

1 A. To the extent that there were grammar changes,
2 changes in formatting and sentence structure of the
3 testimony, that would be it.

4 Q. So you did talk to some other people in the
5 course of preparing your testimony?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And other people reviewed your work?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Okay. I hand you a document entitled Staff's
10 Responses to Union Electric Company's First Set of
11 Interrogatories.

12 MR. TODD: I'll give you a copy too.

13 I don't see a need to put a copy in the
14 record -- it seems like it's a wasteful copy -- if that's
15 okay with you.

16 MR. ANDERSON: That's fine with me.

17 MR. TODD: But this way we can all look at it.

18 BY MR. TODD:

19 Q. Okay. Mr. Cassidy, your name shows up
20 throughout this document in a number of places, and I'd
21 just like to take you through each place where you pop up
22 and ask you a few questions.

23 We'll just take it in order. So why don't I
24 get you to turn to page 24 and Response No. 13.

25 Question 13 reads, Identify each person who

1 reviewed the draft of the testimony of John P. Cassidy,
2 And the answer identifies a number of individuals.

3 Can you tell me when the answer states that
4 each of these people reviewed a draft of your testimony,
5 what does the term "a review" include?

6 A. When I answered this question, I listed the
7 people that I actually gave a draft of my testimony to. I
8 did not receive a response from all of the people listed
9 there.

10 A review to me means that they read the
11 testimony and may have made some comments about it.

12 Q. Can you tell me which individuals did respond
13 to you?

14 A. Steve Rackers, Greg Meyer, Mark Oligschlaeger,
15 Eric Anderson, Dennie Frey.

16 Q. And so Jim Schweiterman, Leon Bender, Lena
17 Mantle and Steve Dottheim did not respond to you?

18 A. Correct.

19 Q. Do you know whether or not they actually
20 reviewed your testimony?

21 A. I know that Leon read -- read the testimony. I
22 know that Jim Schweiterman read the testimony. Lena
23 Mantle, I know she read the testimony. I'm not aware if
24 Steve Dottheim read it or not.

25 Q. Do you know whether any other people actually

1 reviewed your testimony regardless of whether you yourself
2 provided them with a draft?

3 A. I'm not aware of anyone else.

4 Q. Okay. The next question down, Question 14,
5 identifies people who participated in or contributed to
6 the preparation of your testimony.

7 Can you tell me what participation or
8 contribution Steve Rackers made?

9 A. Steve's review included changes regarding
10 formatting, punctuation, changes in sentence structure, as
11 I recall.

12 Q. And what participation or contribution did Greg
13 Meyer have?

14 A. The same.

15 Q. How about Mark Oligschlaeger?

16 A. The same.

17 Q. Leon Bender?

18 A. Leon did not give me a response in writing.

19 Q. To the extent that there won't be an objection
20 to it, Eric Anderson?

21 A. A few -- a few changes in formatting, sentence
22 structure.

23 Q. The same question for Dennie Frey?

24 A. The same.

25 Q. So other than formatting, sentence structure

1 and the rest of your responses just now, your work -- your
2 testimony reflects entirely your own work?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Let's turn to page 79, No. 88, reading the
5 question and answer here, do you stand by your answer, the
6 answer that you prepared here?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Page 88, Question 93, would you define for me
9 the normalized cost of fuel and net purchased power as it
10 is used in Question No. 93?

11 A. The normalized cost of fuel and net purchased
12 power represents the cost of producing and purchasing
13 power to meet the level of megawatt-hour sales in the
14 Staff's revenue annualization in this case.

15 Q. And you're reading that from your testimony?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. What page are you reading from?

18 A. Page 7.

19 Q. Line?

20 A. Lines 16 through 19.

21 Q. Let's flip to page 89, Question 95.

22 Actually, we're going to get back to this one.

23 Let's go on to Question 98.

24 Again, reviewing the question and the portion
25 of the answer that you prepared, would you reaffirm your

1 answer today?

2 A. Regarding Question 98 on page 95?

3 Q. Yes, sir.

4 A. Yes, my answer remains the same.

5 Q. How about Question 99 on that same page?

6 A. Yes, my answer remains the same.

7 Q. And Question 100?

8 A. Yes, my answer remains the same.

9 Q. Preparing for today's deposition has not
10 changed your answer in any way on any of these questions?

11 A. Correct.

12 Q. You haven't come across any reason to question
13 the answer you previously provided?

14 A. I have not.

15 Q. Mr. Cassidy, I understand from your written
16 testimony that you graduated from Southeast Missouri
17 State?

18 A. That's correct.

19 Q. Do you have one degree or two?

20 A. It is one degree with a double major.

21 Q. And that was marketing and accounting?

22 A. That's correct.

23 Q. Do you have any advanced degrees?

24 A. No.

25 Q. Are you a CPA?

1 A. I've never sat for the CPA exam.

2 Q. And when did you begin working for the
3 Commission?

4 A. In 1990.

5 Q. And have you worked for the Commission since
6 you graduated?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Have you ever worked for any other employer?

9 A. During college.

10 Q. So any prior work experience relating to
11 regulatory matters?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Mr. Cassidy, what is your understanding of the
14 Commission's legal obligation?

15 A. I don't know.

16 Q. Are you familiar at all with the term "just and
17 reasonable rates"?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. In what way are you familiar with that term?

20 A. It is the Commission's responsibility to set
21 just and reasonable rates.

22 Q. Do you have any idea what types of things a
23 just and reasonable rate might take into consideration?

24 A. From my viewpoint, normal, recurring, ongoing
25 levels of costs built in the rates.

1 Q. The term "normal," would you agree, is quite a
2 subjective term?

3 A. I don't know.

4 Q. Well, what would you consider normal in
5 performing your analysis?

6 A. Something that is reasonably ongoing.

7 Q. So in your analysis, then, would you seek to
8 exclude prior events that you consider to be not normal,
9 not ongoing?

10 A. I'm sorry. Repeat the question.

11 Q. In your performing your analysis would you seek
12 to exclude nonrecurring -- or events that you consider
13 abnormal?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. In performing your analysis do you ever look
16 forward to attempt to anticipate future events that might
17 affect your areas of analysis?

18 A. In setting rates, I look to normalize and
19 annualize in this case expenses to reflect ongoing,
20 normal, recurring levels which should occur during the
21 period that rates are in effect.

22 Q. Now, the last portion of your answer there
23 seems to imply somewhat of a forward-looking analysis.

24 MR. ANDERSON: Are you asking a question?

25 MR. TODD: I'm working on it.

1 BY MR. TODD:

2 Q. Is that correct?

3 A. In setting a rate the Commission looks to
4 yesterday for predicting the future.

5 Q. Could you tell me what you're reading from
6 there?

7 A. I'm reading from the Staff's response to
8 Item 16 from the first request for admissions, page 12.

9 Q. In performing your analysis do you take into
10 account the best interests of current ratepayers?

11 A. I take into account the best interests of the
12 ratepayers, shareholders and the company.

13 Q. Are these three sets of interests normal and
14 ongoing?

15 A. I don't understand the context of your
16 question, in what sense.

17 Q. Well, you testified a minute ago that the only
18 things you consider are normal and ongoing costs, and now
19 you also agree that you considered these other
20 considerations.

21 And so I'm wondering how they square with your
22 prior testimony that you consider normal and ongoing costs
23 in performing your analysis.

24 A. I still don't understand what -- what you're
25 asking.

1 Q. Did the interests of customers change over
2 time?

3 A. I don't know.

4 Q. How about the interest of the corporation?

5 A. I don't know.

6 Q. Shareholders?

7 A. I don't know.

8 Q. In performing your various areas of analysis,
9 did you consider all facts having a material bearing upon
10 the establishment of just and reasonable rates?

11 A. To the best of my ability, yes.

12 Q. Are those facts included in your testimony?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. In your opinion does your written testimony
15 include everything that the Commission would need to
16 establish a just and reasonable rate with regard to your
17 areas of analysis?

18 A. At this point in time, yes.

19 Q. Would I be correct in assuming that at certain
20 points in your analysis you have to make subjective
21 judgments, judgments that are not purely data driven?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Could you give me an example of such a
24 subjective judgment?

25 A. In choosing fuel prices I had to determine what

1 period of fuel prices to use. The period that I chose
2 best reflected the trend that was occurring with fuel
3 prices with regard to this case.

4 Q. And in that context the word "best" would
5 probably be where the subjective judgment comes in. Would
6 you agree with that?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Do you have a sense of how the adjustments that
9 you proposed, your areas of analysis, factor into the
10 Staff's overall rate reduction proposal?

11 A. I don't know.

12 Q. When you perform your analysis -- and I
13 suppose in particular the area is calling for subjective
14 judgment -- have you ever considered efficiency gains?

15 A. No.

16 Q. How about a utility's right to earn a fair
17 return on its investment?

18 A. No.

19 Q. How about a utility's need and right to attract
20 investor capital?

21 A. No.

22 Q. Have you ever considered the public's interests
23 in the efficient use of resources?

24 A. No.

25 Q. Have you ever considered rate stability?

1 A. No.

2 Q. Have you ever considered the public's interest
3 in the reduction of regulatory lag?

4 A. No.

5 Q. Have you ever considered the public's interest
6 in the utility as an employer?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Let's move on to your written testimony, and
9 I'd like to have you turn to page 2, please.

10 On pages 2 through 6 you provide an overview of
11 AmerenUE electric generation facilities. Is that correct?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. I'm curious why you included this in your
14 written testimony.

15 A. I felt that it gave a good description of
16 AmerenUE's electric generation facilities.

17 Q. But why did you consider it necessary?

18 A. It makes understanding the testimony easier
19 with regard to the area of fuel. It gives -- by knowing
20 what plants the company is operating, it gives it -- when
21 you discuss fuel prices, you can apply it to what plants
22 we're discussing.

23 Q. I appreciate the fact that it was in there. I
24 learned about the Company.

25 What was the source of this information?

1 A. Data requests, Company's web site, information
2 provided by Leon Bender.

3 Q. You don't have a background in physics at all,
4 do you?

5 A. No.

6 Q. Are you familiar with the term "must-run
7 facility"?

8 A. No.

9 Q. So I extrapolate from your answer that you have
10 not performed any analysis as to which of these facilities
11 Ameren considers must-run facilities?

12 MR. ANDERSON: I'm going to object at this
13 point. If he's not familiar with the term, how can he
14 answer that question?

15 Can you define the term "must-run"?

16 MR. TODD: I can if that would make things
17 easier.

18 MR. ANDERSON: He may have a different term
19 that he feels may mean the same as must-run.

20 MR. TODD: Fair enough.

21 BY MR. TODD:

22 Q. The term "must-run" is -- if we assume for
23 purposes of this deposition that a must-run facility is
24 one -- is a high-priority facility which in Ameren's --
25 AmerenUE's decision making in terms of turning on and off

1 plants, these are plants that is much more costly to turn
2 on and off.

