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Issues: Rate of Return

Witness: Ronald L. Bible
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MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

UTILITY SERVICES DIVISION

FILED³

DIRECT TESTIMONY

MAR 0 1 2002

OF

Service Commission

RONALD L. BIBLE

UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a AMERENUE

CASE NO. EC-2002-1

Jefferson City, Missouri March 2002

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1		DIRECT TESTIMONY
2		OF
3		RONALD L. BIBLE
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7	Q.	Please state your name, occupation and business address.
8	A.	My name is Ronald L. Bible. I am employed by the Missouri Public
9	Service Com	mission (MoPSC) as the Manager of the Financial Analysis Department.
10	My business a	address is 200 Madison, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.
11	Q.	Please describe your educational and professional background.
12	A.	In 1981, I earned a Master of Business Administration degree with an
13	emphasis in	Finance and Investments from the Southern Illinois University at
14	Edwardsville,	Illinois. In 1976, I earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Science from
15	Colorado Stat	e University, Ft. Collins, Colorado.
16	Q.	What is your work experience?
17	A.	I was employed by Credit Union National Association from 1995 to 1997
18	and by Am	erican Express from 1991 to 1995 as a Financial and Investment
19	Analyst/Plann	er. Prior to that, I was with Voluntary Hospitals of America and Hospital
20	Corporation of	of America where I performed statistical and financial analysis. Previous to
21	these position	s, I was an officer in the United States Air Force and was responsible for a
22	unit that prov	ided statistical analysis.
23	Q.	Have you previously filed testimony before this Commission?

- A. Yes. I have testified before the MoPSC a number of times addressing issues including rate of return, proposed financings, and merger and acquisition issues. I have previously filed testimony in this case.
 - Q. What is the purpose of your testimony in this case?
- A. My testimony is presented to provide a recommendation to the Commission as to a fair and reasonable rate of return (cost of capital) to be applied to the rate base for Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE (AmerenUE). I address the same issues I addressed in my previous filing for this case.
- Q. Have you prepared any schedules to your analysis of the cost of capital for AmerenUE?
- A. Yes. I am sponsoring a study entitled "An Analysis of the Cost of Capital for Union Electric d/b/a AmerenUE, Case No. EC-2002-1" consisting of 26 schedules which are attached to this direct testimony (see Schedule 1).
 - Q. What do you conclude is the cost of capital for AmerenUE?
- A. My analysis leads me to conclude that the cost of capital for AmerenUE is in the range of 8.01 to 8.61 percent.
- Q. What range are you proposing for the return on common equity (ROE) for AmerenUE?
- A. I estimate AmerenUE's return on common equity to be in the range of 8.91 percent to 9.91 percent with a midpoint of 9.41 percent.

Economic and Legal Rationale for Regulation

Q. Why are the prices charged to customers by utilities such as AmerenUE regulated?

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A primary purpose of price regulation is to restrain the exercise of Α. monopoly power. Monopoly power represents the ability to charge excessive or unduly discriminatory prices. Monopoly power may arise from the presence of economies of scale and/or from the granting of a monopoly franchise.

For services that operate efficiently and have the ability to achieve economies of scale, a monopoly is the most efficient form of market organization. Utility companies can supply service at lower costs if the duplication of facilities by competitors is avoided. This allows the use of larger and more efficient equipment which results in lower per unit costs. For instance, it may cost more for two or more competing companies to maintain duplicate electric distribution systems to provide competing residential services to one household. This situation could result in price wars and lead to unsatisfactory and perhaps irregular service. For these reasons, exclusive rights may be granted to a single utility to provide service within a given territory. This also creates a more stable environment for operating the utility company. Utility regulation acts as a substitute for the economic control of market competition and allows the consumer to receive adequate utility service at a reasonable price.

Electric distribution utility companies such as AmerenUE provide electric distribution services essentially under a monopoly franchise. Therefore, it is clear that AmerenUE has monopoly power.

Another purpose of price regulation is to provide the utility company with an opportunity to earn a fair return on its capital, particularly on investments made as a result of a monopoly franchise.

Q. What is your understanding of the legal basis you must use when
determining a fair and reasonable return for a public utility?
A. Several landmark decisions by the U.S. Supreme Court provide the legal
framework for regulation and for what constitutes a fair and reasonable rate of return for
a public utility. Listed below are some of the cases:
1. Munn v. People of Illinois (1877),
2. Bluefield Water Works and Improvement Company (1923),
3. Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America (1942), and
4. Hope Natural Gas Company (1944).
In the case of Munn v. People of Illinois, 94 U.S. 113 (1877), the Court
found that:
when private property is "affected with a public interest, it ceases to be <i>juris privati</i> only" Property does become clothed with a public interest when used in a manner to make it of public consequence, and affect the community at large. When, therefore, one devotes his property to a use in which the public has an interest, he, in effect, grants to the public an interest in that use, and must submit to be controlled by the public for the common good, to the extent of the interest he has thus created. <u>Id</u> at 126.
The Munn decision is important because it states the conceptual basis for
regulation of both utility and non-utility industries.
In the case of Bluefield Water Works and Improvement Company v. Public
Service Commission of the State of West Virginia, 262 U.S. 679 (1923), the Supreme
Court ruled that a fair return would be:
 A return "generally being made at the same time" in that "general part of the country"; A return achieved by other companies with "corresponding risks and uncertainties";

1 2 3	3. A return "sufficient to assure confidence in the financial soundness of the utility"; and
4 5	 A fair and reasonable return can change with economic conditions and capital markets.
6	The Court specifically stated:
7	A public utility is entitled to such rates as will permit it to earn a
8	return on the value of the property which it employs for the
9	convenience of the public equal to that generally being made at the
10	same time and in the same general part of the country on
11	investments in other business undertakings which are attended by
12	corresponding risks and uncertainties; but it has no constitutional
13 14	right to profits such as are realized or anticipated in highly profitable enterprises or speculative ventures. The return should be
15	reasonably sufficient to assure confidence in the financial
16	soundness of the utility and should be adequate, under efficient and
17	economical management, to maintain and support its credit and
18	enable it to raise the money necessary for the proper discharge of
19	its public duties. A rate of return may be reasonable at one time
20	and become too high or too low by changes affecting opportunities
21	for investment, the money market and business conditions
22	generally. <u>Id</u> at 692-3.
23	
24	In Federal Power Commission et al. v. Natural Gas Pipeline Company of
25	America et al., 315 U.S. 575 (1942), the Court decided that:
26	The Constitution does not bind rate-making bodies to the service of
27	any single formula or combination of formulas If the
28	Commission's order, as applied to the facts before it and viewed in
29	its entirety, produces no arbitrary result, our inquiry is at an end. Id
30	at 586.
31	The U.S. Supreme Court also discussed the reasonableness of a return for
32	a utility in the case of Federal Power Commission et al. v. Hope Natural Gas Company,
33	320 U.S. 591 (1944). The Court stated that:
34	The rate-making process, i.e., the fixing of "just and
35	reasonable" rates, involves a balancing of the investor and the
36	consumer interests. Thus we stated that "regulation does not
37	insure that the business shall produce net revenues" it is
38	important that there be enough revenue not only for operating
39	expenses but also for the capital costs of the business. These

Direct Testimony of Ronald L. Bible

include service on the debt and dividends on the stock By that standard the return to the equity owner should be commensurate with returns on investments in other enterprises having corresponding risks. That return, moreover, should be sufficient to assure confidence in the financial integrity of the enterprise, so as to maintain its credit and to attract capital. <u>Id</u> at 603.

Hope restates the concept of comparable returns to include those achieved by any other enterprises that have "corresponding risks." The Supreme Court also noted in this case that regulation does not guarantee profits to a utility company.

A more recent case heard by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania further clarifies the *Hope* decision beyond balancing the interests of the investors and the consumers. The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania stated that:

We do not believe, however, . . . that the end result of a rate-making body's adjudication *must* be the setting of rates at a level that will, in any given case, guarantee the continued financial integrity of the utility concerned In cases where the balancing of consumer interests against the interests of investors causes rates to be set at a "just and reasonable" level which is insufficient to ensure the continued financial integrity of the utility, it may simply be said that the utility has encountered one of the risks that imperil any business enterprise, namely the risk of financial failure. *Pennsylvania Electric Company, et al. v. Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission*, 502 A.2d 130, 133-34 (1985), cert. denied, 476 U.S. 1137 (1986).

Pennsylvania is included in my testimony to illustrate the following point: captive ratepayers of public utilities should not be forced to bear the brunt of poor or inept management that results in unnecessarily higher costs. I do not believe that utility companies should be casually subjected to risk of financial failure in a rate case proceeding. However, in the case of poor management, I do not believe it would always be appropriate for a regulatory agency to provide sufficient funds to continue operations no matter what the costs are to the ratepayers.

Historical Economic Conditions

Q. Please discuss the relevant historical economic conditions in which AmerenUE has operated.

A. One of the most commonly accepted indicators of economic conditions is the Discount Rate set by the Federal Reserve Board (Federal Reserve). The Federal

Through these and other court decisions, it has generally been recognized that public utilities can operate more efficiently when they operate as monopolies. It has also been recognized that regulation is required to offset the lack of competition and maintain prices at a reasonable level. It is the regulatory agency's duty to determine a fair rate of return and the appropriate revenue requirement for the utility, while maintaining reasonable prices for the public consumer.

The courts today still believe that a fair return on common equity should be similar to the return for a business with similar risks, but not as high as a highly profitable or speculative venture requires. The authorized return should provide a fair and reasonable return to the investors of the company, while ensuring that excessive earnings do not result from the utility's monopolistic powers. However, this fair and reasonable rate does not necessarily guarantee revenues or the continued financial integrity of the utility.

It should be noted that the courts have determined that a reasonable return may vary over time as economic and business conditions change. Therefore, it is important to take into consideration the concepts presented by the U. S. Supreme Court, as well as, the historical and projected economic conditions and the business operations of a utility in order to calculate a fair and reasonable rate of return.

Reserve tries to achieve its monetary policy objectives by controlling the Discount Rate (the Discount Rate is the rate at which member banks borrow directly from the Federal Reserve) and the Fed Funds Rate (the Federal Funds Rate is the interest rate that banks charge each other for overnight lending). At the end of 1982, the U.S. economy was in the early stages of recovery from the longest post-World War II recession. This economic expansion began when the Federal Reserve reduced the Discount Rate seven times in the second half of 1982 in an attempt to stimulate the economy. This also led to a reduction in the Prime Interest Rate (the rate charged by banks on short-term loans to borrowers with high credit ratings) from 16.50 percent in June 1982, to 11.50 percent in December 1982. The economic expansion continued for approximately eight years until July of 1990, when the economy entered into a recession.

In December of 1990, the Federal Reserve responded to the slumping economy by lowering the Discount Rate to 6.50 percent. Over the next year and a half the Federal Reserve lowered the Discount Rate another six times to a low of 3.00 percent, which had the result of lowering the Prime Interest Rate to 6.00 percent. (See Schedule 3.)

In 1993, newly elected President Clinton implemented a plan to raise additional revenues, by increasing certain corporate and personal income tax rates, but perhaps the most important factor for the U.S. economy in 1993 was the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). NAFTA created a free trade zone consisting of the United States, Canada and Mexico. The rate of economic growth for the fourth quarter of 1993, was one which the Federal Reserve believed could not be sustained without experiencing higher inflation. In the first quarter of 1994, the Federal

Reserve took steps to try and restrict the economy by increasing interest rates. As a result, on March 24, 1994, the Prime Interest Rate increased to 6.25 percent. On April 18, 1994, the Federal Reserve announced its intention to raise its targeted interest rates which resulted in the Prime Interest Rate being increased to 6.75 percent. The Federal Reserve took action on May 17, 1994, by raising the Discount Rate to 3.50 percent. The Federal Reserve took three additional restrictive monetary actions. with the last occurring on February 1, 1995. These actions raised the Discount Rate to

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The Federal Reserve then reversed its policy in late 1995, by lowering its target for the Fed Funds Rate 0.25 percentage points on two different occasions. This had the effect of lowering the Prime Interest Rate to 8.50 percent. On November 17, 1998, the Federal Reserve lowered the Discount Rate to a rate of 4.50 percent.

