

(Case # ER-2007-0002)

Testimony before the PSC regarding AmerenUE's request for a rate hike -- January 2, 2007
from Virginia Harris, St. Louis County 63141 (gingerharris@charter.net). *I am a customer of AmerenUE.*

1. My home is an all-electric home. I'm a senior citizen and retired from paid work. Therefore, a rate hike will be difficult for me to absorb into my budget. In contrast, I believe I read recently of an extremely high salary and bonus for an AmerenUE executive. I would hope that the PSC would comb through the books of this corporation and disallow extremely high executive compensation, advertising, and lobbying expenses to count as valid costs of running this utility.

2. I understand that AmerenUE is requesting the opportunity to generate a profit of 12%. This is far too high. *I also want to make sure the testimony of Robert Cranston -- regarding*

3. A few years ago, forward-thinking legislators tried to pass a bill in the General Assembly to allow Missouri residents to install solar voltaics and wind turbines on their property to generate electricity and feed excess energy back into the electric grid. AmerenUE lobbyists opposed this net-metering bill and was able to subvert it by adding provisions that would make it virtually impossible for ordinary citizens and small businesses to sell excess energy back to AmerenUE. Before AmerenUE is granted any rate hike, it should lobby the legislature to enact the kind of true net-metering law that other states have adopted. And AmerenUE should revise its own policies so that instead of requiring residents and businesses to take onerous and expensive steps to participate in net-metering, the utility actually encourages participation.

4. AmerenUE should protect customers from higher electricity costs by implementing energy efficiency and conservation programs.

5. AmerenUE should further protect customers by investing in renewable energy since the cost of coal, oil and natural gas relative to renewable energy is rising, and this trend is expected to continue, if not accelerate. There is apparently some discussion about AmerenUE giving customers the option of paying a surcharge for renewable energy credits. If the PSC allows this, it should annually review the amount, conditions and validity of such a surcharge, given that renewable energy costs are dropping as fossil fuel costs are rising. If AmerenUE allows customers to choose green sources of energy, customers' bills should distinguish between what they are paying for each source of energy. For example, "99% to pay for a coal burning power plant, and 1% for green renewable energy."

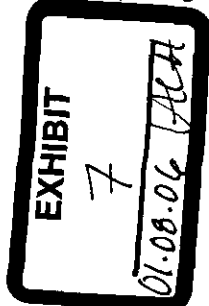
6. The cost of nuclear energy will be astronomical, compared to renewables, especially considering the taxes and surcharges we will all have to pay to decommission nuclear plants, and to clean up, transport and isolate radioactive wastes forever. I sincerely hope that AmerenUE is not requesting this rate hike partly to plan for, or build, another nuclear plant.

7. Pressure is building in Congress to enact some kind of carbon tax. If AmerenUE continues to rely on coal and other fossil fuels to generate electricity, this utility will not have used foresight to protect customers from additional sources of rate shock.

To reiterate, AmerenUE should implement energy efficiency and conservation programs, should directly invest in renewable energy, and should encourage its customers to invest in renewable energy via a true net-metering program.

St. Louis
Community
College
Public Hearing

ER-2007-0002
GR-2007-0003



AmerenUE's profits over the past few years -- becomes part of the public record, even though he was unable to stay to give his testimony in person. I will ask him to submit his testimony by email or Internet. I trust you will consider his testimony as being as official as testimony given verbally after being sworn in. AmerenUE says it has not raised rates in Missouri since 1987. For comparison purposes, Kansas City Power & Light also has not had a rate increase for the past 20 years, and in fact has had its rates decreased several times to keep its profits within allowable limits.

FILED²

FEB 05 2007

**Missouri Public
Service Commission**