Exhibit No.:

Issue: Account History

April, 2001 Disconnections

Witness: Leroy W. Ettling

Sponsoring Party: AmerenUE

Type of Exhibit: Rebuttal Testimony

Case No.: EC 2002-112

Date Testimony Filed: May 31, 2002

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

LEROY ETTLING

ON BEHALF OF

AMERENUE

CASE NO. EC-2002-112

St. Louis, Missouri May 2002

1		REBUTTAL TESTIMONY		
2		OF		
3		ON BEHALF OF		
4		LEROY ETTLING		
5		AMERENUE		
6		CASE NO. EC-2002-112		
7	Q.	Please state your name and current address.		
8	A.	My name is Leroy Ettling and my current address is 5872 Rabbit Run Drive, St.		
9	Louis, Missouri 63129.			
10	Q.	Have you ever been employed by AmerenUE?		
11	A.	Yes. I was employed by AmerenUE.		
12	Q.	What dates were you employed by AmerenUE?		
13	A.	I was employed by AmerenUE from roughly July 1960 up until January the 31 5,		
14	2002.			
15	Q.	What is your current status at AmerenUE?		
16	A.	I am presently retired.		
17	Q.	Could you give me a brief description of the positions you held during your		
18	years at AmerenUE?			
19	A.	My first five months I worked in the Record Center as a clerk and then in		
20	December of	1960, I transferred to the Customer Service Department as it was called back then.		
21	And I started as a final bill clerk. Then I worked for awhile as an order clerk. Then a credit and			
22	collections clerk. This covered a period of time from December 1960 to 1965. From 1965 to			

2	1998 through January 31, 2002, I was a senior credit advisor.			
3	Q.	Mr. Ettling, what were the duties of a customer rep during the years that you		
4	held that pos	ition?		
5	A.	A customer rep mostly answered the phones, and talked to customers about their		
6	electric bills,	regarding the accuracy of their bills, made payment arrangements and set up field		
7	investigations regarding accuracy of their bills.			
8	Q.	Then you became a credit adviser in 1997?		
9	A.	That is correct.		
10	Q.	What were your duties as a credit advisor?		
11	A.	My specific duties as a credit advisor were to investigate unpaid final bills and try		
12	and locate customers and transfer the unpaid balances onto their active accounts.			
13	Q.	How long did you do that job?		
14	A.	I had that job approximately one year.		
15	Q.	Then in 1998 you started working as a senior credit advisor?		
16	A.	Yes, I held that position for four years from roughly 1998 to 2002.		
17	Q.	What were your job duties as a senior credit advisor?		
18	A.	My job duties as a senior credit Advisor were to contact customers on delinquent		
19	bills on the la	arge commercial accounts and attempt collection.		
20	Q.	What does AmerenUE consider to be a large commercial account?		
21	A.	Large commercial accounts were by definition electric service accounts that have		
22	usage of 25,000 kilowatt hours or more per month, or accounts that have demand meters.			
23	Q.	What was your territory when you became a senior credit advisor in 1998?		

1997 I was a customer representative. In 1997, I was a credit advisor, and then roughly from

- 1 A. In 1998, the general territory that I was responsible for included territory in the St.
- 2 Louis area, north of Highway 40 up to most of North St. Louis, and portions of North County. I
- 3 also had portions of South St. Louis and South County, mostly the Mehlville area of South
- 4 County. Finally, I had territories in Illinois which involved East St. Louis, Fairview Heights and
- 5 Alton.
- Q. Did the territory that you were assigned in 1998 remain the same until you
- 7 retired this year?
- 8 A. No. When the company added an additional senior credit advisor, approximately
- 9 2 % years ago, the South St. Louis and South County part of my territory was given to another
- 10 senior creditor advisor.
- Q. Did you keep the other areas that you previously mentioned?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. On whose behalf are you appearing in this proceeding?
- 14 A. I am appearing on behalf of myself and AmerenUE.
- Q. What is the purpose of your Rebuttal Testimony in this proceeding?
- A. I was responsible for the collection efforts relating to the Sterling's Market store
- account and my rebuttal testimony will address those efforts, the discussions I had with Sterling
- Moody and other store representatives about the accounts, and what I know about the eventual
- disconnection in April 2001.
- Q. Have you read and are you familiar with the Direct testimony filed by
- 21 Sterling Moody, Louis Biernbaum and Brian McNamara?
- 22 A. Yes.

- Q. When did you first become involved with the AmerenUE account relating to
- 2 electricity provided to the Sterling's MarketPlace store that was located at 8350 N.
- 3 Broadway in the City of St. Louis?
- A. I became involved with that account in September 1998 when I took a successor
- 5 order for the store.
- Q. How was the electric service that was provided by AmerenUE to Sterling's
- 7 MarketPlace at 8350 N. Broadway billed after you took that successor order in September
- 8 1998?
- 9 A. 8350 N. Broadway was billed with three electric meters. The electric meters
- 10 involved were serial numbers: 01859500, 50688215, and 70593313.
- Q. Were each of those meters billed under separate accounts?
- 12 A. No.
- O. How were those meters billed?
- 14 A. Two of the meters were billed on one account and one meter was billed on a
- separate account.
- Q. Which of the meters were billed together and which was billed separately?
- 17 A. The two meters that were billed together were meters 01859500 and 50688215
- and the meter that was billed separately, on its own account, was meter number 70593313.
- Q. What was your first contact with the 8350 N. Broadway store after setting up
- the account?
- A. Initially, routine deposit requests on both the accounts were mailed out on
- October 23, 1998. I then received a telephone call on November 5, 1998 from a gentleman
- identifying himself as someone from the store who said that they would pursue the possibility of