5.25 percent and, in turn, banks raised the Prime Interest Rate to 9.00 percent.

The Federal Reserve continued its cycle of raising and lowering interest rates since 1998. In August 1999, the Federal Reserve began raising the Discount Rate. Increases continued until January 2001, when the Federal Reserve began lowering interest rates to help stimulate a slowing economy. The Discount Rate reached 1.25 percent in December 2001. The Prime Interest Rate followed a similar pattern, reaching 4.84 percent in December 2001.

The actions of the Federal Reserve over the last five years have been primarily focused on keeping the level of inflation under control, and they have been successful. The inflation rate, as measured by the Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers (CPI), was at a high of 3.70 percent in March 2000. The increase in CPI

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stood at 3.30 percent for the period ending December 31, 2000 (see Schedule 4-1). What is significant about the low inflation rate is that while inflation has been at historically low levels, the unemployment rate has also dropped to historically low levels. In January 1993, the unemployment rate stood at 7.30 percent and gradually dropped to 4.20 percent for the period ending February 28, 2001. Since then, the unemployment rate has risen to 5.60 percent as of January 2002, due largely to a slowing economy (see Schedule 6).

The combination of low inflation and low unemployment has led to a prosperous economy, as evidenced by the real gross domestic product of the United States. Over the time period of 1993 through the present, real GDP has increased every quarter, although at a slower level as of recently. The stock market, as measured by the Dow Jones Composite Index, has increased by 81.23 percent between August 1, 1996 and February 22, 2001, while the Dow Jones Industrial Index has increased by 88.16 percent over that same time frame. The stock market has increased 18.36 percent as measured by The Value Line Geometric Averages Composite Index from August 1, 1996 through February 22, 2001. It should be noted that the Value Line Composite Index is an equally weighted geometric average of 1,594 companies as compared to the Dow Jones Composite Index, which is a price-weighted arithmetic average of 65 companies. Although the stock market has increased significantly since August 1, 1996, it should be noted that the stock market suffered set backs last year when looking at calendar year returns for the major indexes.

In both August and September 2000, energy movements dominated the CPI. After falling by 2.90 percent in August, energy prices shot up 3.80 percent in September, the biggest advance since a 5.60 percent surge in June 2000. The big rise in

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energy prices, which consumers felt in sharply rising gasoline prices and home heating oil costs, prompted President Clinton to order a release of oil from the government's Strategic Petroleum Reserve. While steep price increases have been contained in the energy sector, economists worried about a spillover effect that could send overall inflation higher, thus setting off alarms at the Federal Reserve.

After raising the federal funds rate six times in 1999 and 2000 to hold down inflation in a rapidly growing economy, Federal Reserve policy-makers began expressing concern about a slowdown in December 2000. On January 3, 2001, the Federal Open Market Committee lowered the federal funds rate by 50 basis points to 6.00 percent. In a related action, the Board of Governors approved a decrease in the discount rate to 5.75 percent. These actions were taken in light of further weakening of sales and production, and in the context of lower consumer confidence, tight conditions in some segments of financial markets, slowing of real GDP and high energy prices weakening household and business purchasing power. On January 31, 2001, the Federal Reserve again lowered the federal funds rate by 50 basis points to 5.50 percent in an attempt to provide lower rates for many business and consumer loans. At the same time, the discount rate was also lowered by 50 basis points to 5.00 percent (see Schedule 2-1). In cutting its benchmark rate by a full point in the first month of 2001, the Federal Reserve has taken its most aggressive action to boost the economy since December 1991. The Federal Reserve justified its actions by citing eroding consumer and business confidence and rising energy costs. Further weakening in the economy prompted the Federal Reserve to reduce interest rates more. On December 11, 2001, the discount rate was lowered to 1.25 percent.

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Economic Projections

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The Federal Reserve claims it does not make interest rate decisions based on stock market activity. However, it is important to reflect on the results of the major indexes in the past year. Based on The Value Line Investment Survey, Selection and Opinion, January 1, 2002, the 12-month percentage change in market stock price averages shows the S&P 500 suffered a 17.00 percent decline and the NASDAQ suffered a 32.10 percent decline, as of January 24, 2002. Therefore, as mentioned earlier, the stock market has faired well since 1996, although, it has suffered some set backs when compared to more recent levels.

These economic changes have resulted in cost of capital changes for utilities and are closely reflected in the yields on public utility bonds and yields of Thirty-Year U.S. Treasury Bonds (see Schedules 5-1 and 5-2). Schedule 5-3 shows how closely the Mergent "Public Utility Bond Yields" have followed the yields of Thirty-Year U.S. Treasury Bonds during the period from 1986 to the present. The average spread for this time period between these two composite indices has been 136 basis points, with the spread ranging from a low of 80 basis points and a high of 249 basis points (see These spread parameters can be utilized with numerous published forecasts of Thirty-Year U.S. Treasury Bond yields to estimate future long-term debt costs for utility companies.

Q. What are the inflationary expectations for the remainder of 2002 and

A. The latest inflation rate, as measured by the Consumer Price Index-All Urban Consumers (CPI), was 2.80 percent for the 12 months ended December 2001. The

- Value Line Investment Survey: Selection & Opinion, November 30, 2001, predicts inflation to be 2.10 percent for 2002, 2.40 percent for 2003 and 2.60 percent for 2004. One of the major fears of the Federal Reserve is the United States will experience weakness in key areas of the economy that could lead to a recession.
 - Q. What are the interest rate forecasts for 2002, 2003 and 2004?
- A. Short-term interest rates, those measured by Three-Month U.S. Treasury Bills, are expected to be 2.30 percent in 2002, 4.00 percent in 2003 and 4.30 percent in 2004 according to Value Line's predictions. Value Line expects long-term interest rates, those measured by the Thirty-Year U.S. Treasury Bond, to average 5.20 percent in 2002, 6.10 percent in 2003 and 6.10 percent in 2004. The rates for the period ending December, 2001 are 1.72 percent for 3-month T-Bills and 5.48 percent for 30-year T-Bonds, as noted on the Federal Reserve website (www.stls.frb.org).
 - Q. What are the growth expectations for real GDP in the future?
- A. Value Line expects real GDP to increase by .50 percent in 2002, 3.50 percent in 2003, and by 3.60 percent in 2004. The Budget and Economic Outlook, Fiscal Years 2001-2011 published by the Congressional Budget Office in August 2001 stated that real GDP is expected to increase by 2.60 percent in 2002, 3.30 percent in 2003 and 3.20 percent in 2004. (See Schedule 6.)
- Q. Please summarize your projections of the economic conditions that will affect AmerenUE for the next few years.
- A. Considering the previously mentioned sources, inflation is expected to be in the range of 2.10 to 2.70 percent, increase in real GDP in the range of .50 to 3.60 percent and long-term interest rates are expected to range from 5.20 to 6.20 percent.

The Value Line Investment Survey: Selection & Opinion, January 11, 2002, article, The

Wall Street just closed the books on what will go down as one

of the poorer years in recent memory. What's more, if we

count the losses in human terms, owing to the tragedy of

September 11th, it also will go down as one of the sadder, if not

the saddest, years ever. In the meantime, just in terms of the stock

market, the year that closed its books on December 31, 2001 was

forgettable, as most of the major equity averages fell for a second

year in succession, with the losses being comparatively close to

Expectations should be modest. The bull market of October 1990

to March 2000 was the longest and strongest in modern history.

Nothing like it will be seen any time soon. Indeed, the excesses of

the last decade will probably have to be paid for in the form of

After their merger, Union Electric (UE) and Central Illinois Public Service

Ameren's unregulated operations include the recently formed

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2001 Stock Market in Review, states that:

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S&P states the following in the January 16, 2002, issue of *The Outlook*:

restrained stock gains for some time ahead...

what they had been in the prior 12 months.

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Business Operations of Ameren

Α.

Springfield, IL.

Q. Please describe Ameren's business operations.

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AmerenUE, originally incorporated in Missouri in 1922, supplies electric service in Missouri and Illinois. AmerenUE accounts for 70 percent of Ameren's revenues, 74 percent of cash flow. AmerenUE mainly engages in selling electricity

(CIPS) became subsidiaries of St. Louis, MO-based Ameren, a registered public utility

holding company created on December 31, 1997. UE (doing business as AmerenUE)

remains headquartered in St. Louis and CIPS (doing business as AmerenCIPS) in

unregulated generation subsidiary, AmerenEnergy Generating Company (AEGC) and

other unregulated businesses, such as energy marketing and trading.

A.

AmerenUE.

(95 percent of AmerenUE's operating revenues) in Missouri and in a small area of Illinois. The Missouri service territory covers 24,500 square miles, including the metropolitan St. Louis area, and has an estimated customer base of 2.6 million. Retail natural gas (5 percent of operating revenues) is distributed in 90 Missouri communities and in Alton, Illinois and its surrounding area. Business risk is tempered by a diverse and healthy economy [Source: S&P's *Ratings Direct*, dated November 1, 2001.]

O. Please describe the credit ratings of AmerenUE.

concerning the credit rating assigned to AmerenUE.

credit rating of A+ and a senior secured debt rating of A+. These ratings are considered to be of "investment grade" ("investment grade" is defined as a "BBB" rating or higher).

Currently, Standard & Poor's Corporation gives AmerenUE a corporate

The Corporate Credit Rating issued by Standard & Poor's reflects a negative outlook for

Q. Please provide Standard & Poor's Corporation's most recent outlook

A. Standard & Poor's Corporation's *Ratings Direct*, dated November 1, 2001, provides a summary explaining the outlook for Ameren. Specifically, the report states:

The negative outlook reflects expectations for continued deterioration in key consolidated financial measures, which management will be challenged to stem, as well as weakness in the financial profile of CIPS, whose ratings are based more on a standalone basis.

Because there are no regulatory mechanisms or other structural barriers in Missouri that sufficiently restrict access by the parent to the cash flow of UE, Standard & Poor's views the default risk of UE as being the same as that of Ameren.

Q. What historical financial information have you relied upon for AmerenUE?

Determination of the Cost of Capital

Q. Please describe your approach for determining a utility company's cost of capital.

A. Schedules 7 and 8 present historical capital structures and selected financial ratios from 1996 to 2000 for AmerenUE. AmerenUE's common equity ratio has ranged from a high of 57.30 percent to a low of 53.85 percent over the time period of 1996 through 2000. *The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports* dated January 4, 2002, reported that the average common equity ratio (figured excluding short-term debt) for the electric utility (central) industry for 2000 was 40.50 percent, estimated to be 42.50 percent and 44.50 percent for 2001 and 2002, respectively, and 48.5 percent for the period 2004 to 2006. According to Standard & Poor's Corporation: *Ratings Direct*, dated November 10, 2001, "Management's financial strategy, which until last year was viewed as conservative, is now moderate. This is evident in the rising level of debt in the company's capital structure and recent expansion of its riskier unregulated generation business".

AmerenUE's reported return on year-end common equity (ROE) has fluctuated during this time period ranging from a low of 12.38 percent in 1996 to a high of 14.60 percent in 2000 (see Schedule 8). AmerenUE's ROE of 14.60 percent for 2000 is above the average of 7.4 percent for the electric utility (central) industry according to *The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports*, January 4, 2002. *The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports*, January 4, 2002 estimates that Ameren's return on equity for 2001 will be 14.00 percent. AmerenUE's market-to-book ratio has varied from a low of 1.46 in 1999 to a high of 1.99 in year 2000 (see Schedule 8).

A. The total dollars of capital for a utility company are determined for a specific point in time. This total dollar amount is proportioned into each specific capital component. A weighted cost for each capital component is determined by multiplying each capital component ratio by the appropriate embedded cost or the estimated cost of common equity. The individual weighted costs are summed to arrive at a total weighted cost of capital. This total weighted cost of capital is synonymous with the fair rate of return for the utility company.

- Q. Why is a total weighted cost of capital synonymous with a fair rate of return?
- A. From a financial viewpoint, a company employs different forms of capital to support or fund the assets of the company. Each different form of capital has a cost and these costs are weighted proportionately to fund each dollar invested in the assets.

