

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
JEFFERSON CITY
September 11, 2001**

CASE NO: EO-2001-521

Office of the Public Counsel
P.O. Box 7800
Jefferson City, MO 65102

General Counsel
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

David B. Hennen
Ameren Services Company
One Ameren Plaza
P. O. Box 66149 (M/C 1310)
St. Louis, MO 63166-6149

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dale Hardy Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

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

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office in
Jefferson City on the 11th day
of September, 2001.

In the Matter of the Application of Union Electric)	
Company, d/b/a AmerenUE, for an Order to Approve)	
a Change to the Single-Phase Meter Testing Standard)	<u>Case No. EO-2001-521</u>
Under Which AmerenUE Currently Performs Its)	
Single-Phase Meter Testing.)	

ORDER GRANTING VARIANCE

This order grants Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE a variance of Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-10.030(28), to continue its sampled meter testing program, and granting AmerenUE permission to adopt the ANSI Standards as a basis for its sample meter testing procedure. AmerenUE filed an application for variance with the Missouri Public Service Commission requesting approval to change its statistical-sample-meter-testing standard on March 30, 2001.

In its application for variance, AmerenUE reported that it had previously sought and was given permission to depart from certain requirements of Rule 32 of the Commission's General Order No. 20 (a variance) regarding the testing of electric service watt-hour meters on March 12, 1975. That rule required that every electrical service watt-hour meter in Missouri be periodically tested by the electric corporation furnishing the meter. AmerenUE was authorized to utilize a standardized statistical sampling technique that incorporated the mathematical principles of Statistical Quality Control as set forth in published standards of the United States Military establishments and other governmental agencies

(MIL Standards). AmerenUE stated that the testing schedules required previously under Rule 32 are now codified in Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-10.030(28).¹

On March 30, 2001, AmerenUE filed its request for variance to change its single-phase watt-hour meter statistical-sample-testing standard. AmerenUE requested approval to change from the MIL Standards currently used by AmerenUE as a means of testing the company's single-phase watt-hour meters to the American National Standard Institute *Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes and by Variables* (ANSI Standards). AmerenUE stated that the ANSI Standards are essentially a modernization of the MIL Standards. AmerenUE further stated that the company's testing procedure will remain the same in all other aspects as approved by the Commission in its March 12, 1975 order. AmerenUE further stated that the change from the MIL Standards to the ANSI Standards will not result in any additional cost to its electric customers, will not result in the reduction of meters tested and will not change the accuracy of the meter testing procedures.

AmerenUE stated that, in connection with the Illinois restructuring legislation, it was required to update its electric meter testing procedures in Illinois to incorporate the ANSI Standards. AmerenUE stated that employing the same testing procedures in both of the company's jurisdictions will reduce the administrative burdens of having to maintain and track two separate, but statistically identical, meter testing programs.

AmerenUE noted that the Commission had approved use of the ANSI Standards by other companies. AmerenUE also stated that the Commission approved its request to use

¹ Code of State Regulations, Effective May 16, 1968.

the ANSI Standards as a basis for its natural gas meter testing program on November 12, 1997, in Case No. GO-98-25. AmerenUE indicated that the change from MIL Standards to the ANSI Standards will not have any impact on the procedure used by the company for testing meters upon the receipt of a customer complaint.

On August 29, 2001, the Staff of the Commission filed its response recommending that the Commission grant AmerenUE's request to continue sampled meter testing but to adopt the ANSI Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes and by Variables² for selecting the number of meters to be tested in lieu of the Commission-authorized sampling criteria that AmerenUE is presently using.

Staff stated that sampled testing of meters is utilized to ensure the accuracy of the meters as a whole. Staff noted that AmerenUE recently converted to automatic meter reading, which required the placement of modules in meters and the testing and replacement of many of AmerenUE's existing meters. As a result, Staff indicated that AmerenUE now has a more homogenous group of meters in service across its system, which have recently been tested for accuracy. Staff also confirmed that each customer is allowed to verify the accuracy of their own meter by requesting the meter be tested at no charge, provided that the meter has not been tested within the last 12 months.³ Staff stated that it has reviewed both the statistical sampling and testing procedures to test the accuracy of the electrical meters that AmerenUE now uses and the new proposed testing procedures. Staff recommended the Commission approve AmerenUE's request to continue sample meter testing and to change its sampling method to the ANSI Standards.

² ANSI/American Society for Quality Control (ASQC) Z1.4 and ANSI/ASCQ Z1.9.

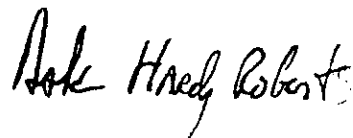
³ Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-10.030(29).

The Commission has reviewed the application and Staff's recommendation. The Commission finds that, for good cause shown, AmerenUE's application to amend its variance, which is now a variance from Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-10.030(28), should be granted. Therefore, AmerenUE will be granted a variance to continue using sample meter testing, and to adopt the ANSI Standards as a basis for its single-phase, watt-hour meter testing procedure.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the application filed by Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE on March 30, 2001, is granted.
2. That this order shall become effective on September 21, 2001.
3. That this case may be closed after September 22, 2001.

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Simmons, Ch., Murray, Lumpe,
and Gaw, CC., concur.

Register, Regulatory Law Judge

ALJ/Secretary: Register Page

9-6 CASE NO. EO-2001-521

Date Circulated

KS
Simmons, Chair

[Signature]
Murray, Commissioner

[Signature]
Lumpe, Commissioner

[Signature]
Gay, Commissioner

Commissioner

9-11
Agenda Date

Action taken: 4-D AS

Must Vote Not Later Than

copy

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 11th day of Sept. 2001.

Dale Hardy Roberts

Dale Hardy Roberts

Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

