



## Notice of *Ex Parte* Contact

TO: All Commissioners  
All Parties in Case No. GT-2005-0069

FROM: Toni Messina, Personal Advisor to Commissioner Appling *TM*

DATE: September 30, 2004

On September 29, I received the attached document from Crown Linen Service. The Commission is currently considering the issues discussed in this document in Case No. **GT-2005-0069**. Case No. GT-2005-0069 is a contested case. In contested cases, the Commission is bound by the same *ex parte* rule as a court of law, that is, to avoid off-the-record discussions going to the merits of the contested case.

Although communications from members of the public are always welcome, those communications relating to a contested case must be made known to all of the parties to the contested case so that those parties have an opportunity to respond. According to the Commission's rules (4 CSR 240-4), when a communication (either oral or written) concerning a contested case occurs outside the hearing process, any member of the Commission or Regulatory Law Judge who received the communication must prepare a written report concerning the communication and submit it to each member of the Commission and to the parties to the case. The report must identify the person or persons who participated in the *ex parte* communication, the circumstances which resulted in the communication, the substance of the communication, and the relationship of the communication to a particular matter at issue before the Commission.

Therefore, I submit this report pursuant to the rules cited above. This will ensure that any party to this case will have notice of the attached information and a full and fair opportunity to respond.

cc: Executive Director  
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge  
General Counsel

# CROWN LINEN SERVICE

September 23, 2004

Mr. Steve Gaw  
Chairman  
Missouri Public Service Commission  
200 Madison Street  
P. O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-3234

RECEIVED

SEP 29 2004

Executive Director  
MO PSC

Dear Chairman,

During your long career as a State Representative, you worked to help bring jobs to Missouri as well as retain and expand the jobs opportunities for all Missourians. As a small employer, I am asking you today to please consider the effect Ameren's tariff filed on August 30, 2004, concerning the Schedule No. 2, Schedule of Rates for Gas Service. This request will have a very negative impact for years into the future on Missouri's ability to compete for job development, relocation and expansion.

The current proposed tariff will be one of the most punitive tariffs dealing with natural gas delivery in the country.

To my knowledge, Ameren has never notified any of the large transport users of this filing or the impact it will have on those affected. The very short time frame in which they are asking it to be implemented is making a response to you, the commission difficult on businesses and employers. The cost, effect, requirements have never been offered by anyone associated with Ameren.

I am asking that this tariff be delayed until April 2005 in order to allow small and large employers alike time to respond to the Missouri Public Service Commission our view and the impact on our businesses located within the State of Missouri.

I have been unable to find any justification for implementing this tariff at this time. For my limited understanding (because of such a short time period given us) the tariff is far more costly to employers that transport gas on the Ameren distribution system than any other system near Missouri. Several of the major concerns are;

1. Ameren is not allowing any tolerance in the daily nominated amount. A plus or minus 20% would aid users in a reduction of "cash out charges". I understand Ameren offers a tolerance in some of their service areas. As the current filing stands, it can be best described as we the customers and employers will be required by Ameren to "sell low and buy high" on a daily basis.

2. If we could balance on a monthly basis versus a daily basis. The ability for us to forecast if we will need to operate our facility on a weekend or even an hour longer on a daily basis is very difficult.

In summary, my brother and I own a 113-year-old family run small business in Mexico. Our cost of energy is a significant part of our operating cost. This "cash out fee" will be an additional cost we had no idea we would encounter just a week ago. Please delay this tariff and allow us the time to work together to keep Missouri a good place to operate a business.

Sincerely,



Tim Williams  
Crown Linen Service, Inc

cc. Connie Murray, Commissioner  
Robert Clayton, Commissioner  
Lin Appling, Commissioner  
Jeff Davis, Commissioner  
Robert Quinn, Executive Director  
Toni, Legislative Coordinator  
Kevin Kelly, Public Information Administrator