

Exhibit No.:  
Issue(s): Rate of Return  
Capital Structure  
Witness: Michael G. O'Bryan  
Sponsoring Party: Union Electric Company  
Type of Exhibit: Direct Testimony  
Case No.: GR-2010-\_\_\_\_  
Date Testimony Prepared: June 11, 2010

**MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**CASE NO. GR-2010-\_\_\_\_**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY**

**OF**

**MICHAEL G. O'BRYAN**

**ON**

**BEHALF OF**

**UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY  
d/b/a AmerenUE**

**St. Louis, Missouri  
June, 2010**

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1 **DIRECT TESTIMONY**

2 **OF**

3 **MICHAEL G. O'BRYAN**

4 **CASE NO. GR-2010-\_\_\_\_\_**

5  
6 **I. INTRODUCTION**

7 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

8 A. My name is Michael G. O'Bryan. My business address is One Ameren Plaza,  
9 1901 Chouteau Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63103.

10 **Q. By whom and in what capacity are you employed?**

11 A. I am employed by Ameren Services Company ("Ameren Services") as a Senior  
12 Capital Markets Specialist in Corporate Finance.

13 **Q. Please summarize your educational background and professional experience.**

14 A. Prior to accepting my current position at Ameren Services, I was employed by  
15 A.G. Edwards in St. Louis, Missouri as a Vice President in Investment Banking. I focused on  
16 business development and transaction execution with both investor-owned utilities and public  
17 power entities. I was also involved in structuring and analyzing fixed-income transactions for  
18 clients.

19 Upon receiving my undergraduate degree, I took a position at A.G. Edwards in  
20 Investment Banking as a Research Assistant and then Analyst, focusing on the investor-owned  
21 utilities sector. I was responsible for transaction support and marketing as well as general  
22 financial analysis of clients, capital markets transactions and mergers and acquisitions. I was  
23 later promoted to Senior Analyst where I focused to a greater degree on business development

1 and the execution of clients' transactions. I then moved into Debt Capital Markets concentrating  
2 solely on fixed-income execution and business development for clients in several different  
3 industries. I graduated *cum laude* with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration  
4 with a concentration in Finance from the University of Missouri – Columbia in 1992. I later  
5 earned an MBA from Saint Louis University's John Cook School of Business in 1998.

6 **Q. What are your responsibilities in your current position with Ameren**  
7 **Services?**

8 A. In my current position, I am involved in Ameren's corporate financing, cost of  
9 capital, financial analysis and modeling activities as well as monitoring capital markets and bank  
10 credit markets to stay current on rates, structures and opportunities. I communicate regularly  
11 with investment bankers and debt capital markets personnel to obtain market intelligence. I also  
12 closely follow the actions of the rating agencies for trends and changes in ratings methodology  
13 largely for internal ratings maintenance purposes.

14 **II. PURPOSE AND SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY**

15 **Q. What is the purpose of your direct testimony?**

16 A. The purpose of my testimony is to recommend an overall fair rate of return for  
17 Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE's ("AmerenUE" or "Company") gas utility business.  
18 I determine AmerenUE's capital structure, embedded cost of long-term debt, cost of short-term  
19 debt and embedded cost of preferred stock. I also calculate the overall fair rate of return applied  
20 to rate base which is utilized in AmerenUE's filing in this case. I do so by using the fair rate of  
21 return applicable to the common equity component of AmerenUE's capital structure as  
22 developed by AmerenUE witness Mr. Robert Hevert in his direct testimony submitted in this  
23 case.