3 Have you performed that analysis as to which of
4 these plants would fall into that category?

5 A. I have looked at the Company's economic loading
6 order, which ranks which plants should be run first,
7 second, third and so forth.

8 Q. Are you familiar with the Sioux plant?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Do you know where Sioux plant -- Sioux plant
11 falls in that order?

12 A. The economic loading order as I know it ranks
13 Callaway first, Labadie second, Rush Island third, Sioux
14 fourth, Meramec fifth.

15 Q. Have you performed any analysis of how those
16 plants differ from each other as you go up or down that
17 list?

18 A. With regard to their fuel prices, yes. With
19 regard to the type of fuel they use, yes.

20 Q. But not with regard to how easy they are to
21 turn on and off?

22 A. No.

23 Q. So, for instance, you don't know -- would I be
24 correct in assuming that you don't know how much harder it
25 would be to turn on and off the Callaway nuclear plant as

1 compared to the Meramec unit?

2 A. I don't know that.

3 Q. I've turned to Gary for a definition of
4 must-run which I want to share and see if this changes
5 your analysis -- your answers at all.

6 A must-run plant must be kept on line at all
7 times, regardless of economic dispatch ranking.

8 Have you performed any analysis of these plants
9 to determine whether or not they are must-run as defined?

10 A. No.

11 Q. I'm turning to page 6 of your written
12 testimony.

13 You are sponsoring S-10.2, are you not, which
14 actually shows up page 7?

15 A. Yes.

16 (CASSIDY EXHIBIT NO. 2 WAS MARKED FOR
17 IDENTIFICATION BY THE COURT REPORTER.)

18 BY MR. TODD:

19 Q. I'm handing you accounting schedules in this
20 case, so we're all looking at a copy of them when we get
21 around to them.

22 Could you tell me what Adjustment S-10.2 does?

23 A. Adjustment S-10.2 represents the Staff's
24 adjustment to the Company's fuel expense based on the
25 Staff's production cost model.

1 The Staff's annualized fuel and purchased power
2 energy costs represents the cost of producing the
3 purchasing power to meet the level of megawatt-hour sales
4 in the Staff's revenue annualization in this case.

5 Q. And, once again, you just read that answer from
6 your written testimony?

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. What amount of an adjustment does S-10.2
9 reflect?

10 A. S-10.2 increases expense by \$5,952,145.

11 Q. And that would be Ameren's expenses?

12 A. AmerenUE's Missouri.

13 Q. And that would be expense for fuel. Correct?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. And where does your source data for your
16 calculation in this area come from?

17 A. For fuel prices I obtained this data from the
18 electric generation report as supplied in Data Request 199
19 and 319 for both AmerenUE and AEG, which is Ameren Energy
20 Generating Company, for coal, oil, gas, petroleum and
21 shredded tires.

22 For nuclear fuel prices I obtained the
23 information from Data Request 138 and 99 from the steam
24 electric generating plant statistics report.

25 Q. And as I read your testimony, it was your

1 obligation or your task in this area to ascertain these
2 prices and then provide them to Staff Witness Bender, is
3 that correct --

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. -- for use in the production cost model?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. In analyzing these fuel prices -- in obtaining
8 these fuel prices, I should say, did you give any
9 consideration to future events that might possibly affect
10 the price of fuel?

11 A. My review consisted of looking at historical
12 data through the period ending December 2000.

13 Q. Should I infer from that that the answer will
14 be no?

15 A. I did not look at any fuel price information at
16 the time of filing this testimony that occurred beyond
17 December 31, 2000.

18 Q. Did you take into account any world events?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Did you take into account the state of the
21 national economy?

22 A. No.

23 Q. Did you take into account whether or not
24 AmerenUE has long-term fuel purchase contracts?

25 A. Long-term fuel purchase contracts was not part

1 of my analysis.

2 Q. You would agree that such a contract would
3 affect the price of fuel?

4 A. I don't know.

5 Q. On page 7, starting at line 2, you are
6 testifying, "The Staff used actual fuel prices, which
7 occurred during its update period for the 12 months ending
8 December 31st, 2000. The Staff believes that the most
9 recent 12 months of fuel prices are the best available
10 reflection of ongoing fuel costs."

11 Did I read that correctly?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Why have you made that determination?

14 A. You would have to begin by looking at how UE
15 generates electricity.

16 UE-Missouri's electricity is generated by coal,
17 nuclear, gas and oil. Those types of fuel are used to
18 generate electricity in Missouri.

19 Coal represents 70 percent of UE's generation.
20 Nuclear represents roughly 26 percent of its generation.

21 When I examine coal fuel prices for UE, I found
22 a trend had developed where coal fuel prices were trending
23 downward constantly.

24 From December 1999 through June of 2000 coal
25 fuel prices had declined at Meramec, Sioux, Labadie and

1 Rush Island.

2 From June of 2000 to December of 2000 coal
3 prices declined again at Meramec, Sioux and Labadie, and
4 it increased slightly at Rush Island.

5 Nuclear fuel prices that I had examined have
6 continuously declined since September 30th, 1999 through
7 December 31st, 2000.

8 I've also examined nuclear fuel prices beyond
9 that point, and have found that through March 31st, 2001
10 and June 30th, 2001 nuclear fuel prices continued to
11 decline beyond December 31st, 2000.

12 Q. Do you know when the rates set in this
13 proceeding will take effect, roughly?

14 A. I don't know.

15 Q. Would you agree with me that it's likely to be
16 sometime after 2001?

17 A. I don't know.

18 Q. Would you agree with me that it would be at
19 some point after today's date?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Thank you.

22 And today is November 28th, 2001?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. So today is almost 11 months after the last
25 date you looked at for coal prices. Is that correct?

1 A. That's correct.

2 Q. And the range of coal prices you looked at
3 spanned one year?

4 A. I looked at coal prices for the calendar year
5 ending 1998, 1999 and 2000. I've also looked at coal
6 prices that the Company has supplied to me through
7 April 30th, 2001.

8 Q. In your answer just now you discuss the periods
9 from 12-99 to 6-2000, 6-2000 to 12-2000.

10 How did coal prices fluctuate in the years
11 before that that you apparently also looked at?

12 A. Coal prices increased for Meramec, Sioux and
13 Labadie from calendar year 1998 through calendar year
14 1999. For Rush Island coal prices decreased from 1998
15 through 1999.

16 Q. So over a period of three years, then, coal
17 prices have gone up and down?

18 A. Correct.

19 Q. But in your analysis you're comfortable looking
20 at a declining trend over the last year of your data set,
21 and from that projecting that at some point over a year
22 into the future coal prices will continue to go down?

23 A. One thing we haven't discussed is Genco coal
24 prices. When I say "Genco," I mean Ameren Energy
25 Generating Company's coal prices.

1 Newton and Coffeen units represent 72 percent
2 of the generation produced by Ameren Energy Generating
3 Company's coal production. Coal production represents
4 82 percent of Ameren Energy Genco's generation for the
5 year 2000.

6 I have found a trend where units -- the units
7 in Newton and Coffeen have decreased continuously from
8 December 1999 through June of 2000, from June of 2000 to
9 December of 2000, and continue to decrease through
10 April 2001.

11 Q. And that would be a 16-month period?

12 A. The period I looked at included 28 months.

13 Q. I'm sorry. So what were the dates on that
14 again?

15 A. 12 months ending December 31st, 1999, through
16 June 30, 2000, through December 31, 2000, through
17 April 30, 2001.

18 Q. You stated that you reviewed your workpapers in
19 preparation for this deposition?

20 A. Correct.

21 Q. Do you know whether on your workpapers for your
22 annualized fuel cost the Ameren Energy Generating plants
23 appear?

24 A. The actual fuel prices for Ameren Generation
25 are included in my workpapers.

1 Q. Were they included in your calculation for the
2 Staff's annualized fuel and purchased power expenses?

3 A. It's my understanding that Mr. Bender's fuel
4 model runs on a stand-alone basis as filed; however, that
5 model will be updated to include the Genco fuel prices and
6 run on a combined basis.

7 Q. You didn't perform the calculation for the
8 Staff's annualized fuel and purchased power expenses then?

9 A. Mr. Bender was the individual who collected the
10 purchased power information and inputted it into the
11 production cost model.

12 Q. Do you know when this updated or new model will
13 be available?

14 A. I'm not certain when it will be complete.

15 Q. Okay. Let me get back to those fuel prices
16 that pertain to your testimony, and that the most recent
17 12 months of fuel prices are the best available reflection
18 of ongoing fuel costs.

19 Does that reflect a judgment on your part at
20 all that more recently available data is more reliable?

21 A. I worked within the parameters of my test year
22 and update period.

23 Based on the historical analysis that I
24 conducted, I felt that a trend was occurring with fuel
25 prices. And I adopted the most current fuel prices, as I

1 felt they were the best available reflection of ongoing
2 fuel price.

3 Q. Does the Staff have a policy at all that guides
4 you in deciding when to take the most recent data versus
5 test year data versus an average?

6 A. I'm not aware of any policy that exists.

7 Q. Would that just be a subjective judgment that
8 you make then?

9 A. A calculation is done to capture the best
10 available reflection of ongoing fuel costs that we can.

11 Q. And in doing so, is it not true that you make a
12 subjective judgment as to the best analysis of past data
13 to capture that?

14 A. We make an analysis to determine normal,
15 ongoing, reasonable levels that should be included.

16 Q. And that analysis as to normal, ongoing,
17 reasonable levels includes a subjective judgment as to the
18 best calculation to perform?

19 A. A judgment is involved.

20 Q. On page 7 of your written testimony, on line 8,
21 you state -- or rather I'll start on line 7: "Once
22 annualized fuel and purchased power was calculated using
23 the Staff's production cost model, I checked some of the
24 fuel outputs for reasonableness. Staff witness Bender's
25 production cost model appears to be reasonable."

1 Did I read that correctly?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. What do you mean by "appears to be reasonable"?

4 A. In order to check the reasonableness of the

5 production fuel model, I performed some checks to see if

6 the model was reasonable.

7 Q. And if I can get you to turn to the

8 interrogatories again, the Staff responses to the first

9 set of interrogatories. Let's turn to page 89 and 90,

10 Interrogatory 1995.

11 Subportion A there asks, Describe in as much

12 detail as you can the methods used by Mr. Cassidy to

13 determine the reasonableness of the results generated by

14 this production cost model.

