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STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING
FEBRUARY 22, 2011
O'Fallon, Missouri
Volume 8 @ Page 1

IN THE MATTER OF UNION)
ELECTRIC COMPANY D/B/A)
AMERENUE' S TARIFFS TO INCREASE) Case No. ER-2011-0028
ITS ANNUAL REVENUES FOR)
ELECTRIC SERVICE,)

Kennard Jones, Presiding Deputy Regulatory Law Judge
Kevin Gunn, Commissioner

Wendy Tatro, Counsel for AmerenUE
Lewis Mills, Office of Public Counsel
Meghan McClowry, Staff Attorney

REPORTED BY:
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1 PROCEEDINGS

2 JUDGE JONES: Good evening, my name is Kennard
3 Jones. I'm the Regulatory Law Judge that will be
4 conducting this hearing this evening. Can you all hear me
5 in the back?

6 Okay. As I said, my name is Kennard Jones. I
7 will be conducting this hearing this evening. To my left
8 is Chairman Kevin Gunn. And many of you had had questions
9 tonight, and some of you may still have questions. There
10 will be an opportunity after this formal portion of the
11 hearing for you to stick around and perhaps get your
12 questions answered.

13 We have approximately nine people that have
14 signed up to testify. We're going to take their testimony;
15 and if after they finish, someone else would like to
16 testify, you'll have an opportunity to do that. I will --
17 I will tell you to step to this podium, I'll swear you in,
18 and you'll give your testimony. You won't be able to ask
19 questions during this portion.

20 Other than that, let me take entries of
21 appearances from the attorneys that are present.

22 Is Ameren UE here?

23 MS. TATRO: Wendy Tatro, 1901 Chouteau Avenue,
24 St. Louis, Missouri 63103.

25 JUDGE JONES: The Office of the Public

1 Counsel ?

2 MR. MILLS: On behalf of the Office of the
3 Public Counsel and the public, my name is Lewis Mills. My
4 address is Post Office Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri
5 65102.

6 JUDGE JONES: The Staff of the Commission?

7 MS. McCLOWRY: Meghan McClowry for the Staff
8 of the Public Service Commission. My address is P.O. Box
9 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

10 JUDGE JONES: Are there any other parties
11 represented that are here that would like to enter an
12 appearance?

13 Okay. Seeing none, let's go ahead and get
14 started. The first person signed up -- oh, I'm sorry. I'd
15 like to pass it to Commissioner Gunn.

16 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Thanks. And I'd just like
17 to make a couple quick remarks before we start. I want to
18 thank everybody for coming out tonight. I know everybody
19 is busy, and we'll try and get through this as quickly as
20 possible, but I am here to listen until everybody has
21 finished testifying.

22 So after the people that are signed up to
23 testify, we'll have an open call so you'll be able to make
24 a statement if you want. We try to be as flexible on the
25 question and answer time because a lot of -- I -- the law,

1 unfortunately, does not allow me to answer questions. So
2 it can -- it's as frustrating for me as it is for you; but
3 I am not really allowed to answer substantive questions.
4 So we want to give as much flexibility.

5 I think you all met Lewis Mills, the office --
6 from -- the Public Counsel from the Office of Public
7 Counsel. And if -- could the members of the Public Service
8 Commission Staff that are here, raise your hand. Some of
9 them -- you saw some of them beforehand, and they gave some
10 opening remarks, and they are also available to answer
11 questions.

12 At the end of this proceeding, there's really
13 not going to be a lot more information that's going to be
14 given. So please feel free after you testify, if you want
15 to ask questions or you have questions of Ameren staff or
16 of our staff, please feel free to leave and go home. You
17 don't need to stick around. There's nothing new that's
18 going to be done at the end. And also, feel free to pull a
19 staff member out outside.

20 If for some reason you cannot stay, there are
21 also written -- sheets for written comments outside on the
22 table. Please feel free to fill those out and send those
23 in, and those will be entered into the record as well. So
24 if for some reason you can't be there -- or also, feel
25 free -- if you know somebody that couldn't be here tonight

1 and they want to give a comment, please feel free to take
2 that with them.

3 I also want to introduce somebody. We are --
4 we are fortunate to have Nina Dean. Nina, could you raise
5 your hand. Nina is the legislative assistant to
6 Representative Kurt Bahr, who represents -- who represents
7 this area. And so she was sent in order to monitor, and
8 I'm sure she would be available for any questions
9 afterwards. There's a -- there's a fair amount of
10 legislation going on in Jefferson City that's dealing with
11 this, and she might be able to help answer questions.

12 So as the judge said, we'll bring you up and
13 swear you in. And then I may have some questions for you
14 and then the other lawyers will have a chance to answer --
15 to ask you questions. So I ask you not to just -- I may
16 not have any questions, and it doesn't mean anything if I
17 do or I don't.

18 But again, appreciate you coming out. We'll
19 try to get through this as quickly as possible, and I think
20 that people would be amenable to sticking around afterwards
21 to answer individual questions and some specifics; and I
22 may direct you towards somebody about that or suggest
23 somebody to talk to you if you do have specifics; but
24 unfortunately, I can't -- I can't really help you out on
25 those for a lot of reasons.

1 So thanks for being here tonight, and we'll
2 get this started.

3 JUDGE JONES: Okay. This is File Number
4 ER-2011-0028 in the Matter of Union Electric Company doing
5 business as Ameren Missouri's Tariff to Increase its Annual
6 Revenues for Electric Service.

7 The first person signed up to testify is
8 William Ulmer. Mr. Ulmer, can you step forward please.
9 Can you raise your right hand, sir.

10 (THE WITNESS WAS SWORN)

11 JUDGE JONES: Can you restate your name and
12 spell your last name for the Court Reporter please.

13 MR. ULMER: William Ulmer, U-L-M-E-R.

14 JUDGE JONES: And Mr. Ulmer, you may proceed.

15 MR. ULMER: I'm a resident of the Spanish
16 Trails Subdivision in St. Peters. Simply stated, I am
17 tired of corporate welfare and being on the receiving end
18 of corporate copulation. Since I am a fixed income person,
19 any rate increase is unacceptable.

20 Ameren can begin to control expenses by
21 reducing the salaries of their top four or five tiers of
22 management by 75 percent; forcing the previously mentioned
23 group to purchase their own health insurance; eliminating
24 any golden parachutes; freezing employee wages at the
25 current level for two years; stop all advertising on radio,

1 television, and the print media; reducing the Board of
2 Directors' compensation by 75 percent; and lowering the
3 quarterly stock dividends.

4 The wage packages of upper level management
5 are out of control in the United States. No individual or
6 group is worth 300 to 600 times the average worker.
7 Considering their inflated salaries, the company should not
8 provide health care beyond the minimum required by law.

9 Golden parachutes are a mechanism that allows
10 management to be rewarded for failure.

11 Unemployment continues to hover around ten
12 percent, and the Ameren employees should be thankful for
13 their job. A two-year wage freeze should save the company
14 money and maintain the current level of employment.
15 Thousands of people have suffered from unemployment or pay
16 cuts. The two-year pay freeze allows the employees to
17 prepare for the future.

