

**STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
JEFFERSON CITY**

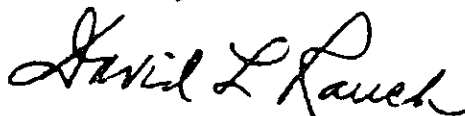
**JUNE 11, 1996**

**CASE NO: EM-96-149**

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

Sincerely,



**David L. Rauch  
Executive Secretary**

**Uncertified Copy:**

Earl Eakins, 1649 State Highway N, Chaffee, MO 63740  
Charles J. Fishman, President, Trigen-St. Louis Energy Corporation, One Ashley Place,  
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Robert B. Fancher, Vice President-Finance, Empire District Electric Co., 602 Joplin, P.O. Box 127,  
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Joe Lakshmanan, Illinois Power Company, 500 South 27th St., P.O. Box 511,  
Decatur, Illinois 62525  
F. Jay Cummings, Vice President, Rates & Regulatory Affairs, Southern Union Gas Co.,

**STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a Session of the Public Service  
Commission held at its office  
in Jefferson City on the 11th  
day of June, 1996.

In the Matter of the Application of        )  
Union Electric Company for an Order        )  
Authorizing (1) Certain Merger            )  
Transactions Involving Union Electric     )  
Company; (2) the Transfer of Certain        )  
Assets, Real Estate, Leased Property,     )  
Easements and Contractual Agreements     )  
to Central Illinois Public Service         )  
Company; and (3) in Connection,            )  
Therewith Certain Other Related          )  
Transactions.                                 )

Case No. EM-96-149

**ORDER REGARDING THIRD MOTION TO COMPEL**

On November 7, 1995, Union Electric Company (UE) filed an application with the Commission requesting an order from the Commission authorizing certain merger transactions. On November 15, 1995, the Commission issued an order and notice, providing notice of this proposal to the public and providing for intervention of proper parties. The Commission adopted a proposed procedural schedule in this matter on January 22, 1996.

On May 29, 1996, the Office of the Public Counsel (OPC) filed its third motion to compel UE to answer a series of data requests to which UE objected. UE filed its answer on June 4, 1996, stating that it currently objects to two of the subject data requests, those being numbers 675 and 676, attached to this order for reference as Attachment A.

The OPC, in the above-referenced request, seeks substantial information regarding the analyses of the costs and benefits of a new UE automatic meter reading program. In its motion the OPC maintains that the information is relevant and important in determining whether UE's analysis of the costs and benefits of the proposed merger are consistent with the

method of analyses of the costs and benefits of other UE long-term investments.

In its response, UE objects to the data requests on the basis that the stated intent, a comparison of methods of evaluating the costs and benefits of long-term investments, would yield little useful data, as the situations are vastly different. UE requests the Commission sustain its objection to data requests numbered 675 and 676 as little or no relevant and useful information would be obtained.

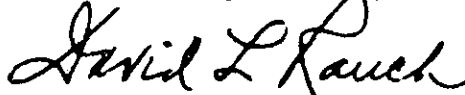
The Commission has considered the arguments of both parties in this matter and the Commission finds little or no relevant comparison, for purposes of this case, between the analysis of the costs and benefits of the UE automated meter reading program and the proposed corporate merger. The Commission is of the opinion that little, if anything, of relevance or other probative value would be gained from ordering compliance with the instant data requests. The Commission will, therefore, deny the OPC's third motion to compel.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. That, for the reasons as set out above, the third motion to compel of the Office of the Public Counsel is hereby denied.
2. That this order shall become effective on the date hereof.

(SEAL)

**BY THE COMMISSION**



**David L. Rauch**  
**Executive Secretary**

Zobrist, Chm., McClure,  
Kincheloe and Drainer, CC., Concur.  
Crumpton, C., Absent.  
ALJ: Derque

**Data Information Request  
from Office of Public Counsel to  
Union Electric  
Case No. EM-96-149**

**Information Requested:**

Please provide a copy of all documents created by or for UE that include descriptions or analyses of the costs and benefits of installing a new automated meter reading (AMR) system. This DR should be interpreted to include documents pertaining to the specific AMR system that UE has decided to install, as well as documents pertaining to the costs and benefits of AMR systems in general.

**Information Provided:**

Union Electric Company objects to this data request as it seeks material which is neither relevant nor reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of evidence relevant to the merger proceeding.

No. 676

**Data Information Request  
from Office of Public Counsel to  
Union Electric  
Case No. EM-96-149**

**Information Requested:**

How much will UE's new AMR system cost and how long will it take to recoup that cost? Please provide a copy of all workpapers that support your answer.

**Information Provided:**

Union Electric Company objects to this data request as it seeks material which is neither relevant nor reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of evidence relevant to the merger proceeding.

*Derque / Hagemeyer*

CASE NO. EM-96-149

*H. J. [Signature]*

Chairman

*[Signature]*

Commissioner

*[Signature]*

Commissioner

*absent*

Commissioner

*[Signature]*

Commissioner

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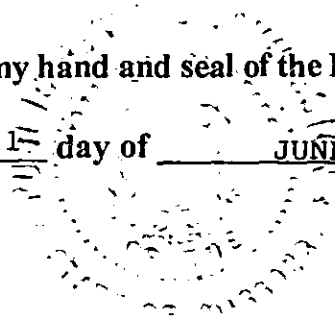
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**STATE OF MISSOURI**

**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 11<sup>th</sup> day of JUNE, 1996.



*David L Rauch*

**David L. Rauch**  
Executive Secretary