Assuming that the various forms of capital are within a reasonable balance and are costed correctly, the resulting total weighted cost of capital, when applied to rate base, will provide the funds necessary to service the various forms of capital. Thus, the total weighted cost of capital corresponds to a fair rate of return for the utility company.

Capital Structure and Embedded Costs

- Q. Can an investor directly invest in AmerenUE?
- A. No. An investor can only indirectly invest in AmerenUE through a direct investment in Ameren, AmerenUE's parent company. As a result, potential investors can only look at the earnings potential of the entire consolidated corporate entity of Ameren when evaluating decisions such as whether or not to invest in AmerenUE's common stock. Ultimately, that investor is purchasing the earnings power of the entire

consolidated corporation, consisting of its operating divisions and its subsidiaries. Therefore, in order to analyze AmerenUE's divisional cost of capital, an investor must derive AmerenUE's divisional cost of capital from Ameren's overall cost of capital.

- Q. What capital structure have you employed in developing a weighted cost of capital for AmerenUE?
- A. I employed AmerenUE's capital structure as of September 30, 2001, which is the end of the ordered update period. Schedule 9 presents AmerenUE's capital structure and associated capital ratios. The resulting capital structure consists of 59.08 percent common stock equity, 3.52 percent preferred stock and 37.40 percent long-term debt for September 30, 2001.

It is the Staff's opinion that only the short-term debt that exceeds the amount of construction work in progress (CWIP) should be included in the capital structure. An assumption is made that CWIP, which is not yet included in rate base, is financed with short-term debt. In this case, AmerenUE's CWIP at September 30, 2001 exceeded the amount of short-term debt; therefore, no short-term debt is being included in the capital structure.

- Q. What was the embedded cost of long-term debt for AmerenUE on September 30, 2001?
- A. I determined the embedded cost of long-term debt for AmerenUE to be 6.82 percent on September 30, 2001. I arrived at these figures by adopting AmerenUE's response to Staff Data Request No. 3802.
- Q. What was the embedded cost of preferred stock for AmerenUE on September 30, 2001?

A. I determined the embedded cost of preferred stock for AmerenUE to be 5.72 percent on September 30, 2001. I arrived at these figures by adopting AmerenUE's response to Staff Data Request No. 3802.

Cost of Equity

Q. How do you propose to analyze those factors by which the cost of equity for AmerenUE may be determined?

A. I have selected the discounted cash flow model (DCF) model as the primary tool to determine the cost of equity for AmerenUE.

The DCF Model

- Q. Please describe the DCF model.
- A. The DCF model is a market-oriented approach for deriving the cost of equity. The return on equity calculated from the DCF model is inherently capable of attracting capital. This results from the theory that security prices adjust continually over time, so that an equilibrium price exists and the stock is neither under-valued nor over-valued. It can also be stated that stock prices continually fluctuate to reflect the required and expected return for the investor.

The continuous growth form of the DCF model was used in estimating the cost of equity for AmerenUE. This model relies upon the fact that a company's common stock price is dependent on the expected cash dividends and on cash flows received through capital gains or losses that result from stock price changes. The rate that discounts the sum of the future expected cash flows to the current market price of the common stock is the calculated cost of equity. This can be expressed algebraically as:

Present Price = Expected Dividends + Expected Price in 1 year (1)

Discounted by k Discounted by k

Since the expected price of a stock in one year is equal to the present price multiplied by one plus the growth rate, equation (1) can be restated as:

Present Price = Expected Dividends + Present Price (1+g) (2)

$$(1+k)$$
 $(1+k)$

where g equals the growth rate, and k equals the cost of equity. Letting the present price equal P₀ and expected dividends equal D₁, the equation appears as:

$$P_0 = \underline{D_1} + \underline{P_0(1+g)}$$
 (3)

$$(1+k) \qquad (1+k)$$

The cost of equity equation may also be algebraically represented as:

$$k = \underline{D_1} + g \qquad (4)$$

$$P_0$$

Thus, the cost of common stock equity (k), is equal to the expected dividend yield (D_1/P_0) plus the expected growth in dividends (g) continuously summed into the future. The growth in dividends and implied growth in earnings will be reflected in the current price. Therefore, this model also recognizes the potential of capital gains or losses associated with owning a share of common stock.

The DCF method is a continuous stock valuation model. The DCF theory is based on the following assumptions:

- 1. Market equilibrium,
- 2. Perpetual life of the company,
- 3. Constant payout ratio,
 - 4. Payout of less than 100% earnings,

- 5. Constant price/earnings ratio,
- 6. Constant growth in cash dividends,
- 7. Stability in interest rates over time,
- 8. Stability in required rates of return over time; and
- 9. Stability in earned returns over time.

The DCF method also assumes that an investor's growth horizon is unlimited and that earnings, book values and market prices grow hand-in-hand. Even though the entire list of above assumptions is rarely met, the DCF model is a reasonable working model describing an actual investor's expectations and resulting behaviors.

- Q. Can you directly analyze the cost of equity for AmerenUE?
- A. No. In order to arrive at a company-specific DCF result, the company must have common stock that is publicly-traded and must pay dividends. AmerenUE's stock is not publicly traded. However, Ameren Corporation, AmerenUE's parent company, is publicly traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol of "AEE." Therefore, I used Ameren as a surrogate for AmerenUE in the DCF model.
- Q. Please explain how you determined for Ameren a value range for the growth term of the DCF formula.
- A. I reviewed Ameren's actual dividends per share (DPS), earnings per share (EPS) and book values per share (BVPS), as well as projected growth rates for Ameren. Schedule 10 lists annual compound growth rates calculated for DPS, EPS and BVPS for the periods of 1991 through 2001 and 1996 through 2001. Schedule 11 presents the historical DPS, EPS and BVPS growth rates and projected growth rates for Ameren. The projected growth rates were obtained from two outside sources. I/B/E/S Inc.'s

Institutional Brokers Estimate System, August 16, 2001, projects a five-year growth in EPS of 5.00 percent for Ameren. Standard & Poor's Corporation's Earnings Guide, September 2001, projects a five-year EPS growth rate of 5.00 percent for Ameren. The average of the two outside sources produces a projected EPS growth rate of 5.00 percent. Combining the average of the historical DPS, EPS and BVPS of 1.50 percent with the projected EPS growth rates produces a reasonable growth rate range of 2.75 to 3.75 percent. This range of growth (g) is the range that I used in the DCF model to calculate a cost of common equity for Ameren. (see Schedule 13)

Q. Please explain how you determined for Ameren the yield term of the DCF formula.

A. The expected yield term (D_1/P_0) of the DCF model is calculated by dividing the amount of common dividends per share expected to be paid over the next 12 months (D_1) by the current market price per share of the firm's common stock (P_0) . Even though the model requires the use of a current or spot market price, I have chosen to use a monthly high/low average market price of Ameren's common stock for the period of April 1, 2001, through September 30, 2001 to represent the update period.

Schedule 12 presents the monthly high/low average stock market prices from April 1, 2001, through September 30, 2001. Ameren's common stock price has ranged from a low of \$36.530 per share to a high of \$45.480 per share for this time period. This has produced a range for the monthly average high/low market price of \$41.275 per share and reflects recent market conditions for the price term (P₀) in the DCF model.

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The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports, January 4, 2002, states that Ameren's common dividend declared per share is \$2.54 for 2001 and estimates \$2.54 for 2002. This compares with the actual dividend Ameren paid in 2000 of \$2.54. Therefore, I have chosen to use the value of \$2.54 for the amount of common dividends per share (D₁) expected to be paid by Ameren for my analysis.

Combining the expected dividend of \$2.54 per share and an average market price range of \$41.275 per share produces an expected dividend yield of 6.16 percent for September 30, 2001.

- Q. Please summarize the results of your expected dividend yield and growth rate analysis for the DCF return on common equity for Ameren.
- A. The summarized DCF cost of equity estimate for the period April 1, 2001 through September 30, 2001 for Ameren is presented as follows:

$$Yield (D_1/P_0) + Growth Rate (g) = Cost of Equity(k)$$

 $6.16\% + 2.75\% = 8.91\%$
 $6.16\% + 3.75\% = 9.91\%$

As mentioned previously, the expected yield term (D_1/P_0) of the DCF model is calculated by dividing the amount of common dividends per share expected to be paid over the next 12 months (D_1) by the current market price per share of the firm's common stock (P_0) . Even though the model requires the use of a current or spot market price, I have used an averaging technique in an attempt to minimize the effects on the dividend yield, which can occur due to daily volatility in the stock market. Using the spot price of \$42.29, as assumed by the model, for February 13, 2002, produces a

dividend yield of 6.00 percent, which is lower than the dividend yield used in my DCF estimates and would decrease the recommended return on common equity.

Reasonableness of DCF Returns for AmerenUE

Q. What analysis was performed to determine the reasonableness of your DCF model derived return on common equity for Ameren?

A. I performed a risk premium cost of equity analysis for Ameren. The risk premium concept implies that the required return on common equity is found by adding an explicit premium for risk to a current interest rate. Schedule 14 shows the average risk premium above the yield of 30-Year Treasury Bonds for Ameren's expected return on common equity. This analysis shows, on average, Ameren's expected return on equity as reported by *The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports* is 649 basis points higher than the yield on 30-Year Treasury Bonds for the period of January 1992 to December 2001 (see Schedule 14).

The average yield for 30-Year Treasury Bonds on January 6, 2002 was 5.38 percent. Adding 649 basis points to this yield produces an estimated cost of equity of 11.87 percent. (See Schedule 15.)

- Q. Did you perform any other checks on reasonableness of your DCF model derived return on common equity for Ameren?
- A. Yes. I performed a Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) cost of equity analysis for Ameren. The CAPM describes the relationship between a security's investment risk and its market rate of return. This relationship identifies the rate of return that investors expect a security to earn so that its market return is comparable with the

market returns earned by other securities that have similar risk. The mathematical expression of the CAPM is the following:

$$k = R_f + \beta (R_m - R_f)$$

where:

k = the expected return on equity for a specific security,

 R_f = the risk free rate,

 β = beta; and

 $R_m - R_f =$ the market risk premium.

The first term of the CAPM is the risk free rate (R_f). The risk free rate reflects the level of return which can be achieved without accepting any risk. In reality, there is no such riskless asset, but it is generally represented by U.S. Treasury securities, because of the government's unlimited ability to tax and create money. For purposes of this analysis, the risk free rate was represented by the yield on 30-Year U.S. Treasury Bonds. The appropriate rate was determined to be 5.38 percent for the period January 6, 2002, as published on www.marketwatch.com.

The second term of the CAPM is beta (β). Beta is an indicator of a security's investment risk. It represents the relative movement and relative risk between a particular security and the market as a whole (where beta for the market equals 1.00). Securities with betas greater than 1.00 exhibit greater volatility than do securities with betas less than 1.00. Thus, a higher beta security is considered riskier and requires a higher return in order to attract investor capital away from a lower beta security. For purposes of this analysis, the appropriate beta was determined to be 0.55 as published in *The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports*, January 4, 2002.

The final term of the CAPM is the market risk premium (R_m - R_f). The market risk premium represents the expected return from holding the entire market portfolio less the expected return from holding a risk-free investment. For purposes of this analysis, the appropriate market risk premium was determined to be 7.30 percent for the period 1926-2000 and 7.20 percent for the period 1991-2000, as calculated in lbbotson Associates, Inc.'s *Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation: 2000 Yearbook*.

Schedule 16 presents my CAPM analysis for Ameren. My CAPM analysis produces an estimated cost of equity range of 9.34 to 9.40 percent for Ameren.

- Q. Did you perform any cost of equity analysis on other utility companies?
- A. Yes. I have selected a group of comparable electric utility companies to analyze for determining the reasonableness of the company-specific DCF results for Ameren. I searched the Value Line database for electric utility companies. Schedule 17-1 presents a list of 76 market-traded electric utility companies. This list was reviewed for the following criteria:
 - 1. Information printed in Value Line: This criterion eliminated no companies;
 - 2. Standard & Poor's Utility Credit Rating of AA- to BBB+: This criterion eliminated thirty-three (33) companies;
 - 3. Total capital greater than or equal to \$4 billion and less than or equal to \$8 billion: This criterion eliminated thirty-three (33) additional companies;
 - 4. Positive Dividends Per Share Annual Compound Growth Rate for the period of 1991 through 2001: This criterion eliminated six additional companies; and
 - 5. No Missouri Operations: This criterion eliminated Ameren.

