance
- 18 leading to the perverse result in the IRP modeling
- 19 that Labadie actually benefits from greenhouse gas
- 20 regulations by being able to continue to operate
- 21 unaffected while other plants bear the costs.
- This is a huge bias in Ameren's
- 23 analysis that throws all of its other numbers into
- 24 question. Your Honor, it's quite possible that if
- 25 Ameren did an appropriate analysis in this case, we

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- 1 wouldn't be standing here today. We would have had
- 2 an opportunity to review Ameren's analysis and
- 3 evaluate whether we agreed with it. But we haven't
- 4 had that opportunity because Ameren hasn't done the
- 5 correct analysis needed to answer the prudence
- 6 question in this case.
- 7 However you come down on the
- 8 specifics of the investments that are at issue
- 9 here, we ask that the Commission make clear that
- 10 every environmental retrofit of this magnitude
- 11 requires a net present value analysis that takes
- 12 into account a reasonable range of costs and risks
- 13 facing the investment for which recovery is sought.
- 14 Without that kind of analysis, there
- 15 can be no meaningful transparency and no meaningful
- 16 stakeholder participation in the process.
- 17 It is up to the utility to provide the Commission
- 18 and the parties with sufficient information to
- 19 evaluate the prudence of the investments for which
- 20 the utility seeks recovery.
- 21 Ameren has not done that here, and
- 22 the analysis that Ameren has presented is so
- 23 fatally flawed that it should not be accepted by
- 24 the Commission as meeting American's burden of
- 25 proof.

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1	That concludes my opening statement.
2	I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.
3	COMMISSIONER STOLL: I have no
4	questions. Thank you for your opening.
5	JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. That's
6	all the parties who are here on this issue. So
7	we'll begin with our first witness, which is
8	Mr. Michels. Good morning, Mr. Michels. This is
9	your first time testifying in this case?
10	THE WITNESS: It is.
11	(Witness sworn.)
12	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. You may
13	inquire.
14	(AMERENUE EXHIBIT NOS. 26NP, 26HC AND
15	27 WERE MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)
16	MATT MICHELS testified as follows:
17	DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. MITTEN:
18	Q. Could you please state your name and
19	business address for the record.
20	A. My name is Matt Michels, and my
21	business address is 1901 Chouteau Avenue,
22	St. Louis, Missouri 63103.
23	Q. Mr. Michels, where are you employed
24	and what is your current job title?
25	A. I'm employed by Ameren Missouri as

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- 1 the Senior Manager of Corporate Analysis.
- Q. Mr. Michels, did you prepare and
- 3 cause to be filed in this case rebuttal testimony
- 4 which has been marked as Exhibits 26HC and NP and
- 5 surrebuttal testimony which has been marked as
- 6 Exhibit 27?
- 7 A. Yes, I did.
- 8 Q. Do you have any changes or
- 9 corrections you need to make to the prefiled
- 10 testimony at this time?
- 11 A. Yes. I do have one correction to my
- 12 rebuttal testimony. On page 12, line 9, where it
- 13 says, to allow the plant to continue operating
- 14 costs customers \$3.6 billion, it should say, to
- 15 allow the plant to continue operating saves
- 16 customers \$3.6 billion.
- 17 Q. Are there any other changes or
- 18 corrections you need to make?
- 19 A. No.
- Q. With that change, if I asked you the
- 21 questions that are contained in Exhibits 26 and 27
- 22 today, would your answers be the same as are shown
- 23 there?
- 24 A. Yes, they would.
- 25 Q. And is the information in those

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- answers true and correct to the best of your
- 2 knowledge?
- 3 A. Yes, it is.
- 4 MR. MITTEN: Your Honor, I have no
- 5 further questions for Mr. Michels. I would offer
- 6 Exhibits 26 and 27 into evidence, but I would also
- 7 advise the Commission Mr. Michels is scheduled to
- 8 testify next week. So I assume you will be
- 9 inclined to defer accepting those exhibits into
- 10 evidence until that time.
- 11 JUDGE WOODRUFF: 26HC and NP have
- 12 been offered as well as Exhibit 27. As indicated
- 13 by counsel, we'll defer ruling on those until
- 14 Mr. Michels has testified next week.
- MR. MITTEN: Mr. Michels is available
- 16 for cross-examination.
- JUDGE WOODRUFF: Actually, I will ask
- 18 Sierra Club if they have any objection to it at
- 19 this point.
- MR. CMAR: We have no objection, your
- 21 Honor.
- JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. All right.
- 23 For cross-examination, beginning with Staff.
- MS. MAYFIELD: No cross, your Honor.
- JUDGE WOODRUFF: Public Counsel?

