

Ameren Services

(314) 554-2552
FAX: 554-4014

One Ameren Plaza
1901 Chouteau Avenue
PO Box 66149
St. Louis, MO 63166-6149
314.621.3222

March 10, 2000

FILED

MAR 13 2000

Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary
Missouri Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

**Missouri Public
Service Commission**

EE - 2000 - 561

Re: Application for Variance of Union Electric Company

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed, for filing with the Commission, are the original and fourteen (14) copies of "Application for Variance of Union Electric Company."

Kindly acknowledge receipt of this filing by stamping as filed a copy of this letter and returning it to the undersigned in the enclosed envelope.

Very truly yours,

Michael F. Barnes

Michael F. Barnes
Attorney

Enclosures

cc/encl.: Office of Public Counsel
Certificate of Service



FILED

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

MAR 13 2000

Missouri Public
Service Commission

In the Matter of Union Electric Company's)
Application for a Variance from the Provisions) Case No. EE-2000-561
Of 4 CSR 240-13.015(R) and Company's)
Electric Tariff V.I. and Gas Tariff VIII.E.)

APPLICATION FOR VARIANCE OF UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY

Comes now Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE ("Company"), and hereby submits its Application for variance pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.060(1) and (11) and 4 CSR 240-13.065. In support of its Application, Company states as follows:

1. Company is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Missouri and has its principal office at 1901 Chouteau Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63103. The Company is engaged in providing electric, gas and steam heating utility services in portions of Missouri as a public utility under the jurisdiction of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"). The Company is also engaged in providing electric and gas service in portions of Illinois.

There is already on file with the Commission a certified copy of the Company's Restated Articles of Incorporation (see Commission Case No. EO-96-431), a copy of the Certificate of Corporate Good Standing (see Commission Case No. EA-87-105), and a copy of Company's Fictitious Name Registration as filed with the Missouri Secretary of State's office (see Commission Case No. GO-98-486), and said documents are incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof for all purposes.

2. Communications in regard to this Application should be addressed to:

Michael F. Barnes
Attorney
Ameren Services Company
P.O. Box 66149 (MC 1310)
St. Louis, Mo. 63166-6149
Phone: (314) 554-2552
Fax: (314) 554-4014

3. Company seeks a variance from Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-13.015(R), which states: "Rendition of a bill means the mailing or hand delivery of a bill by a utility to a customer." Company also seeks a variance from Company electric tariff V.I. and gas tariff VIII.E., which limit budget billing to postcard bill customers.

4. Company seeks a variance to permit it to deliver, to residential electric and gas customers, and to eligible electric and gas customers under Budget Billing, an electronic image of a bill through the use of the Internet, instead of mailing or hand delivery of a bill.

5. Company has partnered with CheckFree Corporation to allow certain Company customers the option of viewing and paying their monthly energy bills via the Internet. Under this entirely voluntary program, Customers with access to a personal computer and the Internet will enroll with CheckFree Corporation. As part of the enrollment process, the customer will choose a login identification number and a password as a means to prevent others from viewing the customer's bills. The customer will also agree to certain terms and conditions of CheckFree set forth in the enrollment material.

Company will provide the customer's account data to CheckFree, which will in turn format this data into a bill layout that closely resembles the customer's current paper

bill. Once enrolled, CheckFree will contact the Company to verify the customer's name and account number. Once verified, the Company will begin to send the electronic bill to CheckFree, which also will provide the customer a means to pay the bill via the Internet. CheckFree will notify the customer via electronic mail when a bill arrives from the Company.

Neither Company nor CheckFree will require the customer to pay any fee for this service.

Customers enrolled in the program will no longer receive a bill in the mail from the Company, unless the customer so requests.

This service will be available to those customers who meet the Company's eligibility criteria. Initially, customers eligible are certain Service Classification No. 1(M) and No. 2(M) rate customers with postcard billing, who are designated as "regular file" accounts and who have access to a personal computer and the Internet. Company may later expand the service to other customers.

Attachment A, attached hereto and made a part hereof, is a printed image of the bill that will be electronically transmitted to an eligible customer.

6. Good cause exists for the Commission to grant this variance.

a. The customers will receive the bill through the Internet faster and quicker than through the U.S. mail.

b. Through the use of passwords and other security controls, the confidentiality of the bills' contents will be maintained at least as well as through the U.S. mail.

c. The Company, even after it pays CheckFree for its services, will save money if it does not have to print and mail bills to customers enrolled in the service.

d. Due to the explosive growth of the Internet and e-commerce, service providers such as the Company and end users such as our customers are becoming more comfortable with billing via the Internet. The customers can also use CheckFree to view bills from their other service providers. Many customers use web-based payment systems for ease and convenience, and they do not want to receive paper bills via the U.S. mail.

e. The Company's customers who do not use these services will not be adversely affected by those who do.

f. When customers receive both paper and electronic bills, there is a risk that both formats will be paid, resulting in duplicate payments and subsequent refunds or credits.