18 Ameren has a monopoly on our electric service.
19 There is no need for them to advertise in any media.

20 Most members of the Board of Directors receive
21 compensation for attending meetings and performing required
22 tasks. Historically, the compensation has been
23 astronomical for the time and services involved. A
24 75 percent reduction will have -- will not have a serious
25 negative effect on the member's lifestyle. Reducing the

1 number of board members should also be considered.

2 Lowering the quarterly stock dividends is a
3 way to keep more money on hand.

4 JUDGE JONES: Okay. Chairman Gunn, do you
5 have a question?

6 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Just a general question.
7 Have you -- have you had any service related problems with
8 Ameren?

9 MR. ULMER: Service related problems? No.

10 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Outages, reliability
11 issues.

12 MR. ULMER: No. They're good.

13 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Okay. Great. That's all
14 I have. Thank you for coming out today, sir. Appreciate
15 it.

16 JUDGE JONES: Questions from any of the
17 parties that are present?

18 (NO RESPONSE)

19 JUDGE JONES: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Ulmer.

20 Next we'll hear from Donald Roth. Mr. Roth?

21 Okay. Thank you. Note for the record that
22 Mr. Roth has left the building.

23 Donna Lloyd -- or Dora Lloyd perhaps? No Dora
24 Lloyd.

25 Lorraine Cully? Would you please raise your

1 right hand.

2 (THE WITNESS WAS SWORN)

3 JUDGE JONES: And could you please state your
4 name and spell it for the Court Reporter, and then you may
5 proceed.

6 MS. CULLY: My name is Lorraine Cully, and the
7 last name is spelled C-U-L-L-Y.

8 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. You may proceed.

9 MS. CULLY: Well, I, too, feel that the
10 officers in the -- of the electric company should take a
11 pay cut themselves. I think they, too, need to do without
12 all these extras and these benefits. Most of us who have
13 worked all our lives never had anything like that; and
14 those of us who are on a set income, who are on Social
15 Security and nothing else, cannot afford rate increases
16 anymore. Not only with them, but I mean everything is
17 going up except, what, Social Security. We haven't had any
18 increase in our rate for two years, and we didn't get one
19 this year, so that's going to be three years.

20 I'm not saying that Ameren UE has been
21 negligent or anything like that. I've never had any
22 problem that way. But these rate increases that they keep
23 asking for have got to stop. And there's a couple of the
24 things that they mentioned that I was wondering about, and
25 I thought -- like these scrubbers and that.

1 Oh, now, it's only because the federal
2 government is telling these companies, hey, you've really
3 got to do something because you've screwed up the
4 environment. They could have started doing this years ago
5 when it wouldn't have cost them near as much as what it's
6 doing today. And I don't see why we have to pay for the
7 enhancements that they're doing with their Taum Sauk.
8 They're the ones that messed up in the first place. We
9 shouldn't have to pay for anything when it comes to that.

10 And then, I don't know, maybe I don't have the
11 right to speak for the younger people, but I'm going to. I
12 mean, I look at these young couples with children. Both
13 parents have to work anymore to keep -- just even keep
14 their heads above water, and a lot of them aren't even able
15 to do that anymore because of all these constant rate
16 increases. You know, they're not getting anything back. A
17 lot of them have had to take pay cuts. A lot of them are
18 now on unemployment. And it's just got to stop somewhere
19 down the line.

20 And my one thing is, let these fellows that
21 are running these companies, let them take a pay cut. If
22 it means they have to do without a boat or a car or
23 something like that, well, so be it. But I'm just fed up
24 with it.

25 That's all I have to say.

1 JUDGE JONES: Okay. Commissioner Gunn, did
2 you have any questions?

3 COMMISSIONER GUNN: I don't have any
4 questions. Thank you very much for your testimony, ma'am.

5 JUDGE JONES: Okay. Thank you, Mrs. Cully.

6 Next on our list is Rod Knapp, K-N-A-P-P.
7 Mr. Knapp, could you raise your right hand please.

8 (THE WITNESS WAS SWORN)

9 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. Please state your
10 name for the Court Reporter.

11 MR. KNAPP: My name is Rod, R-O-D, Knapp,
12 K-N-A-P-P.

13 JUDGE JONES: You may proceed.

14 MR. KNAPP: Well, I think because of just like
15 the government bailout, the corporate greed has got even to
16 Ameren UE. I think everybody could balance their budget
17 like the rest of us, the working class and the poor people
18 that are here, with the short notice that they give. And
19 they said they sent out a flyer. I got a phone call. It
20 was yesterday.

21 Really, I feel that if this was done properly
22 with the correct advertisement, we should fill a football
23 stadium instead of the 300 people that might have been
24 here. So the word wasn't out. I don't think the word was
25 out.

1 And so that's a short -- that's a shortfall
2 for us, being Americans, because what the problem with this
3 world nowadays is we don't fix ourselves. We expect
4 somebody else to fix everything. And you have to do some
5 cutting, and you're going to have to do some changes. And
6 that doesn't mean that we're going to plan on a brand new
7 plant that's going to cost us a whole bunch more money to
8 clean, to get rid of these fuel rods. Something is going
9 to have to be done with this.

10 I don't know if you've seen what happened to
11 Russia, but they're having big problems trying to store
12 this stuff. I don't think their way is the best way.
13 They've got a pool that they've put it in. I betcha it's
14 not safe. What happens if something happens, an earthquake
15 or whatever? What's going -- what's going to happen?

16 This is your families that you're talking to
17 out here. We're going to have to do some cutting. And
18 they're going to have to cut. I'd like to see what they
19 have made in the past and what are they -- all the
20 corporate people are worth to ask the poor people, the
21 working class, what it's going to cost another increase.

22 I would like to know what their open books
23 are. Because if they open their books of what they're
24 worth, what they've made over the past, and then they're
25 saying that this is an investment, they're going to hire

1 more people. Well, that's just trickle down economics, and
2 that don't work. It does not work. Trickle down
3 economics -- you pay me a lot of money, and I'll take all
4 the money and put it in my pocket, I'll buy new houses and
5 make more investments in myself, and I'll give a poor
6 person out here barely making a living a job, and hopefully
7 he can pay groceries, gas to go back and forth, and keep
8 his car running, including the poor police officers or
9 whatever else out here.

10 We're all -- we're all -- it's affecting all
11 of us. They don't need another increase, nor do -- I don't
12 know what you guys make, but you probably don't either if
13 you're a hard-working person.

14 I'm a contractor, and it's got me in every --
15 every direction. Every direction. There's no new building
16 going on, so the market is flooded with people that are
17 unemployed. Maybe union workers are getting paid, but
18 they're doing work on the side. There is no work out here.
19 There's just nothing. There's nothing stimulating out
20 here. But yet, we're going to pay an increase for
21 something that we're not for sure.