- obtaining bonds in lieu of paying cash deposits. This gentleman also promised to mail in a payment for the initial bills that were then past due.
- Q. Did the store ever secure bonds in lieu of the deposits?
- 4 A. They did not.
- 5 Q. What action did you take when they did not produce bonds?
- 6 A. I then set up deposit charges on the accounts in January of 1999.
- 7 Q. How were those deposits calculated?
- 8 A. The deposits were based upon past billing usage by the prior customers at that
- 9 address.
- Q. What past usage would you look at?
- 11 A. We would be looking at the usage for the preceding twelve months, the billing
- records and then we would pick out the highest bill rendered within a thirty day period and then
- double the amount.
- Q. Did you receive the payments for the initial billing that the gentleman from
- the store had promised to mail when you spoke to him on November 5,1998?
- 16 A. No, the first payments that we received on the accounts occurred at the end of
- 17 December 1998.
- Q. Were the deposit requests also paid in December of 1998?
- 19 A. They were not.
- Q. Did the store remain current on its usage bills after December of 1998?
- 21 A. No.
- Q. What collection efforts did you undertake when the deposits were not paid
- and the accounts were not kept current?

1	A. I sent out disconnection notices on both the accounts in February 1999.				
2	Q. What would those disconnection notices that were sent out to the store have				
3	said?				
4	A.	As I recall, the notices would have said, service would be subject to disconnection			
5	48 hours after receipt of the notice, if payment was not received.				
6	Q. Did the store respond to your disconnection notices?				
7	A.	Yes. We received phone calls from a gentleman at the store who said that they			
8	had just mailed payments on each of the accounts.				
9	Q.	Were those promised payments received?			
10	A.	Yes. We did receive several payments in March 1999.			
11	Q.	Did those payments satisfy the deposits and bring both accounts current?			
12	A.	The payments paid for the deposits, however, by that time, new March bills had			
13	gone out so they were still outstanding.				
14	Q. Did the March payments cause you to allow service to continue?				
15	A.	Yes.			
16	Q.	Did the store remain current on its accounts from March 1999 forward?			
17	A.	No.			
18	Q.	What action did you take during the remainder of 1999 in order to attempt			
19	to eliminate that arrearage?				
20	A.	I tried to set up a payment plan which would result in a gradual reduction of the			
21	arrearage.				
22	Q.	When you would set up a payment plan in those type of situations, did you			
23	make it clear that the total balance was still owed?				

1	A.	Yes.			
2	Q.	Was your attempt to set up a payment plan successful?			
3	A.	No. We received some payments but several of those checks' bounced.			
4	Q.	Did you continue your collection efforts?			
5	A.	Yes. At the end of August 1999, I set up a weekly payment plan of \$5,000 a			
6	week on each of the accounts.				
7	Q.	Did they follow that payment plan?			
8	A.	No. But they did make some \$5,000 payments sprinkled with some checks that			
9	were returned for insufficient funds.				
10	Q.	Did you start having regular conversations with Sterling Moody about that			
11	time?				
12	A.	Yes. I spoke with Sterling Moody on October 7, 1999, and he promised to make			
13	a \$15,000 payment on Friday, October 15, 1999.				
14	Q. Was that payment made on October 15?				
15	A.	No.			
16	Q.	When no payment was received on October 15 despite Mr. Moody's promise,			
17	what did you do?				
18	A.	I sent out disconnection notices in November of 1999.			
19	Q.	What was the store's response to your November 1999 disconnection notices?			
20	A.	I received a payment of \$10,000 on December 1, 1999 and I applied \$5,000 to			
21	each of the two accounts. I also received a \$10,000 payment on December 14 splitting \$5,000				
22	between both of the accounts. However, on December 22, the second \$10,000 check was				
23	returned by the bank for insufficient funds.				

- Q. What is Schedule 1 to your testimony?
- A. Schedule 1 is the \$10,000 check received from the store on December 1, 1999,
- 3 along with a note from Sterling Moody that accompanied the check.
- Q. What is Schedule 2 to your testimony?
- A. Schedule 2 is a copy of the \$10,000 check dated December 10, 1999 from the
- store that I received on December 14, 1999, which was returned by the bank for insufficient
- 7 funds on December 22, 1999.
- 8 Q. What was your response to the bank returning the one \$10,000 check on
- 9 December 22 of 1999?
- A. I made a call to the store and Mr. Moody sent a replacement \$10,000 check dated
- 11 December 24, 1999.
- Q. Did that replacement check that was received on December 24 of 1999 clear
- 13 the bank?
- 14 A. No. On January 14, 2000, that check was returned by the bank and I immediately
- had a letter hand delivered to the store by one of our credit reps demanding the check be
- redeemed and also a payment of an additional \$10,000 for a grand total of \$20,000 to be paid by
- no later than January 18, 2000. And if that would not be received, the letter informed him that we
- would disconnect the service on January 19, 2000.
- Q. So the first \$10,000 check was returned and the check sent by the store to
- 20 replace it was also returned?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. Did Mr. Moody make the payment demanded in your January 14, 2000
- 23 letter?

- A. Not on the exact day as demanded in my letter. However, on January 19, 2000, I
- 2 received two \$5,000 cashier checks to redeem the \$10,000 check and then on January 25, 2000, I
- 3 received a Mercantile cashier's check for \$8,000 applying \$4,000 to each of the two accounts.
- 4 Q. What is Schedule 3 to your testimony?
- 5 A. Schedule 3 is a copy of the replacement check for \$10,000 that we received from
- 6 the store dated December 24, 1999. This check was returned by the bank for insufficient funds.
- 7 Q. What is Schedule 4 to your testimony?
- 8 A. Schedule 4 to my testimony is a copy of the letter that I had hand delivered to the
- 9 store demanding the \$10,000 check be redeemed and the payment of an additional \$10,000.
- Q. Schedule 4 to your testimony references a faxed letter received from
- 11 Representative Louis Ford. What is Schedule 5 to your testimony?
- A. Schedule 5 is a copy of a letter from State Representative Louis Ford that was
- faxed to me by Sterling Moody on January 13, 2000 in which Representative Ford urged vendors
- to give Mr. Moody every possible opportunity to bring his accounts current.
- Q. Did the January 19, 2000 and January 25, 2000 payments cause you to allow
- service to continue past January 2000?
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. Did the store begin to make regular payments after your January 14, 2000
- 19 letter?
- A. No. A few small payments in February did not even pay for the current usage.
- Q. What did you do about that situation?
- A. Disconnection notices were mailed out.
- Q. Was there any response from the store to your disconnection notices?