On average, this final group of three publicly traded electric utility companies (comparable electric utility companies) is comparable to Ameren because of

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similar business operations and financial conditions. The three comparable electric utility companies are listed on Schedule 18.

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for the comparable electric utility companies.

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A. I have calculated a DCF cost of equity for each of the three comparable electric utility companies. The first step was to calculate a growth rate. Basically, I used the same approach of obtaining a growth rate estimate for the three comparable electric

Please explain how you approached the determination of the cost of equity

22). The comparable electric utility companies' average historical growth rates ranged

companies as I used in calculating a growth rate for Ameren (see Schedules 19 through

from 0.99 to 4.25 percent with an overall average of 2.35 percent for the group (Column

1 of Schedule 20). The projected growth rates ranged from 4.16 to 9.44 percent with an average of 6.32 percent (Schedule 20). Taking into account the projected and historical

growth rates, a proposed growth of 4.33 percent (Column 6 of Schedule 20) was used in

the DCF calculation for the comparable companies.

The next step was to calculate an expected dividend yield for each of the three comparable electric utility companies. Schedule 21 presents the average high/low stock price for the period of June 1, 2001, through September 30, 2001, for each electric utility company. Column 3 of Schedule 22 shows that the projected dividend yields ranged from 3.91 to 6.76 percent for the three comparable electric utility companies with the average at 5.42 percent. My proposed dividend yield of 6.16 percent for Ameren falls within the average for the three comparable electric utility companies.

The projected growth rates and projected dividend yields were then added together to reach an estimated DCF cost of equity for each of the three comparable Α.

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electric utility companies. These estimates produced a DCF cost of equity average of 9.76 percent (see Column 5 of Schedule 22).

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Q. What analysis was performed to determine the reasonableness of your DCF model derived return on common equity for the comparable company group?

I performed a CAPM cost of equity analysis for the comparable company

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group. The betas for the three comparable electric utility companies averaged 0.57, very

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close to Ameren's beta of 0.55. This suggests that Ameren is comparable in risk as measured by beta and relative to the market and the comparable companies on average.

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The CAPM analysis implies that, on average, the required return on equity for the three

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comparable electric utility companies falls within the range of 9.46 to 9.52 percent (see

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Schedule 23). This provides support for my DCF cost of equity analysis for the

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comparable company group and the proposed required return on common equity range of

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8.91 percent to 9.91 percent for AmerenUE.

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Q. Did you perform an analysis on AmerenUE's resulting pre-tax interest coverage ratios?

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A. Yes. A pro forma pre-tax interest coverage calculation was completed for AmerenUE (see Schedule 24) utilizing the proposed range and midpoint ROE for Ameren. It reveals that the return on common equity range of 8.91 to 9.91 percent would yield a pre-tax interest coverage ratio in the range of 4.48 to 4.86. This interest coverage range is compared with Standard & Poor's range for an "AA to BBB" rated electric

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utility company, which is 4.17 to 2.33. AmerenUE's midpoint of 4.67 makes it

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consistent with an "AA" rating.

Rate of Return for AmerenUE

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Please explain how the returns developed for each capital component are Q. used in the ratemaking approach you have adopted to be applied to AmerenUE's electric utility operations.

A. The cost of service ratemaking method was adopted in this case. This approach develops the public utility's revenue requirement. The cost of service (revenue requirement) is based on the following components: revenues, prudent operation costs, rate base and a return allowed on the rate base (see Schedule 25).

It is my responsibility to calculate and recommend a rate of return that should be authorized on the rate base of AmerenUE. Under the cost of service ratemaking approach, a weighted cost of capital in the range of 8.01 to 8.61 percent was developed for AmerenUE's electric utility operations (see Schedule 26). This rate was calculated by applying an average embedded cost of long-term debt of 6.82 percent, an embedded cost of preferred stock of 5.72 percent and a return on common equity range of 8.91 to 9.91 percent to a capital structure consisting of 37.40 percent long-term debt, 3.52 percent preferred stock and 59.08 percent common equity. Therefore, as I suggested earlier, I am recommending that AmerenUE's electric utility operations be allowed to earn a return on its original cost rate base in the range of 8.01 to 8.61 percent.

Through this analysis, I believe I have developed a fair and reasonable rate of return. My rate of return is based on a return on common equity range of 8.91 to 9.91 percent. My return range is based on the historical and projected economic conditions. This range is sufficient to assure confidence in the financial soundness of the utility and will be adequate, under efficient and economical management, to maintain and support its Direct Testimony of Ronald L. Bible

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- financial standing, as well as allow AmerenUE the opportunity to earn the revenue requirement developed in this rate case.
 - Q. Does this conclude your prepared direct testimony?
 - A. Yes, it does.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

The Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission,	e)) Case No. EC-2002-1
Complainant vs.	·,) ·)
Union Electric Company, d/b/a AmerenUE,))
Respondent	t.)
AFFIDAVIT OF RO	NALD L. BIBLE
STATE OF MISSOURI)	
COUNTY OF COLE) ss.	
Ronald L. Bible, is, of lawful age, and on I preparation of the foregoing Direct Testimony pages to be presented in the above cas Testimony were given by him; that he has knowled and that such matters are true and correct to the best	e; that the answers in the foregoing Direct edge of the matters set forth in such answers;
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27#/ ROSEMARIE RIEDL Notary Public - Notary Seal STATE OF MISSOURI COLE COUNTY MY COMMISSION TYPE TO THE PROPERTY OF T	day of <u>Rekruary</u> , 2001. Notary Public

AN ANALYSIS OF THE COST OF CAPITAL

FOR

UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY dba AmerenUE

CASE NO. EC-2002-1

BY

RONALD L. BIBLE

UTILITY SERVICES DIVISION

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

March 2002

UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a AmerenUE CASE NO. EC-2002-1

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UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY dba AmerenUE CASE NO. EC-2002-1

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Number	Description of Schedule
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Federal Reserve Discount Rate Changes

	Discount
Date	Rate
05/20/85	7.50%
03/07/86	7.00%
04/21/86	6.50%
07/11/86	6.00%
08/21/86	5.50%
09/04/87	6.00%
08/09/88	6.50%
02/24/89	7.00%
12/19/90	6.50%
02/01/91	6.00%
04/30/91	5.50%
09/13/91	5.00%
11/06/91	4.50%
12/20/91	3.50%
07/02/92	3.00%
01/01/93	3.00%
12/31/93	3,00%
05/17/94	3.50%
08/16/94	4.00%
11/15/94	4.75%
02/01/95	5.25%
01/31/96	5.00%
12/12/97	5.00%
01/09/98	5.00%
03/06/98	5.00%
10/15/98	4.75%
11/17/98	4.50%
06/30/99	4.50%
08/24/99	4.75%
11/16/99	5.00%
02/02/00	5.25%
03/21/00	5.50%
05/16/00	5.50%
05/19/00	6.00%
01/03/01	5,75%
01/04/01	5.50%
01/05/01	5.50%
01/31/01	5.00%
03/20/01	4.50%
04/18/01	4.00%
05/15/01	3.50%
06/27/01	3.25%
08/21/01	3.00%
09/17/01	2.50%
10/02/01	2.00%
. 11/06/01	1.50%
12/11/01	1.25%

Sources: Federal Reserve Bulletin & The Wall Street Journal.

Average Prime Interest Rates

Mo/Year	Rate (%)						
Jan 1986	9.50	Jan 1990	10.11	Jan 1994	6.00	Jan 1998	8.50
Feb	9.50	Feb	10.00	Feb	6.00	Feb	8.50
Mar	9.10	Mar	10.00	Mar	6.06	Mar	8.50
Apr	8.83	Apr	10.00	Apr	6.45	Apr	8.50
May	8.50	May	10.00	May	6.99	May	8.50
Jun	8.50	Jun	10.00	Jun	7.25	Jun	8.50
Jul	8.16	Jul	10.00	Jul	7.25	Jul	8.50
Aug	7.90	Aug	10.00	Aug	7.51	Aug	8.50
Sep	7.50	Sep	10.00	Sep	7.75	Sep	8.49
Oct	7.50	Oct	10.00	Oct	7.75	Oct	8.12
Nov	7.50	Nov	10.00	Nov	8.15	Nov	7.89
Dec	7.50	Dec	10.00	Dec	8.50	Dec	7.75
Jan 1987	7.50	Jan 1991	9.52	Jan 1995	8.50	Jan 1999	7.75
Feb	7.50	Feb	9.05	Feb	9.00	Feb	7.75
Mar	7.50	Mar	9.00	Mar	9.00	Mar	7.75
Apr	7.75	Apr	9.00	Apr	9.00	Apr	7.75
May	8.14	May	8.50	May	9.00	May	7.75
Jun	8.25	Jun	8.50	Jun	9.00	Jun	7.75
Jul	8.25	Jul	8.50	Jul	8.80	Jul	8.00
Aug	8.25	Aug	8.50	Aug	8.75	Aug	8.06
Sep	8.70	Sep	8.20	Sep	8.75	Sep	8.25
Oct	9.07	Oct	8.00	Oct	8.75	Oct	8.25
Nov	8.78	Nov	7.58	Nov	8.75	Nov	8.37
Dec	8.75	Dec	7.21	Dec	8.65	Dec	8.50
Jan 1988	8.75	Jan 1992	6.50	Jan 1996	8.50	Jan 2000	8.50
Feb	8.51	Feb	6.50	Feb	8.25	Feb	8.73
Mar	8.50	Mar	6.50	Маг	8.25	Маг	8.83
Apr	8.50	Apr	6.50	Арг	8.25	Apr	9.00
May	8.84	May	6.50	May	8.25	May	9.24
Jun	9.00	Jun	6.50	Jun	8.25	Jun	9.50
Jul	9.29	Jul	6.02	Jul	8.25	Jul	9.50
Aug	9.84	Aug	6.00	Aug	8.25	Aug	9.50
Sep	10.00	Sep	6.00	Sep	8.25	Sep	9.50
Oct	10.00	Oct	6.00	Oct	8.25	Oct	9.50
Nov	10.05	Nov	6.00	Nov	8.25	Nov	9.50
Dec	10.50	Dec	6.00	Dec	8.25	Dec	9.50
Jan 1989	10.50	Jan 1993	6.00	Jan 1997	8.26	Jan 2001	9.05
Feb	10.93	Feb	6.00	Feb	8.25	Feb	8.50
Mar	11.50	Mar	6.00	Mar	8.30	Mar	8.32
Apr	11.50	Apr	6.00	Apr	8.50	Apr	7.80
May	11.50	May	6.00	May	8.50	May	7.24
Jun	11.07	Jun	6.00	Jun	8.50	Jun	6.98
Jul	10.98	Jul	6.00	Jul	8.50	Jul	6.75
Aug	10.50	Aug	6.00	Aug	8.50	Aug	6.67
Sep	10.50	Sep	6.00	Sep	8.50	Sep	6.28
Oct	10.50	Oct	6.00	Oct	8.50	Oct	5.53
Nov	10.50	Nov	6.00	Nov	8.50	Nov	5.10
Dec	10.50	Dec	6.00	Dec	8.50	Dec	4.84