15 And you prepared the answer here. Correct?

16 A. Correct.

17 Q. And it states here that you performed various

18 historical analysis checks, including fuel price inputs,

19 maximum capacities, plant outage hours, forced outage

20 hours, equivalent availability, capacity factors, total

21 fuel costs per net KWH and energy-generated. Correct?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. Are those all of the checks you performed?

24 A. As I recall, yes.

25 Q. In performing these checks did you find any

1 errors in Staff Witness Bender's work?

2 A. The only difference I found which raised a
3 question was involved to -- with capacity factors for
4 Sioux and Meramec, which we have subsequently learned that
5 the Staff's fuel model has loaded Meramec before the Sioux
6 plant incorrectly.

7 Q. Has this subsequently been -- will this be
8 changed in the new model?

9 A. That -- that error will be addressed in the
10 context of the new model.

11 Q. You didn't find any other errors?

12 A. None that I'm aware of.

13 Q. Have you discussed the production cost model
14 with Staff Witness Bender more recently?

15 A. We've had general discussions.

16 Q. Have any other errors in his model come to
17 light that you're aware of?

18 A. None that I'm aware of.

19 Q. Okay. What check did you perform regarding
20 fuel price inputs?

21 A. Mr. Bender printed out fuel price inputs that
22 were built into his production cost model. I took those
23 inputs and verified that they tied to the fuel price
24 numbers that I had supplied to him.

25 Q. In the context of a generating plant, do you

1 understand what the term "the unit" means?

2 A. Generally.

3 Q. You would agree that a unit is a subsection of
4 a generating plant?

5 A. Correct.

6 Q. Are fuel prices provided per unit?

7 A. Fuel prices are provided by plant, not by unit.

8 Q. For each plant did you provide Mr. Bender with
9 one set or two sets -- two sets of fuel costs?

10 A. I don't understand the question.

11 Q. Okay. How many sets of average fuel prices per
12 month did you provide Mr. Bender with?

13 A. Are you asking me if I supplied him fuel prices
14 other than for the 12 months ending December 31st, 2000?

15 A. I'm asking for each month, for each plant --
16 you provided fuel prices for each plant on a monthly
17 basis. Correct?

18 A. Correct.

19 Q. In each month do you provide him with one price
20 or two prices for fuel?

21 A. I provided him one fuel price by plant by
22 month.

23 Q. And that was -- that number reflected the
24 average fuel costs for that plant for that month. Is that
25 correct?

1 A. Yes, as spelled out in the Company's summary
2 cost of fossil fuel used for electric generation report as
3 supplied in data request responses.

4 Q. Do you have any knowledge of what fuel price
5 the decision whether or not to start up a unit depends on?

6 A. I don't know.

7 Q. Did you make any data requests to the Company
8 regarding the fuel price relevant to the start-up of a
9 plant?

10 A. I did not.

11 Q. Have you ever heard the term "incremental fuel
12 price"?

13 A. I may have heard the term, but I couldn't
14 define it. It wasn't part of my analysis.

15 Q. Okay. The next check this interrogatory
16 response says you did is maximum capacities.

17 Could you tell us, what is a maximum capacity?

18 A. It's the highest level of output that the plant
19 is capable of producing.

20 Q. How is that measured?

21 Let me give you a different question.

22 Is that a measured capacity or an actual
23 capacity?

24 A. It's my understanding that that's the limit at
25 which a company can run its plant.

1 I guess I was thinking that question in terms
2 of what have I included -- what fuel prices have I
3 included.

4 And I haven't included any fuel prices beyond
5 December 31, 2000, but I have looked at fuel prices
6 subsequent to December 31 2000.

7 I have fuel prices updated through April 2001.
8 I've just received in the last week or two additional
9 information that would give me fuel prices through, I
10 believe, at least July 2001.

11 BY MR. TODD:

12 Q. Has this updated information borne out your
13 analysis of the earlier prices?

14 A. The only analysis that I've completed is
15 nuclear fuel prices through June of 2001, and that trend
16 of decreasing downward has continued.

17 The analysis I performed on coal price through
18 April of 2001 leads me to believe that the trend is
19 continuing to exist.

20 Q. Okay. Before we took a break we were talking
21 about maximum capacities.

22 Could you tell me what check you performed of
23 Mr. Bender's work as regards maximum capacities?

24 A. Mr. Bender supplied me with a workpaper from
25 his production cost model that listed the maximum

1 capacities, and I believe I checked those against
2 information supplied in the FERC reports.

3 Q. Okay. The next three areas of checks were
4 planned outage hours, forced outage hours and equivalent
5 availability.

6 Could you tell me what you did in these areas
7 to check Mr. Bender's work?

8 A. Mr. Bender supplied me with planned outage
9 hours and forced outage hours that had occurred over the
10 course of five years.

11 I verified those planned outage hours and
12 forced outage hours against information supplied in
13 Data Requests 4146 and 4114 to ensure that he had included
14 an accurate historical level of those planned outages.

15 Q. What did you do with regards to equivalent
16 availability?

17 A. Equivalent availability is the percentage of
18 time that the unit is fully available.

19 I checked the nuclear and coal plants using a
20 three-year average, 1998 through 2000, and also just a
21 year 2000 analysis, to determine if his levels were
22 consistent with those levels, and they were.

23 I used the steam electric generation plant
24 report to make those determinations.

25 Q. Do you know how Staff Witness Bender calculated

1 Q. Is that limit based on prior experience running
2 that plant or is it something that, say, whoever built the
3 plant has said it could achieve?

4 A. I don't know.

5 Q. Okay. Have you ever heard the term "nameplate
6 rating"?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. What is a nameplate rating?

9 A. It has to do with installed capacity. It's
10 listed in the FERC annual report. I'm not sure that I
11 could define exactly what it means.

12 Q. You don't know whether the maximum capacity is
13 synonymous with a nameplate rating?

14 A. I know that they're not synonymous.

15 Q. Do you know what determines whether or not a
16 plant can achieve its maximum capacity, assuming, of
17 course, the plant is turned on?

18 MR. ANDERSON: I'd like that break after this
19 line of questioning.

20 MR. TODD: I'm definitely going to take one.

21 THE WITNESS: I'm not sure I could explain what
22 variables go into a plant achieving its maximum capacity.

23 BY MR. TODD:

24 Q. Do you know whether fuel quality affects
25 whether or not a plant can achieve its maximum capacity?

1 A. I'm not sure.

2 Q. Did you perform any analysis in the context of
3 this check, or any other context, for that matter,
4 regarding fuel quality?

5 A. I did not.

6 Q. The next three checks you performed --

7 MR. TODD: I'd like to finish going through all
8 of these before we take a break.

9 MR. ANDERSON: How long do you think that would
10 be?

11 MR. TODD: Maybe half an hour.

12 MR. ANDERSON: We need a break.

13 MR. TODD: That's fine.

14 (A RECESS WAS TAKEN.)

15 BY MR. TODD:

16 Q. Let's go back.

17 MR. ANDERSON: John, did you have a
18 clarification?

19 THE WITNESS: Yes, I have one clarification to
20 make.

21 MR. TODD: Sure.

22 THE WITNESS: You asked a question that, I
23 guess, wanted to know if I had looked at fuel price -- if
24 I have not looked at fuel prices in the past eleven
25 months, and I think I said yes to that question.

1 his numbers for planned outage hours and forced outage
2 hours?

3 A. I believe Mr. Bender used a five-year average.

4 Q. And did you check his average?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And what did you check it against?

7 A. Using the information supplied in Data
8 Request 4146 and 4114.

9 Q. What is a capacity factor?

10 A. It's a factor that tells you how close to
11 100 percent a plant is being used over a period of time,
12 either by month or year.

13 Q. Okay. And what do you do to check capacity
14 factors in the context of your response to
15 Interrogatory 95?

16 A. I used the FERC 1 report for 2000 on a total
17 plant basis for coal and nuclear plants to check Leon's
18 capacity factors.

19 Q. I'm sorry. I missed the last portion of that.

20 A. I used the FERC 1 report for 2000 on a total
21 plant basis for coal and nuclear to check Leon's capacity
22 factors.

23 Q. Were they correct?

24 A. The only discrepancies I found were on the
25 Meramec and Sioux plant.

1 I believe after Mr. Bender runs his new
2 production cost model, it will correctly load the Sioux
3 plant before the Meramec plant, and those capacity factors
4 should come into line.

5 Q. The next area of historical analysis check you
6 say here that you performed is total fuel cost per net
7 kilowatt hour.

8 How is this number calculated?

9 A. I'm not sure that I can explain the calculation
10 that the production cost model performs.

11 My analysis in this area was to take the
12 production cost model's output and compare it to the
13 December 2000 F&S report on page C-4-2, titled Total Fuel
14 Cost Per Total Net KWH, and that was very close and
15 appeared reasonable.

16 Q. Are you familiar with the term "heat rate"?

17 A. I've heard the term. I can't define it.

18 Q. Are you familiar with the term "efficiency
19 deviation factor"?

20 A. No.

21 Q. The last check you say you performed here was
22 energy generated. What was that?

23 A. That check consisted of looking at the total
24 energy generated by the production cost model to see if
25 the ratios of energy generated were falling in line with

1 what I had presented in my testimony in terms of coal,
2 gas, fuel, oil, nuclear and hydro, to see if those
3 percentages were comparable.

4 Q. Does energy generated depend on a plant's prior
5 maximum generation?

6 A. I don't know.

7 MR. TODD: Could I get you to read back the
8 answer of one question before that.

9 (THE COURT REPORTER READ BACK THE REQUESTED
10 TESTIMONY.)

11 BY MR. TODD:

12 Q. When you say comfortable with ratios presented
13 in your testimony, what testimony are you talking about
14 there?

15 A. Maybe I should clarify.

16 I guess present as I calculated in my -- in
17 looking at the information that I had available to me. I
18 don't know that those ratios are supplied in my testimony.

19 Q. Would those ratios be things that you provided
20 to Mr. Bender?

21 A. Ratios. I don't recall supplying those ratios
22 to Mr. Bender.

23 Q. You say total energy generated by the
24 production cost model. So would that be -- would that not
25 be on a plant basis?

1 A. Mr. Bender's production cost model provides a
2 summary of the energy generated by coal units, gas units,
3 boiling units, nuclear units, hydro.

4 I merely checked to see that those levels were
5 consistent with what I had seen --

6 Q. What page?

7 A. -- in the Company's reports.

8 Q. What are you referring to? What document are
9 you referring to?

10 A. Mr. Bender's production cost model produces an
11 energy generated megawatt hour sheet.

12 Q. And is it by plant or total?

13 A. This document breaks it out by plant, by unit.
14 I merely checked the totals.

15 Q. And where did you get the information that you
16 checked those against from?

17 A. I looked at the generation as reported in the
18 FERC 1 report. I also looked at information supplied in
19 the summary cost of fossil fuel used for the electric
20 generation report.