- Yes. On March 10, 2000, 1 received a call from the guard in the lobby stating that
- 2 someone from Sterling's Market was there to see me. I came out to the lobby anticipating a
- 3 payment being given to me but, instead, Sterling Moody was there with Representative Ford and
- with no payment. Mr. Moody said that he would have \$15,000 in Church donations to me by
- 5 March 14. He also said that he was anticipating state grants and I advised him to bring the
- 6 documentation regarding the pending grants with the payment by March 15.
- Q. What is Schedule 6 to your testimony?
- 8 A. Schedule 6 is a copy of my handwritten notes on the meeting that took place on
- 9 that day with Sterling Moody and Representative Ford which is taken from my business file.
- Q. Were those notes made the day of the meeting as part of your regular
- business activities as a senior credit advisor?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. Was it your regular business practice to make such notes?
- 14 A. Yes.
- O. Does Schedule 6 accurately reflect what you discussed with Mr. Moody and
- 16 Representative Ford?
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. What happened next after your meeting on March 10 with Mr. Moody and
- 19 Representative Ford?
- 20 A. On March 14, 2000, I received three checks totaling \$15,000 signed by Mr.
- 21 Moody and a letter from Mr. Moody telling me that a fire had closed the store and that he was
- expecting an insurance settlement. He further asked that we apply the deposits that were

- 1 currently being held on the accounts to the balances that were unpaid and also promised to make
- three payments totaling \$45,000 between March 27, 2000 to April 24, 2000.
- Q. What is Schedule 7 to your testimony?
- A. Schedule 7 is a copy of the March 14 letter signed by Mr. Moody in which he
- 5 promised that three payments totaling \$45,000 would be made.
- O. Did you receive any support documenting the grants that Mr. Moody
- 7 claimed he was going to be receiving?
- 8 A. Yes. I received a letter signed by Mr. Bill Borgmeyer, Missouri Department of
- 9 Economic Development, dated March 14, 2000, confirming that the Missouri Department of
- 10 Economic Development was working to finalize a loan guarantee with a St. Louis bank in order
- 11 to provide the financing for Mr. Moody's store.
- Q. What is Schedule 8 to your testimony?
- A. Schedule 8 is a copy of the March 14, 2000 letter from Mr. Borgmeyer which is
- taken from my business file.
- Q. Were you able to comply with Mr. Moody's request that you apply the
- account deposits to the unpaid balances?
- 17 A. No. It is a policy of Union Electric to only apply deposits to unpaid balances on
- 18 final bills and closed accounts.
- Q. What was the next activity on the store's accounts after you received the
- 20 payments and letter from Mr. Moody on March 14, 2000?
- A. On March 22, 2000, I received a call from Joann, the bookkeeper at the store. She
- said the three \$5,000 checks received on March 14 had been returned by the bank and I advised

- her to tell Mr. Moody to make these checks good by 5:30 p.m. that day with a cashier's check at our office. 2 Did the store comply with your demands? Q. 3 4 A. Yes. On March 22, 2000, I received a \$15,000 official check from Union Planter's Bank to make good on the three \$5,000 payments that the bookkeeper had called me 5 6 about. What is schedule 9 to your testimony? 7 0. A. Schedule 9 is copies of the three \$5,000 checks signed by Sterling Moody that 8
- were received on March 14, 2000, and subsequently returned by the bank for insufficient funds.
 Q. Did Mr. Moody make the additional three payments totaling \$45,000 as he
- 11 had promised in his March 14, 2000 letter?
- 12 A. No.
- Q. What was the next significant contact that you had with the store?
- A. As I recall, about this time, Sterling Moody began to claim that the meters at 8350 N. Broadway included some usage that would be attributed to the common areas of the shopping center where the store was located and that such usage was the landlord's responsibility and not his.
- Q. What was your response to Mr. Moody regarding those claims?
- 19 A. My response was that Union Electric's responsibility for the wiring ended at the
 20 meters and that this would be an internal wiring problem that Mr. Moody and his landlord, Mr.
 21 Schonlau, would have to work out.
- Q. Did Mr. Moody ever bring up the subject of the wiring again?

- 1 A. Yes. Mr. Moody told me that his landlord was going to separate the wiring
- 2 involving the common areas of the shopping center from the grocery store area and connect that
- 3 common area wiring to a new meter.
- Q. Did you ever tell Mr. Moody or any of the store representatives that you had
- 5 confirmed that the store's meters were serving other stores in the shopping center or the
- 6 common areas in the shopping center?
- 7 A. No. I told Mr. Moody that he would need to work that issue out with his landlord.
- 8 Q. Were any payments being made during this time period?
- 9 A. The store was making small payments but usually not enough to pay the current
- billings and never enough to pay down the arrears balance.
- Q. Did you send an inspection crew to the store to investigate how it was wired?
- 12 A. No. However, I did send a marketing rep, Mr. Brian Ripperda, to the store to
- visually confirm that the three meters involved were all at the 8350 address.
- Q. What is schedule 10 to your testimony?
- 15 A. Schedule 10 is a diagram given to me by Mr. Schonlau, the owner of the shopping
- center, in August 2000 on which was written meter numbers and customer names including
- Sterling's Market. The three meter numbers shown for Sterling's Market were the three meters
- we had listed for the store accounts. The words "new meter" are shown on the diagram I got
- 19 from Mr. Schonlau for P&B Real Estate, Mr. Schonlau's company, but that meter was not yet in
- service.
- Q. During this time frame when the wiring was being discussed, did Mr. Moody
- 22 or anyone else from the store ever indicate to you that they thought that the meters
- 23 themselves at the store were not accurately measuring the electric usage?

