



Children's Health Advocacy Project

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A program offered by Legal Services of Eastern Missouri, Inc.

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Dear Community Partner:

On February 3, 2012, Ameren Missouri filed a request for a 14.6% rate increase with the Missouri Public Service Commission. Local hearings on this request will be held on July 26, 2012 and August 16, 2012. A copy of the hearing schedule is enclosed. If the requested rate increase is approved, Ameren will receive a \$376 million dollar increase in revenues.

We, as a community, cannot afford the financial and personal costs of increased utility rates. Over 110,000 people in St. Louis remain unemployed. 1 in every 659 housing units in the city of St. Louis received a foreclosure notice in April 2012. Research indicates that people who struggle to pay their utility bills often compromise their health, safety, and nutrition in order to meet increasing home energy demands and mounting utility debt. Of those struggling, children suffer the most.

Keeping the Power On is medical-legal initiative created to maximize utility access and improve the health and well-being of Missouri's children. We will be hosting a meeting on the effects of rising utility costs in the St. Louis community. You are cordially invited to join us on **Wednesday, June 27, 2012, 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.** in the Saint Louis University School of Law Courtroom, 3700 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, Missouri 63108, for an open discussion on ways to improve utility access for our community.

You may contact us at (314) 256-8764 to RSVP for the event.

Best regards,

Latasha K. Barnes

Enclosure: *Keeping the Power On* Flyer
Ameren Missouri Public Hearing Schedule