7. Pursuant to the requirements of Rule 4 CSR 240-13.065, the undersigned has mailed copies of this Application, via first class U.S. mail, to the Office of Public Counsel and to the newspapers listed in the Certificate of Service. The Company's most recent rate case, docket number GR-97-393, had no party who represented residential customers.

WHEREFORE, for good cause shown, Company requests that the Commission issue an order granting Company a variance, as detailed herein, from Rule 4 CSR 240-13.015(R) and from Company's electric tariff V.I. and gas tariff VIII.E.

Respectfully submitted,

Union Electric Company
d/b/a AmerenUE

By Michael F. Barnes
Michael F. Barnes MBE# 24760
Attorney
Ameren Services Company
1901 Chouteau Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63103
(314) 554-2552 (phone)
(314) 554-4014 (fax)

VERIFICATION

STATE OF MISSOURI) SS
CITY OF ST. LOUIS)

I, Michael F. Barnes, being first duly sworn, state upon my oath that I am an attorney for Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE, that I have read the foregoing Application for Variance of Union Electric Company and know the contents thereof; that said contents are true in substance and in fact, except as to those matters stated upon information and belief, and as to those I believe the same to be true. I further state upon oath that I am authorized to submit this Application on behalf of Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE.

Michael F. Barnes
Michael F. Barnes

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10th day of March, 2000.

Debby Anzalone
DEBBY ANZALONE
Notary Public - Notary Seal
STATE OF MISSOURI
St. Louis County
My Commission Expires: April 18, 2002



AmerenUE P.O. BOX 66529
ST. LOUIS, MO 63166-6529

(314) 342-1111

(800) 552-7583

PRES RDG	PREV RDG	USE	READING	RATE	AMOUNT
02877	02315	562	FINAL RES 01		49.93
ST. LOUIS CTY TAX					2.08
PRIOR BALANCE					101.63
<i>AMOUNT DUE ON 07/26</i>					153.64

Service at: **5056 STREET**

Service from: **06/24 to 07/12/99** Days: **18**

Your Last Payment: **06/14/99 \$ 75.03**

Acct No.: **0123456789000** Bill Date **07/14/1999**

Amount Due \$ 153.64
Due By 07/26

SMITH JOHN
12345 STREET
ST LOUIS MO 63123

Unpaid balances may be subject to a 1.5% late charge. Click on "Terms & Conditions" for further information.



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Application was served on the Office of Public Counsel, P.O. Box 7800, Jefferson City, Mo. 65102, via first class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, and was mailed via first class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, to the newspapers listed on the attached sheets, on this 10 day of March, 2000.

