Exhibit No ::

Issues: Approval of

Territorial Agreement

Witness: Ronald W. Loesch

Type of Exhibit: Direct Testimony

Sponsoring Party: Union Electric Co.

Case No.:

EO-97-6 et al.

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CASE NO.

EO-97-6 et al.

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

RONALD W. LOESCH

St. Louis, Missouri August 30, 1996

> _Exhibit No. <u>25</u> Date 6-3-99 Case No. E0-96-14
> Reporter DURBEN

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF RONALD W. LOESCH

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION Docket Nos. E0-97-6, EA-97-55, and EM-97-61 Consolidated

1	Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.
2	A. Ronald W. Loesch, P.O. Box 38, Mexico, Missouri
3	65265.
4	Q. BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND IN WHAT CAPACITY?
5	A. I am employed by Union Electric Company (UE) as
6	Manager of its Little Dixie and Green Hills Districts. These
7	districts cover an area bounded approximately by Interstate 70
8	on the South, the Mississippi River on the East, the Missouri-
9	Iowa border on the North, and Excelsior Springs on the West.
10	In this area, UE serves approximately 65,000 electric and
11	51,000 gas customers.
12	Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR PRIOR WORK EXPERIENCE AT UNION
13	ELECTRIC COMPANY.
14	A. I began work in May, 1972, for Missouri Power &
15	Light Company (MPL), a former subsidiary of UE. I worked in
16	the areas of Property Accounting, Accounting, Corporate

Planning and Rates prior to 1984. In 1984, MPL was merged

into UE. Since 1984, I have worked in the areas of Office

Operations, Personnel Development and District Management of

UE.

17

18

19

- WHAT ARE YOUR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN YOUR 1 0. PRESENT POSITION AS MANAGER OF UE'S LITTLE DIXIE AND GREEN 2 HILLS DISTRICTS? 3
- As Manager, I am in charge of the day-to-day operation of these districts and I provide direction to a 5 staff of 212 employees. 6
 - WHAT IS YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND?
- Α. I received a Bachelor of Science Degree 8 Accounting from Lincoln University in Jefferson 9 Missouri, in 1969, and a Master of Business Administration 10 from the Lincoln University in 1980. 11
- ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS 12 0. CASE? 13
- Case E0-97-6 involves the Missouri Yes, I am. 14 Public Service Commission's review of the Joint Application of 15 Union Electric Company (UE) and Macon Electric Cooperative 16 (MEC) requesting approval of a Territorial Agreement covering portions of Macon, Randolph, Monroe, Shelby, Adair, Linn, Knox, Sullivan, and Chariton Counties, Missouri. This case also requests Commission approval for certain transfers of facilities and customers needed to implement the Territorial Agreement. To support the Territorial Agreement, UE is also requesting the Commission to approve in Case No. EM-97-61 the transfer of certain facilities to Northeast Missouri Electric Cooperative (Northeast), and in Case No. EA-97-55, it is requesting the Commission to certificate issue a

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

- convenience and necessity for those areas where UE is receiving facilities from MEC and Northeast.
- Q. ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE CONTENTS OF THAT

 A TERRITORIAL AGREEMENT?
- A. Yes, I negotiated the Agreement for UE. I have attached as Schedule 1 to my testimony a copy of the Territorial Agreement between UE and MEC.
- Q. PLEASE BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE PRINCIPAL FEATURES OF THE TERRITORIAL AGREEMENT.
- 10 A. The Territorial Agreement divides electric service 11 responsibilities between UE and MEC in Macon, Randolph, 12 Monroe, Shelby, Adair, Linn, Knox, Sullivan, and Chariton 13 Counties.

