

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

In the Matter of Union Electric Company,)	
d/b/a AmerenUE's Tariffs to Increase its)	<u>Case No. GR-2010-0363</u>
Annual Revenues for Gas Service.)	

JOINT PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE,
CUSTOMER NOTICE LANGUAGE,
LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING RECOMMENDATIONS
AND
MOTION TO ADOPT ADDITIONAL
PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff), by and through counsel, and on behalf of the Parties¹ to this proceeding respectfully states as follows:

1. On June 11, 2010, AmerenUE filed with the Missouri Public Service Commission (the Commission) proposed tariff sheets designed to produce a gross annual revenue increase of approximately \$11.9 million for natural gas service provided to retail customers in the Company's Missouri service territory.

2. On June 16, 2010, the Commission issued its *Order Directing Notice, Suspending Tariff, Setting Hearings, And Directing Filings (Suspension Order)*. Among other things, in its *Suspension Order* the Commission directed Staff to take primary responsibility for filing a proposed procedural schedule. In addition, the Commission ordered the Parties to file proposed customer notification language and recommendations regarding times, dates and locations for local public hearings.

3. At the July 30, 2010 early prehearing conference the Parties agreed to propose the following procedural schedule:

¹ Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE (AmerenUE or the Company), the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff), the Office of Public Counsel (OPC), the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR), MoGas Pipeline LLC (MoGas) (collectively referred to hereinafter as the Parties).

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>
AmerenUE Filed its Case	June 11, 2010
Proposed Procedural Schedule; Test Year; True Up; Local Public Hearing Dates/Locations	August 5, 2010
Customer Notice Filed	August 5, 2010
Non-AmerenUE Parties - Revenue Requirement Direct	November 8, 2010
Non-AmerenUE Parties - Rate Design Direct	November 19, 2010
Preliminary Reconciliation (not filed)	November 19, 2010
Local Public Hearings(locations and dates to be established by subsequent order)	November 22 - 23, 2010; November 29 - December 2, 2010
Technical Settlement Conference (informal and not on-the-record)	November 29 – December 3, 2010
All Parties Rebuttal	December 21, 2010
All Parties Surrebuttal	January 14, 2011
List of Issues; Witnesses; Order of Cross Order of Opening Statements	January 19, 2011
Reconciliation (filed in the case)	January 19, 2011
Position Statements	January 27, 2011
Evidentiary Hearing	February 7 - 11, 2011²
All Parties True-Up Direct (if necessary)	February 18, 2011
All Parties True-Up Rebuttal (if necessary)	February 25, 2011
True-Up Hearing (if necessary)	March 1-2, 2011
All Parties Initial Briefs	March 7, 2011
All Parties Reply/True-Up Briefs	March 21, 2011
Operation of Law Date	May 8, 2011

² Plus such additional dates, as necessary, following the conclusion of hearing dates proposed by the parties to Case No. ER-2010-0356.

4. Staff notes that the Commission's *Suspension Order* scheduled an evidentiary hearing for January 31, 2011, through February 4, 2011, and for February 7, 2011, through February 11, 2011. At the prehearing conference the Parties discussed hearing schedules, and agreed the hearing could likely be completed in a week, and, if not, that additional dates could be scheduled to accommodate the KCPL and KCPL-GMO rate case proceedings. In order to accommodate these considerations the Parties respectfully request the Commission reschedule the evidentiary hearing for February 7, 2011, through February 11, 2011, and, as indicated above, reserve a limited number of dates following the conclusion of the evidentiary hearing dates proposed in Case No. ER-2010-0356.