21 Q. Do you know whether Mr. Bender's model -- model
22 modeled total energy production?

23 A. I'm not sure that I understand your question.
24 I would defer the answer -- I would defer that question to
25 Mr. Bender to answer.

1 Q. Let me break it down a little bit.

2 Do you know whether Mr. Bender's model includes
3 spot market sales of energy, energy generated for spot
4 market sales?

5 A. Mr. Bender states in his testimony that the
6 production cost model did not include spot sales.

7 Q. Do you know whether the information that you
8 used from the Company or FERC 1 or any other source to
9 compare the production cost model outputs to include its
10 spot market sales?

11 A. The level of spot sales that are included in
12 the case are what occurred during the Company's test year.
13 The Staff made no adjustments to spot sales.

14 Q. So do you or do you not know whether those
15 documents included spot market sales?

16 A. I'm not aware of what Mr. Bender looked at in
17 relation to spot sales.

18 Q. I'm not asking what Mr. Bender looked at. I'm
19 asking whether the documents you compared his results to,
20 whether you know if they included spot market sales.

21 A. I made no such comparison.

22 Q. Do you know whether the Company's production
23 numbers include all retail and wholesale production?

24 A. I don't know.

25 Q. Okay. Did you check any of the production -- I

1 take that back.

2 Do you know whether the production cost model
3 was run on the test year specifically to determine how
4 well it predicts fuel prices?

5 A. I know that the production cost model included
6 fuel prices for the 12 months ending December 2000.

7 Q. Do you know whether the production cost model
8 was calibrated to actual production costs?

9 A. I would defer that question to Mr. Bender.

10 Q. The answer, then, would be that you do not
11 know?

12 A. I do not know.

13 Q. Let me go back to the question I asked you two
14 questions ago, as to whether the test -- the production
15 cost model was run on the test year, and you stated that
16 you know that the production cost model had test year fuel
17 inputs put into it.

18 Do you know whether the model was ever run in
19 order to see whether or not it could -- given all of the
20 other known data from the test year, whether it accurately
21 predicted test year fuel prices?

22 A. I believe that the fuel model contains
23 reasonable, ongoing and recurring levels of fuel price as
24 inputs into the model.

25 Q. You didn't answer my question.

1 A. Restate the question for me, please.

2 Q. Did you run the production -- the production
3 cost model for the 12 months ending June 30th, 2000 of
4 Staff's test year using unadjusted numbers?

5 A. I did not run the Staff's production cost
6 model, if that would be your question. It would have to
7 be answered by Mr. Bender.

8 Q. Do you think that it might have been a good
9 thing to do to -- in checking the reasonableness of fuel
10 prices kicked out by the production cost model, to test
11 whether or not that model could accurately predict the
12 known test year fuel prices?

13 A. I believe the Staff ran the fuel model based on
14 the test year fuel prices, and then subsequent to that in
15 our filed testimony we moved to including December 31st
16 fuel prices because fuel prices were trending downward.

17 Q. Let me try to break this down a little bit.

18 As I understand it, the production cost model
19 is essentially a large equation. Is that correct?

20 That's somewhat simplified, but generally
21 speaking.

22 MR. ANDERSON: I think I'm going to object at
23 this point. This witness has already told you that he is
24 not familiar with the inner workings of the cost model,
25 that Mr. Bender is.

1 You seem to be, again, focusing on questions
2 that ask him as to the running of the cost model, and I
3 think this witness has already stated that those questions
4 would be answered by Staff Witness Bender.

5 MR. TODD: It was this witness's obligation to
6 check the reasonableness of fuel prices. And what I'm
7 wondering is whether or not, and if not, why not, the
8 production cost model wasn't calibrated to see whether it
9 accurately predicted known fuel prices. This line of
10 questioning is entirely relevant.

11 THE WITNESS: My understanding of the
12 production cost model is that it determines the energy
13 costs and fuel consumption necessary to meet --
14 economically meet AmerenUE's load.

15 BY MR. TODD:

16 Q. And the point of the production cost model is
17 to predict those numbers for an unknown future period. Is
18 that correct?

19 A. The point of the production cost model is to
20 establish just and reasonable, normal, recurring, ongoing
21 levels of fuel expense.

22 Q. Yes.

23 But the actual number you're trying to predict
24 is the number you just said. Right?

25 A. The number it's trying to produce is the number

1 that reflects normal, recurring, ongoing levels of that
2 expense.

3 MR. TODD: Can you read back the answer two
4 questions ago, please.

5 (THE COURT REPORTER READ BACK THE REQUESTED
6 TESTIMONY.)

7 BY MR. TODD:

8 Q. Now, if we take a past period, for instance,
9 the test year, looking at the unadjusted data that the
10 Company supplied, we know during that year what energy
11 costs and fuel consumption the Company had in producing
12 its load. Is that correct?

13 A. I can only speak to what the fuel prices were
14 during the test period.

15 Q. And it never occurred to you to run the model
16 backwards to see if it actually accurately calibrated or
17 predicted those fuel prices?

18 MR. ANDERSON: Object. He's already said he
19 didn't run the model.

20 MR. TODD: I asked him if it ever occurred to
21 him to.

22 MR. ANDERSON: He didn't run the model.

23 THE WITNESS: Mr. Bender may have performed
24 such checks. I'm not aware if -- what checks he has
25 performed.

1 BY MR. TODD:

2 Q. When about did you get the results of
3 Mr. Bender's analysis timewise?

4 A. I'm sorry?

5 Q. Timewise, rough date, when did you get the
6 results of Mr. Bender's model?

7 A. It was sometime in June 2001.

8 Q. Any idea roughly when in June?

9 A. In the second half of June 2001.

10 Q. Are you aware on what date the Staff filed its
11 rate case against AmerenUE?

12 I'll just provide that it was July 2nd.

13 Would you agree on that?

14 A. July 2nd.

15 Q. And you performed all of these checks between
16 the time you received the results of Mr. Bender's analysis
17 and the time the case was filed?

18 A. Yes. Those checks were performed during the
19 latter part of June 2001.

20 Q. Turn to page 7 of your testimony. Of course
21 you're already there.

22 You testify about the Callaway refueling. Is
23 that correct?

24 A. Yes, on page 7 and page 8.

25 Q. And you're proposing or sponsoring

1 Adjustment S-10.1?

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. Could you tell me what that does?

4 A. It normalizes the Company's refueling of the
5 Callaway nuclear power plant.

6 Q. Why is that normalization necessary?

7 A. Because the Company refuels the Callaway plant
8 on an 18-month cycle. Therefore, the cost of refueling
9 must be normalized to reflect the amount occurred during
10 an average year. That adjustment removes one-third of the
11 cost related to the nuclear plant refueling.

12 Q. Okay. And you were reading that answer from
13 your testimony on page 8?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. What types of things are included in the
16 refueling cost?

17 A. The Company workpaper from the second sharing
18 period of the second EARP indicates that replacement power
19 energy, replacement power demand, incremental overtime
20 labor and other expenses comprise that expense.

21 Q. Do you understand -- have any understanding of
22 how the refueling process affects the Callaway plant's
23 operations?

24 A. How the expense affects the operations?

25 Q. How the refueling process affects the plant's

1 operations.

2 A. When the Callaway plant is refueled, it is
3 typically down for a month or so, put out of service,
4 until such time that the refueling is completed.

5 Q. Did you perform any analyses as to the cost of
6 Callaway refueling over time?

7 A. My analysis of Callaway refueling was limited
8 to the test period. My adjustment identically matches the
9 adjustment the Company made for Callaway refueling costs
10 in the context of the second sharing period of the second
11 EARP.

12 Q. So you did not look at what it costs for any
13 other factors surrounding prior Callaway refuelings?

14 A. I did not examine that expense prior to test
15 year.

16 Q. Did you have any input into the planned and
17 forced outages item in the production cost model?

18 A. Mr. Bender made that determination of what
19 level of planned and forced outages would be included in
20 the model.

21 Q. So the answer would be no?

22 A. No.

23 Q. Now, you testified earlier -- in fact, it's in
24 your written testimony, at least with regards to fuel
25 prices, that you found the most recent data -- or the most

1 recent data looked at to be the most accurate. Is that
2 correct?

3 A. For fuel prices, yes.

4 Q. For fuel prices, right.

5 Are you aware that Callaway was refueled in the
6 spring of 2001?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. In your opinion would it be more appropriate to
9 use the Callaway refueling price that you have relied on
10 than it would be to use this more recent data?

11 A. I don't know what the more recent data
12 reflects, so I can't make any determination.

13 Q. You would have to look --

14 A. I'm limited to the scope of the test year and
15 the update period.

16 Q. How are you limited to the scope of the test
17 year and the update period?

18 A. That is the parameters from which I'm working
19 under as established.

20 Q. Were you instructed to only base your
21 calculations on those periods?

22 A. That was the determination made by the lead
23 auditor and case coordinator of the case.

24 Q. Were you ever instructed to not look at data
25 outside that, those parameters?

1 A. No. I looked at data beyond that period to
2 make sure that trends would continue to exist to the
3 extent that I had it available.

4 Q. In your experience, then, and in your own
5 opinion, would it be more appropriate to look at more
6 recent refueling data for Callaway than it would be to
7 look at test year data?

8 A. Without seeing that data, I don't know.

9 Q. What kind of things would you look for in that
10 data to determine whether it be more reasonable to use
11 that data versus the data you did rely on?

12 A. A determination had to be made whether any
13 changes had occurred that would reflect normal, ongoing,
14 recurring levels of expense that would be different from
15 what was calculated or obtained through the examination of
16 the test period.

17 Q. You would agree, would you not, that in various
18 areas of its overall proposal, the Staff has relied on
19 three-year, five-year, even ten-year averages of past data
20 in order to make adjustment to test year data?

21 A. I'm not aware of all of the averages that Staff
22 has used in the context of its -- of calculating
23 adjustments.

24 I am aware that the Staff used a five-year
25 average of planned and forced outages in use of the

1 production cost model.

2 Q. Those averages rely on data outside of the
3 parameters you just defined. Is that correct?

4 A. The Staff has the right to look at historical
5 data in making a determination of what normal, reasonable,
6 recurring, ongoing levels of expense or revenues are.

7 Q. But in this area you didn't feel it was
8 necessary to look at prior Callaway refuelings?

9 A. In this area I did not look at Callaway
10 refueling expense prior to test year. I'm not aware of
11 what those prior refueling costs were.