Exhibit 1 of the Territorial Agreement is a metes and bounds description of MEC's service territory. Exhibit 2 is a series of maps showing MEC's service territory. UE's service territory is all of Macon, Randolph, Monroe, Shelby, Adair, Linn, Knox, Sullivan, and Chariton counties except such portions thereof as are described by metes and bounds as MEC's in Exhibit 1. The Territorial Agreement does not limit UE's or MEC's right to construct appropriate facilities within the designated electric service area of the other supplier necessary to provide reliable electric service in their respective areas, however, the Agreement provides for dealing with new structures located precisely on the boundary line; the first owner at the new structure will be allowed to choose

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

- either supplier. The Agreement requires the transfer of certain facilities and sets forth the methods used to implement the transfers of those facilities. The implementation period for the Territorial Agreement is three years.
 - Q. WHAT IMPACT DOES THE DIVISION OF SERVICE AREAS CONTAINED IN THE TERRITORIAL AGREEMENT HAVE ON OTHER ELECTRIC SUPPLIERS SERVING IN MACON, RANDOLPH, MONROE, ADAIR, LINN, KNOX, SULLIVAN, AND CHARITON COUNTIES?
 - The Territorial Agreement applies only to UE and MEC and has no impact on other electric suppliers. Missouri law, particularly Section 394.312 RSMo., permits territorial agreements to specifically designate the boundaries of the electric service territory of the electric service suppliers subject to the agreement. Since only UE and MEC have signed the Territorial Agreement, they are the only electric suppliers subject to the Agreement. UE recognizes that other electric suppliers serve in the counties covered by the Territorial Agreement and understands that the Agreement neither changes or limits the existing or future territorial rights or duties of those suppliers nor restrains their ability to provide electric service within the area covered by the Agreement. If the Territorial Agreement is approved, UE promises it will not assert any rights arising out of it against any other electric supplier not subject to the Agreement.

2

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

- Q. DOES THE TERRITORIAL AGREEMENT INCLUDE A PROVISION RELATING TO CERTAIN MUNICIPALLY OWNED ELECTRIC SYSTEMS?
- Yes, it does. Section 5 of the Agreement deals Α. 3 with a potential situation that may arise in the future: one or more of the incorporated communities of Marceline, Macon, 5 La Plata, or Shelbina cease to operate their municipal 6 electric systems and UE purchases their facilities. section sets forth a procedure for establishing the UE/MEC 8 service area boundary after the occurrence of this potential 9 situation. I believe it is extremely remote that any of these 10 cities would cease to operate its municipal system; however, 11 since the Territorial Agreement is perpetual, it is desirable 12 to address this potential situation. Again, as I previously 13 testified, UE understands that the Territorial Agreement 14 neither changes or limits the existing or future territorial 15 rights or duties of these municipal electric systems nor 16 restrains their ability to provide electric service within the 17 area covered by the Agreement. If approved, UE promises it 18 will not assert any rights arising out of the Territorial 19 Agreement against these municipally-owned electric systems. 20
- Q. DOES THE TERRITORIAL AGREEMENT REQUIRE THE EXCHANGE
 OF CUSTOMERS?
 - A. Yes, it does. Section 3 of the Territorial Agreement requires MEC to transfer all of it customers within UE's service area to UE within three years of the effective date of the Agreement. Section 4 requires UE to transfer all

24

25

26

1

of its customers within MEC's service area to MEC during the same time period. Thus, UE will transfer approximately 3000 customers to MEC. In return, MEC will transfer approximately 1000 customers to UE. Although the customer exchange ratio is approximately 3:1, this imbalance could be made up by the addition of one or two large industrial customers in the Moberly or Brookfield areas to be served by UE. As a result of the Territorial Agreement, UE's service territory will be more compact and will be concentrated in areas around Moberly and Brookfield, areas we believe have growth potential. Therefore, I expect the imbalance to be made up over time.

Q. WHAT PUBLIC INTEREST GOALS ARE ADVANCED BY THIS TERRITORIAL AGREEMENT?

A. Several public interest goals are served by this Territorial Agreement. First, the Agreement will remove extensive duplication of facilities now existing between UE and MEC. In the future, lines will no longer be built by a second party that are redundant and wasteful. Therefore, each electric supplier will be able to focus its efforts on efficiently utilizing its resources to better serve its customers.

