

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

Noranda Aluminum, Inc., et al.,	)	
Complainants,	)	
v.	)	Case No. EC-2014-0223
Union Electric Company d/b/a	)	
Ameren Missouri,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	

Noranda Aluminum, Inc., et al.,	)	
Complainants,	)	
v.	)	Case No. EC-2014-0224
Union Electric Company d/b/a	)	
Ameren Missouri,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	

**NOTICE OF COMMUNICATION**

Issue Date: May 28, 2014

Chairman Robert S. Kenney hereby files the attached letters from Sally Nance, CEO, Excelsior Springs Hospital and Loren Plotkin, President & CEO, M-D Building Products, regarding the above captioned cases.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert S. Kenney  
Chairman

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri  
On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2014



1700 Rainbow Boulevard  
Excelsior Springs, MO 64024

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May 19, 2014

Robert S. Kenney, Chairman  
Stephen M. Stoll, Commissioner  
William P. Kenney, Commissioner  
Daniel Y. Hall, Commissioner  
Scott T. Rupp, Commissioner

Missouri Public Service Commission  
200 Madison Street  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Honorable Chairman and Commissioners:

This letter is to express our opposition to Noranda Aluminum's request for a lower electric rate from Ameren Missouri.

If approved, the rate reduction for this company would cost other Ameren Missouri customers over \$500 million dollars over the next ten years.

Noranda claims that it needs the rate reduction due to financial hardship. We are a small Critical Access Hospital and will be burdened with tremendous payment cuts from Medicare and Medicaid over the next ten years. There are 35 Critical Access Hospitals in Missouri like us; seven are in the Ameren Missouri service area. These hospitals provide emergency and hospital services to rural areas that would otherwise have no access to lifesaving care. Most of us are community-owned and all are not-for-profit. We are suffering from financial hardship too and cannot afford to subsidize Noranda's energy cost.

It is estimated that our electric bill will increase over \$60,000 over the next ten years if you approve the rate reduction. We can't afford this increase and we will receive no direct benefit from the increased cost.

Noranda already has the lowest electric rate in Missouri. They are a Tennessee-based company and pays 60% less than what I do for electricity.

In rural areas, hospitals are the communities' life-line. We have eight Critical Access Hospitals in Missouri that are currently struggling and are in danger of closing. Please do not add to the financial stress we are already under by shifting the cost of this company's energy onto us.

We can't afford it and it simply isn't fair.

Sincerely,

Sally Nance, CEO  
Excelsior Springs Hospital



Loren A Plotkin  
President/CEO

May 19, 2014

Robert S. Kenney  
Chairman, Public Service Commission  
State of Missouri  
PO Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

Dear Chairman Kenney,

I am writing to ask you to deny Noranda's February 12th Public Service Commission (PSC) request for an electric rate reduction. This request will soon come to a vote and I urge you to vote 'NO'. Today, Missouri already has higher electric rates compared to other states in which we do business. Approval of the request will further compound this competitive disadvantage to doing business in Missouri.

M-D Building Products in Hayti, MO employs over one-hundred and fifty (150) local residents. Since the plant's inception as part of the Loxscreen Corporation in the mid-70s, the manufacturing facility has created stability and jobs in the "Bootheel". Today, we already pay a 15% premium on electricity in comparison to our plant in Oklahoma City. Noranda's request will negatively impact our annual rates (based on current usage) by another \$130,000. At that point, our comparable electric costs will equate to greater than a quarter-million dollars (\$250,000) annually, at which point we would seriously evaluate relocation. Relocation of our facility will reduce one-hundred and fifty (150) jobs in a corner of Missouri which desperately needs employment.

The PSC plays a vital role in the competitiveness of Missouri's business environment as it relates to electric rates. I am urging the commission to not only deny Noranda's request for a rate decrease, but also to evaluate overall competitiveness of Missouri's electric rates in relation to nearby states' rates.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Loren Plotkin'.

Loren Plotkin  
President & CEO