12 Q. Did you make a judgment that you wouldn't look
13 at prior Callaway refuelings?

14 A. I felt that my adjustment was reasonable, in
15 that it matched the same adjustment that the Company had
16 made in the context of the second sharing period of the
17 second EARP. They had made no historical analysis in
18 making their determination of those levels of expense.

19 (OFF THE RECORD.)

20 BY MR. TODD:

21 Q. Okay. Legal fees. Would you turn to page 8 in
22 your testimony.

23 You're sponsoring Adjustment S-19.4 regarding
24 legal fees. Correct?

25 A. Yes.

1 legal fees that Ameren will have to pay?

2 A. Again, I would say that Staff's adjustment
3 develops normal, ongoing, recurring levels for legal fees.

4 Q. Mr. Cassidy, do you know what legal fees the
5 Company will have to pay in the future?

6 A. I'm not sure that anyone can accurately
7 100 percent state that this is what legal fees will be in
8 the future.

9 Q. We simply cannot know that because it's in the
10 future. Correct?

11 A. Correct.

12 I would state the Company does not know, nor
13 does the Staff know, exactly what exact dollar amount the
14 Company will incur for legal fees in the future.

15 Q. Actually, you're correct on that.

16 The purpose of this exercise is to estimate
17 what those future payments and costs will be. Is that not
18 so?

19 A. The purpose of going to a cash basis of
20 accounting -- or adopting the cash basis of accounting as
21 opposed to the accrual basis is done to eliminate the
22 effect of subjecting customers' rates being increased
23 unnecessarily for activities that aren't actually being
24 performed based on an estimate of what that accrual will
25 be.

1 MR. TODD: Again, I object to that as being
2 nonresponsive. I didn't ask you why you chose one
3 methodology over another.

4 BY MR. TODD:

5 Q. Regardless of the methodology chosen, we could
6 write number on pieces of paper and throw them down the
7 stairs and pick whichever one gets to the bottom, but
8 whatever method we use, isn't it true that the ultimate
9 purpose of this particular exercise is to estimate what
10 future costs of legal fees will be?

11 A. The purpose is to determine what the normal,
12 recurring, ongoing level will be.

13 Q. Again, normal, ongoing level is a
14 methodological choice, isn't it?

15 A. The normal, ongoing level attempts -- by
16 developing the normal, ongoing level we are restating test
17 period data for abnormal nonrecurring items.

18 I'm just trying to develop what's a normal,
19 ongoing level.

20 When I look at the Company's accrual of -- in
21 the amount of \$2,785,200, which occurred during the test
22 year, and when I look at what actual legal fees expense is
23 during the test period and using the five-year average,
24 that level is significantly higher from what is actually
25 occurring.

1 Q. Your decision to look for a normal and ongoing
2 level in order to get this future number is a choice of
3 methodology, is it not?

4 A. That is the Staff's methodology, yes.

5 Q. And so your methodology of looking for a
6 normal, ongoing level is a methodology just as much as my
7 example of throwing numbers down the stairs, isn't it?

8 A. In that context, yes, those are two different
9 methodologies.

10 Q. Putting methodology aside, regardless of the
11 methodology we use, the purpose of this exercise, whatever
12 methodology is used, is to determine what -- is to
13 determine an estimate of what future costs and payments
14 will be. Is that correct?

15 A. We're trying to determine the normal, ongoing
16 level of costs that will be in effect during the time
17 which rates are in effect.

18 Q. You put methodology back into your answer,
19 didn't you?

20 Are you capable of answering this question
21 without referring to your own methodology?

22 MR. ANDERSON: That's argumentative. You've
23 asked and answered this question three times now.

24 BY MR. TODD:

25 Q. Will you agree that normal and ongoing means --

1 that the term "ongoing" indicates a future level of cost?

2 A. It attempts to reflect costs that will occur in
3 the future.

4 MR. TODD: I didn't respond to the objection,
5 by the way.

6 Certainly asked but never answered.

7 MR. ANDERSON: He answered the question.

8 You asked him what the purpose was and he
9 answered it.

10 MR. TODD: He answered a different question
11 several times. He never answered the question I asked
12 him.

13 BY MR. TODD:

14 Q. Mr. Cassidy, what is the purpose of an
15 allocation factor?

16 A. Allocation factors are used to distribute, for
17 example, expenses to appropriate operating areas of the
18 Company.

19 We allocate in this -- for this company we
20 allocate expenses between Ameren's Missouri and Illinois
21 operations, and we also allocate some expense between
22 Ameren's electric and gas operations.

23 Q. What is the labor ratio?

24 A. I'm not sure I know that allocation factor.

25 Q. I don't mean the specific number.

1 I mean, can you describe what labor ratio is?

2 A. I'm not sure that I could give you a good
3 definition of that.

4 Q. Do you -- in your analysis have you ever used
5 the labor ratio?

6 A. In my analysis for legal fees, I used a factor
7 to allocate cost to gas and then to allocate cost to
8 Missouri electric.

9 Q. Do you know whether or not the factor you used
10 to allocate costs to Missouri electric was the labor
11 ratio?

12 A. I don't know.

13 Q. Where did you get -- that would be the
14 90.11 percent?

15 A. Correct.

16 Q. Where did you get that number from?

17 A. I believe Jim Schweiterman supplied that
18 allocation factor to me.

19 Q. If you're going to use an allocation factor to
20 divide up accrued funds as of June 30th, 2000, do you
21 think it would be appropriate to use an allocation factor
22 calculated as of June 30th, 2000?

23 A. My answer would be, that would be one way to
24 conduct those allocations, yes.

25 Q. Do you think it would ever be appropriate to

1 use an allocation factor calculated as of another date, or
2 do you simply not know?

3 A. Another date would be appropriate also.

4 Q. Are you aware that 90.11 percent is the labor
5 ratio factor calculated as of December 31st, 2000?

6 A. I don't know.

7 Q. You are aware that you used this 90.11 number
8 to allocate accrued accruals and expenses as of June 30th,
9 2000?

10 A. The 90.11 allocation factor is what I used to
11 allocate expenses, yes.

12 Q. Let's move on to page 9 of your testimony,
13 where you do an insight into environmental expenses.

14 Would you tell us what adjustments you're
15 sponsoring in this area?

16 A. This adjustment adopts the cash-basis approach
17 for environmental expense to eliminate the effect of an
18 approximate 2.5 -- excess \$2.5 million excess accrual.

19 Q. Could you explain to me your understanding of
20 how the Company currently accounts for environmental
21 expenses?

22 A. Under an accrual basis of accounting, the
23 Company maintains a reserve of accumulated funds which are
24 set aside to pay for environmental costs related to clean-
25 up of contaminated sites. The Company charges major

1 expenditures directly against the reserve.

2 Small expenditures are directly expensed to
3 eliminate the constant adjustment of the reserve amount.

4 Q. And, once again, you just read that from
5 page 10 of your testimony?

6 A. Correct.

7 Q. Do you know what the Company considers to be
8 environmental costs?

9 A. Costs that the Company has estimated that they
10 will incur as part of environmental cleanups that they may
11 be a party to.

12 Q. So do you know what the Company considers to be
13 a major expenditure?

14 A. I'm sorry?

15 Q. Do you know what the Company considers to be a
16 major expenditure?

17 A. In the context of environmental expense?

18 Q. In the context of your testimony right here.

19 A. I'm not certain what the criteria for what
20 level constitutes a major expense.

21 Q. Would the same answer go for what constitutes a
22 smaller expenditure?

23 A. Yes, the same answer would apply.

24 Q. Have you done any analysis yourself to
25 determine what environmental cleanup expenditures the

1 Company based its accruals on?

2 A. The Company identified three superfund sites
3 that may be potential sites where they would be involved
4 as the responsible party in the cleanup.

5 Q. What document are you looking at then?

6 A. This is Data Request 1013 from the fourth
7 sharing period of the first EARP. I believe that's an
8 Office of Public Counsel data request.

9 Q. Do you know whether those three superfund sites
10 accounted for all of the environmental expenses the
11 Company accrued funds against?

12 A. I believe the Company may be involved in the
13 cleanup of manufactured gas plants; however, that doesn't
14 pertain to electric expense.

15 Q. Do you know whether there are any other
16 electric-related environmental cleanups the Company may be
17 liable for against which to accumulate funds during the
18 test period?

19 A. Based on the documentation the Company
20 supplied, I believe that to be the basis for their
21 accrual.

22 However, the Company has accrued expenses for
23 environmental expense for several years in which no
24 expenses -- no actual expenses ever have taken place.

25 Q. Did he submit any data requests to the Company

1 to determine what environmental liabilities, if any, it
2 was accruing against?

3 A. I'm sorry?

4 Q. Did you submit any data requests or seek
5 information from the Company to determine what
6 environmental expenses it was accruing against?

7 A. I obtained information from the Company about
8 sites that the Company would be potentially liable to or
9 be a party of in terms of environmental expense, and the
10 Company also supplied actual environmental expenses that
11 it had paid during the 12 months ending June 30, 2000 and
12 the 12 months ending December 31st, 2000.

13 Q. Did you analyze the Company's estimates of its
14 potential exposure for reasonableness?

15 A. I looked at the Company's level of accruals
16 that occurred from July 1, 1992 through December 31, 2000.

17 From July 1, 1992 through June 30th, 1999, the
18 Company had built an accrued reserve balance for
19 environmental expense totaling nearly \$5.9 million.
20 During that time period the Company had never spent any
21 money on environmental expense.

22 During the 12 months ending June 30, 2000, the
23 Company accrued an additional \$3 million for environmental
24 expense and incurred only an actual amount totaling
25 \$18,123.

1 During the 12 months ending December 31, 2000,
2 the Company accrued an additional \$6 million for
3 environmental expense, yet only incurred an actual level
4 of \$84,774.

5 Therefore, the Company through the 12 --
6 through the end of December 31, 2000 had accrued
7 \$14.9 million, but it had only cumulatively paid \$103,000.

8 This represents an accrued reserve level that
9 is 14,460 -- 14,460 percent higher than what actual
10 expense had occurred.

11 Q. I object to your entire answer as not
12 responsive and ask you again: Did you perform any
13 analysis of the actual funds the Company accrued to
14 compare it to the Company's potential outstanding
15 environmental liabilities?

16 A. I did not analyze the Company's determination
17 of its accrual.

18 Q. Thank you.

19 Now, in your opinion the Staff's actual cash
20 payments in the environmental area are the best predictor
21 of the Company's future environmental costs.

22 Would that be correct?

23 A. The cash basis or cash approach would determine
24 rates based on actual known costs.

25 I've concluded the highest level of costs that

1 the Company has incurred since July 1, 1992. That is all
2 of the information I have available to me to look at.