1           **Q.     Have you prepared, or has there been prepared under your direction and**  
2 **supervision, any schedules relating to overall fair rate of return in this proceeding?**

3           A.     Yes, I am sponsoring Schedules MGO-G1 through MGO-G4 for that purpose.  
4 These schedules are based upon a twelve month period ending January 31, 2010. In addition,  
5 consistent with how these expenses were handled in the most recent AmerenUE electric rate case  
6 (Case No. ER-2010-0036), I am sponsoring Schedule MGO-G5 which calculates AmerenUE gas  
7 operation's pro-rata share of flotation costs from Ameren Corporation's most recent common  
8 equity offering. The schedules are designated as follows:

9           Schedule MGO-G1    Capital Structure / Weighted Average Cost of Capital

10          Schedule MGO-G2    Embedded Cost of Long-Term Debt

11          Schedule MGO-G3    Cost of Short-Term Debt

12          Schedule MGO-G4    Embedded Cost of Preferred Stock

13          Schedule MGO-G5    AmerenUE Gas Operations Flotation Costs Allocation

14                               **III.    METHODOLOGY AND REASONING**

15          **Q.     How did you calculate the overall fair rate of return or weighted average cost**  
16 **of capital for AmerenUE?**

17          A.     In order to derive AmerenUE's overall fair rate of return, I multiplied the relative  
18 weighting or proportion of each component of AmerenUE's capital structure by the cost  
19 developed for that component. I then summed these weighted costs by component to arrive at  
20 AmerenUE's overall fair rate of return or weighted average cost of capital.

21          **Q.     What is the primary standard for determining a fair rate of return?**

22          A.     The primary standard used in the determination of a fair rate of return is the cost  
23 of capital. This cost, the overall rate of return or weighted average cost of capital, must produce

1 sufficient earnings/cash flow when applied to AmerenUE's rate base at book value to enable the  
2 Company to accomplish the following:

- 3 1) maintain the financial integrity of its existing invested capital;  
4 2) maintain its creditworthiness; and  
5 3) attract sufficient capital on competitive terms to continue to provide a  
6 source of funds for continued investment and enable the Company to meet  
7 the needs of its customers.

8 **Q. Why must AmerenUE meet these requirements?**

9 A. Beyond the fact that these three standards are mandated by the landmark Bluefield  
10 and Hope U.S. Supreme Court decisions,<sup>1</sup> meeting these requirements is necessary in order for  
11 AmerenUE to effectively meet the gas utility services requirements of its customers and provide  
12 an adequate and reasonable return to its investors, debt holders and equity holder alike. These  
13 assets exist and are available for this purpose only because investors have entrusted their funds  
14 with AmerenUE and deemed an investment in the securities issued by the Company to be sound  
15 and capable of providing a competitive return.

16 AmerenUE must maintain its creditworthiness in order to continue to attract  
17 capital on a competitive basis. This is important to assure future opportunities for AmerenUE to  
18 replace capital and various securities which must be refinanced in the future at reasonable cost.  
19 Also, the ability of AmerenUE to attract new capital on competitive terms is critical in order for  
20 the Company to continue to replace and upgrade facilities used to meet the gas utility services  
21 needs of its customers.

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<sup>1</sup> Bluefield Water Works & Improvement Co. v. Public Service Commission of West Virginia, 262 U.S. 679 (1923)  
and Federal Power Commission v. Hope Natural Gas Company, 320 U.S. 391 (1944).

1                    **IV.    CAPITAL STRUCTURE AND COSTS OF CAPITAL**

2                    **Q.    Please describe the capital structure of AmerenUE.**

3                    A.    As outlined on Schedule MGO-G1, the capital structure of AmerenUE on  
4                    January 31, 2010 consisted of 47.262% long-term debt, no short-term debt, 1.480% preferred  
5                    stock and 51.258% common equity.

6                    **Q.    How were the balances of the components of AmerenUE's capital structure**  
7                    **determined?**

8                    A.    The balance of long-term debt, \$3,656,370,998, is the total carrying value of the  
9                    Company's long-term debt using the net proceeds method. The net proceeds method calculates  
10                   the carrying value by taking the indebtedness principal amount outstanding and subtracting the  
11                   unamortized discount, issuance expenses and any loss on reacquired debt.