- 1 A. As I recall, no.
- Q. During the summer of 2000 were there any payments received from the store
- 3 that were returned for insufficient funds?
- 4 A. Yes. We received an original payment of \$3,000 on a check dated August 4, 2000,
- 5 that was eventually returned by the bank.
- 6 Q. What is Schedule 11 to your testimony?
- A. Schedule 11 is a copy of the check dated August 4, 2000 that was returned by the
- 8 bank for insufficient funds.
- Q. Were there any other checks that were returned in that same time frame?
- 10 A. Yes. There was a check dated September 29, 2000 for \$2,500 that was also
- 11 returned by the bank.
- Q. What is Schedule 12 to your testimony?
- A. Schedule 12 is a copy of the check dated September 29, 2000 for \$2,500 that was
- returned by the bank for insufficient funds.
- O. Did you continue your collection efforts?
- 16 A. Yes. I kept calling the store trying to get them to pay the current charges and
- 17 something against the prior balance.
- Q. Were you successful in your efforts?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 O. Did you consider terminating service?
- 21 A. I was very apprehensive about actually ordering the service disconnected due to
- 22 the prior intervention by Representative Ford. I also continued to receive promises from Mr.
- 23 Moody about state grants he was going to receive.

- 1 Q. Did you have any discussions with Sterling Moody in October of 2000?
- 2 A. Yes. He told me that the wiring had not yet been fixed by the landlord as the
- 3 landlord had originally promised and I told Mr. Moody that something needed to be done
- 4 because the accounts had over \$200,000 past due. Mr. Moody agreed to discuss this matter with
- 5 his landlord, Mr. Schonlau.
- 6 O. Were any other checks returned during this time period?
- 7 A. Yes. In November 2000, a check from the store dated November 2, 2000 was
- 8 returned.
- 9 Q. What is schedule 13 to your testimony?
- 10 A. Schedule 13 is a copy of the November 2, 2000 check that was returned for
- insufficient funds.
- Q. What is schedule 14 to your testimony?
- 13 A. Schedule 14 is a note received from Mr. Moody referencing money orders to
- replace the November 2, 2000 bad check and an additional \$2,000 payment out of Thanksgiving
- sales along with copies of the money orders and the \$2,000 check.
- Q. What is schedule 15 to your testimony?
- 17 A. Schedule 15 is a note from Mr. Moody that accompanied a November 27, 2000
- \$1,500 payment along with a copy of that payment.
- O. Was there any further activity regarding the wiring issue?
- 20 A. Yes. In December of 2000, a fourth meter was connected at the 8350 N.
- Broadway location in the name of Mr. Schonlau's company, P & B Real Estate, at Mr.
- Schonlau's request. I believe this meter was the "new meter" referenced on the diagram I got
- from Mr. Schonlau in August 2000.

- Q. Were there any payments made by the store on either of the accounts in
- 2 December 2000 or January of 2001?
- 3 A. We received three payments in December totaling \$5,500 but two of them were
- 4 returned by the bank for insufficient funds.
- 5 Q. What is schedule 16 to your testimony?
- A. Schedule 16 is a copy of a note from Mr. Moody that accompanied two money
- 7 orders dated December 5, 2000 along with copies of those money orders.
- 8 Q. What is schedule 17 to your testimony?
- A. Schedule 17 is a \$2,000 check from the store dated December 15, 2000 which was
- 10 returned by the bank for insufficient funds.
- O. What is schedule 18 to your testimony?
- A. Schedule 18 is a \$2,000 check from the store dated December 26, 2000 that was
- returned from the bank for insufficient funds.
- Q. Did the store make any payments in January 2001?
- 15 A. Yes, we received two payments in January. A \$1,500 payment on January 16 and
- a \$1,525 payment on January 26. But the January 16 payment for \$1500 came back to us from
- the bank on January 30.
- Q. What is Schedule 19 to your testimony?
- A. Schedule 19 is a copy of the \$1,500 check dated January 6, 2001 that came back
- 20 from the bank for insufficient funds.
- Q. Is there anything else that happened on the accounts in January of 2001?
- A. Yes. On January 18, 2001, Louis Biembaum, who worked for Sterling's
- 23 Marketplace came to the office with no payment as originally promised. Instead, he said Mr.

- 1 Moody was going to get \$150,000 in grants from the City of St. Louis and another \$150,000 in
- 2 grants from the State of Missouri.

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- 5 Q. Were there any payments in February of 2001?
- A. Yes. We received two payments on February 13, 2001. One payment was for
- 7 \$1,500 and the other payment was for \$1,000. However, the first payment of \$1,500 was
- 8 returned by the bank March 1, 2001.
- 9 Q. What is schedule 20 to your testimony?
- A. Schedule 20 is a copy of the \$1,500 check received on February 13, 2001 from
- 11 the store that was returned by the bank for insufficient funds.
- Q. Did you continue your collection efforts during March of 2001?
- 13 A. Yes. During one phone call to the store in March, Mr. Biernbaum told me that
- Mr. Moody was going to Jefferson City that day to meet with some people, including the
- governor, and that he would be picking up a package. Mr. Moody was to call me with more
- information from Jefferson City sometime that afternoon.
- Q. Did Mr. Moody call as promised?
- 18 A. No.
- O. What action did you take with regard to the \$1,500 check dated February 9
- that was returned for insufficient funds?
- A. 1 sent a certified letter to the store advising them that if the check was not
- redeemed we would be disconnecting the service after March 7, 2001.
- Q. What is Schedule 21 to your testimony?