Page 1937 1 MR. OPITZ: No questions, your Honor. 2 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Sierra Club? 3 MR. CMAR: I have a few questions, 4 your Honor. 5 CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. CMAR: 6 Good morning, Mr. Michels. Q. 7 Α. Good morning. 8 Q. I have just a few questions for you about how Ameren Missouri accounted for a potential future regulation of greenhouse gases in its IRP. 10 11 Α. Okay. 12 Q. Am I correct in understanding that 13 Ameren Missouri assumed that there is an 85 percent 14 probability that greenhouse gas regulations would 15 be indirect as opposed to direct? 16 Α. That's correct. 17 Ο. And what this means is that the company assumes that there's an 85 percent 18 19 probability of no direct costs facing Labadie 20 Units 1 and 2 from those regulations; is that 21 correct? What it means is we did not assume a 22 regulatory regime in which there is a price 23 established on a ton of carbon dioxide emitted, 24 that's correct. 25

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- 1 Q. So specifically with regard to
- 2 dispatch modeling conducted for the IRP, this means
- 3 that the company assumes an 85 percent probability
- 4 that there will be zero additional variability
- 5 costs to Labadie due to greenhouse gas regulations;
- 6 is that correct?
- 7 A. That's correct.
- 8 Q. At the same time, the company also
- 9 assumes that other companies will retire some of
- 10 their generating units in part in response to
- 11 greenhouse gas regulations; is that correct?
- 12 A. That's correct.
- 13 Q. So essentially isn't it true that
- 14 Ameren Missouri's 2014 IRP assumes an 85 percent
- 15 probability that the Labadie plant will actually
- 16 benefit from greenhouse gas regulation?
- 17 A. Yes, that's correct, because what we
- 18 included in our assumptions was that under those
- 19 85 percent of scenarios where there was no explicit
- 20 price on carbon dioxide emissions, that the
- 21 regulations would result in anywhere from 80 to 120
- 22 gigawatts of retirement of the existing 300-plus
- 23 gigawatts of coal generation in the U.S. and that,
- 24 in doing so, that would reduce obviously the supply
- 25 available to meet load and thus alter the

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- 1 supply/demand balance and result in an uplift in
- 2 power prices.
- 3 Q. Am I correct in understanding that
- 4 this assumption of the 85 percent probability is
- 5 based on the company's qualitative judgment?
- 6 A. It's based on a series of discussions
- 7 that we had with our own internal experts, which
- 8 includes Dan Cole, who is president of Ameren
- 9 Services Company, Joe Power, who is vice president
- 10 and assistant general counsel, and also Mike Menne,
- 11 who was formerly vice president of environmental
- 12 services, Ajay Arora, who is currently vice
- 13 president of environmental services.
- 14 And based on all of their
- 15 interactions with policymakers, regulators,
- 16 legislators -- for instance, Joe Power has frequent
- 17 discussions with folks under all of those umbrellas
- 18 from his office in Washington, D.C.
- 19 But based on the series of
- 20 discussions that we had with them and what the
- 21 likelihood of various forms of carbon policy were
- 22 going forward into the future and over the 20-year
- 23 planning horizon, what is the probability of the
- 24 different mechanisms by which those policies might
- 25 be enacted? And then also in the case where there

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- 1 would be a carbon price, what would be the range of
- 2 carbon price in those instances? So that's what we
- 3 used to base our assumptions for the IRP on.
- 4 Q. But this wasn't a quantitative
- 5 process; is that right?
- A. No. I'm not aware of any
- 7 quantitative process by which you could come up
- 8 with probabilities for what future policies would
- 9 be.
- 10 Q. So the 85 percent number is
- 11 essentially a number that the company chose to
- 12 represent its judgment as to the likelihood of this
- 13 particular regime coming into effect?
- 14 A. It is necessarily a subjective
- 15 estimation, which is exactly what the IRP rules
- 16 call for.
- 17 MR. CMAR: No further questions, your
- 18 Honor.
- JUDGE WOODRUFF: Come up for
- 20 questions from the Bench. Commissioner Stoll?
- 21 COMMISSIONER STOLL: I have no
- 22 questions.
- 23 COMMISSIONER RUPP: No.
- JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. There
- 25 were no questions from the Bench, so no recross.