12                   The zero balance of short-term debt is the last twelve-month average net short-  
13                   term debt – see Schedule MGO-G3. This approach measures the average monthly short-term  
14                   debt balance, less cash, cash equivalents and Construction Work in Progress (“CWIP”), over the  
15                   twelve months ended January 31, 2010. It recognizes that short-term debt balances can fluctuate  
16                   substantially during the year and includes in the Company's capital structure only that portion of  
17                   short-term debt which may represent permanent capital – i.e. the extent to which short-term debt  
18                   plays a continual role on the financing of long-term assets.

19                   The balance of preferred stock, \$114,502,040, is also the carrying value or net  
20                   proceeds amount of AmerenUE's preferred stock as found in the embedded cost calculation for  
21                   this component of capitalization.

1                   The balance of common equity, \$3,965,502,596, represents AmerenUE's actual  
2                   stated book value of common equity at January 31, 2010. This amount is typically adjusted for  
3                   Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income, which was zero as of January 31, 2010.

4                   **Q.     What is the embedded cost of AmerenUE's long-term debt?**

5                   A.     AmerenUE's embedded cost of long-term debt was 5.945% as of January 31,  
6                   2010. Schedule MGO-G2 provides the calculation of the embedded cost of long-term debt.  
7                   AmerenUE has \$207.5 million principal amount of variable rate environmental improvement  
8                   indebtedness (in various series) outstanding under which the interest rates are reset by a Dutch  
9                   auction process every 35 days. The effective cost used for this indebtedness for purposes of this  
10                  proceeding was derived using prevailing rates as of April 30, 2010 for these securities including  
11                  related auction broker/dealer fees.

12                  **Q.     Did you make any adjustments to AmerenUE's long-term debt balance?**

13                  A.     I did not include the Company's obligations under capital leases related to the  
14                  Chapter 100 "financing" of its Penon Creek (City of Bowling Green) and Audrain County gas-  
15                  fired generating facilities. These transactions and related capital leases did not generate any  
16                  proceeds nor were they a source of new capital for the Company.

17                  **Q.     What is the embedded cost of AmerenUE's preferred stock?**

18                  A.     AmerenUE's embedded cost of preferred stock was 5.189% as of January 31,  
19                  2010. Schedule MGO-G4 provides the calculation of the embedded cost of preferred stock.  
20                  Using the net proceeds method of calculating the balance of preferred stock, the balance  
21                  outstanding as of January 31, 2010 was \$114,502,040.



1           **Q. Did you consider expenses associated with AmerenUE's issuance of preferred**  
2 **stock in developing the embedded cost of this component of the Company's capital**  
3 **structure?**

4           A. Yes, I did. I included expenses associated with the issuance of preferred stock,  
5 including discount and premium, plus any loss incurred in acquiring/redeeming prior series, in  
6 the embedded cost calculation. These costs are illustrated in the cost calculations shown on  
7 Schedule MGO-G4. Unlike similar expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of long-  
8 term debt, for accounting purposes these expenses are not amortized over the life of the  
9 particular series of preferred stock due to the perpetual nature of this form of capitalization.  
10 Nonetheless, for economic purposes it is reasonable to recognize these costs in establishing an  
11 overall fair rate of return for the Company.

12           **Q. In what manner will AmerenUE obtain debt and preferred stock capital in**  
13 **the future?**

14           A. AmerenUE expects to continue to issue its own long-term debt and preferred  
15 stock securities in the external capital markets. Short-term borrowings can be obtained from the  
16 capital or bank markets, Ameren Corporation, or through Ameren Corporation's Utility Money  
17 Pool, depending on the best borrowing rates and availability.

18           **Q. What is the cost of common equity for AmerenUE?**

19           A. In his direct testimony in this case, Mr. Hevert develops and supports a fair rate of  
20 return on common equity for AmerenUE's gas utility operations of 10.50%. Therefore, for  
21 purposes of determining the overall fair rate of return for AmerenUE in this proceeding, I use  
22 10.50% as the Company's cost of common equity.





**Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE**  
**Weighted Average Cost of Capital**

at 1/31/2010:

<b>CAPITAL COMPONENT</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>PERCENT OF TOTAL</b>	<b>COST</b>	<b>WEIGHTED COST</b>
Long-Term Debt	\$3,656,370,998	47.262%	5.945%	2.810%
Short-Term Debt	\$0	0.000%	0.000%	0.000%
Preferred Stock	\$114,502,040	1.480%	5.189%	0.077%
Common Equity	\$3,965,502,596	51.258%	10.500%	5.382%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,736,375,634</b>	<b>100.000%</b>		<b>8.269%</b>

**Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE  
Embedded Cost of Long-Term Debt**

At January 31, 2010

SERIES C1	COUPON (a) C2	ISSUED C3	MATURITY C4	PRINCIPAL C5	FACE AMOUNT OUTSTANDING C6	UNAMORTIZED BALANCES			CARRYING VALUE C10	ANNUALIZED COUPON INT. C11	ANNUALIZED AMORTIZATION			ANNUALIZED INT. EXP. C15	EMBEDDED COST C16
						DISC/(PREM) C7	ISSUE EXP. C8	LOSS C9			DISC/(PREM) C12	ISSUE EXP C13	LOSS C14		
Senior Secured Notes	5.250%	22-Aug-02	01-Sep-12	\$173,000,000	\$173,000,000	\$52,297	\$316,417			\$9,082,500	\$20,244	\$122,484			
Senior Secured Notes	4.650%	07-Oct-03	01-Oct-13	\$200,000,000	\$200,000,000	\$145,684	\$581,900			\$9,300,000	\$39,732	\$158,700			
Senior Secured Notes	5.500%	18-May-04	15-May-14	\$104,000,000	\$104,000,000	\$153,660	\$323,544			\$5,720,000	\$35,460	\$74,664			
Senior Secured Notes	4.750%	09-Apr-03	01-Apr-15	\$114,000,000	\$114,000,000	\$80,042	\$390,724			\$5,415,000	\$15,492	\$75,624			
Senior Secured Notes	5.400%	08-Dec-05	01-Feb-16	\$260,000,000	\$260,000,000	\$441,796	\$1,148,801			\$14,040,000	\$72,624	\$188,844			
Senior Secured Notes	6.400%	15-Jun-07	15-Jun-17	\$425,000,000	\$425,000,000	\$277,324	\$2,331,444			\$27,200,000	\$37,392	\$314,352			
Senior Secured Notes	6.000%	08-Apr-08	01-Apr-18	\$250,000,000	\$250,000,000	\$616,518	\$1,518,314			\$15,000,000	\$75,492	\$185,916			
Senior Secured Notes	5.100%	28-Jul-03	01-Aug-18	\$200,000,000	\$200,000,000	\$60,078	\$975,630			\$10,200,000	\$7,068	\$114,780			
Senior Secured Notes	6.700%	19-Jun-08	01-Feb-19	\$450,000,000	\$450,000,000	\$1,121,148	\$2,835,108			\$30,150,000	\$124,572	\$315,012			
Senior Secured Notes	5.100%	23-Sep-04	01-Oct-19	\$300,000,000	\$300,000,000	\$83,056	\$1,553,356			\$15,300,000	\$8,592	\$160,692			
Senior Secured Notes	5.000%	27-Jan-05	01-Feb-20	\$85,000,000	\$85,000,000	\$448,800	\$476,520			\$4,250,000	\$44,880	\$47,652			
First Mortgage Bonds	5.450%	15-Oct-93	01-Oct-28	\$44,000,000	\$44,000,000	\$182,112	\$334,432			\$2,398,000	\$9,756	\$17,916			
Senior Secured Notes	5.500%	10-Mar-03	15-Mar-34	\$184,000,000	\$184,000,000	\$1,597,900	\$1,402,440			\$10,120,000	\$66,120	\$58,032			
Senior Secured Notes	5.300%	21-Jul-05	01-Aug-37	\$300,000,000	\$300,000,000	\$873,840	\$2,562,450			\$15,900,000	\$31,776	\$93,180			
Senior Secured Notes	8.450%	20-Mar-09	15-Mar-39	\$350,000,000	\$350,000,000	\$1,132,950	\$3,379,950			\$29,575,000	\$38,844	\$115,884			
Subordinated Debentures	7.690%	16-Dec-96	15-Dec-36	\$65,500,000	\$65,500,000	\$385,662	\$89,148			\$5,036,950	\$14,328	\$3,312			
Environmental Improvement, Series 1992	0.543%	01-Dec-92	01-Dec-22	\$47,500,000	\$47,500,000		\$362,147			\$257,925		\$97,800			
Environmental Improvement, Series 1998 ABC	1.056%	04-Sep-98	01-Sep-33	\$160,000,000	\$160,000,000		\$1,643,743			\$1,690,300		\$391,452			
<b>TOTAL LONG-TERM DEBT</b>				<b>\$3,712,000,000</b>	<b>\$3,712,000,000</b>	<b>\$7,652,867</b>	<b>\$22,226,068</b>	<b>\$25,750,067</b>	<b>\$3,656,370,998</b>	<b>\$210,635,675</b>	<b>\$642,372</b>	<b>\$2,536,296</b>	<b>\$3,548,280</b>	<b>\$217,362,623</b>	<b>5.945%</b>