22 And they spend money, but how -- are they
23 efficient with the money that they spend or do they waste
24 it? Where do they show that? They show it to a board. I
25 mean, I can document my paperwork too and make it look like

1 I made something. But where did it really go? Their
2 corporate pocket? And that's my problem with it.

3 And they just had an increase, and part of the
4 increase -- well, whatever they did, the scrubbers or the
5 plant down at Park Hills that flooded, and they had to fix
6 it back up, and they put all this money in the park. They
7 spent all this money, but it comes out of our pocket. It
8 doesn't come out of theirs. Trust me. And that's --
9 that's a big issue. That's a big issue.

10 I kind of lost my place here, but if you could
11 give me a minute.

12 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Sure.

13 MR. KNAPP: I don't know. I just think
14 there's something else that can be done with this. I don't
15 think they -- the other thing is, they -- I'm sure they
16 made profit in the past years, the board, the stock
17 members, and everybody, speculative or whatever, they've
18 all made money. Maybe they should invest in what they do
19 best. I have to invest in my business. Maybe they should
20 put money back into Ameren UE and make it profitable, not
21 just a cost for everybody.

22 That's a good point. Because it should be
23 profitable. It is a business. They're making money,
24 untold amount. Hence, they could take a billion dollars
25 off for themselves, and then they're going to say they need

1 it -- say they need more money. How do we know that that's
2 not the case? They could waste money and show it in their
3 books. Where do they step up to the ball plate and have to
4 prove what they do and really prove every dime that's
5 spent.

6 I'm tired of people saying, hey, you know, I
7 need money, and the top corporate one person makes all the
8 money, and everybody else slaves underneath them.
9 Something has got to equal out here, Bud. We cannot keep
10 going and play monopoly and have one person owning all the
11 property and the rest of us fighting over the one dime. It
12 does not work.

13 Somehow the money has to be across the board
14 so we all can exchange it, we all have jobs, and we all can
15 pay taxes, and everybody will have a better life, and we
16 have to somehow do it better ourselves. And I don't think
17 a new nuclear plant with spent fuel rods is going to be the
18 way to do it.

19 If they want to think or talk to another
20 country and figure out how to take our fuel rods and do
21 something else with it, but I don't see that's a good
22 thing. We don't need anymore pollution. They're saying
23 it's in a pool. Did the pool break? I mean, all these
24 questions, they don't know. You don't know.

25 The earth was not made on a fuel rod. It was

1 supposed to have trees. Oxygen that we all love and need.
2 We should hug a tree. Because that does more for us than
3 some of this other stuff that we have out here that we
4 think we have to have.

5 And that's the best I can do without -- with
6 only one-day notice, not able to write a speech and come up
7 here and talk to some complete strangers. I hope somebody
8 agrees with me here and kind of cut the budget -- cut the
9 strings. Make a new beginning. Thank you.

10 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. Could you wait just
11 a moment.

12 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Yeah. I just have a
13 couple -- a comment and then -- actually, maybe more than
14 one.

15 MR. KNAPP: Sure.

16 COMMISSIONER GUNN: The feedback -- we
17 appreciate the feedback on the local public hearing and the
18 notice issue. We do. This case has 14, I think, around
19 the entire Ameren service area, but we don't always get it
20 right. And so if you have comments about how the notice
21 can be done better, please stop by the staff table on your
22 way out -- and that goes for everybody in the room -- and
23 even suggestions about locations and things like that,
24 we're happy to take that, because we -- because this is an
25 important part of our process, and we want to make sure

1 that we get it right.

2 MR. KNAPP: Well, and I just now remembered --
3 if I can continue this one more thing --

4 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Sure.

5 MR. KNAPP: -- or part I forgot.

6 Part of it is, is that Ameren didn't cut the
7 trees and trim the thing with and they cut the profits back
8 a few years ago. And then we had the wind storm, and the
9 whole power went out. And they go, oh, my God, look
10 what -- what's going on, we didn't trim the trees, they all
11 fell on the wire, they didn't take care of their service,
12 and then it finally hurt them; and then probably now we're
13 getting a price increase.

14 Maybe if they would have taken care of it and
15 not worried about their own pockets and done something back
16 then, we wouldn't be where we are here today too. And now
17 they're saying that they staged all this and they made it
18 so wonderful. Because they finally got out and cut the
19 trees, guys. We finally seen it being done in the last
20 couple years. They finally took some action because
21 something really bad happened. So that's kind of important
22 to know. Okay. Thank you.

23 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Thanks. That's all I
24 have. I appreciate you coming out tonight, sir.

25 JUDGE JONES: Next we have Ron -- I believe

1 i t' s M o y e o r M o y e, M - O - Y - E. N o t p r e s e n t.

2 S a u n d r a A u s t i n -- o r S a u n d r a.

3 M S. A U S T I N: I t' s S a u n d r a.

4 J U D G E J O N E S: O k a y. C a n y o u p l e a s e r a i s e y o u r
5 r i g h t h a n d.

6 (T H E W I T N E S S W A S S W O R N)

7 J U D G E J O N E S: T h a n k y o u. A n d w i l l y o u p l e a s e
8 r e s t a t e y o u r n a m e f o r t h e C o u r t R e p o r t e r, a n d y o u m a y
9 p r o c e e d.

10 M S. A U S T I N: Y e s. M y n a m e i s S a u n d r a,
11 S - A - U - N - D - R - A, A u s t i n, A - U - S - T - I - N. I l i v e h e r e r i g h t o f f
12 o f H a v e n V i e w D r i v e i n O' F a l l o n. I a m d i s a b l e d. I l i v e i n
13 s u b s i d i z e d h o u s i n g. I h a v e S o c i a l S e c u r i t y a n d S S I a s m y
14 i n c o m e. I l i v e o n l e s s t h a n \$ 7 0 0 a m o n t h. M y s u b s i d i z e d
15 h o u s i n g h a s b e e n i n c r e a s e d t h r e e t i m e s i n t h e p a s t t w o
16 y e a r s. T h a t i s t h e p a r t I p a y. A n d i t t a k e s u p m o r e t h a n
17 a t h i r d o f m y -- o f m y m o n e y t h a t I g e t f r o m m y r e t i r e m e n t
18 f u n d.

19 I h a d t o l o w e r m y t h e r m o s t a t d o w n t o
20 6 2 d e g r e e s t h i s w i n t e r, a n d t h a t w a s a s h i g h a s I c o u l d g o
21 s o t h a t I c o u l d a f f o r d t o p a y m y b i l l. I' m a p r o u d p e r s o n.
22 I w o r k e d. I' m e d u c a t e d. I d o n o t l i k e h a n d o u t s. B u t I d o
23 n o t s e e h o w i f t h e g o v e r n m e n t i s g o i n g t o c o n t i n u e t o c u t
24 m y r e n t a n d i n c r e a s e a l l m y u t i l i t i e s, h o w a m I s u p p o s e d t o
25 m a k e i t.