Second, the resulting service territories will also be exclusive, relative to UE and MEC, which will benefit the public. The public will have more certainty in who to call for service and service issues. UE's system planning ability will be improved. By knowing that UE will be serving all the

1.4

customers in our area, we can better plan substation and feeder locations and sizes. All in-place and acquired facilities can be utilized to serve new customers in UE's service area. The acquired facilities will also reinforce the reliability of the existing facilities. Therefore, the Territorial Agreement will improve UE's system planning ability and all facilities will be utilized to their fullest based on the load in the area.

Third, the resulting UE service territory will be more consolidated and compact, which will enable UE to better serve its customers. After the exchange of territory with MEC is complete, UE will have a more densely populated service area and a less far-flung distribution system, eliminating service areas far from our works headquarters and bulk substations. UE has works headquarters in Brookfield and Moberly and a bulk substation in Moberly. Our service territory will be consolidated into areas around Moberly and Brookfield such that the most distant customer from our works headquarters in Brookfield will be 7 miles, and 12 miles from our works headquarters in Moberly. UE will be more efficient in its maintenance and operation of this more consolidated service territory, thus allowing it to improve customer service and reliability and reduce expenses. This should decrease the call-out, dispatch, patrolling and switching times required for service restoration.

Finally, UE will be able to eliminate several rural

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

- substations from service, which would need major renovation,
- 2 rehabilitation, relocation or rebuilds in the next few years.
- 3 Several of those substations serve distribution systems which
- would need to be upgraded and converted to our standard, 12kV
- 5 distribution voltage at the time the substations are improved.
- 6 These avoided costs along with the savings associated with a
- 7 more compact service territory will enhance UE's ability to
- 8 keep its rates as low as possible.
 - Q. HAS UE DONE A RATE COMPARISON OF UE AND MEC?
- 10 A. Yes, I have attached as Schedule 2 a copy of a rate
- 11 comparison which was prepared under my supervision. It
- accurately shows the differing impacts of our rates on various
- usages. Overall, the amount a customer would pay would change
- 14 very little as a result of the Territorial Agreement. For
- 15 example, a typical residential UE customer's bill is
- 16 approximately 6.5% lower than a similarly situated MEC
- 17 customer.

- 18 O. IN THE REPORT AND ORDER ON REHEARING FOR CASE NO.
- 19 EO-95-400 ET AL., THE COMMISSION OPINED THAT, IN THE FUTURE,
- 20 ELECTRIC SUPPLIERS WHO ENTER INTO TERRITORIAL AGREEMENTS
- 21 INVOLVING EXCHANGE OF CUSTOMERS SHOULD PROVIDE AFFECTED
- 22 CUSTOMERS WITH A PROCESS FOR DIRECT INPUT INTO THE
- 23 TRANSACTION. WHAT EFFORTS HAVE UE AND MEC TAKEN TO PROVIDE
- 24 FOR DIRECT INPUT FROM THEIR CUSTOMERS AFFECTED BY THIS
- 25 TERRITORIAL AGREEMENT?
- 26 A. Both UE and MEC agree that it is desirable to obtain

- direct input from the customers potentially affected by the
 Territorial Agreement early in the process. By soliciting
 input early, the customers' concerns can be identified,
 questions can be answered, and the terms of the Territorial
 Agreement modified, as required. Therefore, UE and MEC
 developed a process to solicit customer input in advance of
 the companies entering into the Agreement.
 - Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE PROCESS USED TO INVOLVE AFFECTED CUSTOMERS?
 - First, affected customers were contacted by mail on A. or about May 6, 1996. Once it became apparent that a Territorial Agreement between the parties was feasible and sufficient details concerning the Agreement had developed, UE and MEC sent letters to each affected customer to inform them of the potential Territorial Agreement. letter was accompanied by a brochure which provided information on the customer's proposed new electric supplier. On or about the same day the letters were mailed, a joint news release was issued to inform everyone in the combined service area of both companies of the proposed Agreement. While each company was responsible to notify its customers, companies cooperated in the development of the notification letter and brochure. I am attaching as Schedule 3 to my testimony a copy of my May 6, 1996, customer letter, a copy of the UE/MEC joint news release, and copies of the brochures, describing UE and MEC, that were enclosed with the customer

9

10

11

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

··· 12

letters.