3 I've been conservative in adopting the highest
4 level of environmental expense that the Company has ever
5 incurred.

6 Q. If that is all of the information that you've
7 ever looked at, how do you know it's conservative?

8 A. It's conservative in the context of the
9 information that I've looked at from July 1, 1992 through
10 December 31, 2000.

11 Q. So looking at the Company's accrual as
12 compared -- and looking at the Company's actual cash
13 payments, in your opinion the Company's actual cash
14 payments are the better predictor of future costs?

15 A. Considering that the Company's accrual exceeds
16 actual cash payments by levels that reach 14,000 percent,
17 yes, the cash approach avoids unnecessarily increasing the
18 customers rates for activities that are not being
19 performed.

20 Q. So you would agree in this area that your
21 analysis is predicting what future costs will be?

22 A. We set rates for a period that occurs in the
23 future, yes.

24 Q. And so would you agree that the Staff's accrual
25 method -- I'm sorry -- the Staff's methodology provides an

1 estimate of what actual future payments and costs may be?

2 A. It develops the best normal, ongoing, recurring
3 estimate that the Staff can calculate, yes.

4 Q. Estimate of future costs?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Okay. Do you know whether the Company's
7 outside auditors review its environmental accrual for
8 appropriateness?

9 A. I don't know if the Company's outside auditors
10 had reviewed that or not.

11 Q. Okay. We're pretty much done. We're coming
12 down the home stretch.

13 Mr. Cassidy, are you familiar with the term
14 "intergenerational equity"?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Are you familiar with the notion of something
17 being used and useful in the utility context?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Okay. Would you agree with me that a utility
20 such as AmerenUE constantly faces the risk of
21 environmental liability or an environmental accident?

22 A. I don't know the answer to that question.

23 Q. Do you think there is always a minute chance
24 that Callaway might blow up?

25 A. I don't know the answer to that question.

1 Q. What is your understanding of used and useful?

2 A. For the cost of a new plant to be put into
3 service, that plant has to be up and running and
4 functioning. It must be used and useful to be included in
5 rates.

6 Q. So the central idea there is pretty much that
7 customers should only have to be paid -- only have to pay
8 for what is actually being used to benefit them?

9 A. In the example that I used, customers should
10 not have to pay for something that is not actually useful
11 to them that is running, that is working.

12 Q. Would you agree with the inverse of that
13 corollary, which is that customers should have to pay for
14 something that is being used for them?

15 A. If something is used and useful, should
16 customers have to pay for it?

17 If it's reasonable and prudently incurred.

18 Q. Does the Company pay for environmental expenses
19 at the time the environmental liability comes into
20 existence?

21 A. The Company charges to expense its estimate of
22 what its environmental liabilities will be.

23 Q. If a transformer was to blow up and cause an
24 environmental hazard, would the Company pay for that
25 environmental hazard then and there or would the bill

1 arrive at some point down the road?

2 A. If it's a small cleanup, the bill may -- may be
3 paid at the time of cleanup. If it's large and it's an
4 extended process, then sometimes, yes, a bill could --
5 could occur after the cleanup takes place.

6 Q. So you would agree that the cleanup and the
7 billing process post-date the time the environmental
8 liability comes into existence?

9 A. There can be a timing difference.

10 Q. Did you say a time difference or a timing
11 difference?

12 A. Timing difference.

13 Q. Timing. Okay.

14 And under your cash accounting basis, it is
15 those customers who are around at the time that the bill
16 shows up who foot the bill for these environmental
17 liabilities. Is that correct?

18 A. As opposed to the Company's accrual method
19 which makes customers pay unnecessarily for services that
20 have not yet been performed.

21 Q. Is the answer to my question yes?

22 A. The answer to your question is cash approach
23 adopts actual expenses and that's -- that's the way the
24 method -- that's what the method has to use, actual
25 expense. So customers are paying for actual expense.

1 Q. Actual expenses are billed when the bill shows
2 up. Is that correct?

3 A. That's correct.

4 Q. Let's go ahead and turn to Schedule 3 attached
5 to your testimony.

6 And this is your calculation for your actual
7 expense adjustments?

8 Is that correct?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. The first line here, total accrual for
11 12 months ending June 30th, 2000, \$3 million.

12 Did I read that correctly?

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. And you are subtracting -- I'm sorry.

15 You're multiplying that by the allocation
16 factor of 90.11 percent. Is that correct?

17 A. That's correct.

18 Q. And, again, is it still correct that you are
19 unaware of whether that 90.11 number is the labor ratio?

20 A. That factor was supplied to me by Jim
21 Schweiterman. I'm unaware of what that factor represents.

22 Q. And you're not aware as to what date that was
23 calculated?

24 A. I'm not aware.

25 Q. Okay. The \$2,703,300 number is the result of

1 that multiplication?

2 I'm sorry. The next number down.

3 A. Yes --

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. -- \$2,703,300.

6 Q. And in the next line you are subtracting from
7 that the 2000 -- 210,683 amount?

8 A. Correct.

9 Q. And that number reflects?

10 A. That number reflects the allocated level of gas
11 receipts that the Company received for a manufactured gas
12 plant cleanup. And that amount totaled \$125,909.

13 It also includes actual environmental expense
14 that occurred through the 12 months ending December 31,
15 2000, in the amount of \$84,774.

16 Q. Isn't it appropriate to subtract a number of
17 quantified as of December 31st, 2000 from a number
18 quantified as of June 1st, 2000?

19 A. By doing that I am adopting the highest level
20 of expense that I'm aware of which occurred during
21 December 31, 2000. That was the rationale behind adopting
22 the December level of expense to include.

23 Q. So you manipulated your process here to reflect
24 your subjective judgment that you're being conservative in
25 the Company's favor here?

1 A. I would not use the word "manipulated." I did
2 not manipulate the numbers.

3 I merely was attempting to be conservative. I
4 merely attempted to take the highest known level of actual
5 cash expense the Company had incurred related to
6 environmental expense and include that in my calculation.

7 MR. TODD: You're free to go.
8
9
10
11

JOHN P. CASSIDY

12 subscribed and sworn to before me this day of
13 , 2001.
14

Notary Public in and for
County
16 State of Missouri
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21 COPY
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25

1 STATE OF MISSOURI)
2) ss.
3 COUNTY OF COLE)

4 I, Patricia A. Stewart, RPR, CCR, CSR,
5 Registered Merit Reporter with the firm of Associated
6 Court Reporters, Inc. do hereby certify that pursuant to
7 notice, there came before me,

8 JOHN P. CASSIDY,
9 at the Governor Office Building, Room 810, in the City of
10 Jefferson, County of Cole, State of Missouri, on the 28th
11 day of November, 2001, who was first duly sworn to testify
12 to the whole truth of his knowledge concerning the matter
13 in controversy aforesaid; that he was examined and his
14 examination was then and there written in machine
15 shorthand by me and afterwards typed under my supervision,
16 and is fully and correctly set forth in the foregoing
17 pages; and the witness and counsel waived presentment of
18 this deposition to the witness, by me, and that the
19 signature may be acknowledged by another notary public,
20 and the deposition is now herewith returned.

21 I further certify that I am neither attorney
22 nor counsel for, nor related to, nor employed by any party
23 to said action in which this deposition is taken; and
24 further, that I am not a relative of employee of any
25 attorney or counsel employed by the parties hereto, nor
finally interested in this action.

Given at my office in the City of Jefferson,
State of Missouri, this 29th of November, 2001.

20 Patricia A. Stewart
21 Patricia A. Stewart, RPR, CSR, CCR
22 Registered Merit Reporter
23
24
25

1
2
3
4 November 29, 2001

5 Public Service Commission
6 Governor Office Building
7 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

8 ATTN: Eric Anderson

9 In Re: Case No. EC-2002-1

10 Dear Mr. Anderson:

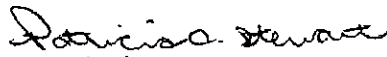
11 Please find enclosed your copy of the deposition of
12 John P. Cassidy taken on November 28, 2001 in the
13 above-referenced case. Also enclosed is the original
14 signature page and errata sheet.

15 Please have the witness read your copy of the transcript,
16 indicate any changes and/or corrections desired on the
17 errata sheet, and sign the signature page before a notary
18 public.

19 Please return the errata sheet and notarized signature
20 page to Mr. Todd for filing prior to trial date.

21 Thank you for your attention to this matter.

22 Sincerely,

23 
24 Patricia A. Stewart

25 Encl:

CC: Gordon D. Todd

Exhibit No.:
Issues: Fuel Expense, Legal Fees
Callaway Refueling,
Environmental Expense
Witness: JOHN P. CASSIDY
Sponsoring Party: MoPSC Staff
Type of Exhibit: Direct Testimony
Case No.: EC-2002-1
Date Testimony Prepared: July 2, 2001

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

UTILITY SERVICES DIVISION

DIRECT TESTIMONY

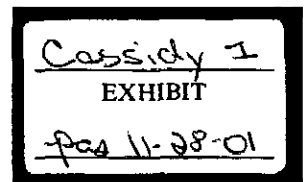
OF

JOHN P. CASSIDY

**UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY,
d/b/a AMERENUE**

CASE NO. EC-2002-1

Jefferson City, Missouri
July 2001



****Denotes Proprietary Information****

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JOHN P. CASSIDY
UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY,
d/b/a AMERENUE
CASE NO. EC-2002-1

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Direct Testimony of
John P. Cassidy

1 A. Yes, I have. Please refer to Schedule 1, which is attached to my direct
2 testimony, for a list of cases in which I have previously filed testimony.

3 Q. With reference to Case No. EC-2002-1, have you made an examination of
4 the books and records of Union Electric Company, d/b/a AmerenUE (Company or
5 AmerenUE)?

6 A. Yes, in conjunction with other members of the Commission Staff (Staff).

7 Q. What is the purpose of your direct testimony?

8 A. My direct testimony will discuss the following items: fuel expense,
9 Callaway refueling adjustment, legal expense and environmental expense.

10 Q. What Income Statement adjustments are you sponsoring?

11 A. I am sponsoring the following adjustments, which appear on Accounting
12 Schedule 10, Adjustments to Income Statement.

13	Callaway Refueling Adjustment	S-10.1
14	Fuel Expense	S-10.2
15	Environmental Expense	S-19.1
16	Legal Fees	S-19.4

17 **Overview of AmerenUE Electric Generation**

18 Q. Please list the generating facilities that AmerenUE owns and operates for
19 the production of electric power and include a description of each facility.

20 A. AmerenUE owns the following generating facilities:

21 **Nuclear**

22 **Callaway:** Callaway is located ten miles southeast of Fulton, Missouri
23 in Callaway County, Missouri. Callaway is AmerenUE's **1134** megawatt net

1 generating capacity base load, nuclear power plant which is powered by uranium. The
2 uranium is used in a process called nuclear fission that heats water into steam. The
3 steam, under pressure, spins the blades of a turbine, which in turn spins a generator that
4 creates electricity.

