BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Union Electric Company)	
d/b/a AmerenUE's Purchased Gas)	Case No. GR-2009-0337
Adjustment (PGA) Factors.)	

RESPONSE TO STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri (Ameren Missouri or Company) and for its *Response to Staff Recommendation*, states as follows:

- 1. On December 20, 2010, the Staff (Staff) of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) filed the *Staff Recommendation* in this case.
- 2. The *Staff Recommendation* did not propose any adjustments to the Company's filed Actual Cost Adjustment (ACA) balances. It did, however, ask the Commission to hold the case open so that Staff could continue to monitor the Company's pursuit of refunds from payments made to Missouri Pipeline Company and Missouri Gas Company. Ameren Missouri continues to diligently pursue these refunds and has no objection to holding this case open.
- 3. The *Staff Recommendation* discussed having the Company reconsider its target ending October storage balance on Natural Gas Pipeline Company (NGPL) to provide more flexibility for injections of additional natural gas if October or November are warmer than normal. The Company still plans to fill its NGPL storage to approximately 100% by the end of October and believes that course of action is prudent. However, the Company has changed how we manage the NGPL system with baseload and swing supply in order to lessen the likelihood that it will have to sell gas in the last quarter of the year. We believe this addresses Staff's concern.

4. The *Staff Recommendation* encouraged the Company to continue to evaluate its

capacity needs on its pipelines. The Company agrees with this recommendation and is

evaluating its capacity needs as well as looking for other options to meet the supply requirements

of our system.

5. The Staff Recommendation asked the Company to assess and document the

effectiveness of its hedges for the 2009-2010 ACA and beyond. Ameren Missouri believes it

already provides most of this information for its hedges and has no objection to continuing to do

so. Additionally, it will work with Staff to determine if additional information can be provided

so that Staff can evaluate its hedging practices. Of course, it should be noted that any evaluation

of the Company's hedging strategy should be conducted with the goal of hedging in mind. That

is, that hedging is not done with the goal of beating the market price but rather to provide price

stability for our customers. Ameren Missouri believes it has been very successful in meeting that

goal.

WHEREFORE, Ameren Missouri respectfully submits this response to the Staff

Recommendation filed on December 20, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY,

d/b/a Ameren Missouri

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing *Response to Staff Recommendation* was served on the following parties via electronic mail (e-mail) on this 21st day of January, 2011.

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