- 1 A. Schedule 21 is a copy of my letter to the store dated March 1, 2001.
- Q. Did the store redeem the \$1,500 check by March 7?
- 3 A. Yes. We received a cashiers/official check from Mr. Moody for \$1,500 that was
- 4 dated March 6, 2001.
- 5 Q. What is schedule 22 to your testimony?
- A. Schedule 22 is a copy of the March 6, 2001 cashiers check and the note from Mr.
- 7 Moody that accompanied the check.
- Q. Other than the March 6 check redeeming the February 9, 2001 returned
- 9 check, did you receive any other payments on the accounts in March of 2001?
- 10 A. No.
- Q. What happened next on the account?
- 12 A. On March 27, 2001, I had a telephone conversation with Mr. Biernbaum about the
- fact that the meter put in by Mr. Schonlau was not registering any activity and apparently was
- 14 not connected to anything.
- Q. Did you attempt to reach Mr. Schonlau?
- 16 A. Yes. I set up a meeting with Mr. Schonlau for March 29, 2001 but he did not
- show up for the meeting.
- Q. What happened next?
- 19 A. I discussed the account with my supervisor, Mike Foy. At his instruction, I had
- 20 disconnection notice letters typed and hand delivered to the store.
- Q. What is Schedule 23 to your testimony?
- A. Schedule 23 is a copy of the disconnection notice letter dated April 9, 2001 for the
- account number 02426 stating delinquent balance due of \$79,750.44 and stating that if payment

- was not received within 48 hours upon receipt of this notice, service would be subject to 1 disconnection without further notice. 2 3 4 What is Schedule 24 to your testimony? O. 5 Schedule 24 is the second disconnection notice letter for the other account number 6 A. 01916 dated April 9, 2001 that lists a delinquent balance of \$113,574.36, stating that if payment 7 was not received within 48 hours after receipt of the letter, service would be subject to 8 disconnection without further notice. 9 10 O. What did you do with the April 9, 2001 disconnection notices after you had them typed? 11 A. I then got these letters to the credit rep department for hand delivery to the store. 12 0. What is the next step in the AmcrenUE procedures on disconnection notices 13 after a notice is delivered to the customer by someone from the credit rep department? 14 I would get a confirmation from the credit rep that the letters had been delivered Α. 15 16 and I would wait two working days and then order the service disconnected if payment had not been received. 17
- Q. What happened next in this case after you had given the April 9 disconnection notices to the credit rep department for delivery?
- 20 A. I received a call on April 10, 2001 from either Mr. Moody or some other 21 employee from the store, I don't recall who, who told me that the lights were off. I was surprised.
- Q. Why were you surprised?

- 1 A. Under the normal circumstances, the service would not have been turned off until
- 2 48 hours from the delivery of the notices.
- Q. What did you do when you got that call from the store?
- A. I asked them to hold and immediately went to Mike Foy and discussed this with
- 5 him.
- 6 Q. Then what did you do?
- A. I returned back to the phone and advised the store that we would order the service
- 8 back on because we should not have been there to turn the service off until 48 hours after the
- 9 notices were delivered. But I also advised them that we could be back out to turn the service off
- after 48 hours if they did not make any payments on the bills.
- Q. Did the store make any payments after the service was reconnected on April
- 12 10?
- 13 A. No.
- Q. What was the store's response to your warning that service could be turned
- off after April I I if they did not pay the bills.
- A. On April 10, Mr. Moody faxed me a letter from Representative Ford to Mr.
- 17 Moody which stated that Representative Ford was working with the Economic Development
- 18 Council to keep the store open.
- Q. What is schedule 25 to your testimony?
- A. Schedule 25 is a copy of the letter from Representative Ford that Mr. Moody
- 21 faxed me on April 10, 2001.
- Q. What was your involvement with the accounts after that disconnection on
- 23 April 10, 2001?

- 1 A. My supervisor, Mr. Mike Foy, took over decision making responsibility for the
 - 2 store accounts and he had me enter an order into the system to have service to the store cut on
 - 3 April 17, 2001.
 - Q. Did you receive a call from Louis Biernbaum on April 17, 2001?
 - 5 A. Yes.
 - Q. Did you tell him that you were not aware that AmerenUE was planning to
 - 7 shut the electricity off?
 - 8 A. No. I had entered the order for the April 17, 2001 disconnection.
 - Q. During any of your efforts to get the store on a payment plan did you ever
 - tell Sterling Moody or anyone else from the store that if they made partial payments they
- would not have to eventually pay the entire past due balances on the accounts?
- A. No. What we always discussed was that I expected them to pay the current bills in
- full each month plus an additional amount against the prior balance on the bills until they were
- 14 completely paid off.
- Q. Did the store ever fulfill that expectation?
- 16 A. No.
- Q. During any of your conversations with Sterling Moody or any one else from
- 18 the store did you ever say that the bills that were being sent to the store were not accurate?
- 19 A. No.
- Q. Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?
- 21 A. Yes.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STATE OF MISSOURI

STERLING MOODY, STERLING'S MARKET PLACE AND STERLING'S PLACE, I,)	
Complainants, v.)	Case No. EC-2002-112
AMERENUE, UNION ELECTRIC CO. d/b/a AMERENUE, and MIKE FOY, LEROY ETTLING, and SHERRY MOSCHNER, as employees of AmerenUE,)))	
Respondents.)	

