

**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)	<u>Case No. GR-2007-0003</u>
Rates for Natural Gas Service Provided to Customers)	Tariff No. YG-2007-0008
in the Company's Missouri Service Area.)	

**PUBLIC COUNSEL'S MOTION TO EXTEND DEADLINE FOR FILING LOCAL
PUBLIC HEARING RECOMMENDATIONS**

COMES NOW the Office of the Public Counsel ("Public Counsel") and for its Motion to Extend Deadline for Filing Local Public Hearing Recommendations states as follows:

1. On July 11, 2006, the Commission issued an order setting an early prehearing conference for August 17, 2006. That same order directed the parties to recommend times, dates and locations for local public hearings on August 16, 2006.

2. In recent rate cases, the parties have discussed local public hearings along with other scheduling matters at the early prehearing conference, and this process has worked well. In Case No. ER-2007-0004, the current Aquila rate case, the Commission ordered the parties to file their recommendations about local public hearings one week after the early prehearing conference, on the same day as the proposed procedural schedule. Public Counsel suggests that the Commission adopt a similar procedure in this case.

3. Local public hearings are typically held after parties other than the utility have filed direct testimony, and that testimony filing date is typically about five months into the case. Delaying the filing of recommendations about local public hearings for nine days will not affect the Commission's ability to give those recommendations due consideration and to timely act on

them. This short extension will afford the parties a better opportunity to discuss local public hearings and to coordinate these hearings with the rest of the procedural schedule.

WHEREFORE, Public Counsel respectfully requests that the Commission extend the deadline for filing recommendations concerning times, dates and locations for local public hearings from August 16, 2006 to August 25, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

OFFICE OF THE Public Counsel

/s/ Lewis R. Mills, Jr.

By: _____
Lewis R. Mills, Jr. (#35275)
Public Counsel
P O Box 2230
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 751-1304
(573) 751-5562 FAX
lewis.mills@ded.mo.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, emailed or hand-delivered to the following this 8th day of August 2006:

General Counsel Office
Missouri Public Service
Commission
200 Madison Street, Suite 800
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102
GenCounsel@psc.mo.gov

Lowery B James
AmerenUE
111 South Ninth St., Suite 200
P.O. Box 918
Columbia, MO 65202-0918
lowery@smithlewis.com

Sullivan R Steven
AmerenUE
1901 Chouteau Avenue
P.O. Box 66149 (MC 1300)
St. Louis, MO 63166-6149
srsullivan@ameren.com

Iveson H. Todd
Missouri Department of
Natural Resources
8th Floor, Broadway Building
P.O. Box 899
Jefferson City, MO 65102
todd.iveson@ago.mo.gov

Bindbeutel P Joseph
Missouri Department of
Natural Resources
8th Floor, Broadway Building
P.O. Box 899
Jefferson City, MO 65102
joe.bindbeutel@ago.mo.gov

Byrne M Thomas
AmerenUE
1901 Chouteau Avenue
P.O. Box 66149 (MC 1310)
St. Louis, MO 63166-6149
tbyrne@ameren.com

Micheel Douglas
State of Missouri
PO Box 899
Jefferson City, MO 65102
douglas.micheel@ago.mo.gov

/s/ Lewis R. Mills, Jr.
