

July 10, 2000

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

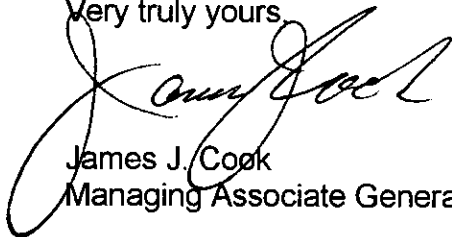
Re: MPSC Case No. EM-96-149

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of Union Electric Company, d/b/a AmerenUE, in the above matter, please find an original and eight (8) copies of its **Request to Hold Pending Procedural Schedule Decision in Abeyance**.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of this filing by stamping a copy of the enclosed letter and returning it to me in the enclosed self-addressed envelope.

Very truly yours,



James J. Cook
Managing Associate General Counsel

JJC/dhb
Enclosures

cc: Ms. Shelly Register
Parties on Attached Service List

FILED²

JUL 10 2000

Missouri Public
Service Commission



BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

FILED²

JUL 10 2000

Missouri Public
Service Commission

In the Matter of the Monitoring 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

**REQUEST TO HOLD PENDING PROCEDURAL
SCHEDULE DECISION IN ABEYANCE**

COMES NOW Union Electric Company ("UE" or "the Company") and requests the Missouri Public Service Commission ("the Commission") to hold in abeyance its decision on setting a procedural schedule in these matters. In support of this request, the Company states as follows:

1. The Commission currently has before it two proposed procedural schedules; one from the Staff and one from the Company.
2. The Company, the Staff and the Office of Public Counsel ("OPC") have reached an agreement in principle on all outstanding issues in the first sharing period of the Second Experimental Alternative Regulation Plan and have begun drafting a pleading to present to the Commission for its approval.
3. It is anticipated that the pleading will be similar to the "Joint Recommendation" or the "Stipulation and Agreement," which were filed at the conclusion of the first and second sharing periods, respectively, of the First Experimental Alternative Regulation Plan.

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4. Because of the hearing in Case No. EM-2000-292 during the week of July 10, 2000, it is not anticipated that the attorneys for the Staff, OPC and the Company will be able to finalize the settlement documents and file them until the week of July 17, 2000.
5. The Company suggests that if the settlement documents cannot be finalized and filed by July 21, 2000, the Company will file a notice with the Commission indicating the status of that effort and the then anticipated filing date.
6. The Company has been authorized to inform the Commission that the Staff and OPC join in this request.

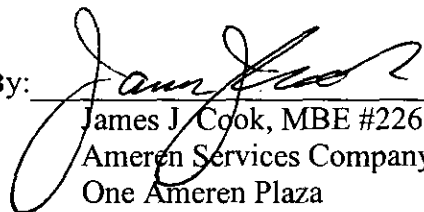
WHEREFORE, for the reasons set out above, the Commission is requested to hold this matter in abeyance, pending the filing of settlement documents, or a further status report, by July 21, 2000.

Dated: July 10, 2000

Respectfully submitted,

AmerenUE

By: _____


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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was served via first class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, on this 10th day of July, 2000, on the following parties of record:

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