5 Coal

6 **Labadie Units 1 - 4:** Labadie is located near Labadie, Missouri,
7 adjacent to the Missouri River approximately 35 miles west of downtown St. Louis.
8 Labadie is the largest of AmerenUE's fossil fuel plants. Its four coal fired generating
9 units are capable of producing ****2299**** megawatts. Labadie serves as a base load plant
10 and predominately burns ****Powder River Basin Coal****.

11 **Sioux Units 1 - 2:** Sioux is located in St. Charles County, Missouri
12 near West Alton, Missouri. Sioux is the third largest of AmerenUE's fossil fuel plants.
13 Its two units are capable of generating ****950**** megawatts of electricity. The Sioux
14 plant utilizes coal as its primary fuel source, but also uses petroleum coke and tire chips
15 as supplemental fuel sources.

16 **Rush Island Units 1 - 2:** Rush Island is located approximately eight
17 miles south of Festus, Missouri in Jefferson County, Missouri. Rush Island's two units
18 provide ****1196**** megawatts of total net generating capacity. These plants burn
19 ****Powder River Basin Coal**** as their source of fuel.

20 **Meramec Units 1 - 4:** Meramec is located on the Mississippi River in
21 South St. Louis County, Missouri. Meramec can deliver ****845**** megawatts of
22 electricity with its four generating units. Meramec can burn ****Illinois coal or Powder**
23 **River Basin Coal****. However, two of Meramec's units can also be fired for full load

1 with natural gas – the only plants in the AmerenUE system that can use both natural gas
2 and coal as fuel sources.

3 **Gas/Oil Units**

4 **Venice Units 3 – 6, & Combustion Turbine Generator (CT):** Venice
5 is located on the Mississippi River in Venice, Illinois. Venice operates as a “peaking”
6 plant, producing power when needed to meet peak summer demand or compensating for
7 another plant that is down for repairs. The plant operates and maintains one CT at
8 Venice and one jet engine generator in West St. Louis County. On August 10, 2000, a
9 fire occurred at the Venice plant causing Units 1-6 to be forced out of service. Units 5
10 and 6 were restored on August 30, 2000. Units 3 and 4 are expected back in service
11 sometime during 2001. The Company plans to retire Units 1 and 2 due to the extensive
12 damage. When fire repairs are completed this year, capacity is expected to be at least
13 ****360**** megawatts. The Venice plants are powered by natural gas and No. 2 fuel oil.

14 **Meramec – CT 1 – 2:** Meramec Unit 1 has a net generating
15 capacity of ****50**** megawatts and burns fuel oil, propane and natural gas. Meramec
16 Unit 2 came on line in June of 2000 and provides a net generating capacity of ****62****
17 megawatts and burns fuel oil as its source of fuel. These CT units, as well as the ones
18 discussed below, primarily function as peaking units to meet spikes in electricity demand.

19 **Kirksville – CT:** Kirksville has a net generating capacity of ****13****
20 megawatts and uses natural gas as its sole source of fuel.

21 **Viaduct – Cape Girardeau – CT:** Viaduct has a net generating
22 capacity of ****25**** megawatts and uses natural gas as its only source of fuel.

1 **Fairgrounds – CT:** Fairgrounds has a net generating capacity of
2 ****55**** megawatts and burns fuel oil as its only source of fuel.

3 **Howard Bend – CT:** Howard Bend has a net generating capacity of
4 ****43**** megawatts and burns fuel oil as its sole source of fuel.

5 **Moberly, Mexico & Moreau – CT's:** Each of these CTs has a net
6 generating capacity of ****50**** megawatts and rely on fuel oil as their only source of fuel.

7 **Hydroelectric**

8 **Osage Units 1 – 8:** The Osage plant at Bagnell Dam is located in
9 Lakeside, Missouri on the Osage River at the Lake of the Ozarks. Osage provides power
10 through hydroelectricity. As water passes through the dam, the pressure of falling water
11 spins water wheels, which drive generators that produce electricity. Osage has a
12 generating capacity of ****212**** megawatts and operates at the least cost of all the energy
13 producers in the AmerenUE system.

14 **Keokuk Units 1 – 15:** Keokuk plant and dam are located on the
15 Mississippi River at Keokuk, Iowa. Keokuk has a generating capacity of ****125****
16 megawatts and also provides power through hydroelectricity.

17 **Pumped Storage**

18 **Taum Sauk Units 1 – 2:** Taum Sauk is located near Lesterville,
19 Missouri in Reynolds County. The plant has a net generating capacity of ****430****
20 megawatts and is used primarily on a peaking basis by being put into operation when the
21 demand for electricity is at its greatest. The pump storage system at Taum Sauk works
22 much like a dam, but is primarily used to meet daily peak power demands for short
23 periods of time and also during emergencies. Water is stored in an upper reservoir and is

1 released to flow through turbines into a lower reservoir during these high energy demand
2 periods. As water passes through the powerhouse, water spins the turbines, which drive
3 generators to produce electricity. Then overnight, when the demand for electricity is low,
4 the water is pumped back into the upper reservoir, where it is stored until needed again.

5 **FUEL EXPENSE**

6 Q. What was your responsibility in this case with regard to the area of fuel
7 expense?

8 A. My responsibility was to provide current fuel prices for both AmerenUE
9 and American Energy Generating Company (Genco), which is an affiliated generation
10 company also owned by AmerenUE's parent corporation, Ameren Corporation, to Staff
11 witness Leon C. Bender of the Engineering Section of the Energy Department. Staff
12 witness Bender input these current fuel prices into the RealTimeTM production cost
13 model (production cost model or fuel model). Staff witness Lena M. Mantle of the
14 Energy Department provided to Staff witness Bender the annualized net system load
15 (sales adjusted for line losses and Company use). Please refer to Staff witness Mantle's
16 testimony for a complete discussion of the Staff's calculation of net system load. Staff
17 witness Bender input fuel prices, purchased power data, annualized net system load and
18 other components into the production cost model. The Staff used the production cost
19 model to calculate the annualized fuel and purchased power expense.

20 Q. How did you determine the fuel prices for each of the Company's
21 generating plants?

22 A. The Staff obtained actual fuel prices for each of the Company's generating
23 plants from Company fuel reports. The Staff examined fuel prices paid by the Company

Direct Testimony of
John P. Cassidy

1 during its test year ending June 30, 2000 and also over a three-year period covering
2 January 1, 1998 through December 31, 2000. The Staff used actual fuel prices, which
3 occurred during its update period for the 12 months ending December 31, 2000. The Staff
4 believes that the most recent 12 months of fuel prices are the best available reflection of
5 ongoing fuel costs.

6 Q. Did you perform other analysis regarding the area of fuel?

7 A. Yes. Once annualized fuel and purchased power was calculated using the
8 Staff's production cost model, I checked some of the fuel outputs for reasonableness.
9 Staff witness Bender's production cost model appears to be reasonable.

10 Q. Please explain adjustment S-10.2, which adjusts the Company's level of
11 fuel expense.

12 A. Adjustment S-10.2 represents the Staff's adjustment to the Company's
13 fuel expense based on the Staff's production cost model. The production cost model
14 performs an hour-by-hour chronological simulation of AmerenUE's generation and
15 power purchases. The model also determines energy costs and fuel consumption
16 necessary to economically meet AmerenUE's load. The Staff's annualized fuel and
17 purchased power energy costs represents the cost of producing and purchasing power to
18 meet the level of megawatt-hour (MWH) sales in the Staff's revenue annualization in this
19 case. For a complete discussion of the Staff's production cost model, please refer to Staff
20 witness Bender's direct testimony.

21 CALLAWAY REFUELING

22 Q. Please explain adjustment S-10.1.

1 A. Adjustment S-10.1 removes **\$13,223,334** from the Staff's cost of
2 service calculation in order to normalize the Company's refueling of the Callaway
3 nuclear power plant, which occurred during October 1999, within the Staff's test year
4 ending June 30, 2000. The Company refuels the Callaway plant on an eighteen-month
5 cycle. Therefore, the cost of the refueling must be normalized to reflect the amount
6 incurred during an average year. This adjustment removes one third of the costs related
7 to the nuclear plant refueling.

8 **LEGAL FEES**

9 Q. Please explain how the Company accounts for the legal fees that are the
10 subject of the Staff's adjustment.

11 A. The Company's treatment for these legal fees is based on accrual
12 accounting. Under this accrual basis, the Company maintains a reserve of accumulated
13 funds to pay for legal fees based on estimates of legal fees that the Company anticipates
14 will be incurred rather than for what is actually paid. Accruals to increase the reserve are
15 expensed and actual claims are charged against the reserve balance when paid. The
16 following example shows journal entries that the Company records when it accrues for
17 legal expense and then subsequently pays for legal expense.

18 **Accrual**

19 Debit (DR) Legal Services Expense

20 Credit (CR) Law Expense Accrual Reserve

21 **Payment**

22 DR Law Expense Accrual Reserve

23 CR Accounts Payable

Direct Testimony of
John P. Cassidy

1 Q. Please explain the Staff's proposed adjustment S-19.4 to legal fees.

2 A. During the test year ending June 30, 2000, the Company accrued, for
3 Missouri electric operations, approximately **\$2,432,695** of legal fees; however, the
4 Company actually paid only **\$1,645,760** for legal fees during the same period. This
5 resulted in an excess accrual of **\$786,935** for the Company's Missouri electric
6 operations, relating to legal fees. By completing adjustment S-19.4, the Staff proposes to
7 remove the **\$786,935** of excess accrual over actual cash payments, in order to treat
8 legal fees under a cash basis approach. Additionally, the test year **\$1,645,760** level
9 of actual legal expense included by the Staff is **\$168,373** higher than the actual level
10 of legal expense experienced by the Company for the calendar year ending December 31,
11 2000, which was **\$1,477,387.** The Staff's calculation of adjustment S-19.4 is shown
12 on Schedule 2, which is attached to this direct testimony.

13 Q. Why does the Staff recommend a cash basis approach for the Company's
14 legal fees?

15 A. The Staff recommends using a cash basis approach to account for the
16 Company's legal fees in order to eliminate the impact of the excess accrual. The cash
17 approach will include an ongoing level of this expense in the Staff's cost of service
18 calculation based on actual known costs, as opposed to the Company's accrual basis,
19 which relies upon an estimate of what actual future payments and costs will be. The
20 Staff's adjustment is reasonable because it allows the Company recovery of its actual
21 legal fees payments in the context of its cost of service calculation.