1 And please don't tell me, you know, the Dollar
2 Program or anything like that, because that -- that really
3 doesn't help all that much. I have had friends that have
4 been on it, and they still get big bills.

5 My -- I live alone. I have no one to watch
6 out for me but myself, which is the reason I'm here
7 tonight. If I hadn't gotten a phone call last night to
8 give me a heads-up about this meeting, it would have gone
9 unnoticed. I would not have known about it, and my voice
10 would have been silenced; but as it is, I'm here.

11 And I do plan on saying that I do agree with
12 Mr. Knapp. Accountability is one of the main factors that
13 I heard a lot of people speaking about tonight in the way
14 that we spend money, the way that we -- the way that -- the
15 way the utility company can go out and spend money that
16 they're expecting us to pay for -- to give back to them.

17 I want to know where to sign up for this
18 because, boy, I could sure use some of that. I --
19 everything that I have, I've had to pay for up front, and I
20 do not understand. There are a lot of other people in
21 business, and my father was one of them -- God rest his
22 soul, he passed away two years ago -- who absolutely did
23 not believe in credit. He paid cash for everything, and he
24 didn't go back and say, okay, I bought this, now I want you
25 to pay for it. You know, you can't -- it's like

1 panhandling on the street. You can't do that.

2 If I could work, I would work, but my body is
3 broken and so is my heart because this country has gone
4 down the tubes. We have no accountability, the government
5 or the utility companies or a lot of other programs that
6 are supposedly for the people. Then let's let -- let's
7 make them for the people. And understand that the poor
8 people and the disabled and the baby boomers, they're all
9 coming up to where I'm at now.

10 You know, God forbid we have another Enron
11 where they don't have anything to fall back on. Another
12 year or two, who's going to -- who's going to pay for those
13 increases for Ameren UE -- I'm sorry -- Ameren Missouri?
14 Who's going to pay for those increases then? Because we
15 don't have the jobs for the young people to go out and to
16 balance everything. So all the poor people and the retired
17 people and the disabled people, you've just about squeezed
18 that lemon dry, and the young people have nothing to give.
19 They have no jobs, no money.

20 So what happens to the utility company when
21 they've gotten their very last penny out of all of us? Are
22 they going to still spend money? Are they still going to
23 go out and expect rate increases? Somebody better get a
24 hold of -- get a grip at what -- at what's going on.

25 Because it's not right. It's not right for

1 the people that have to -- that pay their bills every
2 month. I pay my electric bill every month because that is
3 my life. I may have to wear three pairs of socks and two
4 sweaters to bed, but I do not ask for help. I pay my
5 electric bill. And I know a lot of people that are in the
6 same situation that I'm in, and it's -- it's sad. It's
7 just so sad that we have to stand here and beg for the
8 Commission to make this kind of a heavy decision.

9 I asked the question earlier. There's an
10 estimated 10.6 percent increase on the -- on the table that
11 they're asking for. I ask again what part of that
12 10.6 percent is profit? And if it's profit, shouldn't it
13 go back into their own business? Because they are a
14 business.

15 That's pretty much all I have to say, and I
16 appreciate you letting me come up here and talk.

17 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. Commissioner Gunn?

18 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Yes, ma'am. I'm
19 interested in kind of if you've had a customer service
20 experience. So have you contacted the company to inquire
21 about any of the programs like Dollar Help or other ones?
22 Because I'm only interested in determining whether you got
23 the information for it and that the experience that you had
24 was helpful. That's the only reason.

25 MS. AUSTIN: I have talked to a few people at

1 different times over the past ten years.

2 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Okay.

3 MS. AUSTIN: And I opted not to go with their
4 programs only because I -- I felt like I was begging.

5 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Sure.

6 MS. AUSTIN: And it was very discerning to me.

7 COMMISSIONER GUNN: And I completely
8 understand. My question is more about whether when you
9 called, the information was available, that the information
10 was clear, that you felt like you could make an informed
11 choice, that the people on the phone were respectful and
12 helpful. That's kind of what I'm getting at.

13 MS. AUSTIN: I would say for the most part,
14 yes.

15 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Okay.

16 MS. AUSTIN: They were respectful and they
17 were, you know, informative.

18 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Okay. And you felt like
19 your choice was an informed one?

20 MS. AUSTIN: Yes, sir.

21 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Okay.

22 MS. AUSTIN: And just on a note.

23 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Sure.

24 MS. AUSTIN: I have a dual master's degree.

25 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Yes, ma'am.

1 MS. AUSTIN: Okay. I am an educated person.
2 So, you know, I'm not -- I'm not looking at this from my
3 father's eyes, who only had a ninth grade education, and
4 even he wouldn't have taken that.

5 COMMISSIONER GUNN: All right.

6 MS. AUSTIN: I take it this is mine. I've got
7 a lot of paperwork to take home and read tonight.

8 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Excellent.

9 MS. AUSTIN: Thank you very much.

10 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Thank you, ma'am. I
11 appreciate your testimony.

12 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. Next, the last name
13 is Krutzman. I believe the first name may be Norman. Is
14 it Norman?

15 MR. KRUTZMAN: That's correct.

16 JUDGE JONES: Okay. Please raise your right
17 hand.

18 (THE WITNESS WAS SWORN)

19 JUDGE JONES: Thank you, sir, and will you
20 please restate your name for the Court Reporter.

21 MR. KRUTZMAN: My name is Norman Krutzman. I
22 live in -- I'll give you the address if you want it.
23 Otherwise, I live in Maryland Heights, Missouri. I live in
24 what's called Brookside Subdivision, and that's one of the
25 reasons that I'm here, but I'll get to that later.

1 JUDGE JONES: Can you spell your last name?

2 MR. KRUTZMAN: K-R-U-T-Z-M-A-N. If you'll
3 check back in your records from September the 11th of 2008
4 at your Wentzville meeting, you'll see where I gave quite a
5 testimony. I was the only person there, and I have to
6 admit that I felt somewhat intimidated because I was asked
7 a lot of questions before I ever got into the gymnasium or
8 meeting room about what I wanted to -- was going to speak
9 about and various things like that.

10 Once they got my name, they did the printout,
11 and they hit me with this thing about my bill, and I'll
12 tell you about that right now. I keep my bill low because
13 my temperature is always at 66 degrees in the winter. Like
14 a jacket -- I wear a jacket or sweatshirt. In the summer,
15 I try to keep my air-conditioner right around 80 degrees.

16 I am 69 years old. I've been told I don't
17 look it. I've been retired for almost three years. I'm on
18 a fixed income. I was a former electrician for 48 years.
19 I observed a lot of things with Union Electric and Ameren.
20 I even had stock until last year when I sold it in Ameren.

21 The next thing, I want to -- I want to start
22 off on the basic -- my basic agenda is on these two
23 senate -- on Senate Bill Number 50 and House Bill 124. I
24 personally feel that this is just a way to get around the
25 present law that they have that just happened about a year

1 ago. I was real happy with the former state senator from
2 up in Normandy and gave her the information.