1

Next, UE and MEC held customer information meetings 2 at locations selected to cover the affected area of the 3 Territorial Agreement. Both UE and MEC felt that customer input would be maximized by face-to-face meetings. Since the 5 area covered by the Territorial Agreement is large and both 6 companies wanted the meetings to be well attended and 7 8 convenient, we decided to hold multiple meetings. meetings were held as follows: in Macon at the Long Branch 9 Restaurant on May 13, 1996, from 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM; in 10 Moberly at the Ramada Inn on May 14, 1996, from 1:00 PM to 11 8:00 PM; in Bucklin at the Bucklin School on May 15, 1996, 12 from 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM; and in Shelbyville at the Moonshiners 13 Building on May 16, 1996, from 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM. 14 schedule along with an open invitation to attend a meeting was 15 included in both the customer information letter and the joint 16 news release. During each meeting, personnel from UE and MEC 17 were available to answer customer questions. 18

Q. DID YOU PERSONALLY ATTEND ANY OF THE MEETINGS?

- A. I attended the Macon, Bucklin, and Shelbyville public meetings. My associates, David Allen, Supervising Engineer, and Mike Holman, Area Office Supervisor, attended the public meeting in Moberly. Representatives from MEC were also present at every meeting.
 - Q. HOW WERE QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC HANDLED?
- A. During the customer meetings, UE or MEC personnel

19

20

21

22

23

24

2.5

- provided answers to customer questions.
- Q. DID YOU FEEL THAT THE MEETINGS WERE WORTHWHILE?
- A. Yes, I felt the meetings were helpful in relieving some of the apprehensions and anxieties of changing electrical suppliers. The meetings also gave MEC members an opportunity to talk to UE representatives and UE customers an opportunity to talk to the MEC representatives.
- Q. WAS THE COMMISSION ADVISED IN ADVANCE OF THE

 MEASURES UE WAS TAKING TO INFORM CUSTOMERS AFFECTED BY THE

 PROPOSED TERRITORIAL AGREEMENT?
- 11 A. Yes, on May 1, 1996, UE sent the Commission a letter 12 informing them that we were contemplating a Territorial 13 Agreement with MEC, describing the customer notification 14 process, and inviting the Commission or its staff to attend 15 the public meetings.
- Q. PLEASE GENERALLY DESCRIBE UE'S ELECTRIC FACILITIES

 AS THEY EXIST NOW IN THE AREA OF THE PROPOSED TERRITORIAL

 AGREEMENT.
- In the affected areas, UE has two 161/69kV bulk 19 substations -- the Adair Bulk Substation in Kirksville and the 20 Moberly-Bulk Substation in Moberly. A 69kV line runs from the 21 Adair Bulk Substation to the Moberly Bulk Substation. 22 Macon, there is a 69kV switching station. At this station, a 23 24 69kV line taps-off the Adair-Moberly line and runs radially east to serve the Clarence and Shelbyville Substations. 25 Clarence and Shelbyville are both 69/12kV Substations. 26

