STATE OF MISSOURI Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, Governor • Sara Parker Pauley, Director DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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FEB 20 2013

Washington University Interdisciplinary Environmental Clinic ATTN: Ms. Maxine Liples, Co-Director, Washington University School of Law One Brookings Drive - Campus Box 1120 St. Louis, MO 63130

RE: Ameren Labadie Public Notice Extension, MO-0004812, Franklin Co.

Dear Ms. Liples:

The Department received the request for a thirty (30) day extension of the public notice period and the request to hold a public hearing on February 19, 2013. With the attention to coal fired power plants and the age of the existing permit for Labadie Energy Center, the Department has extended the public notice and comment period until close of business on April 15, 2013.

The Department acknowledges that there are many complex issues addressed in the permit, including the thermal variance, discharges from the ash pond, and groundwater monitoring. At this time, the Department will not be holding a public hearing on the draft Ameren Labadie permit. As stated in 10 CSR 20-6.020(4)(A), for a public hearing to be warranted, there must be significant technical merit and concern related to the responsibility of Missouri Clean Water Law. The Department believes the draft permit meets the requirements of the Missouri Clean Water Law. Furthermore the Department believes that with the extension of the public notice time period all parties wishing to provide public comment has the opportunity to do so.

We appreciate your involvement on the draft permit. If you have any additional questions, please contact me at <u>chris.wieberg@dnr.mo.gov</u>, or by telephone at (573) 751-1300, or by mail at Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Water Protection Program, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102.

Sincerely,

WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM

Chris Wieberg, Chief Operating Permits Section

CW/lmj

 c: Mr. John Pozzo, Ameren- Missouri, 1901 Choteau Avenue PO Box 66149, MC 602, St. Louis, MO 63166-6149 File Copy