Rate of Inflation

Mo/Year	Rate (%)	Mo/Year	Rate (%)	Mo/Year	Rate (%)	Mo/Year	Rate (%)
Jan 1986	3.90	Jan 1990	5.20	Jan 1994	2.50	Jan 1998	1.60
Feb	3.10	Feb	5.30	Feb	2.50	Feb	1.40
Mar	2.30	Mar	5.20	Mar	2.50	Маг	1.40
Apr	1.60	Apr	4.70	Apr	2.40	Apr	1.40
May	1.50	May	4.40	May	2.30	May	1.70
Jun	1.80	Jun	4.70	Jun	2.50	Jun	1.70
Jul	1.60	Jul	4.80	Jul	2.90	Jul	1.70
Aug	1.60	Aug	5.60	Aug	3.00	Aug	1.60
Sep	1.80	Sep	6.20	Sep	2.60	Sep	1.50
Oct	1.50	Oct	6.30	Oct	2.70	Oct	1.50
Nov	1.30	Nov	6.30	Nov	2.70	Nov	1.50
Dec	1.10	Dec	6.10	Dec	2.80	Dec	1.60
Jan 1987	1.50	Jan 1991	5.70	Jan 1995	2.90	Jan 1999	1.70
Feb	2.10	Feb	5.30	Feb	2.90	Feb	1.60
Mar	3.00	Mar	4.90	Mar	3.10	Mar	1.70
Apr	3.80	Apr	4.90	Арг	2.40	Apr	2.30
May	3.90	May	5.00	May	3.20	May	2.10
Jun	3.70	Jun	4.70	Jun	3.00	Jun	2.00
Jul	3.90	Jul	4.40	Jul	2.80	Jul	2.10
Aug	4.30	Aug	3.80	Aug	2.60	Aug	2.30
Sep	4.40	Sep	3.40	Sep	2.50	Sep	2.60
Oct	4.50	Oct	2.90	Oct	2.80	Oct	2.60
Nov	4.50	Nov	3.00	Nov	2.60	Nov	2.60
Dec	4.40	Dec	3.10	Dec	2.50	Dec	2.70
Jan 1988	4.00	Jan 1992	2.60	Jan 1996	2.70	Jan 2000	2.70
Feb	3.90	Feb	2.80	Feb	2.70	Feb	3.20
Mar	3.90	Mar	3.20	Mar	2.80	Mar	3.70
Apr	3.90	Арг	3.20	Apr	2.90	Apr	3.00
May	3.90	May	3.00	May	2.90	May	3.20
Jun	4.00	Jun	3.10	Jun	2.80	Jun	3.70
Jul	4.10	Jul	3.20	Jul	3.00	Jul	3.70
Aug	4.00	Aug	3.10	Aug	2.90	Aug	3.40
Sep	4.20	Sep	3.00	Sep	3.00	Sep	3.50
Oct	4.20	Oct	3.20	Oct	3.00	Oct	3.40
Nov	4.20	Nov	3.20	Nov	3.30	Nov	3.40
Dec	4.40	Dec	2.90	Dec	3.30	Dec	3.40
Jan 1989	4.70	Jan 1993	3.30	Jan 1997	3.00	Jan 2001	3.70
Feb	4.80	Feb	3.20	Feb	3.00	Feb	3.70
Mar	5.00	Mar	3.10	Mar	2.80	Mar	2.90
Apr	5.10	Apr	3.20	Apr	2.50	Apr	3.30
May	5.40		3.20		2.20		3.60
Jun	5.20	May Jun	3.00	May Jun	2.30	May Jun	3.20
Juli Jul	5.00	Jul	2.80	Jul Jul	2.30	Jul	2.70
Aug	4.70		2.80		2.20	Aug	2.70
Sep	4.70	Aug		Aug	2.20	-	2.60
Oct		Sep	2.70	Sep		Sep	2.00
	4.50	Oct	2.80	Oct	2.10	Oct	
Nov	4.70	Nov	2.70	Nov	1.80	Nov	1.90
Dec	4.60	Dec	2.70	Dec	1.70	Dec	1.60

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers, Change for 12-Month Period, Bureau of Labor Statistics Website and Wall Street Journal.

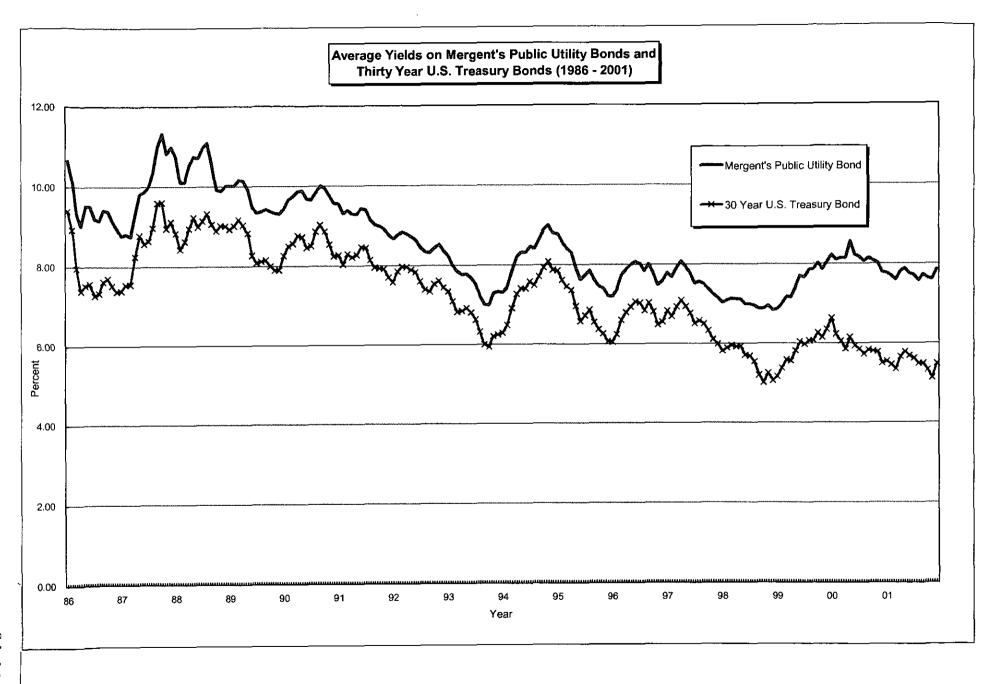
Average Yields on Mergent's Public Utility Bonds

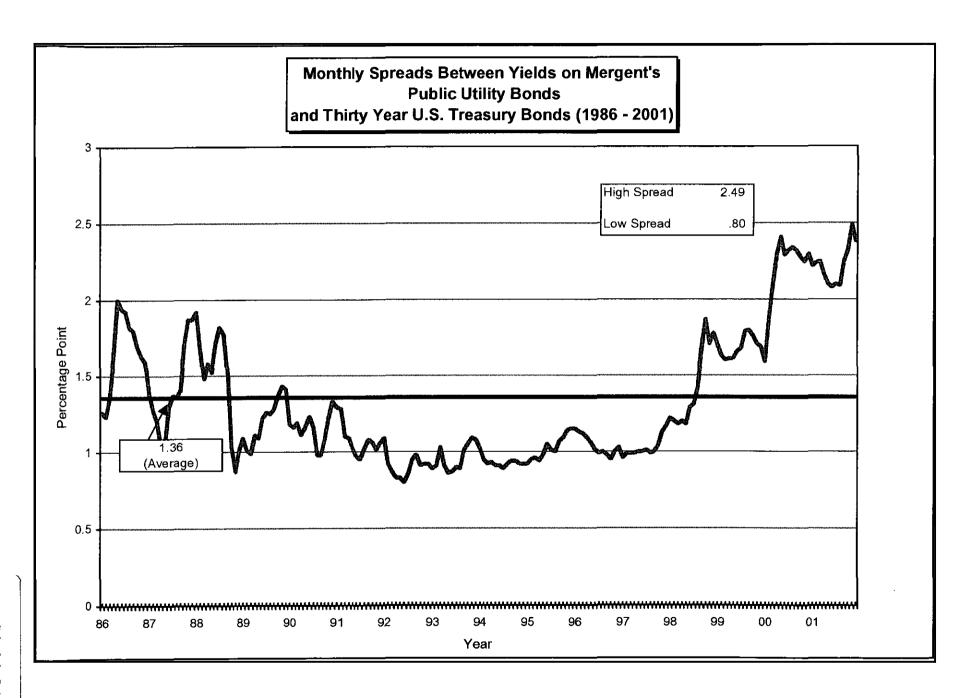
Mo/Year	Rate (%)						
Jan 1986	10.66	Jan 1990	9.44	Jan 1994	7.31	Jan 1998	7.03
Feb	10.16	Feb	9.66	Feb	7.44	Feb	7.09
Mar	9.33	Mar	9.75	Mar	7.83	Mar	7.13
Apr	9.02	Apr	9.87	Apr	8.20	Арг	7.12
May	9.52	May	9.89	May	8.32	May	7.11
Jun	9.51	Jun	9.69	Jun	8.31	Jun	6.99
Jul	9.19	Jul	9.66	Jul	8.47	Jui	6.99
Aug	9.15	Aug	9.84	Aug	8.41	Aug	6.96
Sep	9.42	Sep	10.01	Sep	8.65	Sep	6.88
Oct	9.39	Oct	9.94	Oct	8.88	Oct	6.88
Nov	9.15	Nov	9.76	Nov	9.00	Nov	6.96
Dec	8.96	Dec	9.57	Dec	8.79	Dec	6.84
Jan 1987	8.77	Jan 1991	9.56	Jan 1995	8.77	Jan 1999	6.87
Feb	8.81	Feb	9.31	Feb	8.56	Feb	7.00
Mar	8.75	Mar	9.39	Mar	8.41	Mar	7.18
Apr	9.30	Арг	9.30	Apr	8.30	Apr	7.16
May	9.82	May	9.29	May	7.93	May	7.42
Jun	9.87	Jun	9.44	Jun	7.62	Jun	7.70
Jul	10.01	Jul	9.40	Jul	7.73	Jul	7.66
Aug	10.33	Aug	9.16	Aug	7.86	Aug	7.86
Sep	11.00	Sep	9.03	Sep	7.62	Sep	7.87
Oct	11.32	Oct	8.99	Oct	7.46	Oct	8.02
Nov	10.82	Nov	8.93	Nov	7,40	Nov	7.86
Dec	10.99	Dec	8.76	Dec	7,21	Dec	8.04
Jan 1988	10.75	Jan 1992	8.67	Jan 1996	7,20	Jan 2000	8.22
Feb	10.11	Feb	8.77	Feb	7.37	Feb	8.10
Mar	10.11	Mar	8.84	Маг	7.72	Mar	8.14
Apr	10.53	Apr	8.79	Apr	7.88	Apr	8.14
May	10.75	May	8.72	May	7.99	May	8.56
Jun	10.71	Jun	8.64	Jun	8.07	Jun	8.22
Jul	10.96	Jul	8.46	Jul	8.02	Jul	8.17
Aug	11.09	Aug	8.34	Aug	7.84	Aug	8.06
Sep	10.56	Sep	8.32	Sep	8.01	Sep	8.15
Oct	9.92	Oct	8.44	Oct	7.76	Oct	8.08
Nov	9.89	Nov	8.53	Nov	7.48	Nov	8.03
Dec	10.02	Dec	8.36	Dec	7.58	Dec	7.79
Jan 1989	10.02	Jan 1993	8.23	Jan 1997	7,79	Jan 2001	7.76
Feb	10.02	Feb	8.00	Feb	7.68	Feb	7.69
Mar	10.16	Mar	7.85	Mar	7.92	Mar	7.59
Арг	10.14	Apr	7.76	Apr	8.08	Арг	7.81
May	9.92	May	7.78	May	7.94	May	7.88
Jun Tut	9.49	Jun Iul	7.68	Jun Iol	7.77	Jun 	7.75
Jul Aug	9.34	Jul Ava	7.53	Jul Ana	7.52	Jul A	7.71
Aug	9.37 9.43	Aug	7.21	Aug	7,57	Aug	7.57
Sep Oct	9.43 9.37	Sep Oct	7.01 6.99	Sep Oct	7.50 7.37	Sep Oct	7.73 7.64
Nov	9.33	Nov		Nov			7.64 7.61
Dec	9.33 9.31		7.30		7.24 7.16	Nov	
DCL	15.7	Dec	7.33	Dec	7,16	Dec	7.86

Source: Mergent Bond Record.