5. Similarly, Staff notes that the Commission's *Suspension Order* reserved February 22, 2011, and February 23, 2011, as the dates for a true-up hearing, in the event that such hearing is necessary. To date, the Parties have not been able to evaluate the necessity of such hearing and will not be in a position to make an informed recommendation regarding this matter until the completion of each Party's preliminary audit and/or investigation. The Parties therefore propose to provide a recommendation regarding the necessity of a true-up hearing in each Party's rebuttal testimony, which the Parties are proposing to file on December 21, 2010. If a true-up hearing is necessary, the parties respectfully request, as indicated above, that the Commission reserve March 1, 2011, and March 2, 2011, as the dates for a true-up hearing in this matter.

6. This proposed procedural schedule is contingent upon the use of Staff's recommended true-up cut-off period of September 30, 2010 for known and measurable changes to significant revenue and expense items.

7. In addition, the Parties hereby agree to the following procedural requirements and request that these requirements be reflected in the Commission's order establishing the procedural schedule in this matter:

(a) All Parties shall provide copies of testimony, exhibits and/or pleadings to other counsel by electronic means essentially concurrent with the filing of such testimony, exhibits and/or pleadings.

(b) Parties shall make an effort to not include either “highly confidential” or “proprietary” information in data requests. If either highly confidential or proprietary information must be included in data requests, the highly confidential or proprietary information shall be so designated and may be included in an attachment.

(c) Parties submitting data requests shall serve the data request electronically on the attorneys for all parties contemporaneously with data request service on the Party from whom the response is requested. Any Party seeking a copy of the response to a data requested issued by another Party shall serve that request on the Party to whom the original request was directed. Parties agree the Company may post data request responses on its Caseworks Extranet site in lieu of providing data request responses to the requesting Party; provided that the Company will notify the requesting party and the requesting Party’s counsel when data request responses are posted on the Extranet site. The Company shall also continue to submit responses to Staff’s data requests in the Commission’s Electronic Filing and Information System (EFIS), when feasible.

(d) Until the November 19, 2010 filing of rate design direct testimony, the response time for all data requests shall be twenty (20) calendar days, and ten (10) calendar days to object or to notify the issuing party that more than twenty (20) calendar days will be needed to provide the requested information. After November 19, 2010, and until December 21, 2010, the filing of rebuttal testimony, the response time for all data requests shall become ten (10) calendar days to provide the requested information, and five (5) business days to object or to notify the issuing party that more than ten (10) calendar days will be needed to provide the requested information. After December 21, 2010, the response time for all data requests shall become five (5) business days to provide the requested information, and three (3) business days to object or to notify the issuing that more than five (5) business days will be needed to provide the requested information.

(e) Workpapers that were prepared in the course of developing a witness’ testimony shall not be filed with the Commission but shall be submitted to each party within two (2) business days following the filing of the particular testimony. Parties agree the Company may post workpapers on its Caseworks Extranet site in lieu of providing workpapers directly to a requesting Party; provided that the Company will notify the requesting party and the requesting Party’s counsel when workpapers are posted on the Extranet site. Workpapers containing highly confidential or proprietary information should be appropriately marked. Since workpapers for certain Parties may be voluminous and may not be of interest to all other Parties, each Party shall specifically notify other Parties concerning copies of workpapers. Workpapers prepared in Excel or other executable format, should be provided in that format. If a witness does not have workpapers, the

filing Party's attorney shall notify the other Parties within two (2) days of the testimony filing.

(f) AmerenUE also agrees to submit to the Staff and interested Parties an update of its direct revenue requirement and rate design calculations, as well as the necessary supporting data through September 30, 2010, by no later than November 12, 2010.

8. For the purposes of this case, the Parties also request that the Commission waive Commission Rules 4 CSR 240-2.045(2) and 2.080(11) so that filings made in EFIS are deemed to be timely if made before midnight on the date the filing is due.

9. In order to facilitate the timely briefing of this matter the Parties request that the Commission order expedited transcripts of all evidentiary hearings conducted in this case.