AFFIDAVIT OF LEROY W. ETTLING

STATE OF MISSOURI) SS.
CITY OF ST. LOUIS)

Leroy W. Ettling, being first duly sworn on his oath, states:

- 1. My name is Leroy W. Ettling.
- 2. Attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes is my Rebuttal Testimony on behalf of AmerenUE consisting of pages 1 through 21, including Schedules 1 through 25, all of which testimony has been prepared in written form for introduction into evidence in Missouri Public Service Commission Case No. EC-2002-112 on behalf of AmerenUE.

Control of the Control of the

SHARON SOSNA St. Louis County My Commission Expires October 30, 2003

3. I hereby swear and affirm that my answers contained in the attached testimony to the questions therein propounded are true and correct.

Leroy W. Ettling

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25 day of May 2002.

My commission expires:

FORM 5311NS

Ameren CSS Cash Remittance Stub

Mr. EDkal, HERE IS A REgular CHECK, Because the Holosy our Foodshamps and regular DEBits WILL Not Creat sub our accounts until Weo. Mate's Become I promised for today I DIANT Went to DISAPPOINT YOU! If YOU RATHER A CASHESS CHECK HARAI CALL Mel

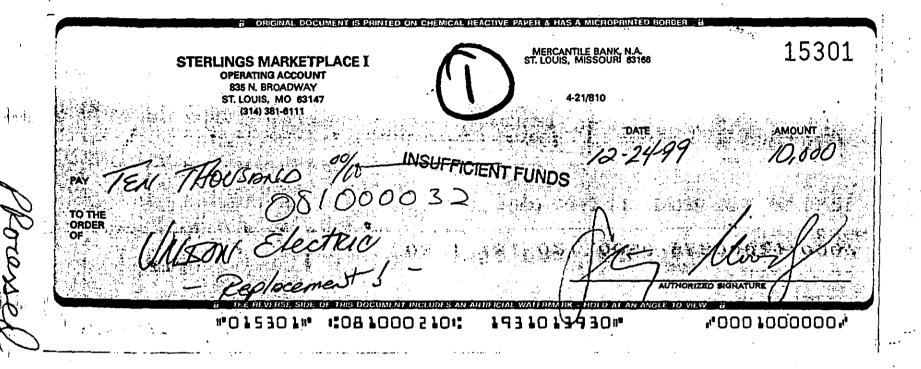
> ETTLING SCHEDULE 1- PAGE 2

15246 MERCANTILE BANK, N.A. ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63166 STERLINGS MARKETPLACE I **OPERATING ACCOUNT** 835 N. BROADWAY 4-21/810 ST. LOUIS, MO 63147 (314) 381-6111 10.000.00 TO THE ORDER aneren UE 08/000032 1:08 1000 2 101 **000 1000000* #52300-02417-5,000.00 #57300-01916 \$5,000.00 total cheek 10,000 03 7373 0054 88449422188 ~ b0000 ~ b0H3 · b1

> ENDORSEMENT **CANCELLED** AMEREN UE

ETTLING SCHEDULE

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12/31/99 8801 82681 14 CH97 8804

SHOW REPRESENTED A STERN STERN

One Ameren Plaza 1901 Chouteau Avenue PO Box 66149 St. Louis, MO 63166-6149 314.621.3222

HANDIDBUTYIRRED

January 14, 2000

Mr. Sterling Moody Broadway Real Estate 8350 N. Broadway St. Louis, MO 63147

Re: \$10,000.00 Returned Check #15301

Dated 12/24/99

Ameren UE

Dear Sir:

Again, I am confronted with a \$10,000.00 returned check that was supposed to replace a previous returned check. I accepted this second check in good faith on the promise that check #15301 would clear your bank.

We have been extremely generous and patient to you and your organization to get your store established. However, the issuance of sequential bad checks is not acceptable under any circumstances.

This check needs to be redeemed immediately, in addition to another monthly payment on your billing, with a **cashier's check payment only!** The faxed letter received today from your representative, Louis Ford, does not resolve the delinquency problem on your account. We believe we have already extended enough courtesy to you regarding the payment of your bills.

We need a minimum payment of \$20,000.00 paid on your two accounts at 8350 N. Broadway by no later than Tuesday January 18, 2000. Otherwise, we have no alternative than to authorize the disconnection of your service at 8350 N. Broadway on Wednesday January 19, 2000. If your service is disconnected, full payment of all outstanding amounts will be required before restoration of service can occur.

Sincerely,

L. Ettling Sr. Credit Advisor (314) 992-6800

LE/sro Account #52300-02417 Account #57300-01916

> ETTLING SCHEDULE 4

Fax

□ Urgent	☐ For Review	☐ Please Comment	□ Piease Repl	y 🔲 Please Recycle
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Phone:		Date:	1/13	2000
Fax:		Pages	: 2	·
To: M	R. Ett Lin	79 From:	Sterl	ings

STERLING'S MARKETPLACE EXCEEDING YOUR EXPECTIONS !!!

ETTLING SCHEDULE 5 - PAGE 1 CAPITOL OFFICE
State Capitol
House Post Office
' Jefferson City, MO 65101-6806
573-751-2383



Natural & Economic Resour Banks & Financial Institution

CHAIRMAN; Joint Committee

on Capital Improvements

MEMBER: Appropriations -

Budget

Commerce

Public Health & Safety

DISTRICT ADDRESS 3229 N. Twentieth Street St. Louis, MO 63107 314•231-7489

LOUIS FORD 58th DISTRICT STATE REPRESENTATIVE

January 10, 2000

Dear Vendor:

17h Keep in file

I represent the 58th Legislative District and as you know both Sterling's Marketplace and the Broadway Plaza are located within my district.

I have begun to work with Mr. Moody in an effort to resolve the myriad of fiscal hurdles, which he currently faces. I have held meetings with the State Department of Economic Development, the State Treasurer's Office, and I have spoken with Mayor Clarence Harmon, Senator William Clay, Jr., and Congressman William Clay. All of us feel very strongly that Sterling's Marketplace must be saved. We are all strongly committed to helping Mr. Moody work out any financial problems he currently faces and equally committed to ensuring that he has the necessary capital and technical assistance to successfully operate in the future.

