

**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 Gas Service)
Provided to Customers in the Company's)
Missouri Service Area.)

Case No. GR-2003-0517

JOINT RECOMMENDATION REGARDING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, on behalf of the Parties to the case, Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE, (AmerenUE), the Missouri Public Service Commission Staff, (Staff), the Office of Public Counsel, (OPC), and the Department of Natural Resources, (DNR), and jointly recommend the following procedural schedule. This proposed schedule is filed pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.080, and suggests dates for public hearings in this case, dates for return on equity (ROE) testimony and updates the Parties' recommendation concerning dates for the early pre-hearing conference. In support thereof, the Parties state:

1. In response to the Commission's July 24, 2003 Order Directing Filing, the Parties suggest that the Commission schedule public hearings at each of the five locations, each to begin at 6:30 p.m., as recommended below:

Cape Girardeau	October 27, 2003
Wentzville	October 28, 2003
Mexico	October 29, 2003
Jefferson City or Columbia	October 30, 2003
Jefferson City or Columbia	November 3, 2003

2. The Parties suggest that the Commission set the prehearing conference to begin on October 29, 2003, and run through November 5, 2003, so that all of the public hearings may be completed prior to completion of the prehearing conference.

3. In response to the Commission's Order Directing Filing ordering the Parties to suggest alternate dates for AmerenUE witness Kathleen McShane's ROE testimony, the Parties recommend the following available dates in December and January:

December 15-19, 2003

December 29 and 30, 2003

January 2, 5 and 6, 2004

4. Some scheduling conflicts in early December may cease to exist if other matters or cases are resolved, but if the Commission could choose one of the suggested dates, these are all closer to the proposed hearing dates and that would mean less time between the live testimony of this ROE witness and the rest of the hearing. The Parties expect that Ms. McShane will be the only witness to testify on one of these alternate dates, and all other ROE witnesses will be scheduled during the week of the hearing (January 12-16, 2004 is proposed). However, the date for filing surrebuttal testimony for all ROE witnesses will need to be modified depending on the date chosen by the Commission for Ms. McShane's live testimony. Of the dates listed above, the Parties recommend January 2, 2004. If January 2, 2003, is chosen, the Parties suggest that the deadline for the filing of surrebuttal testimony related to ROE be December 22, 2003.

WHEREFORE, based upon the foregoing, the Parties respectfully request that the Commission issue its Order adopting the Jointly Proposed Procedural Schedule with the modifications listed herein.

Respectfully submitted,

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General Counsel

/s/ Lera L. Shemwell

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or emailed to all counsel of record this 29th day of July, 2003.

/s/ Lera L. Shemwell