communities of Clarence, Shelbyville, Leonard and Bethel are 1 served at 12kV from those two substations. Also, 69kV lines 2 from both the Moberly Bulk Substation and the Adair Bulk 3 Substation feed the Brookfield 69/34.5kV Substation. Brookfield Substation has three 34.5kV lines and one 69kV line 5 coming out of it. The 69kV line is very short, feeding a 69-6 4kV distribution substation in Brookfield, 7 the Two of the 34.5kV lines feed two distribution 8 Substation. 9 substations in Brookfield, the Brooks and Pershing 10 Substations. The third 34.5kV line out of the Brookfield Substation heads east, feeding the rural substations in 11 12 Bucklin, New Cambria and Bevier. Bucklin is a 34.5/4kV substation, serving the immediate Bucklin area. New Cambria 13 is a 34.5/12kV substation, feeding a distribution system with 14 considerable pole-miles which serves rural areas and the 15 communities of New Cambria, Ethel, Elmer, Mercyville, 16 Goldsberry and New Boston. Bevier is a 34.5/12kV substation, 17 serving the communities of Bevier and Callao. Finally, a 18 34.5kV line runs from Kirksville to Moberly, serving several 19 rural substations along the way. It is normally open at the 20 Macon 34.5kV switching station. (The 34.5kV line running east 21 from Brookfield Substation is also normally open at the Macon 22 34.5kV switching station.) The rural substations fed by the 23 34.5kV line that runs from Kirksville to Moberly are Atlanta, 24 Jacksonville, Excello, Holiday Acres and Cairo. Atlanta is a 25 34.5/13.8kV substation; Excello is a 34.5/2.4kV, three-phase 26

- substation; Jacksonville is a 34.5/7.2kV, two-phase delta substation; Holiday Acres is a 34.5/7.2kV, single-phase substation; and Cairo is a 34.5/2.4kV substation.
- Q. THE JOINT APPLICATION ALSO REQUESTS THE MISSOURI

 DUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO GRANT UE THE AUTHORITY TO

 TRANSFER CERTAIN PROPERTY PURSUANT TO THE TERMS OF THE

 TERRITORIAL AGREEMENT. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE NATURE OF THIS

 TRANSFER OF FACILITIES.
 - A. The Territorial Agreement requires UE to transfer its distribution facilities in the MEC area and MEC to transfer its distribution facilities in the UE area. As a result, UE will keep the Adair Bulk Substation, the Moberly Bulk Substation, the 69kV line between Kirksville and Moberly, the Brookfield Substation, the Brooks Substation, the Pershing Substation, the Hunt Substation, the 69kV line between Adair and Brookfield, the 69kV line between Moberly and Brookfield, the 69kV line between the Brookfield and Hunt Substations, and the two 34.5kV lines feeding the Brooks and Pershing Substations.
 - The 34.5kV line from Brookfield Substation to the rural substations, New Cambria and Bevier Substations, will be cut open at the UE/MEC border and the portion of the line in the MEC service territory will be transferred to MEC. Likewise, the 34.5kV line running from Kirksville to Moberly will be cut open at the UE/MEC border and the portion of the line in the MEC service territory will be transferred to MEC.

- The Atlanta, Jacksonville, Excello, Holiday Acres, 1 Cambria, Bevier, and Cairo Substations will be retired from 2 service after the customers served from them are exchanged 3 with MEC. In addition to these substations and major transmission facilities, UE will transfer to 5 MEC distribution facilities presently used to serve customers 6 7 located in MEC's service territory.
 - Q. DOES THIS TERRITORIAL AGREEMENT REQUIRE ANY
 ADDITIONAL TRANSFERS OF PROPERTY OR FACILITIES?
 - Yes. This Territorial Agreement also requires UE to Α. enter into an exchange agreement with Northeast, a copy of which is attached as Schedule 4. Northeast is MEC's generation and transmission cooperative. Pursuant to this exchange agreement, Northeast will transfer to UE 69kV/12.47kV substation located near Moberly and its 69kV circuit between its Moberly substation and the deadend structure No. 83. In exchange, UE will transfer to Northeast 69kV/12.47kV substation located near Clarence, 69kV/12.47kV substation located near Shelbyville, its metering equipment contained in a substation owned by Amoco Oil Company located in or near Shelbina, and a 69kV circuit starting at a point just outside the Macon switching station proceeding east to a point just beyond the Shelbyville Substation. This exchange will facilitate the Territorial Agreement by enabling Northeast to supply MEC with power to the service area it is obtaining from UE under the Territorial Agreement. In return,

