BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Missourt Fublic Service Commission

In the Matter of the Application of Union) Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE and Ozark Border Electric Cooperative for Written Territorial Approval of a Agreement Designating the Boundaries of Each Electric Service Supplier within Portions of Bollinger, Butler, Carter, Dunklin, Iron, Madison, New Madrid, Reynolds, Ripley, Stoddard and Wayne Counties, Authorizing the sale, Transfer, and Assignment of Certain Electric Distribution Facilities, Easements and Other Rights, Generally Constituting the Applicants' Electric Utility Business Associated with its Customers Transferred Pursuant to the Territorial Agreement.

Case No. EO-99-599

PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

COME NOW the undersigned parties to this proceeding, and respectfully state as follows:

1. On June 16, 1999, Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE ("AmerenUE"), a regulated utility, and Ozark Border Electric Cooperative, Inc. ("Cooperative"), hereinafter collectively known as "the Applicants", filed a Joint Application requesting that the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"): a) approve a Territorial Agreement between the Applicants, based on a finding that the designated service areas are not detrimental to the public interest; b) authorize the Applicants to perform in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Territorial Agreement; c) find that the Territorial Agreement shall not impair AmerenUE's Certificates of Convenience and Necessity, except as specifically limited by the Territorial Agreement; d) waive the Commission's Billing Practices Rule and allow the Applicants to disconnect electric service to a customer who fails to pay the final bill of the other Applicant; e) grant Applicants the authority to change electric service providers for certain customers, pursuant to the terms of the Territorial Agreement; f) grant Applicants the authority to transfer certain property, pursuant to the Territorial Agreement; g) issue an order authorizing AmerenUE to extinguish all Certificates of Convenience and Necessity under which AmerenUE operates its retail electric business in Butler County and land sections in Dunklin, New Madrid, and Stoddard Counties; h) authorize AmerenUE to terminate its retail electric service to the public in Butler County and said land sections of Dunklin, New Madrid, and Stoddard Counties as a public utility subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission, and, in connection therewith, relieving AmerenUE of all public utility obligations with respect to its retail electric utility business in Butler County and said land sections of Dunklin, New Madrid, and Stoddard Counties, pursuant to said Certificates of Convenience and Necessity; and i) terminate all other duties, obligations, and conditions which have resulted from or have been imposed by law or because of the Commission's jurisdiction over AmerenUE as an electric utility with respect to AmerenUE's retail electric business in Butler county and said land sections in Dunklin, New Madrid, and Stoddard Counties.

2. On June 24, 1999, the Commission issued its Order and Notice, which, *inter alia*:
a) directed that the Applicants provide notice of their proposal to affected customers, and that appropriate Commission departments notify other interested parties; b) established July 14, 1999 as the filing deadline for applications to intervene in this docket; c) stated that the Applicants, the Commission Staff, and the Office of the Public Counsel (hereinafter collectively known as "the Parties") may file a procedural schedule in this docket by 3:00 p.m. on July 16, 1999; and

d) established, in the absence of a request to the contrary, August 23, 1999 (9:00 a.m.) as the hearing date for this matter.

- 3. On July 9, 1999, the Office of the Public Counsel filed a Request for Local Public Hearing. On July 13, 1999, the Applicants filed copies of the letters sent to their respective customers affected by the Territorial Agreement. Also on July 13th, the City of Poplar Bluff, Missouri filed its Application to Intervene, Objection to Portions of Proposed Territorial Agreement, and Request for Show Cause Order.
- 4. The Parties are in agreement that it would premature to propose a detailed procedural schedule at this time. The Parties further agree that, in light of the pending situation regarding intervenors and the strong potential for resolution of at least some of the issues in this case, the scheduling of a pre-hearing conference is appropriate. It is anticipated that such a conference will go a long way toward clarifying the situation, and that thereafter, the Parties will be much better positioned to propose a more detailed procedural schedule, should that be necessary.
- 5. Accordingly, the Parties hereby propose the following abbreviated Procedural Schedule, which will allow compliance with the statutorily mandated 120-day period for action by the Commission.

Procedural Schedule

Pre-hearing Conference

July 30, 1999

Evidentiary Hearing

August 23, 1999 (9:00 a.m.)

WHEREFORE, the Parties recommend that the Commission issue an order adopting the Procedural Schedule proposed above.

Respectfully submitted,

DANA K. JOYCE
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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered to all counsel of record as shown on the attached service list this 16th day of July 1999.

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SERVICE LIST FOR CASE NO: EO-99-599 July 16, 1999

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