Carrying Value = Face Amount Outstanding less Unamortized Discount, Issuance Expenses, and Loss on Reacquired Debt

C10 = C6 - C7 - C8 - C9

Annualized Interest Expense = Annual Coupon Interest plus Annual Amortization of Discount, Issuance Expenses, and Loss on Reacquired Debt

C15 = C11 + C12 + C13 + C14

Embedded Cost = Annualized Interest Expense divided by Carrying Value

C16 = C15 / C10

(a) Coupon rate for variable rate auction securities reflects prevailing rates as of 4/30/10 and includes ongoing broker dealer fees.

**Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE  
Cost of Short-term Debt**

MONTH C1	BALANCE OF SHORT-TERM DEBT (a) C2	BALANCE OF TOTAL CWIP C3	BALANCE OF CWIP ACCRUING AFUDC C4	NET AMOUNT OUTSTANDING C5	INTEREST RATE C6
February 2009	\$533,200,000	\$921,848,042	\$923,615,920	\$0	1.184%
March	\$270,000,000	\$943,774,020	\$919,212,603	\$0	1.122%
April	\$291,600,000	\$1,005,301,389	\$904,934,162	\$0	1.050%
May	\$377,000,000	\$1,009,251,434	\$942,616,402	\$0	0.928%
June	\$429,800,000	\$994,051,873	\$935,996,231	\$0	5.118%
July	\$319,800,000	\$983,146,622	\$938,371,524	\$0	3.107%
August	\$295,800,000	\$1,019,542,409	\$930,393,144	\$0	3.081%
September	\$0	\$1,080,097,600	\$968,836,847	\$0	--
October	\$0	\$1,124,749,504	\$965,154,859	\$0	--
November	\$0	\$1,068,451,669	\$931,233,564	\$0	--
December	\$0	\$1,163,059,062	\$933,442,289	\$0	--
January 2010	\$0	\$1,137,667,477	\$965,607,760	\$0	--
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>\$209,766,667</b>	<b>\$1,037,578,425</b>	<b>\$938,284,609</b>	<b>\$0</b>	

C5 Net Amount Outstanding = Balance of Short-Term Debt less Balance of CWIP Accruing AFUDC

C5 = C2 - C4

(a) Short-term debt amounts are net of cash and short-term investments. Negative amounts are excluded.

**Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE  
Embedded Cost of Preferred Stock**

at January 31, 2010

SERIES, TYPE, PAR C1	DIVIDEND C2	ISSUED C3	MATURITY C4	SHARES OUTSTANDING C5	PAR ISSUED/ OUTSTANDING C6	PREMIUM C7	ISSUANCE EXPENSE/DISCOUNT C8	NET PROCEEDS C9	ANNUAL DIVIDEND C10	EMBEDDED COST C11
\$4.50 Series, Perpetual, \$100 par	\$4.500	01-May-41	-	213,595	\$21,359,500	(\$825,000)	\$440,294	\$21,744,206	\$961,178	
\$5.50 Series, Perpetual, \$100 par	\$5.500	01-Oct-41	-	14,000	\$1,400,000			\$1,400,000	\$77,000	
\$3.70 Series, Perpetual, \$100 par	\$3.700	01-Oct-45	-	40,000	\$4,000,000	(\$70,000)	\$69,396	\$4,000,604	\$148,000	
\$3.50 Series, Perpetual, \$100 par	\$3.500	01-May-46	-	130,000	\$13,000,000	(\$910,000)	\$252,772	\$13,657,228	\$455,000	
\$4.30 Series, Perpetual, \$100 par	\$4.300	01-Jul-46	-	40,000	\$4,000,000			\$4,000,000	\$172,000	
\$4.75 Series, Perpetual, \$100 par	\$4.750	01-Oct-49	-	20,000	\$2,000,000			\$2,000,000	\$95,000	
\$4.00 Series, Perpetual, \$100 par	\$4.000	01-Nov-49	-	150,000	\$15,000,000	(\$384,000)	\$326,896	\$15,057,104	\$600,000	
\$4.56 Series, Perpetual, \$100 par	\$4.560	01-Nov-63	-	200,000	\$20,000,000	(\$266,000)	\$297,633	\$19,968,367	\$912,000	
\$7.64 Series, Perpetual, \$100 par	\$7.640	01-Jan-93	-	330,000	\$33,000,000		\$325,469	\$32,674,531	\$2,521,200	
<b>TOTAL PREFERRED STOCK</b>					<b>\$113,759,500</b>	<b>(\$2,455,000)</b>	<b>\$1,712,460</b>	<b>\$114,502,040</b>	<b>\$5,941,378</b>	<b>5.189%</b>

issuance expenses, discount/premium, and any loss incurred in acquiring/redeeming prior series are not amortized due to the perpetual nature of the company's preferred stock

Net Proceeds = Par Value Outstanding plus Premium less Issuance Expense and Discount

$$C9 = C6 + C7 - C8$$

Embedded Cost = Annual Dividend divided by Net Proceeds

$$C11 = C10 / C9$$

AmerenUE  
Calculation of Net Plant allocation factor By Utility  
And Allocation of Flotation Costs  
at January 31, 2010

	Electric Plant	Gas Plant	Total
	<u>In Service</u>	<u>In Service</u>	<u>In Service</u>
Plant	12,804,445,345	363,495,564	13,167,940,909
Post Op	116,730,946	-	116,730,946
subtotal	12,921,176,291	363,495,564	13,284,671,855
less: ARO bal.	23,095,142	-	23,095,142
Total in Service	12,898,081,149	363,495,564	13,261,576,713
	<u>Reserve</u>	<u>Reserve</u>	<u>Reserve</u>
Plant	5,497,791,878	117,485,230	5,615,277,108
Post Op	62,340,828	-	62,340,828
subtotal	5,560,132,706	117,485,230	5,677,617,936
less: ARO bal.	5,780,806	-	5,780,806
Total Reserve	5,554,351,900	117,485,230	5,671,837,130
Net plant balance	\$ 7,343,729,249	\$ 246,010,334	\$ 7,589,739,583
Factor	96.76%	3.24%	100.00%
Allocation of Flotation Costs			
	\$ 13,256,120	\$ 443,880	\$ 13,700,000
Allocation of Flotation Cost Annual Amortization			
	\$ 2,651,224	\$ 88,776	\$ 2,740,000