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

- 1 UE will obtain a needed substation in the Moberly area and 2 will not have facilities in the Clarence and Shelbyville areas 3 to maintain.
 - Q. WILL UE CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN ANY FACILITIES IN THE SERVICE TERRITORY OF MEC?
 - A. Yes, UE will continue to have facilities beyond the boundaries of this Territorial Agreement. In addition, in the future UE may also have to construct additional facilities through MEC service territory to serve new loads beyond the area of this Agreement.
 - O. WILL UE TRANSFER ANY FRANCHISES TO MEC?
- A. No. While UE has franchises with Atlanta, Bethel,
 Bevier, Bucklin, Callao, Clarence, Elmer, Ethel, Jacksonville,
 Leonard, New Cambria, Shelbyville, and South Gifford, these
 franchises will not be transferred to MEC. MEC will be
 required to make the necessary arrangements prior to serving
 these cities.
 - Q. WHAT IS THE EXTENT OF THE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE
 AUTHORITY IN THE AREAS COVERED BY THIS TERRITORIAL AGREEMENT?
 - A. Under certificates of convenience and necessity previously issued by this Commission, UE generally has authority to serve the majority of the area which would receive electric service from UE pursuant to this Territorial Agreement. However, as part of the facility exchange which I previously described, UE will be receiving facilities that are beyond the area of its present certificates. Exhibit 2 to

6

8

9

10

.. 11

18

19

20

.21

22

23

24

25

Schedule 1 is a map, which, among other things, shows MEC's distribution facilities in those areas where UE is seeking certificate authority. Since these facilities will become UE's facilities pursuant to the Territorial Agreement, we will need certificate authority to serve customers through these facilities. Attached as Schedule 5 to my testimony is a list of land sections for which UE is seeking a certificate of public convenience and necessity. This schedule lists those land sections in which MEC has facilities which it is exchanging with UE pursuant to the Territorial Agreement and any land section adjacent thereto. The exception to this principle is that the list does not include the adjacent land section if it is the service territory of MEC per the Agreement or Kansas City Power & Light.

Attached as Schedule 6 to my testimony are illustrative tariffs which depict the UE service territory as modified by the Territorial Agreement. The illustrative tariffs in this Schedule correct minor typographical errors found by the Commission Staff.

- Q. WILL UE NEED ANY ADDITIONAL FRANCHISES TO SERVE IN THE AREAS IT IS NOW SEEKING A CERTIFICATE TO SERVE?
- 22 A. No, it will not. UE currently has the necessary county and municipal franchises.
- Q. DOES UE HAVE THE NECESSARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

 AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO THE TERRITORIAL AGREEMENT AND TRANSFER

 FACILITIES?

- 1 A. Yes. Attached as Schedule 7 to my testimony is the
- 2 Board of Directors resolution approving the Territorial
- 3 Agreement and associated transfer of facilities.
- 4 Q. ARE YOU ASKING THAT THE COMMISSION APPROVE THE
- 5 TERRITORIAL AGREEMENT AS PRESENTED?
- A. Yes, I am.
- 7 Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?
- A. Yes, it does.

LIST OF SCHEDULES

Schedule 1	Union Electric Company/Macon Electric Cooperative Territorial Agreement
Schedule 2	Union Electric Company/Macon Electric Cooperative Rate Comparison
Schedule 3	Customer letter, UE/MEC joint news release, and customer information brochures
Schedule 4	Union Electric Company/Northeast Missouri Electric Cooperative Exchange Agreement
Schedule 5	List of Areas to be Certificated
Schedule 6	Illustrative Tariffs
Schedule 7	UE Board of Directors Resolution