I urge you to give every possible opportunity to Mr. Moody to bring his accounts current and to get back on track with his accounts with your company.

I have impressed upon both the State of Missouri and the City of St. Louis that time is of the essence and we all want to resolve this situation expeditiously.

Very Truly Yours,

Representative Louis Ford

ETTLING SCHEDULE 5 -PAGE 2

Sterling + Rep Ford (?) with no money 3/10/00 ford said we can't turn of Sterling the to pending Grants, pursued by black leaders in Toffaty. Then grants or morres too! Starling will have 15,000 in durch douations by 3/14/00. advised moody to on to spice on 3/15/00 and bring documentation for These pendues grants. alv fank

> ETTLING SCHEDULE 6



3/14/00

MR. ETTLING AMEREN UE ST. LOUIS, MO

MR. ETTLING,

WE EXPECT TO HAVE MONIES COMING IN FROM 2 SOURCES TO MAKE SURE THAT WE CAN JUSTIFY THESE PAYMENTS. WE WILL HAVE A CLOSING WITH THE STATE OF MISSOURI, HOPEFULLY THIS WEEK! OUR INSURANCE ADJUSTER TELLS US THAT THIS TOTAL SETTLEMENT SHOULD CLOSE IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS! THE BROADWAY STORE IS CLOSED, BECAUSE OF A FIRE AND WE ARE PLANNING TO OPEN THE STORE UP BY THIS WEEKEND!

THE STORE HAS TREMENDOUS COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND WE THINK
THAT IT IS TO EVERYONE'S AND THE COMMUNITY'S INTEREST TO
KEEP THE STORE GOING.

WE TRULY APPRECIATE MR. ETTLING AND THE STAFF AT UNION ELECTRIC FOR WORKING WITH US THE WAY THAT YOU HAVE!

Ly Mas

STERLING MOODY AND STAFF

> ETTLING SCHEDULE 7 – PAGE 1

I AM PROPOSING TO ACCEPT THE DOWNPAYMENT OF \$15,000. AND APPLY ALL OF THE DEPOSITS THAT ACCOUNT NUMBER 57300-01916 OF \$9,493.00 AND ACCOUNT NUMBER 52300-02417 OF \$12,188.00 AND APPLY THIS TO OUR TOTAL AMOUNTS DUE. THEN WE COULD STAY WITH THE SCHEDULED PAYMENTS!

MARCH 27,00 = 10,000.00 APRIL 10,00 = 20,000.00 APRIL 24,00 = 15,000.00 \$45,000.00



Mel Catnahan Governor

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Joseph L. Driskill Director

Dennis Roedemeier Director

Post Office Box 118 301 West High Street Jefferson City, MO 65102 (573) 751-4241 (573) 751-7384 FAX

March 14, 2000

Sterling Moody, Manager Sterling Marketplace 8350 North Broadway Baden, MO 63147

Dear Sterling:

This letter will serve as confirmation to AmerenUE and Laclede Gas that the Missouri Department of Economic Development is working to finalize a loan guarantee with a St. Louis bank in order to provide ongoing financing for Sterling Marketplace.

It is hoped that this final agreement will be resolved in a couple of days.

Sincerely,

Bill Borgmeyer, Manager

Missouri Department of Economic Development

Business Development Group

Office of Productivity

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TOTAL P.02

ETTLING SCHEDULE 8

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STERLINGS MARKETPLACE I

GENERAL DISBURSEMENT 8350 N. BROADWAY ST. LOUIS, MO 63147 (314) 383-3211



UNION PLANTERS BANK ST. LOUIS, MO 50261

70-138/810

* INSUFFICIEN)

DATE, 8/4/00.

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TO THE ORDER

57300-01916

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ETTLING SCHEDULE 14-PAGE 3

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ETTLING SCHEDULE 15-PAGE 2

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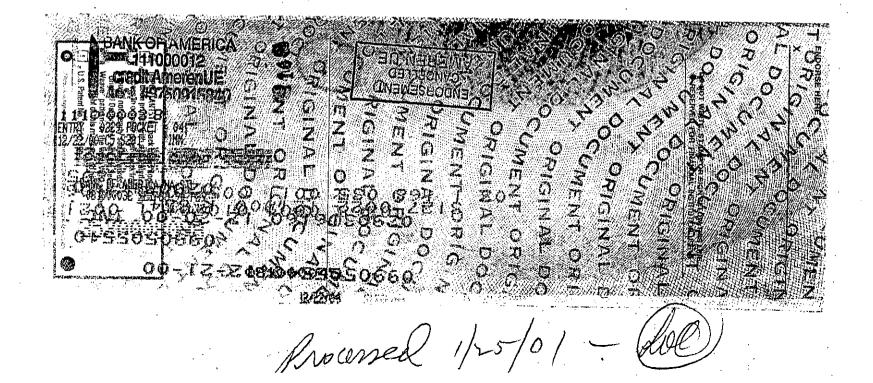
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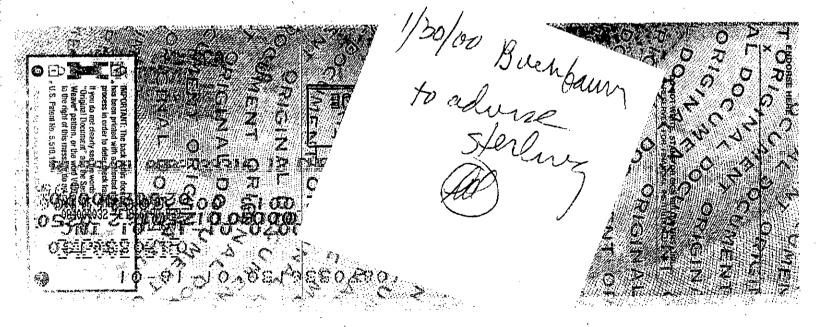
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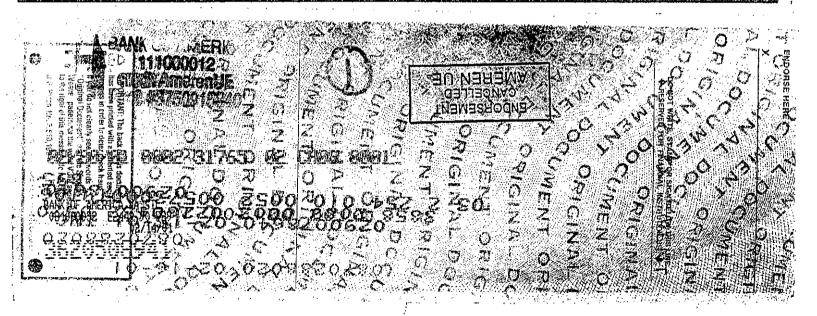
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One Ameren Plaza 1901 Chouteau Avenue PO Box 66149 St. Louis, MO 63166-6149 314.621.3222

