

1 STATE OF MISSOURI
2 PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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6 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
7 Prehearing Conference
8 October 29, 2003
9 Jefferson City, Missouri
10 Volume 3
11
12 In the Matter of Union Electric)
13 Company, d/b/a AmerenUE, for)
14 Authority to File Tariffs Increasing) Case No. GR-2003-0517
15 Rates for Gas Service Provided to)
16 Customers In the Company's Missouri)
17 Service Area.)
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23 REPORTED BY:
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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Good morning. We're on the
3 record. This is the late prehearing conference for Case
4 No. GR-2003-0517, in the matter of Union Electric Company,
5 doing business as AmerenUE, for authority to file tariffs
6 increasing rates for gas service provided to customers in
7 the company's Missouri service area.

8 I'm Ron Pridgin. I'm the Regulatory Law Judge
9 assigned by the Commission to preside over this prehearing
10 conference. The prehearing conference is being held
11 October 29th, 2003, in the Hotel Governor Office Building,
12 Jefferson City, Missouri, and the time is 10 o'clock in the
13 morning.

14 If I could, I would like to get entries of
15 appearance from counsel, starting with Staff, please.

16 MS. SHEMWELL: Good morning, and thank you.
17 Lera Shemwell, Robert S. Berlin and David Meyer appearing on
18 behalf of the Staff of the Public Service Commission, Post
19 Office Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

20 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Ms. Shemwell, thank you. On
21 behalf of the Office of the Public Counsel, please?

22 MR. MICHEEL: Douglas E. Micheel appearing on
23 behalf of the Office of the Public Counsel and the public,
24 P.O. Box 2200, Jefferson City, Missouri 65103-2200.

25 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Micheel, thank you.

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1 On behalf of AmerenUE?

2 MR. BYRNE: Yes, your Honor. I'm Thomas M.
3 Byrne appearing on behalf of Union Electric Company, doing
4 business as AmerenUE. My address is 1901 Chouteau Avenue,
5 St. Louis, Missouri 63103.

6 MR. DUFFY: Your Honor, as additional counsel,
7 let the record reflect the appearance of Gary W. Duffy,
8 James C. Swearngen and Dean L. Cooper, the law firm Brydon,
9 Swearngen & England, P.C., P.O. Box 456, Jefferson City
10 Missouri.

11 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Duffy, thank you. If I'm
12 not mistaken, hasn't Mr. Cooper appeared in this case also
13 before?

14 MR. DUFFY: I believe so.

15 JUDGE PRIDGIN: So I think we've had somebody
16 from your firm here before. All right. Thank you.

17 Anything the parties would like to bring to my
18 attention?

19 (No response.)

20 All right. Hearing nothing. Obviously you
21 have access to this room until five o'clock to hopefully
22 facilitate some settlement discussion. Any of the parties
23 have anything to announce to me as far as how the settlement
24 discussions are going, or are they going?

25 MR. BYRNE: They haven't really started yet,

1 your Honor.

2 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. But you're going
3 to start today?

4 MR. BYRNE: Yes.

5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. I don't know that
6 I have anything further, other than I understand that this
7 prehearing -- or at least the room is reserved for
8 prehearing not only today but other days, and I guess if
9 somebody would let me know, that is, as the local public
10 hearings go for the parties to able to discuss how the
11 hearings are going and to further negotiate settlement. Is
12 that my understanding?

13 MS. SHEMWELL: We probably will not use this
14 room, if you need it for other reasons. We have other rooms
15 reserved, and this room is not as conducive as some of the
16 other ones. We probably will not be in this room.

17 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. I understand. But you
18 do plan to meet after each local public, or at least
19 potentially you're going to do that?

20 MS. SHEMWELL: We intend to meet through next
21 Tuesday.

22 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right.

23 MR. BYRNE: Actually, I think it's scheduled
24 through next Wednesday.

25 MS. SHEMWELL: Is it Wednesday? Okay.

1 Wednesday.

2 JUDGE PRIDGIN: I think you're right.

3 Anything else the parties would like to -- I don't think I
4 have any pending motions or anything.

5 All right. Hearing nothing further, you have
6 access to this room obviously until five o'clock. I will be
7 upstairs on the ninth floor if anybody has any issues you
8 need to see me about, and I will also be at local public
9 hearings throughout the week. You can get my attention then
10 if you need to.

11 Hearing nothing further from the parties, this
12 prehearing conference is adjourned. Thank you very much.
13 We're off the record.

14 (AN OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION WAS HELD.)

15 JUDGE PRIDGIN: I'm sorry. Ms. Woods.

16 JUDGE REGISTER: Shelley Woods, Assistant
17 Attorney General, Post Office Box 899, Jefferson City,
18 Missouri 65102, appearing on behalf of intervenor Missouri
19 Department of Natural Resources.

20 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Ms. Woods, I apologize. I
21 can't remember if I asked for other entries from counsel. I
22 think I do remember that you had intervened earlier, and I
23 apologize if I neglected to get your entry. I don't think
24 we have any other parties. Anybody else who needs to enter
25 an appearance?

1 (No response.)

2 All right. Again, you have access to the room
3 until five o'clock. Thank you very much. We're off the
4 record.

5 WHEREUPON, the recorded portion of the
6 prehearing conference was concluded.

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