

STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a Session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office
in Jefferson City on the 18th
day of May, 1994.

In the matter of the application)
of Citizens Electric Corporation)
for a variance from provisions of)
4 CSR 240-20.030.)

Case No. EO-94-198

ORDER GRANTING VARIANCE

On December 27, 1993, Citizens Electric Corporation (CEC) filed an application requesting the Commission to grant a variance from 4 CSR 240-20.030(3), subsections (a), (g), (i), (j), (k), and (m), requiring utilities to keep plant records according to vintage year recording. In addition, the Commission was also requested to grant a variance from 4 CSR 240-20.030(6) requiring the submission of a depreciation study and property unit catalogue by January 1, 1994.

On April 22, 1994, a Staff recommendation was filed in this matter. CEC is in agreement with the Staff's recommendation. In that recommendation the Staff asserts that CEC does not currently have the data processing equipment and software necessary to keep records according to vintage year recording. CEC is currently working on obtaining such equipment and software but, to avoid enormous cost to the company, is waiting for certain federal REA regulations regarding the appropriate accounting platform before making the required upgrade.

The Staff also stated that, in regard to the additional request of a variance from Rule 4 CSR 240-20.030(6), which requires the submission of a depreciation study by CEC prior to January 1, 1994, the depreciation study has been submitted and that the request is therefore moot.

The Staff recommends to the Commission that the following measures be taken:

1. Permit CEC to record a description of all plant unit additions or retirements and year of placement or removal within its existing staking sheet mapping system for all assets acquired or placed into service after 1993, in accordance with its discussions with the Staff, until such time that it purchases an accounting system capable of maintaining vintage records according to 4 CSR 240-20.030(3). CEC shall also maintain an annual cost summary by vintage per retirement unit for purposes of conducting future actuarial analyses beginning with 1994 placements until such time that it purchases an accounting system capable of maintaining vintage records. CEC agrees to implement a mechanized accounting system capable of meeting the requirements of 4 CSR 240-20.030(3) under no circumstances later than July 1, 1996.

2. Grant a variance from the filing requirements of 4 CSR 240-20.030(6)(B)1.A. to permit CEC to postpone filing a property unit catalog until November 1, 1994.

The Commission has considered the request of CEC together with the recommendation of Staff agreed to by CEC, and finds that good cause exists to grant the requested variance. The Commission will, therefore, grant the requested variance and adopt the Staff recommendation in that regard.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That Citizens Electric Corporation is hereby granted a variance from 4 CSR 240-20.030(3) subsections (a), (g), i), (j), (k), and (m), on a one-time basis. Citizens Electric Corporation is further ordered to record a description of all plant unit additions or requirements and the year of placement or removal within its existing staking sheet mapping system for all assets acquired or placed into service after 1993 until such time as it purchases an accounting system capable of maintaining vintage records in compliance with 4 CSR 240-20.

2. That Citizens Electric Corporation is further ordered to maintain an annual cost summary by vintage per retirement unit beginning with 1994 placements until such time as it acquires the required accounting system.

3. That Citizens Electric Corporation is ordered to implement a mechanized accounting system in full compliance with the requirements of 4 CSR 240-20.030 no later than July 1, 1996.

4. That Citizens Electric Corporation is granted a variance from the requirements of 4 CSR 240-20.030(6), in regard to the required filing of a property unit catalogue, and is now given until November 1, 1994, to comply with the property unit catalogue filing requirements.

5. That this order shall become effective on June 1, 1994.

BY THE COMMISSION



David L. Rauch
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

McClure, Perkins, Kincheloe
and Crumpton, CC., Concur.
Mueller, Chm., Absent.