

STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
JEFFERSON CITY  
February 29, 2000

CASE NO: EM-96-149

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

Sincerely,



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

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**STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a Session of the Public Service  
Commission held at its office  
in Jefferson City on the 29th  
day of February, 2000.

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 DIRECTING RATE REDUCTION**

On February 17, 2000, the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) filed a Motion for Commission Orders in Case No. EO-96-14, Case No. EO-96-15 and Case No. EM-96-149. In Case No. EM-96-149 and Case No. EO-96-15, Staff requested that the Commission order Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE (AmerenUE) to effectuate the permanent rate reduction in the amount of \$16.321 million prior to April 1, 2000. Staff requested that the Commission direct AmerenUE to file tariff sheets with the Commission having an effective date prior to April 1, 2000, reflecting the permanent rate reduction. In addition, Staff requested that the Commission order AmerenUE to effectuate, in Case No. EM-96-149, starting April 1, 2000, the crediting of customers' bills for the excess revenues billed between September 1, 1998 and the effective date of the permanent rate

reduction. Staff also requested that the Commission direct AmerenUE to file in Case No. EM-96-149 a final earnings report for the first year of the second Experimental Alternative Regulation Plan (EARP). On February 17, 2000, AmerenUE filed its final earnings report filing for the first sharing period of the second EARP.

On February 18, 2000, the Commission issued its Notice Shortening Time Within Which A Response May Be Filed requiring the parties to file their response to the Staff's motion by 4 p.m. on February 22, 2000. On February 22, 2000, AmerenUE filed its response to Staff's Motion for Commission Orders in Case No. EO-96-14, with a footnote that the identical pleading would be filed in Case No. EO-96-15 and EO-96-149 as soon as possible. AmerenUE filed its response in Case No. EO-96-15 and Case No. EM-96-149 on February 25, 2000, along with its Request to File Response which explained why these copies were being late filed. The Commission will consider the responsive pleading filed by AmerenUE.

In its response, AmerenUE stated that it had been working closely with Staff since the issuance of the Commission's Report and Order in Case No. EO-96-14 on December 23, 1999 to develop the tariff sheets for the rate reduction agreed to in Case No. EO-96-15 and Case No. EM-96-149. However, AmerenUE believes that it will not be possible to complete the necessary work to prepare and file appropriate tariff sheets to reflect the rate reduction and the additional credit for the excess revenues billed between September 1, 1998 and the effective date of the permanent rate reduction before April 1, 2000. AmerenUE stated that it does anticipate that the permanent rate reduction can

be filed a few days prior to April 1, to become effective on April 1, 2000 and that the associated credits for the excess revenues billed between September 1, 1998 and the effective date of the permanent rate reduction can begin one month later, on May 1, 2000.

On February 22, 2000, Retirement Facilities Coalition (RFC) filed its response in support of Staff's Motion for Commission Orders. In reference to Case No. EO-96-15 and Case No. EM-96-149, RFC requests the Commission issue the order requested by Staff.

On February 28, 2000, Staff filed its reply to AmerenUE's response, requesting that, in Case No. EM-96-149, the Commission order (1) AmerenUE to file tariffs effectuating a permanent rate reduction in the amount of \$16,321,000, effective April 1, 2000, and (2) that excess revenues/rate reduction credits covering the period September 1, 1998, to the effective date of the permanent rate reduction be implemented commencing May 1, 2000.

The Commission has reviewed Staff's motion and the responsive pleadings from AmerenUE, RFC and Staff. The Commission finds that it is just and reasonable to order the permanent rate reduction in the amount of \$16,321,000 to be effective on April 1, 2000, and to order AmerenUE to file the tariff sheets necessary to effectuate that permanent rate reduction. In addition, the Commission finds that it is just and reasonable to order AmerenUE to begin crediting customers' bills for the excess revenues billed between September 1, 1998 and April 1, 2000, the effective date of the permanent rate reduction, beginning on May 1, 2000.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

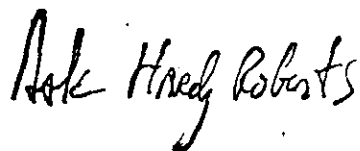
1. That Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE is directed to file tariff sheets with the Commission implementing the permanent rate reduction in the amount of \$16,321,000, as agreed in Case No. EO-96-15 and Case No. EM-96-149. These tariff sheets shall have an effective date of April 1, 2000 and shall be filed no later than 3 p.m. on March 27, 2000. Staff shall file a recommendation indicating whether the Commission should approve or reject the tariff sheets no later than 4 p.m. on March 29, 2000.

2. That Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE is directed to issue credits on customers' bills for the excess revenues billed between September 1, 1998 and the effective date of the permanent rate reduction, April 1, 2000, beginning on May 1, 2000.

3. That Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE shall file a notice with the Commission indicating its compliance with the Commission's order directing the rate reduction and distribution of credits for excess rates billed between September 1, 1998 and April 1, 2000, upon substantial completion.

4. That this order shall become effective on March 10, 2000.

**BY THE COMMISSION**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dale Hardy Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

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

(S E A L)

Lumpe, Ch., Crumpton, Murray,  
Schemenauer, and Drainer, CC., concur

Register, Regulatory Law Judge

ALL/S: Register/Boyer  
2-24 EM-96-149  
Date Circulated CASE NO.

[Signature]  
Lumpe, Chair  
[Signature]  
Crumpton, Commissioner  
[Signature]  
Murray, Commissioner  
[Signature]  
Schemenauer, Commissioner  
[Signature]  
Drainer, Vice-Chair

2-29  
Agenda Date

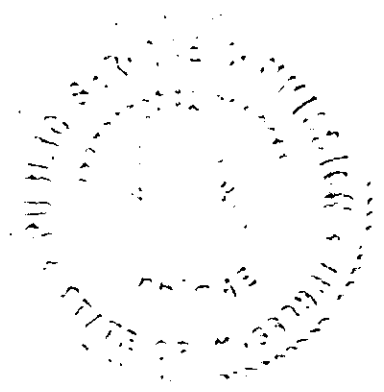
Action taken: 5-0 AA  
Must Vote Not Later Than \_\_\_\_\_

[Signature]

**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 29<sup>th</sup> day of FEBRUARY 2000.



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