22 **ENVIRONMENTAL EXPENSE**

23 Q. Please explain how the Company accounts for environmental expense.

Direct Testimony of
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1 A. Using an accrual basis of accounting, the Company maintains a reserve of
2 accumulated funds, which are set aside to pay for environmental costs related to clean-up
3 of contaminated sites. The Company charges major expenditures directly against the
4 reserve. Small expenditures are directly expensed, to eliminate the constant adjustment
5 of the reserve amount. The following example demonstrates journal entries that the
6 Company records when accruing and then subsequently paying for environmental
7 expense.

8 Set up of Reserve

9 DR Administrative & General Expenses - Miscellaneous

10 CR Clean-up of Contaminated Facilities - Non-Current Portion

11 Payment

12 DR Reserve

13 CR Accounts Payable

14 Q. How did the Company account for environmental expense during the test
15 year ending June 30, 2000 and the update period ending December 31, 2000?

16 A. During the test year and update period, the Company accrued
17 ****\$3,000,000**** and ****\$6,000,000**** respectively, for environmental expenses. During
18 the test period, the Company charged to expense actual payments of ****\$196,144****
19 related to environmental expenses. Approximately ****\$20,612**** of the ****\$196,144****
20 related to an electric transformer spill clean-up, while the remaining ****\$175,532****
21 related to a Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) clean-up in Columbia, Missouri. Also,
22 during the test year the Company received ****\$322,053**** from United Cities Gas
23 Company for future clean-up of a Manufactured Gas Plant in Keokuk, Iowa. During the
24 update period, the Company charged to expense actual payments of ****\$127,709****

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1 related to environmental expenses. Approximately, **\$42,935** of this update period
2 amount related to labor expense that has already been addressed by the Staff through its
3 payroll annualization, leaving **\$84,774** which related to actual non-labor
4 environmental expense. For a complete discussion of the Staff's payroll annualization,
5 see Staff Accounting witness Mark D. Griggs' direct testimony.

6 Q. How did the Staff treat the expenses paid by AmerenUE, and the
7 payments received by AmerenUE, which related to MGP clean-up during the Staff's test
8 year?

9 A. The Staff contends that the **\$175,532** of MGP clean-up expense as
10 well as the **\$322,053** of funds received from United Cities Gas Company for future
11 MGP clean-up have been incorrectly booked to electric operations, and should instead be
12 booked to AmerenUE gas operations. This left a negative **\$125,909 balance (\$322,053
13 - \$175,532 - \$20,612)** of cash payments and receipts in environmental expense for the
14 test year. Since the MGP clean-up amounts relate to AmerenUE's gas operations, the
15 Staff removed the negative balance of environmental cash payments and receipts totaling
16 **\$125,909** in the context of adjustment S-19.1, which is explained next.

17 Q. Please explain the Staff's adjustment S-19.1 to the Company's
18 environmental expense.

19 A. The Staff believes that the **\$84,774,** which relates to actual non-labor
20 environmental expense, that the Company incurred during the twelve months ending
21 December 31, 2000, should be included in the cost of service calculation as an ongoing
22 level of electric environmental expense. By including the update period level of actual
23 expense of **\$84,774** which is greater than the **\$20,612** level that was incurred by
24 the Company during the test year, the Staff is attempting to be conservative in its

Direct Testimony of
John P. Cassidy

treatment of actual non-labor related environmental expenses. The Staff has prepared the following chart which shows the Company's annual level of accrual as well as total accrued balance for environmental expense as compared to levels of actual cash payments for environmental expense for the twelve-month periods ending June 30, 1993 through June 30, 2000 as well as for the update period for the calendar year ending December 31, 2000:

**

				Cash	Non-Labor
				Cash	Cash
	<u>Year</u>	<u>Accrual</u>	<u>Accrued</u>	<u>Payment</u>	<u>Payment</u>
			<u>Balance</u>		
11	June 30, 1993	\$0	\$1,637,065	\$0	\$0
12	June 30, 1994	\$0	\$1,637,065	\$0	\$0
13	June 30, 1995	\$0	\$1,637,065	\$0	\$0
14	June 30, 1996	\$0	\$1,637,065	\$0	\$0
15	June 30, 1997	\$1,500,000	\$3,137,065	\$0	\$0
16	June 30, 1998	\$ 750,000	\$3,887,065	\$0	\$0
17	June 30, 1999	\$2,000,000	\$5,887,065	\$0	\$0
18	June 30, 2000	\$3,000,000	\$8,887,065	\$20,612	\$18,123
19	Dec. 31, 2000	\$6,000,000	\$14,887,065	\$127,709	\$84,774

**

This chart shows that by the end of the Staff's update period, the Company had a total accrued balance of **\$14,887,065,** but had only cumulatively paid **\$102,897** for actual non-labor related electric environmental clean-up costs since July 1, 1992. The calculation for Staff adjustment S-19.1 is shown below:

**

26	Accrual	\$3,000,000	Environmental Accrual
27	Multiplied By	<u>90.11%</u>	Missouri electric allocation factor
28		\$2,703,300	Missouri allocated accrual
29	Less	\$ (84,774)	Non Labor related electric environmental expense
30	Less	<u>\$(125,909)</u>	Related to MGP clean-up
31	Staff Adjustment	\$2,492,617	

**

Direct Testimony of
John P. Cassidy

1 Staff's adjustment S-19.1 proposes to remove the **\$2,492,617** of excess
2 environmental expense accrual made by the Company in order to treat environmental
3 expenses under a cash basis approach. Please refer to the Staff's workpaper for
4 environmental expense, which is attached to this direct testimony as Schedule 3.

5 Q. Why does the Staff recommend a cash basis approach for the Company's
6 environmental expenses?

7 A. The Staff recommends using a cash basis approach to account for the
8 Company's environmental expenses in order to eliminate the impact of the
9 **\$2,492,617** of excess accrual from its cost of service calculation. Since 1992, the
10 Company has not actually incurred a level of expense to justify this level of accruals that
11 it has booked. By continuing to over accrue in this manner, the customer's rates are
12 subject to being increased unnecessarily for activities that are not actually being
13 performed. The cash approach proposed by the Staff will provide a determination of rates
14 based on actual known costs as opposed to the Company's accrual basis, which relies
15 upon an estimate of what actual future payments and costs may be.

16 Q. What explanation has the Company provided for its environmental
17 accruals?

18 A. The Company has indicated that it needs to make accruals now for future
19 environmental costs. The Staff believes this is unreasonable because the actual timing
20 and the amount of these expenditures are still largely unknown. Another variable that
21 must be considered is how much money from other entities liable for the clean-up, as
22 well as insurance proceeds, will be available to AmerenUE in order to help fund any
23 possible future environmental costs. The United Cities Gas Company payment that the

Direct Testimony of
John P. Cassidy

1 Company received demonstrates this point, even though it applies to AmerenUE gas
2 operations.

3 Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony at this time?

4 A. Yes, it does.

RATE CASE PROCEEDING PARTICIPATION

JOHN P. CASSIDY

<u>COMPANY</u>	<u>CASE NO.</u>
Missouri Cities Water Company	WR-91-172
Missouri Cities Water Company	SR-91-174
St. Louis County Water Company	WR-91-361
Southwestern Bell Telephone Company	TC-93-224
Laclede Gas Company	GR-94-220
Empire District Electric Company	ER-95-279
Imperial Utility Corporation	SC-96-247
St. Louis County Water Company	WR-97-382
Laclede Gas Company	GR-98-374
United Water Missouri, Inc.	WR-99-326
Union Electric Company	EC-2000-795
Union Electric Company	GR-2000-512

Union Electric Company
Legal Fees
12 Months Ending June 30, 2000
Source: DR 258

Year	(Provision) Expense	(Charges) Payments	Annual Cumulative Excess Accrual
1998			
January	87,000	156,798	(69,798)
February	87,000	125,299	(108,097)
March	87,000	411,861	(432,958)
April	87,000	148,029	(493,987)
May	87,000	372,080	(779,067)
June	587,000	207,575	(399,642)
July	87,000	133,028	(445,670)
August	87,000	323,191	(681,861)
September	1,087,000	347,389	57,750
October	87,000	274,827	(130,077)
November	87,000	223,775	(266,852)
December	87,000	131,730	(311,582)
Total	2,544,000	2,855,582	(311,582)

1999			
January	250,000	81,377	168,623
February	250,000	139,117	279,506
March	250,000	100,405	429,101
April	250,000	147,668	531,433
May	250,000	144,697	636,736
June	250,000	339,624	547,112
July	250,000	181,314	615,798
August	250,000	122,737	743,061
September	250,000	144,001	849,060
October	250,000	149,528	949,532
November	250,000	235,423	964,109
December	250,000	119,694	1,094,415
Total	3,000,000	1,905,585	1,094,415

2000			
January	214,200	77,681	683,822
February	214,200	204,241	693,781
March	214,200	174,416	733,565
April	214,200	108,954	838,811
May	214,200	158,420	894,591
June	214,200	212,545	896,246

July 1999 - June 2000	2,785,200	1,888,954	896,246
Payments for current period		263,143	(263,143)
Payments for prior period		(267,861)	267,861
Adjusted July 1999-June 2000	2,785,200	1,884,236	900,964
Total Electric Factor	96.93%	96.93%	96.93%
Allocation to Total Electric	2,699,694	1,826,390	873,304
Missouri Electric Factor	90.11%	90.11%	90.11%
Missouri Electric O & M	2,432,695	1,645,760	786,935

Total Electric Factor Calculation:

	Accrual	% ages	6 mos. allocators	Simple Weighted Allocation
July 1999 - December 1999	1,500,000	53.86%	96.9740%	52.23%
January 2000 - June 2000	1,285,200	46.14%	96.8820%	44.71%
	2,785,200	100.00%		96.93%

Schedule 2
PROPRIETARY

Union Electric Company
Environmental Expense

Total Accrual for 12 mos
ending June 30, 2000 3,000,000

Allocation Factor for Mo. Elec. 90.11%

Mo. Electric allocated per
book accrual 2,703,300

Mo Electric Cash Receipts
Related to Gas for 12 mos
ending June 30, 2000 and
actual mo electric cleanup
expense for 12 mos. ending
December 31, 2000.** 210,683

Staff Adjustment (2,492,617)

** See DR 292 and Calculation below:

Net gas receipts 139,728
Allocation factor to Mo 0.9011

Allocated Gas Receipts 125,909

Charges to Mo Electric 127,709
Less labor included in staff
payroll annualization (42,935)

Allocated to Mo Electric 84,774

Allocated Gas Receipts 125,909
Charges to Mo Elec. net of labor 84,774

Gas Receipts & Actual charges
to Mo Electric 210,683

Schedule 3
PROPRIETARY