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- 1 Any redirect?
- 2 MR. MITTEN: Briefly, your Honor.
- 3 BY MR. MITTEN:
- 4 Q. Mr. Michels, Mr. Cmar asked you some
- 5 questions about the 85 percent assumption that is
- 6 included in Ameren Missouri's current IRP filing
- 7 that there will be indirect regulation of carbon
- 8 under the rules that the EPA announces to implement
- 9 the Clean Power Plan. Do you recall that?
- 10 A. Yes, I do.
- 11 Q. Does that mean there will be a
- 12 15 percent chance of direct carbon charges?
- 13 A. That's the way we've included it.
- 14 There would be a 15 chance that there would be a
- 15 specific price on carbon dioxide emissions through
- 16 a carbon tax or a cap and trade regime or something
- 17 similar.
- 18 Q. Could you tell me how you arrived at
- 19 those 85 percent/15 percent probabilities for those
- 20 two various scenarios?
- 21 A. Sure. Like I mentioned in response
- 22 to Mr. Cmar's question, we relied on our internal
- 23 experts, folks that have direct interaction with
- 24 regulators and legislators involved in
- 25 environmental regulation. And we looked at the

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- 1 possibilities for regulation under existing law,
- 2 passage of new law, or even ratification of an
- 3 international treaty that would involve carbon
- 4 dioxide reductions. And in doing so, they
- 5 considered the, for lack of a better term I'll call
- 6 it political calculus, what are the chances that
- 7 there would be an explicit price on carbon dioxide
- 8 going into the future?
- 9 And so the question would be, is that
- 10 available under existing regulations? The
- 11 conclusion was that there's not the opportunity to
- 12 impose that under existing regulation. And then is
- 13 there a chance for new legislation that would
- 14 enable regulation that would allow for an explicit
- 15 price on carbon dioxide?
- 16 So when they looked at that and said,
- 17 okay, you're going to have to have something that
- 18 passes both houses of Congress and is going to be
- 19 signed by the president to enact new regulations
- 20 that would involve that explicit price, they looked
- 21 at that and said there's really only a 15 percent
- 22 likelihood that that is going to happen, and that
- 23 it would happen at the earliest in 2025.
- Q. The greenhouse gas rules that are
- currently proposed by the EPA, do they have any

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- 1 provisions in them at all for the direct carbon tax
- 2 that you talked about a minute ago?
- 3 A. They do not. The Clean Power Plan
- 4 proposed rule has been promulgated under
- 5 Section 111(D) of the Clean Air Act, and in those
- 6 proposed rules they provide for specific reductions
- 7 in the rate of carbon intensity for each state.
- And what that means is they're
- 9 expecting a reduction or requiring a reduction in
- 10 the amount of CO2 emitted per megawatt hour of
- 11 energy generated, and they have various building
- 12 blocks that they've used to establish what those
- 13 targets could be and also to provide for mechanisms
- 14 by which utilities could comply with those
- 15 regulations. That includes increases in power
- 16 plant efficiency, increases in natural gas
- 17 generation, which under a carbon tax or a cap and
- 18 trade regime would incur costs for generating.
- 19 In the Clean Power Plan, gas
- 20 generation is a solution. Under a carbon tax, gas
- 21 generators would see a cost of continuing to
- 22 generate. And then also expansion of renewable
- 23 energy and increases in energy efficiency which
- 24 would offset coal generation.
- 25 All of those are indirect -- what I

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- 1 would call indirect forms of regulation. Actually,
- 2 in the Synapse report which we used as the basis
- 3 for our carbon prices, they make the distinction
- 4 between the two different forms of regulation.
- 5 And actually on page 6 of that
- 6 report, it says specifically, however, many other
- 7 types of climate policies work not by making
- 8 polluting more expensive per se, but instead by
- 9 requiring firms to use one technology instead of
- 10 another or to maintain particular emission
- 11 limitations in order to avoid legal repercussions.
- 12 For any such non-market policy, there is an
- 13 effective price, a market price that if instituted
- 14 as an allowance or tax would result in the
- 15 identical emission reductions as the non-market
- 16 policy.
- 17 The policies included in the Clean
- 18 Power Plan are just these kinds of non-market
- 19 policies, and, therefore, the cost of complying
- 20 with those, the retirements of existing coal
- 21 generation, replacement with other forms of
- generation, those are the costs of complying with
- 23 this kind of a regulation.
- So to impose additional costs on
- other generators would be a double counting of the

