

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the Application of Union Electric )  
Company d/b/a AmerenUE for Authority to File )  
Tariffs Increasing Rates for Electric Service )  
Provided to Customers in the Company's Missouri )  
Service Area. )

**Case No. ER-2008-0318**

**NOTICE REGARDING EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Issue Date: February 2, 2009

On Friday afternoon, January 30, 2009, I called Gaye Suggett of AmerenUE to inform her I was in Cape Girardeau, MO, and was planning to stop by the "staging area" at the A.C. Brase Arena Building in Cape Girardeau the following morning. I told her I did not want to interfere with restoration efforts, but that I did want to sit and talk with some of the linemen who were actually out there in the field doing some work. I asked for the name of a contact person in case I ran into any trouble.

About 5:00 p.m., Mrs. Suggett called me back to say "breakfast starts at 6:00 a.m. and that Jean Mason, the manager of the Cape area, would be there. I thanked her and she asked me to let me know how it went.

I arrived at the Arena Building at 5:50 a.m. on January 31, 2009. Ms. Mason greeted me and showed me some pictures of the ice storm damage including one picture indicating there was more than 4 inches of ice on a distribution wire. Afterwards, Ms. Mason left me alone and I spent the next hour moving from table to table, talking to various linemen and tree trimmers.

During that time, Stacey Jones, AmerenUE's safety coordinator, twice gave a very impassioned speech about wanting everyone to come back safely that night. Mr. Jones covered a variety of topics from avoiding strains and sprains to the much more serious. Some of the safety protocols he covered were as follows: "Wear your spikes", "Watch out for black ice", "no cell phones in the buckets", "always wear your rubber gloves", and "isolate it, ground it, test it." He made it very clear that anyone not following safety protocols would be taken off the job.

Most of the feedback I received from the linemen was positive. Amongst the linemen, there was much more concern expressed about linemen who were not working for AmerenUE than anything else. Here are some of the most salient comments:

"It would be nice if there was better coordination between Ameren and the highway department, so the highway department could hopefully do a better job of clearing the roads as we try to get to a job site."

"My friends and I are tree trimmers. We'd like to become linemen because of the better pay and the retirement. If there were a program where we could become linemen, we'd be very interested."

"The food is terrible here..."

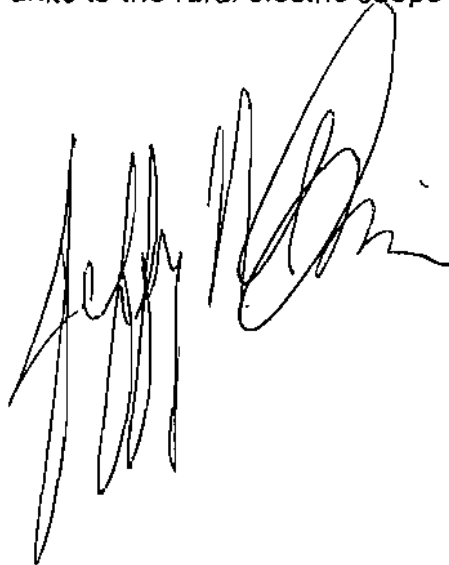
I did specifically inquire about the number of overtime hours linemen worked in a year. I wanted to know if the average of 500 hours of overtime per man was too much. Universally, all of the linemen said "no." They said things like "I like the extra money and being able to retire early."

At 7:00 a.m., I met back up with Jean Mason from Ameren UE, who gave me a tour of the sleeping units and showers provided by "Base Logistics" and was gone by 7:15 a.m.

Later on January 31, 2009, I called Gaye Suggett back to say my visit went well. I further inquired of her concerning the cost of the mobile housing units and asked her to notify Barry Hart, the Executive Director of the Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives (AMEC), if AmerenUE released any hotel rooms or any mobile housing units.

Attached is an e-mail response I received from Mrs. Suggett in this matter and I received a follow-up phone call stating that Mr. Hart had been contacted concerning Ameren's willingness to release some of the housing units to the rural electric coops if there was a need.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,  
on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2009.  
Davis, Commissioner

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "John Davis", written in a cursive style.