March 1, 2001

CERTIUPIED.

Sterlings Market Place I Attn: Sterling Moody 8350 N. Broadway St. Louis, MO 63147

RE:

Amount \$1,500.00



Attached Check Returned By Bank For Insufficient Funds Must Be Paid By 3/7/01 Cash or Cashier's Check Only

FINAL NOTICE

Dear Mr. Moody:

This letter will serve as a final reminder to save you the inconvenience of being without service.

Please pay the amount shown above within 48 hours after receipt of this notice, otherwise, your service will be subject to disconnection without further notice, after March 7, 2001.

Mr. Louis Biernbaum was instructed to advise you to be sure this check #1416 dated February 9, 2001 would clear your bank. In view of the resulting circumstances, we will be unable to accept any more of your business checks to apply to your billing.

In the future all payments must be made in the form of bank cashier's checks, money orders or cash, with no exceptions!

Sincerely,

L. Ettling Sr. Credit Advisor (314) 992-6788

ssm

Acct. #57300-01916

ETTLING SCHEDULE 21

Mr. Etthony HERE IS the Replacement effect for the \$1,500. I unperstand About the costners offers only, We will
See YOU Again on this wek Throny or Friday

> ETTLING SCHEDULE 22-PAGE 1

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ETTLING SCHEDULE 22-PAGE 2

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One Ameren Plaza 1901 Chouteau Avenue PO Box 66149 St. Louis, MO 63166-6149 314.621.3222

April 9, 2001

TELAND DELINY EREDD

Sterlings Marketplace 1, Inc. Attn: Sterling Moody 8350 N. Broadway St. Louis, MO 63147



RE:

Delinquent Balance \$79,750.34

due 3/16/01

FINAL NOTICE

Dear Mr. Moody:

This letter will serve as a final reminder to save you the inconvenience of being without service.

Please pay the amount shown above within 48 hours after receipt of this notice, otherwise, your service will be subject to disconnection without further notice, after April 11, 2001.

Sincerely,

L. Ettling Sr. Credit Advisor (314) 992-6788

ssm

Acct. #52300-02426

ETTLING SCHEDULE 23 April 9, 2001

THAN TO IDELLIVE ROLD

Sterlings Marketplace 1, Inc. Attn: Sterling Moody 8350 N. Broadway St. Louis, MO 63147



RE: Delinquent Balance \$113,574.36

due 3/16/01

FINAL NOTICE

Dear Mr. Moody:

This letter will serve as a final reminder to save you the inconvenience of being without service.

Please pay the amount shown above within 48 hours after receipt of this notice, otherwise, your service will be subject to disconnection without further notice, after April 11, 2001.

Sincerely,

L. Ettling Sr. Credit Advisor (314) 992-6788

ssm

Acct. #57300-01916

PHONE NO. : 3143817982

Apr. 10 2001 02:14PM P1

8350 N. BROADWAY, MO. 63147 PHONE # (314) 383-3211 FAX# (314) 383-7335

STERLING MARKETPLACE #1

Fax

Urgent Commen	☐ For Review	☐ Please Comment	☐ Please Reply	☐ Please Recycle
Re:		CC:		
Phone:		Date:	4/10/01	
Fax:		Pages		
To: MR	EHLING-	ameren From:	Sterling	,

STERLING'S MARKETPLACE EXCEEDING YOUR EXPECTIONS !!!

GAPITOL OFFICE

Blate Capitol

House Post Office

Jefferson City, MO 65101-5806

573-751-2883

FAX: 572-526-0568

DISTRICT ADDRESS 3229 N. Twentieth Street 6L Louis, MO 63107 3:4-231-7469



LOUIS FORD
58th DISTRICT STATE REPRESENTATIVE

COMMETTERES
CHAMMAN
JOINT COMMITTEE
ON Capital Improvements
MEMBER:
Banke & Financial Institutions
Budget
Public Hoalth & Safety

April 10, 200

Sterling Moody Sterling's Marketplace 8350 N. Broadway St. Louis, MO 63147

Dear Mr. Moody:

As I stated earlier, I have been working along with Economic Development and Dennis Roedemeier to assist in keeping a store in north St. Louis to serve those individuals that have no means to shop elsewhere. I have requested Mr. Roedemeier to intercede with AmerenUE and Laclede Gas to continue utility services at this location. Hopefully we will be able to resolve these issues until the store is back on a sound footing and able to operate as a business should.

Sincerely,

Representative Louis H. Ford

District 58

LF/nel