3 And, Mr. Gunn, I would appreciate it if you
4 could round up the tape that they made of my testimony from
5 2008. You'll be enlightened of a lot of stuff, a lot of
6 things I observed, which I don't think I really ought to
7 rehash here tonight.

8 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Okay.

9 MR. KRUTZMAN: It will give you a basic idea.

10 COMMISSIONER GUNN: And that was at the
11 Wentzville location?

12 MR. KRUTZMAN: That was the Wentzville
13 location.

14 COMMISSIONER GUNN: September 11th, 2008?

15 MR. KRUTZMAN: September 11th.

16 COMMISSIONER GUNN: We'll pull the transcript.

17 MR. KRUTZMAN: I would appreciate it. Now,
18 this Dollar More situation. I have never checked that box.
19 At that meeting, I brought up the idea that I feel and a
20 lot of other people feel that we're still paying for a
21 Dollar More whether we did check the box or not because the
22 people that administer that are members of their
23 administrative staff. It was not denied. They told me at
24 that meeting after the meeting that that was going to be
25 turned over to the United Way. I have never seen any

1 documentation that this was turned over to the United Way.

2 So in effect, I feel, honestly, that I am also
3 paying for this, even though I have never checked that box.
4 Furthermore, I don't know anybody that has ever got this
5 Dollar More. I don't know how that they administer it. I
6 don't know, but I think they would be a lot better off if
7 possibly people, myself, retired people, would get
8 basically a low rate reduction instead of a rate increase.
9 That would be more helpful to a lot of the people. Because
10 all I can see on this thing, to be perfectly honest, is the
11 fat cats are still getting theirs.

12 Again, so it was brought up tonight earlier
13 about the TV commercials. I think that's senseless. I was
14 talking to a lady today that did my teeth. She was an
15 orthodontist. She's been moved -- moved into Fenton in
16 July. She's had three rate increases since she moved into
17 Fenton. She's been deluged with paperwork about this
18 Senate Bill 50 for it and on House Bill 124. She asked me
19 what's going on. I says, basically they're trying to get
20 around the law that already exists. They're going to build
21 that Callaway plant.

22 Now, something maybe you don't know, Mr. Gunn,
23 but when they built the Callaway plant years ago, they also
24 were going to do a second unit. That second unit was
25 started, and then they tried to turn around and get the

1 taxpayers to take -- after they found out they didn't need
2 it -- to pay for tearing it down, and that's where part of
3 that building that's existing today came from. That's not
4 right. Anybody could tell you that's not right.

5 Let's get on with the Rush Island joke. Years
6 ago when Rush Island was building built -- and I might have
7 this just backwards because we're trying to be honest
8 here -- but they had a -- they had a -- that was during the
9 gas shortage in the '70s when people were waiting at the
10 gas lines.

11 Okay. They had two Westinghouse generators
12 set down there. It was my understanding that these were
13 possibly gas-fired generators, which makes sense maybe if
14 gas prices are going up. I could not find in the library
15 the Globe-Democrat article that gave a lot of information
16 on this. I wasn't privileged to work on that project.

17 During this period of time, there was a labor
18 strike precipitated -- rumors were it was precipitated by
19 Ameren -- or in that case, Union Electric. I'll get into
20 this a little bit further. These two Westinghouse
21 generators were ready to go online. They tore them out,
22 put them on boats, and shipped them back to Westinghouse.
23 And again, this information is what I remember from the
24 Globe-Democrat article and the people that I talked to that
25 worked at that plant. So it bears some looking into.

1 Again, I'm not trying to lie to anybody or give any
2 misinformation. I'm doing what I know.

3 So when this -- when the labor dispute was --
4 again, like I said, it was a labor dispute. I don't
5 remember the trades involved. Everybody said it was
6 initiated by Ameren -- or in that case, Union Electric.
7 Once it was -- once it was settled, they said that put us
8 behind. Those two units that were set were tore out, walls
9 torn down, put on barges, and floated back to be restocked
10 at Westinghouse -- and if I have the information correct --
11 to be replaced with coal-fired generators.

12 Now, if I'm wrong about this, you can tell me.
13 But just recently I saw in the paper where the federal
14 government is fining Ameren for those coal-fired units at
15 Rush Island. Now, there again, I'm not snitching. You can
16 use your own judgment on that.

17 Taum Sauk, let's get to Taum Sauk. I own
18 property, a limited amount of property, in Reynolds County.
19 I have a lot of friends down there in Reynolds County,
20 especially around Johnson's Shut-Ins. They used to like to
21 go to Johnson's Shut-Ins for camping and pristine camping
22 trips over the weekend. They told me the last time they
23 went down there, they might as well go down and camp in
24 Forest Park and look at the Chase Hotel.

25 Now, it was my understanding when this dam

1 collapsed, it collapsed from the bottom, not from the top.
2 But all the lights that they put up were on the top. And I
3 don't know if that makes sense because of airplanes, but
4 there's a lot of trees down there, and it's higher than
5 that above that dam. But all the people that I've talked
6 to about that say they wasted all that money putting those
7 lights up at the top. Now when you're trying to camp, all
8 you look up and see the lights. You might as well go to
9 Forest Park and look at the Chase Hotel.

10 I also read in the paper -- and again, my
11 figures could be wrong -- where the state mandated the
12 \$75 million fee or fine for that mistake that they made on
13 the dam. But also, if my figures are correct, there's
14 \$45 million in supposed improvements -- improvements that
15 they want to charge customers for on my electric rate.
16 There again, you can check the facts.

17 Get into my neighborhood a little bit. I live
18 in Maryl and Heights between Lindbergh Boulevard and
19 Highway 270 between Dorsett Road and St. Charles Rock Road.
20 For the last four to five years, we've had constant power
21 outage over there. I had one of your engineers -- and I've
22 even got a letter here where one of the engineers told me
23 that they were going to review this, they were going to
24 change that, they were going to put new fusing in, new
25 lines, and that they were going to do away with that. We

1 wouldn't have those outages.

2 My niece, who was expecting a baby two years
3 ago, she wound up having twins and moved to Kirkwood
4 because of it. I've got a 5,000-watt generator sitting on
5 my back porch with gasoline storage, and I've got this
6 stuff that you put in the gasoline to preserve it. I've
7 got a pigtail sitting on my panel. I bought extension
8 cords. So that if this happens, I can take and power my
9 house. Again, I have to state that I was an electrician.
10 I know about turning the breakers off. I'm not going to
11 kill any lineman. Okay?

12 The other thing about this deal is if I call
13 Ameren on the telephone, they've got caller ID that right
14 away they know where I'm coming from and whether -- if
15 you're lucky enough to get through, they tell you you're
16 under control, we're taking care of your situation.

