

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
JEFFERSON CITY
March 31, 2000**

CASE NO: GR-2000-512

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Enclosed find certified copy of an ORDER in the above-numbered case(s).

Sincerely,



Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Union Electric Company)	
d/b/a AmerenUE for Authority to File)	Case No. GR-2000-512
Tariffs Increasing Rates for Gas Service)	Tariff No. 200000747
Provided to Customers in the Company's)	
Missouri Service Area.)	

ORDER ADOPTING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

On February 18, 2000, Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE (AmerenUE) submitted to the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) tariffs reflecting increased rates for natural gas service provided to customers in the Missouri service area of AmerenUE. The proposed tariffs were assigned tariff number 200000747 and bear a requested effective date of April 2, 2000. The Commission, by order adopted March 3, 2000, suspended the proposed tariffs until January 27, 2001.

Inter alia, that same order set an intervention date of March 23, 2000. On March 28, 2000, Midwest Gas Users' Association (Midwest) late-filed its application to intervene, which was granted March 31, 2000.

On March 30, 2000, AmerenUE, Staff and Office of the Public Counsel (Public Counsel) filed a joint proposed procedural schedule. Those parties indicated that Midwest had no objection to the proposed procedural schedule. The parties also requested that the Commission adopt the proposed procedural schedule, including specifically a change

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in the due date of Staff, Public Counsel, and any intervenors' responses to the test year and update period recommendation for known and measurable changes to May 1, 2000.

The Commission adopts the proposed procedural schedule, with the minor change of replacing the hearing memorandum with two different pleadings, and finds that these conditions should be applied:

(A) The Commission will require the prefiling of testimony as defined in Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.130. All parties shall comply with this rule, including the requirement that testimony be filed on line-numbered pages. The practice of prefiling testimony is designed to give parties notice of the claims, contentions and evidence in issue and to avoid unnecessary objections and delays caused by allegations of unfair surprise at the hearing.

(B) Pursuant to Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.130(15), testimony and schedules shall not be filed under seal and treated as proprietary or highly confidential unless the Commission has first established a protective order. Any testimony or schedule filed without a protective order first being established shall be considered public information.

(C) The parties shall agree upon and the Staff shall file a list of the issues to be heard, the witnesses to appear on each day of the hearing and the order in which they shall be called, and the order of cross-examination for each witness. Any issue not contained in this list of issues will be viewed as uncontested and not requiring resolution by the Commission.

(D) Each party shall file a statement of its position on each disputed issue. Such statement shall be simple and concise, and shall not contain argument about why the party believes its position to be the correct one.

(E) The Commission's general policy provides for the filing of the transcript within two weeks after the hearing. If any party seeks to expedite the filing of the transcript, such request shall be tendered in writing to the regulatory law judge at least five days prior to the date of the hearing.

(F) All pleadings, briefs and amendments shall be filed in accordance with Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.080. Briefs shall follow the same list of issues as filed in the case and shall set forth and cite the proper portions of the record concerning the remaining unresolved issues that are to be decided by the Commission.

(G) All parties are required to bring an adequate number of copies of exhibits which they intend to offer into evidence at the hearing. If an exhibit has been prefiled, only three copies of the exhibit are necessary for the court reporter. If an exhibit has not been prefiled, the party offering it should bring, in addition to the three copies for the court reporter, copies for the five Commissioners, the regulatory law judge, and all counsel.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the following procedural schedule is adopted for this case:

Direct testimony of AmerenUE Test year recommendation and true-up request	-	April 3, 2000 3:00 PM
Staff, Public Counsel, and Midwest file response to test year and update period recommendation for known and measurable changes	-	May 1, 2000 3:00 PM
Staff, Public Counsel, and Midwest file direct testimony on revenue requirement issues	-	August 8, 2000 3:00 PM
Staff, Public Counsel, and Midwest file direct testimony on rate design issues	-	August 15, 2000 3:00 PM
Prehearing conference	-	August 28, 2000 - September 1, 2000 10:00 AM first day
All parties submit list of issues	-	September 8, 2000 3:00 PM
All parties file rebuttal testimony	-	September 26, 2000 3:00 PM
All parties file surrebuttal testimony	-	October 17, 2000 3:00 PM
List of issues; order of witnesses and cross examination	-	October 23, 2000 3:00 PM
Statement of the position of each party on each issue	-	October 23, 2000 3:00 PM
Evidentiary Hearing	-	October 30, 2000 - November 3, 2000 9:00 AM each day

2. That the evidentiary hearing will be held in the hearing room of the Missouri Public Service Commission in Jefferson City, Missouri.

Any person with special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Missouri Public Service Commission at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing at one of the following numbers: Consumer Services Hotline -- 1-800-392-4211, or TDD Hotline -- 1-800-829-7541.

3. That this order shall become effective on April 10, 2000.

BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Dale Hardy Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**

(S E A L)

Bill Hopkins, Senior Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant to
4 CSR 240-2.120(1), (November 30, 1995)
and Section 386.240, RSMo 1994.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 31st day of March, 2000.

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

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and
I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City,
Missouri, this 31st day of March 2000.

Dale Hardy Roberts

**Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**