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- 1 costs of complying with those regulations.
- 2 Q. Mr. Cmar also asked you about whether
- 3 or not Ameren Missouri had included in its IRP
- 4 filing any analysis regarding the specific effects
- 5 of future environmental regulations on Labadie
- 6 Units 1 and 2. Do you recall those questions?
- 7 A. Yes, I do.
- 8 Q. Is there a reason that Ameren
- 9 Missouri did not include a specific analysis for
- 10 those units in its IRP filing?
- 11 MR. CMAR: Your Honor, I object. I
- 12 didn't ask that question that is being referenced
- 13 here. This is outside the scope of the cross.
- JUDGE WOODRUFF: Your response?
- MR. MITTEN: I believe he did ask the
- 16 question about a unit-specific analysis for Labadie
- 17 Units 1 and 2.
- 18 MR. CMAR: I did not ask that
- 19 question, your Honor.
- JUDGE WOODRUFF: I don't remember.
- 21 If we can go off the record for a moment for the
- 22 court reporter to have an opportunity to look back
- 23 through the record.
- 24 (AN OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION WAS
- 25 HELD.)

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- 1 JUDGE WOODRUFF: While we were off
- 2 the record the court reporter indicated she did not
- 3 find that question, but I don't want to make a
- 4 ruling based on a review by the court reporter. So
- 5 what I'm going to do is defer ruling on the
- 6 objection until I've had a chance to review the
- 7 transcript, and I'm going to allow the question and
- 8 the answer, or I'm going to allow the witness to
- 9 answer the question subject to possible ruling in
- 10 favor of the objection later in the process. I'll
- 11 make that ruling in the context of the Report and
- 12 Order.
- MR. CMAR: Thank you.
- JUDGE WOODRUFF: So at this point you
- 15 can go ahead and answer the question.
- 16 THE WITNESS: Could you repeat the
- 17 question?
- 18 BY MR. MITTEN:
- 19 Q. Did Ameren Missouri include in its
- 20 current IRP filing a unit-specific analysis of the
- 21 effect of future environmental regulations on
- 22 Labadie Units 1 and 2?
- 23 A. No, and the reason that we didn't --
- 24 well, there's really a couple of reasons. First of
- 25 all, Labadie is one of the most cost-effective and

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- 1 efficient coal-fired power stations in the country.
- 2 We answered a data request regarding how Labadie
- 3 stacks up in terms of production cost against the
- 4 other coal units in the country, and it's among the
- 5 very lowest cost in terms of production costs,
- 6 which includes fuel and variable O&M, and also
- 7 because our analysis of retirement of the entire
- 8 Labadie Energy Center in 2023 in the IRP indicated
- 9 that customers would save \$3.6 billion by investing
- 10 money to keep the plant operating.
- 11 So any of the environmental controls,
- 12 any capital expenditures related to continuing to
- 13 operate or continuing to maintain safe and reliable
- 14 operation of the plant and any operating
- 15 expenditures to operate and maintain the plant were
- 16 justified by the benefits of continuing to operate
- 17 the plant.
- 18 Those benefits are really based on
- 19 the market price forecast that we included based on
- 20 the range of scenarios that reflect the
- 21 expectations for climate policy in the future as
- 22 well as natural gas prices and load growth.
- 23 So based on that analysis and the
- 24 fact that it showed that customers would save
- 25 \$3.6 billion by continuing to operate the entire

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- 1 plant, there really wasn't any reason to go down to
- 2 a unit-level analysis to determine the kind of
- 3 ongoing viability that Sierra Club is suggesting we
- 4 need to analyze.
- 5 Q. Did Sierra Club or any other party to
- 6 the current IRP proceeding propose that a
- 7 unit-specific analysis be included as a special
- 8 issue in that proceeding?
- 9 MR. CMAR: Objection, your Honor.
- 10 This goes well outside the scope of the cross.
- 11 JUDGE WOODRUFF: I'll make the same
- 12 ruling as before and defer ruling on that objection
- 13 until I've had a chance to review the transcript.
- 14 THE WITNESS: Yes. Sierra Club did
- 15 suggest a special contemporary issue for our 2014
- 16 IRP. This was done in September of 2013 in advance
- 17 of the IRP work that we did. And the issue that
- 18 they suggested be included by the Commission for
- 19 our IRP was a unit-by-unit analysis of all of our
- 20 coal-fired energy centers and the determination of
- 21 how -- the economics of continuing to operate each
- 22 unit.
- 23 The Commission declined based in part
- on Ameren Missouri's response to that issue to
- 25 include that issue as a special contemporary issue