17 Just prior to the last meeting that we went to
18 in 2008, I had a situation where that came up. I called
19 them on the telephone. They said, we know what's
20 happening, the power will be taken care of. So I go out
21 and I tell my neighbors. We're all out there. It's hot.
22 We're looking for something to do. I said Ameren is
23 notified, they're going to take care of it. An hour and a
24 half later, we see three Ameren trucks come into the
25 subdivision. Well, I kept calling. 9:00 at night, it's

1 being taken care of.

2 Finally, I thought, you know, there's a way to
3 get around this because they know where I'm at. I called
4 on the cell phone. I called. They said, well, where is
5 this area at. I gave them the identification of the area.
6 Well, we're going to look into it. Well, they got it fixed
7 that night.

8 Now, if you check that testimony I gave the
9 last time, you'll see where I took my cell phone and put it
10 up to the microphone, and they called me at 9:00 the next
11 morning asking me if my power was back on. That's
12 ridiculous. They don't know what's going on.

13 And what I'm trying to say about this, if you
14 want to -- anybody here that wants to take a call to
15 Ameren, don't use your telephone. Use a cell phone that
16 doesn't have your ID on it, and you'll get the true
17 information because you're not going to get any information
18 using a public telephone or using your house phone.

19 And I proved that just recently with my
20 daughter who lives on the corner of roughly Fee Fee Road
21 and Lindbergh in Bridgeton. She tried it with the
22 telephone and got nowhere. Called with the cell phone and
23 got to talk to a person.

24 It came up tonight about one of the gentlemen
25 that was talking about how to save on your electric bill.

1 Okay. I've got high efficiency motors in everything I own.
2 My air-conditioning unit. My furnace was just recently
3 changed. I've got the fluorescent lightbulbs in my
4 basement. I've got fluorescent lightbulbs all the way
5 through the house, those little screw-in twisty guys.
6 Thirteen watts lights my living room. Most of the time I
7 have a TV on. Actually got my furnace. Again, I told you
8 that's a high efficiency motor. I do know what high
9 efficiency motors are.

10 Okay. My rate increase in December of '09,
11 approximately \$1.31. This is about -- by the way, this is
12 about what the papers look like. I couldn't put that on my
13 bill. I don't have my bills. I didn't dig them out.

14 Approximately July, I guess it is, 6 of 2010,
15 gone up another ten percent. 7 of '10, rate went up. What
16 I'm trying to tell you is 9 September of '10, it went up
17 \$2.37. Now, that gentleman said, save on your electric.
18 I'm doing that. But then I got a \$2.37 cost for high
19 fuels, and then I've also got -- well, that wasn't the high
20 fuel cost. It was \$2.51 for the high fuels. Oh, I'll take
21 that back. I've got it backwards. \$2.51 offset, dip in
22 sales for on-site electric service. Either they didn't
23 sell enough to Illinois or Iowa or Arkansas.

24 Now, this -- now, we got this in the newspaper
25 right here. I would be glad to show this to anybody. This

1 is stated -- these are things that came right out of the
2 St. Louis Post-Dispatch newspaper. I hope they tell the
3 truth. I've got them right here for you to see if you'd
4 like to see them.

5 COMMISSIONER GUNN: And we can enter them as
6 an exhibit if you -- if you'd like.

7 MR. KRUTZMAN: Well, I'd like to keep them.

8 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Sure.

9 MR. KRUTZMAN: So what am I gaining there? I
10 mean, I've got all this high efficiency stuff. Sure, my
11 electric bill stays pretty much the same all year-round. I
12 watch it. I have to watch it because I'm -- at my age, I
13 could go in and maybe blow the shoe out of water (sic), how
14 I'm 56 years old. When I fill out what high school I went
15 to, they say well that high school didn't exist for so many
16 years back at that time, so he must be this much old.

17 I know we have a federal law that says you
18 can't age discriminate. I've been looking for a part-time
19 job for a year and a half, and I haven't got one. The
20 business I was in, the part-time job, went out of business
21 down here. It was this Gateway Sporting Goods. They went
22 out of business.

23 Let's get into this meeting business about
24 here today. I got a notice here that came with my electric
25 bill. I got my electric bill about a week ago. Today is

1 the 22nd. The closest place to me was at the University of
2 Missouri St. Louis, February 16th. By the time I got this
3 notice, it was past. That's why I'm out here. I could
4 have made the biking in the other day, but I did have a
5 previous engagement.

6 Another gentleman came back to the back over
7 here a while ago and was asking me questions. Come to find
8 out that this meeting actually started at 5:30. I drove
9 out here in all this traffic that always comes this -- west
10 this way from Maryland Heights to testify here tonight and
11 talk and ask questions. My paper says 6:00, and it started
12 at 5:30. Now, there's some misinformation there.

13 My neighbors, we've had problems with your
14 Nelson Tree Service, and I've pretty much got that
15 resolved. They seem to be doing a better job. This year
16 they were at my neighborhood. I had to take -- I'm going
17 to go ahead -- to tell you the truth, I had to go to the
18 fact of locking my gates with chains, because I do have a
19 dog, calling Maryland Heights Police Department a couple
20 years ago, and having them explain to those people when
21 their gates are locked, you don't come in my backyard.
22 There's an easement back there. I don't care if you want
23 to use that easement. Get to it any way you can, but not
24 through my backyard unless I give you permission.

25 I caught Apache Tree Service that worked for

1 Charter smashing a truck -- a ladder, an extension ladder,
2 into a truck I hadn't even made my first payment on a
3 couple years ago. I've had various problems with Charter
4 and them other people because of it.

5 Now, I grant you, there's a four-foot
6 easement. The fence is on the backside. That four-foot
7 easement is my property. That police officer explained to
8 those people, you come in that man's yard, destroy his
9 property, tear up things like that, you're trespassing when
10 that gate is locked.

11 When I was -- before I retired, Nelson was out
12 there -- I don't know just exactly the date of it, but that
13 was probably in December or something like that, 2008. You
14 know, I can't be positive of these dates. Again, you're
15 asking me to be truthful, so I'm going to tell you. I'm
16 not positive of the dates. I was still working. I came
17 home from work. My gate was sprung open. The padlock was
18 on the thing. It wasn't chained. It was sprung open. The
19 gate was sprung.

20 They had been cutting limbs back there,
21 dragging them through my carport, muddy carport, dragging
22 them across the thing over to my neighbor's yard, using the
23 chipper. The chipper blew a lot of stuff all over the
24 front yard, his yard and my yard. They cleaned up some of
25 it. My gate was completely sprung.

1 I called Nelson. They sent a representative
2 out, and we discussed it. That fellow lived down around
3 Potosi. This happened to be pretty close to where my dad
4 had a place when I was kid. And we kind of resolved it.
5 He wanted to fix the gate. I said, don't worry about it.

6 I said, in the future, I'm going to take and
7 notify -- and if they can find the records, you'll find
8 records -- every utility that uses that easement back there
9 should have a letter stating that you give me two days'
10 notice, and I call you back or send you a written notice by
11 fax machine to come in my backyard or I will have them --
12 take them and have them arrested for trespassing.