Average Yields on Thirty Year U.S. Treasury Bonds

Mo/Year	Rate (%)	Mo/Year	Rate (%)	Mo/Year	Rate (%)	Mo/Year	Rate (%)
Jan 1986	9.40	Jan 1990	8.26	Jan 1994	6.29	Jan 1998	5.81
Feb	8.93	Feb	8.50	Feb	6.49	Feb	5.89
Mar	7.96	Mar	8.56	Mar	6.91	Mar	5.95
Apr	7.39	Apr	8.76	Apr	7.27	Apr	5.92
May	7.52	May	8.73	May	7.41	May	5.93
Jun	7.57	Jun	8.46	Jun	7.40	Jun	5.70
Jul	7.27	Jul	8.50	Jul	7.58	Jul	5.68
Aug	7.33	Aug	8.86	Aug	7.49	Aug	5.54
Sep	7.62	Sep	9.03	Sep	7.71	Sep	5.20
Oct	7.70	Oct	8.86	Oct	7.94	Oct	5.01
Nov	7.52	Nov	8.54	Nov	8.08	Nov	5.25
Dec	7.37	Dec	8.24	Dec	7.87	Dec	5.06
Jan 1987	7.39	Jan 1991	8.27	Jan 1995	7.85	Jan 1999	5.16
Feb	7.54	Feb	8.03	Feb	7.61	Feb	5.37
Mar	7.55	Mar	8.29	Mar	7.45	Mar	5.58
Apr	8.25	Apr	8.21	Apr	7.36	Apr	5.55
May	8.78	May	8.27	May	6.95	May	5.81
Jun	8.57	Jun	8.47	Jun	6.57	Jun	6.04
Jul	8.64	Jul	8.45	Jul	6.72	Jul	5.98
Aug	8.97	Aug	8.14	Aug	6.86	Aug	6.07
Sep	9.59	Sep	7.95	Sep	6.55	Sep	6.07
Oct	9.61	Oct	7.93	Oct	6.37	Oct	6.26
Nov	8.95	Nov	7.92	Nov	6.26	Nov	6.15
Dec	9.12	Dec	7.70	Dec	6.06	Dec	6.35
Jan 1988	8.83	Jan 1992	7.58	Jan 1996	6.05	Jan 2000	6.63
Feb	8.43	Feb	7.85	Feb	6.24	Feb	6.23
Mar	8.63	Mar	7.97	Mar	6.60	Mar	6.05
Apr	8.95	Apr	7.96	Apr	6.79	Apr	5.85
May	9.23	May	7.89	May	6.93	May	6.15
Jun	9.00	Jun	7.84	Jun	7.06	Jun	5.93
Jul	9.14	Jul	7.60	Jul	7.03	Jul	5.85
Aug	9.32	Aug	7.39	Aug	6.84	Aug	5.72
Sep	9.06	Sep	7.34	Sep	7.03	Sep	5.83
Oct	8.89	Oct	7.53	Oct	6.81	Oct	5.80
Nov	9.02	Nov	7.61	Nov	6.48	Nov	5.78
Dec	9.01	Dec	7.44	Dec	6.55	Dec	5.49
Jan 1989	8.93	Jan 1993	7.34	Jan 1997	6.83	Jan 2001	5.54
Feb Mar	9.01	Feb	7.09	Feb	6.69	Feb	5.45
Apr	9.17 9.03	Mar	6.82	Mar	6.93	Mar	5.34
Дрі May	9.03 8.83	Apr	6.85	Apr	7.09	Apr	5.65
Jun	8.27	May	6.92	May	6.94	May	5.78
Jul	8.08	Jun I	6.81	Jun	6.77	Jun	5.67
Aug	8.12	Jul Ang	6.63	Jul	6.51	Jul	5.61
Sep	8.15	Aug Sep	6.32	Aug	6.58	Aug	5.48
Oct	8.00	Sep Oct	6.00 5.94	Sep	6.50	Sep	5.48
Nov	7.90	Nov	6.21	Oct	6.33	Oct	5.32
Dec	7.90	Dec	6.25	Nov	6.11	Nov	5.12
	1.20	Da	0.43	Dec	5.99	Dec	5.48





Economic Estimates and Projections, 2002-2004

		Inflation Rate	•		Real GDP		Į	Jnemploymer	nt	3-	Mo. T-Bill R	ate	30-7	Yr. T-Bond F	Rate
Source	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004	2002	2003	2004
The Budget & Economic															
Outlook: FY2001-2011 (8/01)	2.60%	2.70%	2.50%	2.60%	3.30%	3.20%	5.20%	5.20%	5.20%	3,80%	4.80%	4.90%	N.A	N.A.	N.A.
Value Line's															
"Investment Survey" (11/30/01)	2.10%	2.40%	2.60%	0.50%	3.50%	3.60%	6.30%	5.50%	5.30%	2.30%	4.00%	4.30%	5.20%	6.10%	6.20%
Current rate	2.80% *			1.70% *			5.60% **			1.72%			5.48%		

Notes:

N.A. = Not Available.

Sources of Current Rates:

Federal Reserve website, www.stls.frb.org, December 2001.

U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, for the 12-month period ending December 31, 2001

The Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index - All Urban Consumers, February 4, 2002

www.bls.gov

Other Sources:

The Congressional Budget Office, Economic Forecasts and Projections for 2001 through 2011, August 2001

www.cbo.gov.

^{*} Reflects annual increase from 2000 to 2001 (CBO forecast for Real GDP)

^{**} Rate reported by Bureau of Labor Statistics for the period ending January 2002

Historical Consolidated Capital Structures for Union Electric Company

(Thousands of Dollars)

Capital Components	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Common Equity	\$2,354,801.0	\$2,387,500.0	\$2,424,125.0	\$2,433,682.0	\$2,570,652.0
Preferred Stock	219,100.0	221,200.0	155,197.0	155,197.0	155,197.0
Long-Term Debt	1,798,671.0	1,780,500.0	1,674,311.0	1,882,601.0	1,760,439.0
Short-Term Debt	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	\$4,372,572.0	\$4,389,200.0	\$4,253,633.0	\$4,471,480.0	\$4,486,288.0

Capital Structure	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Common Equity	53.85%	54.39%	56.99%	54.43%	57.30%
Preferred Stock	5.01%	5.04%	3.65%	3.47%	3.46%
Long-Term Debt	41.14%	40.57%	39.36%	42.10%	39.24%
Short-Term Debt	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Note: The amount of Long-Term Debt includes Current Maturities.

Short-term Debt has not been noted on this schedule since CWIP usually exceeds outstanding short-term debt balances.

Source: Union Electric Company's Shareholder Annual Reports and Union Electric Company's response to Staff's Data Information Request No. 3801

Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE CASE NO. EC-2002-1

Selected Financial Ratios for Union Electric Company (Consolidated Basis)

Financial Ratios	1996		1997		1998		1999		2000
Return on Year-End									
Common Equity	12.38%		13.98%		12.84%		13.99%		14.60%
Earnings Per									
Common Share	\$2.86		\$2.44		\$2.82		\$2.81		\$3.33
Common Dividend									*
Payout Ratio	87.80%		88.58%		83.40%		96.55%		76.00%
Year-End Market Price									
Per Common Share	\$38.500		\$43.250		\$42.687		\$32.812		\$46.310
Year-End Book Value									
Per Common Share	\$23.06		\$22.00		\$22.27		\$22.52		\$23.30
Year-End Market to									
Book Ratio	1.67	x	1.97	x	1.92	x	1.46	x	1.99 x
Pre-Tax Interest									
Coverage Ratio	4.55	x	4.73	x	5.13	x	5.83	x	5.22 x

Notes:

Return on Year-End Common Equity = Net Income Available for Common Stock / Year-End Common Shareholders' Equity.

Common Dividend Payout Ratio = Common Dividends Paid / Net Income Available for Common Stock.

Year-End Market to Book Ratio = Year-End Market Price Per Common Share / Year-End Book Value Per Common Share.

Pre-Tax Interest Coverage Ratio = (Net Income + Income Taxes + Total Interest Expense) / Total Interest Expense.

Sources: Union Electric Company's Shareholder Annual Reports, Ameren Corporation Shareholder Annual Reports,
Union Electric Company's response to Staff's Data Information Request No. 3801, Standard and Poor's Stock guide
and Standard & Poor's Corporation's Utility Rating Service.

Capital Structure as of September 30, 2001 for Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE

(thousands of dollars)

Capital Component	Amount in Dollars	Percentage of Capital		
Common Stock Equity	\$2,603,364.0	59.08%		
Preferred Stock	155,197.0	3.52%		
Long-Term Debt	1,648,373.0	37.40%		
Short-Term Debt	0	0.00%		
Total Capitalization	\$4,406,934.0	100.00%		

Financial Ratio Benchmarks Total Debt / Total Capital - Including Preferred Stock

Standard & Poor's Corporation's			
Utility Rating Service 7/7/2000	AA	A	BBB
Electric Companies	49.00%	58.50%	62.43%
(Average)			

Source: Union Electric Company's response to Staff's Data Information Request Nos. 3801 and 3802.

Dividends Per Share, Earnings Per Share & Book Value Per Share Growth Rates for Ameren Corporation

	Dividends	Earnings	Book Value
Year	Per Share	Per Share	Per Share
1991	\$2.18	\$3.01	\$20.62
1992	\$2.26	\$2.65	\$21.19
1993	\$2.34	\$2.77	\$21.60
1994	\$2.40	\$3.01	\$22.22
1995	\$2.46	\$2.95	\$22.71
1996	\$2.51	\$2.86	\$23.06
1997	\$2.54	\$2.44	\$22.00
1998	\$2.54	\$2.82	\$22.27
1999	\$2.54	\$2.81	\$22.52
2000	\$2.54	\$3.33	\$23.30
2001	\$2.54	\$3.41	\$24.05

Annual Compound Growth Rates

	DPS	EPS	BVPS
1991 - 2001	1.54%	1.26%	1.55%
1996 - 2001	0.24%	3.58%	0.84%

 $2001\ DPS$ and BVPS are Value Line estimates. $2001\ EPS$ from Ameren news release, February 5, 2002

Source: Value Line Investment Survey, January 4, 2002

Historical and Projected Growth Rates for Amercn Corporation

Historical Growth Rates

DPS Annual Compound Growth (1996 - 2001)	0.24%
DPS Annual Compound Growth (1991 - 2001)	1.54%
BVPS Annual Compound Growth (1996 - 2001)	0.84%
BVPS Annual Compound Growth (1991 - 2001)	1.55%
EPS Annual Compound Growth (1996 - 2001)	3.58%
EPS Annual Compound Growth (1991 - 2001)	1.26%
Average of Historical Growth Rates	1.50%
Projected Growth Rates from Outside Sources	
5 Year Growth Forecast (Median) I/B/E/S Inc.'s Institutional Brokers Estimate System August 16, 2001	5.00%
5-Year Projected EPS Growth Rate Standard & Poor's Corporation's Earnings Guide September 2001	5.00%
Average of Projected Growth Rates Average of historical and projected growth	5.00% 3.25%
Proposed Range of Growth for Union Electric Company:	2.75% - 3.75%

Source: See Schedule 10 for Historical Growth Rate Information

Monthly High / Low Average Dividend Yields for Ameren Corporation

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	High	Low	Average		Projected
	Stock	Stock	High / Low	Expected	Dividend
Month / Year	Price	Price	Price	Dividend	Yield
April 2001	43.150	40.200	\$41.675	\$2.54	6.09%
May 2001	45.480	40.500	\$42.990	\$2.54	5.91%
June 2001	44.500	41.250	\$42.875	\$2.54	5.92%
July 2001	43.450	37.370	\$40.410	\$2.54	6.29%
August 2001	42.200	38.900	\$40.550	\$2.54	6.26%
September 2001	41.770	36.530	\$39.150	\$2.54	6.49%
Average			\$41.275		6.16%

Proposed Dividend Yield for Ameren Corporation:

6.16%

Notes:

Column 3 = [(Column 1 + Column 2)/2].

Column 4 = Estimated Dividends Declared per share represents the average projected

dividends for 2001 and 2002.

Column 5 = (Column 4 / Column 3).

Sources: Standard and Poor's Stock Guide

Value Line investment Survey, January 4, 2002

Wall Street City website

Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) Costs of Common Equity Estimates for Ameren Corporation

UE's Cost	
of Common Equity	=

Dividend Yield	+_	Expected Growth
		•
6.16%	+	2.75%

9.91%

8.91%

6.16%

3.75%

Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) Model Derivation

Discounted by k

Discounted by k

where:

g =estimated growth rate and k =cost of common equity.