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- 1 for Ameren Missouri's integrated resource plan.
- 2 BY MR. MITTEN:
- 3 Q. Mr. Cmar also asked you some
- 4 questions about assumptions that were included in
- 5 the IRP filing about other companies retiring their
- 6 coal plants in advance of Ameren Missouri's
- 7 retirement of Labadie. Do you recall those
- 8 questions?
- 9 A. I believe so, yes.
- 10 Q. Did you make such assumptions in the
- 11 IRP filing?
- 12 A. The assumptions that we made in the
- 13 IRP filing for retirement of existing coal plants
- 14 were done based on a review of the relative
- 15 deficiency of all of the coal plants in the eastern
- 16 interconnect.
- 17 So we did include assumptions for
- 18 explicit retirements of coal generation as part of
- 19 the pricing scenarios that we developed to use to
- 20 evaluate alternative resource plans in the IRP, and
- 21 those retirements included retirements in Missouri,
- 22 including Ameren Missouri's Meramec Energy Center,
- 23 also units at KCPL's Sibley plant, at Montrose and
- 24 at Lake Road.
- 25 And KCPL has recently announced that

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- 1 it would be retiring most of the same units that we
- 2 identified for retirement in the scenarios that we
- 3 ran.
- And then, you know, we've also seen
- 5 the results of EPA's analysis of the impact of the
- 6 Clean Power Plan and saying that it will result in
- 7 approximately 100 gigawatts of coal-fired
- 8 retirements. Our scenario said anywhere from 80 to
- 9 120 gigawatts, with 100 gigawatts being the most
- 10 likely. So that falls well within the range that
- 11 we used in our assumptions.
- 12 There have been other studies by MERA
- 13 and the Bipartisan Policy Center that have showed
- 14 in the range of 90 to 100 gigawatts of coal
- 15 retirements as a result of not just the Clean Power
- 16 Plan but also MATS and other environmental
- 17 regulations that are being imposed on coal-fired
- 18 energy centers.
- 19 So we believe that our assumptions
- 20 for retirements that were used as a basis for our
- 21 scenarios in the IRP are entirely consistent with
- 22 what we're seeing from other sources and even
- 23 consistent with announcements that the utilities
- 24 have actually made.
- MR. MITTEN: Your Honor, I'd like to

Page 1951 have a document marked as an exhibit. 2 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Next number is 65. 3 This is shown as HC. MR. MITTEN: It is. The exhibit 4 5 itself will have to be HC. I'm not sure that all of the questions that I'm going to ask Mr. Michels 6 7 about the exhibit will need to be asked in-camera. (AMERENUE EXHIBIT NO. 65HC WAS MARKED 8 FOR IDENTIFICATION BY THE REPORTER.) 10 MR. MITTEN: And I'm sorry, your Honor. What was the exhibit number on this? 11 12 JUDGE WOODRUFF: 65HC. BY MR. MITTEN: 13 14 Q. Mr. Michels, if possible, without getting into the specific highly confidential 15 information that is shown on Exhibit 65HC, could 16 17 you generally describe what that exhibit shows? MR. CMAR: Your Honor, before the 18 witness answers, I object to questions based on 19 this exhibit as again outside the scope of anything 20 21 that was asked about on cross-examination. JUDGE WOODRUFF: And again I'll defer 22 ruling on that until I've had a chance to examine 23 24 the transcript and make a ruling on it later. 25 THE WITNESS: What this chart

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- 1 shows -- and I can talk to it without getting into
- 2 the highly confidential information -- is the
- 3 production costs for all of the coal-fired
- 4 generators in the United States. Now, the scale of
- 5 the chart doesn't capture all the coal generation.
- 6 There's over 300 gigawatts of coal generation.
- 7 This cuts it off at 250 gigawatts.
- 8 But what this shows is that the
- 9 production costs for Labadie are among the lowest
- 10 of all the coal generators in the United States.
- 11 Q. And would you expect that coal plants
- 12 that are less efficient than Labadie to be shut
- down well in advance of Labadie ceasing operations?
- 14 A. Yes, I would.
- 15 Q. And why is that?
- 16 A. While a review of the production
- 17 costs is not a proxy for a full analysis of the
- 18 economics of each individual coal unit, it is a
- 19 good indicator of the -- of the operating costs and
- 20 efficiency of those units. And I would expect that
- 21 those units that are more costly to operate would
- 22 be more liable to be the ones that would be retired
- 23 earlier compared to the very efficient Labadie
- 24 units.
- 25 Q. I probably should have asked this