13 Because I don't plan to have a yard that
14 anybody goes in anytime they want. I've got two boats back
15 there. I've got a dog back there. I don't want to be
16 liable if the dog -- he's a good dog. He deals with kids.
17 He's an 80-pound Black Lab, and he's very protective of the
18 yard. I don't want to take a chance on somebody getting
19 bit. But I also don't want any destruction to my property
20 when I'm not there.

21 I see in the paper here, and I'll take this
22 paper for you, just so there's no misunderstanding. I hope
23 I'm not taking too much time. I mean, I know there's other
24 people wanting to talk.

25 This is, again, a Post-Dispatch -- again, I

1 hope they're honest. It's dated 12/9/2009. It says: It
2 is ironic that Ameren UE should be complaining about these
3 financial troubles. Its parent company, three tops --
4 three company top executives got hefty bonuses in February
5 based on part of the company's performance.

6 Those Ameren executives, Gary Rainwater -- who
7 I know he's no longer there from my understanding -- Warner
8 Baxter, and Thomas Voss received incentive payments of --
9 and this one goes for Rainwater, \$771,656. You know, I
10 don't know if I made that much in my whole lifetime, let
11 alone a bonus.

12 All right. The next guy involved there, I
13 guess he's Baxter. He got \$302,610 bonus. The next guy,
14 Voss, \$240,245 bonus. Respectively, it says here, the
15 payments are equal to 82 percent, 55 percent, and
16 50 percent of their respective base salaries.

17 A company that can hand out -- hand out -- can
18 afford to hand out bonuses like that shouldn't need to
19 scrounge for spare change, and I'm talking about the few
20 dollars that they're going to scrounge out of me. It makes
21 a difference of whether I can buy gasoline to go some place
22 or maybe buy a quart of ice cream to eat. The whole thing
23 boils down to I think they're a bunch of thieves. That's a
24 personal opinion. I've got no proof of that.

25 I've been on jobs -- back on jobs -- and

1 again, this goes back to my tape -- where you have three
2 people standing around watching two linemen work. The
3 latest one was over in Clayton when I -- before I retired.
4 You've got five people walking around in suits and good
5 clothes while two people are working. Then they turn
6 around and they say it's labor is the problem.

7 If you review that tape I made before, you'll
8 find out that some of those powerhouses -- most of your
9 powerhouses, and probably the new Callaway if they do it,
10 are done on a cost-plus contract. That means they signed
11 the check at the bottom and let them fill it in when it's
12 done. Most every construction job I ever had, we had
13 plans, we had specifications, we had limitations, we had a
14 time schedule that we had to meet, and everything else. We
15 didn't just say, here's what we want, build us a building.
16 But that's apparently what they do.

17 And then some of the things I've talked to
18 with some of the other contractors over the years told me,
19 well, after the first unit was built, they put the second
20 unit out for bids. Meanwhile, they've got some company
21 like Brown and Root or Bechtel, one of your national
22 contractors known for these cost-bust type jobs, to build
23 the first one; and then they set their unit rate, electric
24 rate, for me and everybody else, based on what that first
25 unit costs, and then they turn around and short circuit the

1 second one. And that's something that needs to be looked
2 into.

3 One of your people at the 2008 meeting -- I
4 hope he's not here tonight. I was talking to him outside
5 before the meeting. He told me he was a member of the
6 Public Service Commission. His hands were softer than my
7 baby granddaughter's. I asked him, I said, have you ever
8 done any work in your life. Oh, yeah, we work. I said,
9 don't you ever put on a pair of boots and get out there in
10 the field and see what's going on on some of these jobs
11 instead of shuffling these papers and believing everything
12 that these people tell you.

13 Back when I first worked residential back in
14 the late '60s, I'd go into a subdivision, and the
15 Ameren-Union Electric trucks ran all day long while the
16 guys worked. Well, what does that do? That eats up
17 gasoline and that eats up -- that makes that wear and tear
18 on the engines. I guess I was paying for a profit on
19 gasoline and for wear and tear on engines because they
20 couldn't turn them off. Maybe the guys weren't smart
21 enough to turn them back on. I don't know. But they
22 seemed like they were pretty good guys.

23 There was an institution back there where if
24 you had a pair of worn out Kleins -- I don't know if you
25 know what Kleins are -- they're side cutters, pliers. But

1 you take them and give them to an Ameren or Union Electric
2 guy, and you got a brand new pair. He takes them back to
3 the warehouse and gets another. They were encouraged to do
4 this apparently. They say it ain't no big deal. I said,
5 don't anybody ask you what you do with all the Kleins.
6 Now, this goes back to the '60s. I'm not saying that's
7 going on today. It's just a lot of things that goes on
8 here.

9 I've got another little clipping here that
10 everybody might be interested in.

11 UNKNOWN SPEAKER: Can you wrap it up, please.

12 MR. KRUTZMAN: Okay. I will. One more -- you
13 might be interested in this one here. That's where the
14 federal government gave them \$24 million to train people to
15 work in the field, to climb the poles, and to do the line
16 work. Gave them \$24 million. My union and my people, that
17 came out of my salary or my hourly wage, and it came out of
18 the contractors that paid to train our people. We didn't
19 ask the federal government to turn around and give us money
20 at the end. And again, that's in the newspaper.

21 Other people want to speak. I just hope that
22 I didn't bore people too much because I have a lot of
23 information that a lot of people don't have. Thank you
24 very much.

25 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Thank you, sir.

1 JUDGE JONES: Thank you, Mr. Krutzman.

2 Next on our list is Carolyn Bertram --
3 Bertram. Ms. Bertram? Not here.

4 Okay. We've gone through the list of persons
5 who've signed up. Is there anyone else who would like to
6 testify? I saw a hand directly in front of the podium
7 first.

8 MS. SPONAMORE: My name is Gaye Sponamore.

9 JUDGE JONES: Can you raise your right hand
10 please.

11 MS. SPONAMORE: Yes, I can.

12 (THE WITNESS WAS SWORN)

13 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. And will you spell
14 your name for the Court Reporter also.

15 MS. SPONAMORE: Yes. G-A-Y-E. Last name
16 S-P-O-N-A-M-O-R-E.

17 Actually, I'm a member of Cui vre River
18 Electric co-op. I brought my 80-year-old mother here
19 tonight. She is in Ameren territory. Formerly, she was in
20 Cui vre River Electric co-op territory before she moved back
21 to St. Charles.

22 The Missouri Public Commission posed a
23 question about maybe some suggestions about what can be
24 done. I would suggest that the Commission look at the
25 State of Missouri's electric co-ops to see what can be done

1 for Ameren because they do a very successful job of
2 providing affordable electric rates and in some cases
3 propane rates for their customers.

4 To the extent that they take their excess
5 profits -- they are a not-for-profit -- you know, they're a
6 cooperative -- but they rebate it to their electric and
7 propane users. So in other words, they're able to get
8 their job done, provide service, provide excellent utility
9 service to their customers, get all their tree trim. I
10 live in -- I have a property in Lincoln County. It's like
11 tremendously wooded. I have suffered very few power
12 outages up there, maybe one or two in the 11 years that
13 I've lived there.