Letting:

 P_0 = present price and D1 = expected dividends, then

$$P_0 = D_1 + D_1$$

or

Thus:

Cost of Common Equity

Dividend Yield

Expected Growth

Notes: See Schedule 12 for calculation of proposed dividend yield for Ameren Corporation

See Schedule 11 for calculation of proposed range of growth for Ameren Corporation

Average Risk Premium above the Yields of 30 Year Treasury Bonds for Ameren Corporation's Expected Return on Common Equity

		30-Year				30-Year	
	AEE's	U.S. Treasury	AEE's		AEE's	U.S. Treasury	AEE's
	Expected	Bond	Risk		Expected	Bond	Risk
Mo/Year	ROE	<u>Yields</u>	Premium	Mo/Year	ROE	Yields	Premium
Jan 1992	13.50%	7.58%	5.92%	Jan 1997	13.00%	6,83%	6.17%
Feb	13.50%	7.85%	5.55%	Feb	13.00%	6.69%	6.31%
Mar	13.50%	7.97%	5.53%	Mar	13.00%	6.93%	6.07%
Арт	13.00%	7.96%	5.04%	Apr	12.50%	7.09%	5.41%
May	13.00%	7.89%	5.11%	May	12.50%	6.94%	5.56%
Jun	13.00%	7.84%	5.16%	Jun	12.50%	6,77%	5.73%
Jul	13.00%	7.60%	5.40%	Jul	13.00%	6,51%	6.49%
Aug	13.00%	7.39%	5.61%	Aug	13.00%	6.58%	6.42%
Sep Oct	13.00% 12.50%	7.34% 7.53%	5.66% 4.97%	Sep	13.00% 13.00%	6.50% 6.33%	6.50% 6.67%
Nov	12.50%	7.51%	4.89%	Oct Nov	13.00%	6.11%	6.89%
Dec	12.50%	7.44%	5.06%	Dec	13.00%	5.99%	7.01%
Jan 1993	13.00%	7.34%	5.66%	Jan 1998	12.50%	5.81%	6.69%
Feb	13.00%	7.09%	5.91%	Feb	12.50%	5.89%	6.61%
Mar	13.00%	6.82%	6.18%	Mar	12.50%	5.95%	6.55%
Apr	12.50%	6.85%	5.65%	Apr	12.00%	5,92%	6.08%
May	12.50%	6.92%	5.58%	May	12.00%	5.93%	6.07%
Jun	12.50%	6.81%	5.69%	Jun	12.00%	5.70%	6.30%
Jul	12.50%	6.63%	5.87%	Jul	11.50%	5.68%	5.82%
Aug	12.50%	6.32%	6.18%	Aug	11.50%	5.54%	5.96%
Sep	12.50%	6.00%	6.50%	Sep	11.50%	5.20%	6.30%
Oct	13.50%	5.94%	7.56%	Oct	12.00%	5.01%	6.99%
Nov	13.50%	6.21%	7.29%	Nov	12.00%	5.25%	6.75%
Dec	13.50%	6.25%	7.25%	Dec	12.00%	5.06%	6.94%
Jan 1994	13.50%	6.29%	7.21%	Jan 1999	13.00%	5.16%	7.84%
Feb	13.50%	6.49%	7.01%	Feb	13.00%	5.37%	7.63%
Mar	13.50%	6.91%	6.59%	Мат	13.00%	5.58%	7.42%
Арг	13.50%	7.27%	6.23%	Apr	13.00%	5.55%	7.45%
May	13.50%	7.41%	6.09%	May	13.00%	5.81%	7.19%
Jun	13.50%	7.40%	6.10%	Jun	13.00%	6.04%	6.96%
Jul	13.00%	7.58%	5.42%	Jul	13.00%	5,98%	7.02%
Aug	13.00%	7.49%	5.51%	Aug	13.00%	6.07%	6.93% 6.93%
Sep	13.00%	7.71% 7.94%	5.29%	Sep Oct	13.00% 13.00%	6.07% 6.26%	6.74%
Oct Nov	13.50% 13.50%	8.08%	5.56% 5.42%	Nov	13.00%	6.15%	6.85%
Dec	13.50%	7.87%	5.63%	Dec	13.00%	6.35%	6.65%
Jan 1995	12.50%	7.85%	4.65%	Jan 2000	13.50%	6.63%	6.87%
Feb	12.50%	7.61%	4.89%	Feb	13.50%	6.23%	7.27%
Mar	12.50%	7.45%	5.05%	Mar	13.50%	6,05%	7,45%
Apr	12.50%	7.36%	5.14%	Арт	13.50%	5.85%	7.65%
May	12,50%	6.95%	5,55%	May	13.50%	6,15%	7.35%
Jug	12.50%	6.57%	5,93%	Jun	13.50%	5,93%	7,57%
Jul	12.00%	6.72%	5.28%	312 <u>1</u>	13.50%	5.85%	7.65%
Aug	12.00%	6.86%	5.14%	Aug	13.50%	5.72%	7.78%
Sep	12.00%	6.55%	5.45%	Sep	13.50%	5.83%	7.67%
Oct	12.00%	6.37%	5.63%	Oct	14.00%	5.80%	8.20%
Nov	12.00%	6.26%	5.74%	Nov	14.00%	5.78%	8.22%
De∞	12.00%	6.06%	5.94%	Dec	14.00%	5,49%	8.51%
Jan 1996	11.50%	6.05%	5.45%	Jan 2001	14.00%	5.54%	8.46%
Feb	11.50%	6.24%	5.26%	Feb	14.00%	5.45%	8.55%
Mar	11.50%	6.60%	4.90%	Mar	14.00%	5.34%	8.66%
Apr	13.00%	6.79%	6.21%	Apr	14.00%	5.65% 5.78%	8.35% 8.22%
May	13.00%	6.93%	6.07%	May	14.00%	5.78% 5.67%	8.22% 8.33%
Jup Jup	13.00%	7.06%	5.94% 5.97%	Jun Jul	14.00%	5.61%	8.39%
Jul Aug	13.00% 13.00%	7.03% 6.84%	5.97% 6.16%	Aug	14.00% 14.00%	5.48%	8.52%
Sep	13.00%	7.03%	5.97%	Sep	14.00%	5,48%	8.52%
Oct	13.00%	6.81%	6.19%	Oct	14.00%	5,32%	8.68%
Nov	13.00%	6.48%	6,52%	Nov	14.00%	5.12%	8.88%
Dec	13.00%	6.55%	6,45%	Dec	14.00%	5.48%	8.52%
	/•		-11079				

	Summary Information	(Jan 1992 - Dec 2001)
Sources: The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports St. Louis Federal Reserve Website: http://www.stls.frb.org/fred/data/irates/gs30	Average Risk Premium:	6.49%
	High Risk Premium:	8.88%
	Low Risk Premium:	4.65%

Risk Premium Costs of Equity Estimates for Ameren Corporation

30-Year				Equity	
AEE's	1	U.S. Treasury		Risk	
Cost of	•			Premium	
Common Equity	Common Equity (January 6, 2002)			(1/92 - 12/01)	
11.87%	=	5.38%	+	6.49%	

Risk Premium Approach

The risk premium approach is based upon the proposition that common stocks are more risky than debt and, as a result, investors require a higher expected return on stocks than bonds. In this approach, the cost of common equity is computed by the following formula:

Common		Current		Equity Risk
Equity	#	Cost of Debt	+	Premium

where:

The Current Cost of Debt is represented by the yield on 30-Year U.S. Treasury Bonds, The appropriate rate was determined by using the yield on U.S. Treasury Bonds on January 6, 2002

The Equity Risk Premium represents the difference between AEE's expected return on common equity (ROE) as projected in the Value Line Investment Survey and the yield on U.S. Treasury Bonds on January 6, 2002. The appropriate Equity Risk Premium was determined to be the average risk premium for the period January 1992 through December 2001. See Schedule 14 for the calculation of the Equity Risk Premium of 6.49%.

Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) Costs of Equity Estimates Ameren Corporation

AEE	l's		Risk Free			(AEE's		Market)	
Cost of Comm	non Equity	=	Rate		+	(Beta	*	Risk Premium)	
9.4	10%	=	5.38%	+	(0.55	*	7.30%)
9.3	34%	=	5.38%	+	(0.55	*	7.20%)

Capital Asset Pricing Model

The capital asset pricing model (CAPM) describes the relationship between a security's investment risk and its market rate of return. This relationship identifies the rate of return which investors expect a security to earn so that its market return is comparable with the market returns earned by other securities that have similar risk. The general form of the CAPM is as follows:

Cost of Common Equity = Risk Free Rate + [Beta * Market Risk Premium]

where:

The Risk Free Rate reflects the level of return which can be achieved without accepting any risk. The Risk Free Rate is represented by the yield on 30-Year U.S. Treasury Bonds. The approriate rate was determined to be 5.38% on January 6, 2002 as published on WWW.MARKETWATCH.COM.

The Beta represents the relative movement and relative risk between a particular stock and the market. The approriate Beta for AEE was determined to be 0.55 as published in The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports, January 4, 2002.

The Market Risk Premium represents the expected return from holding the entire market portfolio less the expected return from holding a risk free investment. The approriate Market Risk Premium was determined to be 7.30% as calculated in Ibbotson Associates, Inc.'s Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation: 2001 Yearbook for the period 1926 - 2000 and 7.20% for the period 1991-2000.

Criteria for Selecting Comparable Electric Utility Companies

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)

Electric Utility Company	Electric Utility Publicly Traded	Information Printed In Value Line	S&P Utility Credit Rating "AA- to BBB+"	Total Capital >=\$4.0 B <=\$8.0 B	Positive DPS Annual Compound Growth Rate (1991 - 2001)	No Missouri Operations	Met All Criteria
ALLETE	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
Allegheny Energy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Alliant Energy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Amer. Elec. Power	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
Ameren Corp.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
Avista Corp.	Yes	Yes	No				
Bangor Hydro Elec.	Yes	Yes	No				
BayCorp Holdings LTD	Yes	Yes	No				
Black Hills	Yes	Yes	No				
CH Energy Group	Yes	Yes	No				
CMS Energy	Yes	Yes	No				
Cen. Vermont Pub. Serv.	Yes	Yes	No				
Cinergy Corp.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cleco	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
Conectiv	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
Consolidated Edison	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
Constellation Energy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No		
DPL Inc.	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
DQE	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
DTE Energy	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
Dominion Resources	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
Duke Energy	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
Edison Intl.	Yes	Yes	No				
El Paso Electric	Yes	Yes	No				

Criteria for Selecting Comparable Electric Utility Companies

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
			S&P	Total	Positive DPS Annual		
		Information	Utility	Capital	Compound	No	
	Planti a I Milia	Printed In	Credit Rating	>=\$4.0 B	Growth Rate	Missouri	Met Al
	Electric Utility		"AA- to BBB+"	>=\$4.0 B <=\$8.0 B	(1991 - 2001)	Operations	Criteria
Electric Utility Company	Publicly Traded	Value Line	Yes	No	(1991 - 2001)	Operations	CHICIE
Empire Dist. Elec.	Yes	Yes			No		
Energy East Corp.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NO NO		_
Entergy Corp.	Yes	Yes	No				
Evergreen Solar	Yes	Yes	No				
Exelon Corp.	Yes	Yes	Yes	<u>No</u>	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		_
FPL Group	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
FirstEnergy Corp.	Yes	Yes	No				
Florida Public Utilities	Yes	Yes	No			···	
Fortis Inc.	Yes	Yes	No				
G't Plains Energy	Yes	Yes	No				
GPU Inc.	Yes	Yes	No				_
Green Mountain Power	Yes	Yes	No				
Hawaiian elec.	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
IDACORP Inc.	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
KFx Inc.	Yes	Yes	No				
MDU Resources	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
Madison Gas & Elec.	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
Maine Public Service	Yes	Yes	No				
Montana Power	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			_
NSTAR	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
NiSource Inc.	Yes	Yes	No				
Niagra Mohawk	Yes	Yes	No				
NorthWestern Corp.	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
Northeast Utilities	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No		
OGE Energy	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			-
Otter Tail Corp.	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
PG&E Corp.	Yes	Yes	No				
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No		
PPL Corp. Pinnacle West Capital	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
Potomac Electric Power	1 05	105		No.	 		