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- question earlier, but is this particular graph that
- 2 has been marked as Exhibit 65HC, was that
- 3 previously provided to the Sierra Club in response
- 4 to a data request?
- 5 A. Yes. It was provided in response to
- 6 Data Request SC-020.
- 7 MR. MITTEN: Your Honor, I would move
- 8 for the admission into evidence of Exhibit 65HC.
- 9 MR. CMAR: And, your Honor, I have
- 10 the same objection that the exhibit is based on
- 11 questions that went outside the scope of
- 12 cross-examination.
- JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. And again,
- 14 I'll defer ruling on that until I've had a chance
- 15 to review the transcript.
- MR. MITTEN: And I have no further
- 17 questions for Mr. Michels. Thank you.
- 18 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. Actually,
- 19 that's it then. We are finished.
- MR. CMAR: We have one piece of
- 21 business, your Honor. We haven't formally moved
- 22 for the admission of our witness' testimony,
- 23 Dr. Ezra Hausman. All of the parties have waived
- 24 cross-examination, and so we'd like to move for
- 25 admission of his prefiled direct and surrebuttal

Page 1954 testimony into evidence in this case. 2 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And that was both HC 3 and NP versions on both? 4 MR. CMAR: Correct. 5 JUDGE WOODRUFF: So 900 and 901 HC and NP have been offered. Any objection to their 7 receipt? 8 MR. MITTEN: No objection. JUDGE WOODRUFF: Hearing none, they 9 will be received. 10 (SIERRA CLUB EXHIBIT NOS. 900NP/HC 11 12 AND 901NP/HC WERE RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE.) 13 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Anything else on 14 this issue? 15 Okay. Well, then we are done for today, and we'll need to address when we want to 16 17 come back for on Monday. If a lot of these issues are resolved, we can probably start later in the 18 19 day. 20 MS. TATRO: I think we can. MR. THOMPSON: Looks like we've only 21 got two witnesses for Monday. 22 23 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Right. Let's start at 10 a.m. 24 25 MS. TATRO: And I will make sure MIEC

		Page 1955
1	is aware of that.	
2	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Then we are	
3	adjourned.	
4	(WHEREUPON, the hearing was recessed	
5	at 10:39 a.m.)	
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1	I N D E X		
2	LABADIE ESPS		
3	Opening Statement by Mr. Mitten	1924	
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4	Opening Statement by Mr. Cmar	1930	
5			
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6			
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7	Direct Examination by Mr. Mitten	1934	
	Cross-Examination by Mr. Cmar	1937	
8	Redirect Examination by Mr. Mitten	1941	
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2	AMERENUE'S EXHIBITS		
		MARKED REC'D	
3			
	EXHIBIT NO. 26NP/HC		
4	Rebuttal Testimony of Matt	1937	
5	EXHIBIT NO. 27		
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6	Michels	1937	
7	EXHIBIT NO. 65HC		
	Chart - Coal Production Cost		
8	(Fuel and Variable O&M)	1951 *	
9	SIERRA CLUB'S EXHIBITS		
10	EXHIBIT NO. 900NP/HC		
	Direct Testimony of Ezra D.		
11	Hausman, Ph.D.	1954	
12	EXHIBIT NO. 901NP/HC		
	Surrebuttal Testimony of Ezra D.		
13	Hausman, Ph.D.	1954	
14	*Ruling deferred.		
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1	CERTIFICATE	
2	STATE OF MISSOURI)	
3) ss.	
4	COUNTY OF COLE)	
5	I, Kellene K. Feddersen, Certified	
6	Shorthand Reporter with the firm of Midwest	
7	Litigation Services, do hereby certify that I was	
8	personally present at the proceedings had in the	
9	above-entitled cause at the time and place set	
10	forth in the caption sheet thereof; that I then and	
11	there took down in Stenotype the proceedings had;	
12	and that the foregoing is a full, true and correct	
13	transcript of such Stenotype notes so made at such	
14	time and place.	
15	Given at my office in the City of	
16	Jefferson, County of Cole, State of Missouri.	
17		
18		
19		
	Kellene K. Feddersen, RPR, CSR, CCR	
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

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