14 I think that the Commission should look at
15 somebody who's doing the job successfully for a model for
16 Ameren to get the job done.

17 And that's my comment. Thank you.

18 JUDGE JONES: Did you have any questions?

19 COMMISSIONER GUNN: I don't. Thank you for
20 coming out, ma'am. Appreciate your response.

21 JUDGE JONES: Do we have a question -- or
22 statements from the back here? You may step up.

23 Can you raise your right hand.

24 (THE WITNESS WAS SWORN)

25 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. Can you please state

1 and spell your name for the Court Reporter?

2 MR. TESON: Steve Teson, T-E-S-O-N.

3 JUDGE JONES: You may proceed.

4 MR. TESON: I'll keep it brief. I asked an
5 Ameren employee what -- we're here for the 11 percent
6 increase is why I'm here. But before that, in 2010, I
7 asked an employee to give me the rates of increase that
8 have been before this. In 2010, there was a ten percent
9 increase. 2009, there was an eight percent increase.
10 2007, there was a four percent increase. On top of -- with
11 the 11 percent increase that Ameren is asking, that would
12 be a 33 percent increase.

13 To me, that has just solved the recession
14 problem. Let's have all companies go out tomorrow and
15 raise their income by 33 percent in five years. That
16 sounds outrageous because it is. You can't have everybody
17 pay in a time of a recession a 33 percent increase in five
18 years.

19 I want the clean air. I want -- I want the
20 scrubbers on the -- I want to have clean air for my
21 children. But I don't see where this is particularly for
22 that, and they should have done that, like it was said,
23 when they constructed those. That should have been the
24 priority when they built them.

25 So that's my statement.

1 JUDGE JONES: Any questions?

2 COMMISSIONER GUNN: I don't. Thank you, sir,
3 for coming out. Appreciate it.

4 MR. TESON: Thank you.

5 JUDGE JONES: Okay. Is there anyone else that
6 would like to testify?

7 Can you please raise your right hand.

8 (THE WITNESS WAS SWORN)

9 JUDGE JONES: Thank you. And will you please
10 state and spell your name.

11 MS. KUO: My name is Karen. Last name is
12 K-U-O. From what I heard tonight, Ameren is always
13 reacting. It's never proactive. And I wonder if they --
14 when they construct this \$600 million thing, do they have
15 any alternative plans to present to the Commission? Did
16 they get permission or even suggestions before they start?
17 And as consumers, do we have the right to know beforehand
18 since we're going to pay for it down the road?

19 That's all. Thank you.

20 JUDGE JONES: Thank you.

21 COMMISSIONER GUNN: I don't have any
22 questions, ma'am. But there -- there are some answers to
23 that.

24 MS. KUO: Okay.

25 COMMISSIONER GUNN: And so our staff folks and

1 Ameren and the Office of Public Counsel probably will be
2 able to at least give you a little bit of an idea about how
3 that process works, so. But thank you for coming.

4 JUDGE JONES: Is there anyone else who would
5 like to testify?

6 Okay. Seeing no one then.

7 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Just a couple closing
8 things. First of all, thanks everybody for sticking it
9 out. I really appreciate it. This is really the middle of
10 the process. In a couple of weeks, I think the beginning
11 of April, we're having the evidentiary hearings; and those
12 evidentiary hearings will be -- it's like a little trial,
13 and this becomes part of the record; and then we have some
14 time before we actually come out with a decision.

15 Those evidentiary hearings are on the web and
16 can be watched. You know, they're not the most exciting
17 trials in the entire thing to watch, but they are
18 interesting, and there's a lot of information. And they
19 can be seen at www.psc.mo.gov. That web site will be on
20 information sheets that are out here, so you don't have to
21 remember it, or you can just -- you know, Missouri Public
22 Service Commission should come up.

23 So I would encourage you all to do that. If
24 you know of people that had to leave or that want to give
25 additional comments, you can either take written comment

1 forms, or you can use the web site to do electronically, or
2 you can -- there are phone numbers out there that folks can
3 call in and give comments.

4 It is 8:00, and I think we're just about done;
5 but I think that our staff will be around for a couple more
6 minutes. I think Lewis Mills, the Office of Public Counsel
7 will be around. And I know that Ameren folks will be
8 around kind of wrapping things up.

9 So if you have other specific questions that
10 you'd like to have answered, please take the opportunity to
11 do that. We do have, I think, four more local public
12 hearings. We've got Union on -- in Union, Missouri on
13 Monday; Arnold on Tuesday; Jeff City on Wednesday; and
14 Mexico on Wednesday; and then Kirksville on Thursday. Now,
15 I know that most of those are impossible to get to; but if
16 you have folks in that area, that makes it easier if you
17 ever -- I mean, Union is probably -- Union and Arnold are
18 probably the two closest here; but if you need to send
19 anybody down there, please feel free to let them know that
20 those hearings are going on next week, and we'd love to see
21 them, so.

22 MS. SPONAMORE: Can I end this meeting on a
23 humorous note? You know, in terms of people being notified
24 and getting here.

25 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Why don't you come -- why

1 don't you come on up, and you can -- and we'll keep --
2 we'll put it on the record, and we'll clarify --

3 MS. SPONAMORE: Okay.

4 COMMISSIONER GUNN: -- just so we'll make
5 sure --

6 MS. SPONAMORE: Gaye Sponamore one more time.
7 Just interjecting a little humor. But it was asked about
8 notifying and communicating people of meetings like this.

9 The co-op has no problem. They send out a
10 notice with their bill. They send out the dates and times
11 of their meetings. Once a year they offer a free meal.
12 We've outgrown Lincoln County Fairgrounds, and now we fill
13 up St. Charles Family Arena. There is a huge crowd that
14 comes and participates in the energy future of Missouri at
15 those meetings.

16 Thank you very much.

17 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Thank you.

18 JUDGE JONES: Okay.

19 COMMISSIONER GUNN: Yeah. We'll go off the
20 record. If you have any questions, you can ask our staff
21 and other folks so we can let the other folks get out of
22 here. But thank you very much for coming. This is an
23 important part of the process. Appreciate it.

24 JUDGE JONES: Okay. We're off the record.

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, MICHELLE L. PACHESA, a Registered Professional Reporter, Certified Court Reporter (MO), Certified Shorthand Reporter (IL), and Notary Public within and for the State of Missouri, do hereby certify that the witness whose testimony appears in the foregoing public hearing was duly sworn by me to testify to the truth and nothing but the truth; that the testimony of said witness was taken by stenographic means by me to the best of my ability and thereafter reduced to print under my direction.

I further certify that I am neither attorney nor counsel for nor related nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this public hearing was taken; further, that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties hereto or financially interested in this action.

Michelle L. Pachesa
Notary Public within and
for the State of Missouri

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