Yes

Yes

No

Yes

Progress Energy

Criteria for Selecting Comparable Electric Utility Companies

(3)

No

No

No

No

Yes

Yes

No

Yes

Yes

No

No

Yes

No

No

(4)

(5)

(6)

(7)

			S&P	Total	Positive DPS Annual		
		Information	Utility	Capital	Compound	No	
	Electric Utility	Printed In	Credit Rating	>=\$4.0 B	Growth Rate	Missouri	Met All
Electric Utility Company	Publicly Traded	Value Line	"AA- to BBB+"	<=\$8.0 B	(1991 - 2001)	Operations	Criteria
Public Serv. (N. Mex.)	Yes	Yes	No				
Public Service Enterprise	Yes	Yes	No				
Puget Energy Inc.	Yes	Yes	No				
RGS Energy Group	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
Reliant Energy	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
SCANA Corp.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No		
Sempra Energy	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No_		
Sierra Pacific Res.	Yes	Yes	No				
Southern Co	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
TECO Energy	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
TXU Corp.	Yes	Yes	Yes	No			
U. S. Energy Sys. Inc.	Yes	Yes	No				
UIL Holdings	Yes	Yes	No				

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

(2)

Sources: Columns 1, 2, 4 & 5 = The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings and Reports, December 7, 2001, January 4, 2002.

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

(1)

Column 3 = Standard and Poor's Utilities and Perspectives, January 21, 2002.

UNITIL Corp.

UniSource Energy

Utilicorp United Vectren Corp.

WPS Resources Western Resources

Wisconsin Energy

Xcel Energy Inc.

UniCorp Inc.

The Three Comparable Electric Utility Companies

	Ticker		
Number	Symbol	_Company Name	
1	AYE	Allegheny Energy	
2	CEG	Alliant Energy	
3	CIN	Cinergy Corp.	

Dividends Per Share, Earnings Per Share & Book Value Per Share Growth Rates for the Three Comparable Electric Utility Companies

	Dividends P	Dividends Per Share		Earnings Per Share		Book Value Per Share	
Company Name	1991	_2001_	1991_	2001	1991	2001	
Allegheny Energy	\$1.59	\$1.72	\$1.81	\$4.05	\$15.54	\$22.10	
Alliant Energy	\$1.80	\$2.00	\$2.43	\$2.40	\$17.09	\$26.40	
Cinergy	\$1.65	\$1.80	\$2.21	\$2.75	\$18.70	\$18.50	

		Annual Compound Growth Rates		
				Average of
				10 Year
	DPS	EPS	BVPS	Annual
				Compound
Company Name	1991 - 2001	1991 - 2001	1991 - 2001	Growth Rates
Allegheny Energy	0.79%	8.39%	3.58%	4.25%
Alliant Energy	1.06%	-0.12%	4.44%	1.79%
Cinergy	<u>0.87%</u>	2.21%	-0.11%	0.99%
Average	0.91%	3.49%	2.64%	2.35%
Standard Deviation	0.11%	3.59%	1.97%	1.39%

Source: The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports, December 7, 2001 and January 4, 2002. EPS, DPS and BVPS for Allegheny, EPS and BVPS for Alliant and EPS and BVPS for Cinergy for 2001 are estimates. Remaining EPS, DPS and BVPS are actual.

Historical and Projected Growth Rates for the Three Comparable Electric Utility Companies

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
		Projected	Projected	Projected		
	Average	5 Year	5 Year	3-5 Year		Average of
	10 Year	Growth	EPS	EPS	Average	Historical
	Annual	IBES	Growth	Growth	Projected	& Projected
Company Name	Compound	(Median)	(S&P)	Value Line	Growth	Growth
Allegheny Energy	4.25%	10.00%	9.00%	9.33%	9.44%	6.85%
Alliant Energy	1.79%	5.25%	4.00%	3.17%	4.14%	2.97%
Cinergy	0.99%	6.00%	6.00%	4.12%	5.37%	3.18%
Average	2.35%	7.08%	6.33%	5.54%	6.32%	4.33%

Notes: Column 5 = [(Column 2 + Column 3 + Column 4)/3].

Column 6 = [(Column 1 + Column 5)/2].

Sources: Column 1 = Average of 10 Year Annual Compound Growth Rates from Schedule 19.

Column 2 = I/B/E/S Inc.'s Institutional Brokers Estimate System, January 17, 2002.

Column 3 = Standard & Poor's Corporation's Earnings Guide, January 2002.

Column 4 = Value Line Investment Survey, Ratings & Reports, December 7, 2001 and January 4, 2002.

Average High / Low Stock Price for June 2001 through September 2001 for the Three Comparable Electric Utility Companies

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
	June :	2001	July	2001	Augus	t 2001	Septemb	er 2001	Average High/Low
	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	Stock
	Stock	Price							
Company Name	Price	(Jun 01-Sep 01)							
Allegheny Energy	\$54.200	\$45.500	\$49.250	\$40.150	\$45.150	\$42.390	\$44.450	\$35.200	\$44.536
Alliant Energy	30.600	28.200	30.000	27.900	30.820	28.290	31.490	29.500	29.600
Cinergy	35.300	32.200	35.000	29.700	33.200	30.780	32.870	28.000	32.131

Notes:

Column 9 = [(Column 1 + Column 2 + Column 3 + Column 4 + Column 5 + Column 6 + Column 7 + Column 8)/8].

Sources: Wall Street City website

DCF Estimated Costs of Common Equity for the Three Comparable Electric Utility Companies

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
			Average of	
Expected	Average		Historical	Estimated
Annual	High/Low	Projected	& Projected	Cost of
Dividend	Stock	Dividend	Growth	Common
(Avg 2001-2002)	Price	Yield	Rate	Equity
\$1.740	\$44.536	3.91%	6.85%	10.76%
\$2.000	\$29.600	6.76%	2.97%	9.72%
\$1.800	\$32.131	5.60%	3.18%	8.78%
		5.42%	4.33%	9.75%
<u>(</u>	Expected Annual Dividend (Avg 2001-2002) \$1.740 \$2.000	Expected Average Annual High/Low Dividend Stock (Avg 2001-2002) Price \$1.740 \$44.536 \$2.000 \$29.600	Annual High/Low Projected Dividend Stock Dividend (Avg 2001-2002) Price Yield \$1.740 \$44.536 3.91% \$2.000 \$29.600 6.76% \$1.800 \$32.131 5.60%	Expected Average Average of Historical Annual High/Low Projected & Projected Dividend Stock Dividend Growth (Avg 2001-2002) Price Yield Rate \$1.740 \$44.536 3.91% 6.85% \$2.000 \$29.600 6.76% 2.97% \$1.800 \$32.131 5.60% 3.18%

Notes: Column 1 = Estimated Dividends Declared per share represents the average actual and projected dividends for 2001 and 2002.

Column 3 = (Column 1 / Column 2).

Column 5 = (Column 3 + Column 4).

Sources: Column 1 = The Value Line Investment Survey: Ratings & Reports, December 7, 2001 and January 4, 2002.

Column 2 =Schedule 21.

Column 4 = Schedule 20.

Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) Costs of Common Equity Estimates for the Three Comparable Electric Utility Companies

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
					CAPM	CAPM
					Cost of	Cost of
	Risk	Company's	Market	Market	Common	Common
	Free	Value Line	Risk	Risk	Equity	Equity
Company Name	Rate	Beta	Premium	Premium	(Low)	(High)
Allegheny Energy	5.38%	0.60	7.20%	7.30%	9.70%	9.76%
Alliant Energy	5.38%	0.55	7.20%	7.30%	9.34%	9.40%
Cinergy	5.38%	0.55	7.20%	7.30%	9.34%	9.40%
Average		0.57			9.46%	9.52%

Notes: Column 5 = [Column 1 + (Column 2 * Column 3)].

Column 6 = [Column 1 + (Column 2 * Column 4)].

Sources: Column 1 = The Risk Free Rate reflects the level of return which can be achieved without accepting any risk. The Risk Free Rate is represented by the yield on 30-Year U.S.

Treasury Bonds. The approximate rate was determined to be 5.38% for the period ending January 4, 2002 as published on the Marketwatch website (www.marketwatch.com).

- Column 2 = The Beta represents the relative movement and relative risk between a particular stock and the market. The approriate Betas were taken from The Value Line Investment Survey, Ratings and Reports, December 7, 2001 and January 4, 2002.
- Column 3 = The Market Risk Premium represents the expected return from holding the entire market portfolio less the expected return from holding a risk free investment. The approriate Market Risk Premium was determined to be 7.20% as calculated in Ibbotson Associates, Inc.'s Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation: 2001 Yearbook for the period 1991 2000.
- Column 4 = The Market Risk Premium represents the expected return from holding the entire market portfolio less the expected return from holding a risk free investment. The approriate Market Risk Premium was determined to be 7.30% as calculated in Ibbotson Associates, Inc.'s Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation: 2001 Yearbook for the period 1926 2000.

Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE CASE NO. EC-2002-1

Pro Forma Pre-Tax Interest Coverage Ratios for Union Electric Company

	8.91%	9.41%	9.91%
1. Common Equity (see Schedule 9)	\$2,603,364	\$2,603,364	\$2,603,364
2. Earnings Allowed (ROE * [1])	\$231,979	\$244,996	\$258,013
 Preferred Dividends (DR 3801 response) 	\$8,817	\$8,817	\$8,817
4. Net Income Available ([2]+[3])	\$240,796	\$253,813	\$266,830
5. Tax Multiplier (1/{1-Tax Rate})	1.6231	1.6231	1.6231
6. Pre-Tax Earnings ([4]*[5])	\$390,830	\$411,958	\$433,085
7. Annual Interest Costs (DR 3801 response)	\$112,318	\$112,318	\$112,318
8. Avail. for Coverage ([6]+[7])	\$503,148	\$524,276	\$545,403
9. Pro Forma Pre-Tax Interest Coverage ([8]/[7])	4.48 x	4.67 x	4.86 x
Electric Utility Financial Ratio Bend	chmarks - Pretax Inte	rest Coverage (x)	
Standard & Poor's Corporation's Utility Rating Service 7/7/2000	"AA"	"A"	"BBB"

4.17x

3.40x

Schedule 24

2.33

Public Utility Revenue Requirement

Or

Cost of Service

The formula for the revenue requirement of a public utility may be stated as follows:

Equation 1: Revenue Requirement = Cost of Service

or

Equation 2: RR = O + (V - D)R

The symbols in the second equation are represented by the following factors:

RR = Revenue Requirement

O = Prudent Operating Costs, including Depreciation and Taxes

V = Gross Valuation of the Property Serving the Public

D = Accumulated Depreciation

(V-D) = Rate Base (Net Valuation)

(V-D) R = Return Amount (\$\$) or Earnings Allowed on Rate Base

R = i L + d P + k E or Overall Rate of Return (%)

i = Embedded Cost of Debt

L = Proportion of Debt in the Capital Structure

d = Embedded Cost of Preferred Stock

P = Proportion of Preferred Stock in the Capital Structure

k = Required Return on Common Equity (ROE)

E = Proportion of Common Equity in the Capital Structure

Weighted Cost of Capital as of September 30, 2001 for Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE

Weighted Cost of Capital Using Common Equity Return of:

		Common Equity Return of.			
Percentage	Embedded				
of Capital	Cost	8.91%	9.41%	9.91%	
59.08%		5.26%	5.56%	5.86%	
3.52%	5.72%	0.20%	0.20%	0.20%	
37.40%	6.82%	2.55%	2.55%	2.55%	
0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
100.00%	<u>-</u>	8.01%	8.31%	8.61%	
	of Capital 59.08% 3.52% 37.40% 0.00%	of Capital Cost 59.08% 3.52% 5.72% 37.40% 6.82% 0.00% 0.00%	Percentage of Capital Embedded Cost 8.91% 59.08% 5.26% 3.52% 5.72% 0.20% 37.40% 6.82% 2.55% 0.00% 0.00% 0.00%	Percentage of Capital Embedded Cost 8.91% 9.41% 59.08% 5.26% 5.56% 3.52% 5.72% 0.20% 0.20% 37.40% 6.82% 2.55% 2.55% 0.00% 0.00% 0.00% 0.00%	