



Missouri Public Service Commission

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October 25, 2000

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Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

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FILED²

OCT 25 2000

Missouri Public
Service Commission

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

RE: Case No. EM-96-149 - In the Matter 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.

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned case are an original and eight (8) conformed copies of STAFF MOTION FOR A COMMISSION ORDER COMPELLING UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY TO ANSWER STAFF DATA REQUESTS RELATING TO THE STAFF MAKING THE FILING REQUIRED BY SECTION 7.g. OF THE SECOND EARP STIPULATION AND AGREEMENT and STAFF MOTION FOR EXPEDITED TREATMENT OF STAFF MOTION TO COMPEL.

This filing has been mailed or hand-delivered this date to all counsel of record.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Steven Dottheim
Deputy General Counsel
(573) 751-7489
(573) 751-9285 (Fax)

Enclosure
cc: Counsel of Record

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

FILED²

OCT 25 2000

Missouri Public
Service Commission

Case No. EM-96-149

In the Matter 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.)

**STAFF MOTION FOR EXPEDITED TREATMENT
OF STAFF MOTION TO COMPEL**

Comes now the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff) and requests that the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) expedite the treatment of the Staff Motion For A Commission Order Compelling Union Electric Company To Answer Staff Data Requests Relating To The Staff Making The Filing Required By Section 7.g. Of The Second EARP Stipulation And Agreement (Staff Motion To Compel) by, among other things, shortening the response time for pleadings relating thereto. The Staff Data Requests objected to by Union Electric Company (UE), d/b/a Ameren UE, relate to the Staff performing a revenue requirement cost of service audit for purposes of meeting the Section 7.g. provision of the experimental alternative regulation plan (second EARP) Stipulation And Agreement in Case No. EM-96-149 which was conditionally approved by the Commission in its Report And Order issued February 21, 1997 in Case No. EM-96-149. In support of this Staff Motion For Expedited Treatment Of Staff Motion To Compel, the Staff states as follows:

1. Due to the approaching date of February 1, 2001, the Staff requests that pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.080(17) and 4 CSR 240-2.080(16), the Commission shorten the

response time for replies to the Staff's Motion To Compel, filed this date, to Tuesday, October 31, 2000, and shorten the Staff's response time to any pleadings filed on Tuesday, October 31, 2000 to Friday, November 3, 2000. Although February 1, 2001 is 97 days from today, October 25, 2000, the intervening Thanksgiving and Christmas/New Year holiday seasons in actuality will cause there to be less time available for the Staff's audit than would be the case respecting the same number of days at other times of the year. Also, at the end of the calendar year the Commission receives its largest volume of cases seeking expedited treatment. In fact, UE has one such case pending before the Commission, Case No. EO-2001-245, UE's Application for approval of a change of trustee for its nuclear decommissioning trust fund and to approve related changes to the trust agreement.

2. The harm that will be avoided by the Commission (a) ordering the shortened response times, in particular, and (b) affording the expeditious processing of the Staff's Motion To Compel, in general, as requested by the Staff herein, is that should the Commission issue an Order directing UE to respond to the Staff's Data Requests, there will be less further delay in and impairment of the Staff performing a revenue requirement cost of service audit of UE for the purpose of submitting a Section 7.g. Report to the Commission on February 1, 2001. The greater the delay in the Staff receiving responses to its Data Requests, the greater the possibility of the Staff's filing being less comprehensive than it otherwise would be and the less certainty respecting any revenue requirement/excess earnings quantification that might or would be provided. There will be no negative effect either on UE's customers or the general public, if the Commission shortens the response times and processes the Staff's Motion To Compel as expeditiously as practicable. UE's customers and the general public will be benefited if

the Commission shortens the response times and processes the Staff's Motion To Compel as expeditiously as practicable.

3. This pleading has been filed as soon as it could have been given other Commission business, the time necessary to draft the necessary pleadings and further discussions having occurred with UE since the telephone call with the presiding Regulatory Law Judge and counsel for UE regarding these matters.

Wherefore the Staff requests that the Commission grant the Staff Motion For Expedited Treatment of the Staff Motion For A Commission Order Compelling Union Electric Company To Answer Staff Data Requests Relating To The Staff Making The Filing Required By Section 7.g. Of The Second EARP Stipulation And Agreement and, among other things, shorten the response times for pleadings relating to the Staff's Motion To Compel.

Respectfully submitted,
DANA K. JOYCE
General Counsel

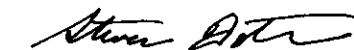


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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered to all counsel of record as shown on the attached service list this 25th day of October 2000.



**SERVICE LIST FOR
CASE NO. EM-96-149
October 25, 2000**

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