10. **Local Public Hearing Recommendations:** The Parties recommend that local public hearings be conducted in the following locations on the following dates:

November 22, 2010	Wentzville ³
November 23, 2010	Cape Girardeau
November 29, 2010	Columbia
November 30, 2010	Jefferson City
December 1, 2010	Mexico

In addition, the Parties recommend that should the Commission desire to hold a local public hearing in Rolla that such hearing be held on December 2, 2010. While this list contains the Parties recent recommendations the Parties will continue to discuss the dates and times of these proposed hearings and may have further recommendations for the Commission in the future.

11. **Customer Notice Language:** Finally, the Parties recommend that the Company individually notify its customers of the rate increase request and public hearings, via a bill insert,

³ The Parties agree that the Wentzville and Cape Girardeau local public hearing dates may be reversed depending upon availability of facilities. The intent of the proposal is to ensure that the locations closest to Jefferson City are scheduled during the week of the proposed technical settlement conference.

with such notice to be provided at least fifteen (15) days prior to the first public hearing. The Parties recommend that the following language be used in such notices:

**NOTICE OF REQUESTED RATE INCREASE and
REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

AmerenUE is asking the Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC) for approval to increase its natural gas service rates by \$11.9 million. If approved, monthly bills for average residential customers with 55 Ccf of monthly usage would increase by approximately \$7.25. This impact would vary for each customer depending on that customer's monthly usage. It is important to note that this rate case primarily involves non-gas costs, including operating and maintenance expenses and a return on investment in plant (such as natural gas mains and service lines that carry natural gas to the customer's home or business.) The rates that wholesale suppliers charge AmerenUE for natural gas are not regulated by the Missouri Public Service Commission and therefore are not part of this rate case. Those rates are covered in the Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA), which makes up approximately 65 to 70 percent of a typical customer's monthly bill.

AmerenUE also proposes to raise rates for its General Service Class by 12% or 14%, and to reclassify General Service customers into either a Small General Service Rate or a Large General Service Rate depending on the capacity of the equipment installed at the customer's premise.

Customers in the interruptible and transportation rate classes should contact AmerenUE for an explanation of the proposed rate changes to those classes of service.

The PSC will conduct an investigation to determine if the proposed rates are just and reasonable. The PSC has the authority to approve rates that are higher or lower than the Company's request depending on the results of its investigation.

The PSC will hold local public hearings at which customers will have an opportunity to present comments to the PSC commissioners about the rate increase request. Public comment hearings have been set before the PSC as follows:

November 22, 2010	Wentzville
November 23, 2010	Cape Girardeau
November 29, 2010	Columbia
November 30, 2010	Jefferson City
December 1, 2010	Mexico

An information and question-and-answer session will be held 5:30 p.m., with the formal, on-the-record hearing beginning immediately thereafter.

If you are unable to attend a live public hearing and wish to make written comments or secure additional information, you may contact the Missouri Public Service Commission, Post Office Box 360 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, telephone 800-392-4211, email pscinfo@psc.mo.gov, or the Office of the Public Counsel, P.O. Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, telephone 886-922-2959, email opcservice@ded.mo.gov. Please reference Case No. GR-2010-0363.

Comments may also be registered in the case using the Commission's electronic filing system at <https://www.efis.psc.mo.gov/mpsc/Comments.html>. Please be aware that all public comments are viewable by the public. If submitting comments, please reference Case No. GR-2010-0363.

The Commission will also conduct an evidentiary hearing at its offices in Jefferson City on February 7-11, 2011, beginning at 8:30 a.m. The hearings and local public hearings will be held in buildings that meet accessibility standards required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. If a customer needs additional accommodations to participate in these hearings, please call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 before the hearing.

WHEREFORE, in response to the Commission's *Suspension Order* Staff files this proposed procedural schedule and list of agreements on behalf of itself and the other parties to Case No. GR-2010-0363 and respectfully requests that the Commission issue and order adopting, without modification, the terms contained herein.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Eric Dearmont

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all counsel of record this 5th day of August, 2010.

/s/ Eric Dearmont