Michael F. Barnes
Michael F. Barnes

AmerenUE Newspaper List

Highest Newspaper Circulation by County

County	# Customers	Newspaper	Contact (Publisher)	Address	City/State/Zip Code	Phone #	Fax #
Adair	9,642	Kirksville Express	Larry W. Freels	110 East McPherson, P.O. Box 809	Kirksville, MO 63501	660-665-2808	660-665-2608
Audrain	7,316	Mexico Ledger	Joe A. May	300 North Washington, P.O. Box 8	Mexico, MO 65265	573-581-1111	573-581-2029
Boone	3,024	Columbia Tribune	Henry J. Waters III	101 North Fourth St., P.O. Box 798	Columbia, MO 65201	573-815-1500	573-815-1801
Butler	564	Poplar Bluff American-Republic	Don Schrieber	208 Poplar Street, P.O. Box 7	Poplar Bluff, MO 63901	573-785-1414	573-785-2706
Caldwell	2,793	Hamilton Advocate	Anne L. Tezon	105 North Davis, P.O. Box 187	Hamilton, MO 64644	816-583-2118	816-583-2118
Callaway	4,044	Fulton Sun-Gazette	Mrs. William H. Weldon	115 East Fifth Street, P.O. Box 550	Fulton, MO 65251	573-642-7272	573-642-0656
Camden	15,300	Camdenton Lake Sun-Leader	Tom Turner	450 North Highway 5	Camdenton, MO 65020	800-373-0287	573-346-4508
Cape Girardeau	21,307	Cape Girardeau Southeast Missourian	Gary Rust/Wally Lage	301 Broadway, P.O. Box 699	Cape Girardeau, MO 63701	573-335-6611	573-339-0815
Chariton	1	Salisbury Press-Spectator	Larry M. Baxley	111 South Broadway, P.O. Box 313	Salisbury, MO 65281	660-388-6131	660-388-6688
Clark	931	Kahoka, The Media	Hazel B. Smith	178 West Main Street, P.O. Box 230	Kahoka, MO 63445	660-727-3395	660-727-2475
Clay	5,501	Kansas City Star	Arthur S. Brisbane	1729 Grand Avenue	Kansas City, MO 64108	816-234-4125	816-234-4102
Clinton	2,042	Cameron Citizen Observer	Charley Najacht	88 Highway, P.O. Box 498	Cameron, MO 64429	816-632-6543	816-632-4508
Cole	25,628	Jefferson City Capital News, Post-Tribune	Mrs. William H. Weldon	210 Monroe St., P.O. Box 420	Jefferson City, MO 65102	573-636-3131	573-636-7035
Cooper	5,286	Boonville Daily News	Scott Jackson	412 High Street, P.O. Box 47	Boonville, MO 65233	660-882-5335	660-882-2256
Davies	589	Gallatin North Missourian	Darryl Wilkinson	203 North Main Street, P.O. Box 37	Gallatin, MO 64640	660-663-2154	660-663-2498
DeKalb	1,231	Maysville DeKalb County Record-Herald	Terry Pearl	203 North Polk Street, P.O. Box 98	Maysville, MO 64469	816-449-2121	816-449-2808
Dunklin	3,563	Kennett Daily Dunklin Democrat	Ernest H. Hunt	203 First Street, P.O. Box 669	Kennett, MO 63857	573-888-4505	573-888-5114
Franklin	34,449	Washington/Union/St. Clair Missourian	William L. Miller, Sr.	14 West Main Street, P.O. Box 336	Washington, MO 63090	314-239-7701	314-239-0915
Gasconade	1,883	Hermann Advertiser-Courier	James A. Gierke	136 East Fourth Street, P.O. Box 350	Hermann, MO 65041	573-486-5418	573-486-5524
Gentry	114	King City Tri-County News	Lana Cobb	108 North Connecticut St., P.O. Box 428	King City, MO 64463	660-535-4313	660-535-6133
Howard	763	Fayette Advertiser/Democrat-Leader	H. Denny Davis	202 East Morrison Street, P.O. Box 32	Fayette, MO 65248	660-248-2235	660-248-1200
Iron	4,142	Ironton Mountain Echo	Judith Schaaf	110 North Main Street, P.O. Box 25	Ironton, MO 63650	573-546-3917	573-546-3919
Jefferson	79,621	St. Louis Post-Dispatch	Terrance C. Z. Egger	900 North Tucker Blvd.	St. Louis, MO 63101	314-340-8000	314-340-3140
Knox	1,564	Edina Sentinel	Hazel Bledsoe Smith	South Main Street, P.O. Box 270	Edina, MO 63537	660-397-2226	660-397-2227
Lewis	2,922	Canton Press-News Journal	David Steinbeck	130 North 4th Street, P.O. Box 227	Canton, MO 63435	573-288-5668	573-288-0000
Lincoln	8,382	Troy Lincoln County Journal	Pat Whiteside	615 East Cherry St	Troy, MO 63379	314-528-9550	314-528-6894
Linn	3,467	Brookfield News-Bulletin	R.L. "Joe" Cotner	107-109 North Main Street, P.O. Box 40	Brookfield, MO 64628	660-258-7237	660-258-7238
Livingston	422	Chillicothe Constitution-Tribune	Rod Dixon	818 Washington Street, P.O. Box 707	Chillicothe, MO 64801	660-646-2411	660-646-2028
Macon	1,465	Macon Chronicle-Herald	Pat Quinly	204 West Bourke Street, P.O. Box 7	Macon, MO 63552	660-385-3121	660-385-3082
Marion	1,273	Vienna Marion County Gazette	Kurt J. Lewis	217 South Alvarado Avenue	Belle, MO 65013	573-422-3441	573-859-6274
Miller	9,889	Eldon Advertiser	Dane Vernon	409-15 South Maple St., P.O. Box 315	Eldon, MO 65026	573-392-5858	573-392-7755
Mississippi	5,238	Charleston Enterprise-Courier	Mildred Wallhausen	206 South Main Street, P.O. Box 69	Charleston, MO 63834	573-683-3351	573-683-2217
Moniteau	1,859	California Democrat	Mrs. William H. Weldon	319 South High St., P.O. Box 126	California, MO 65018	573-796-2135	573-796-4220
Monroe	554	Paris Monroe County Appeal	Richard Fredrick	230 North Main Street, P.O. Box 207	Paris, MO 65275	660-327-4192	660-327-4847
Montgomery	4,446	Montgomery Standard	John P. Fisher, Jr.	115 West Second Street, P.O. Box 190	Montgomery City, MO 63361	573-564-2339	None
Morgan	5,696	Versailles Leader-Statesman	Dane Vernon	104 West Jasper St, P.O. Box 348	Versailles, MO 65084	573-378-5441	573-378-4292
New Madrid	5,409	Sikeston Standard-Democrat	Michael Jensen	205 South New Madrid	Sikeston, MO 63801	573-471-1137	573-471-6277
Osage	2,750	Linn Unaffiliated Democrat	Jermyn S. Voss	300 East Main Street, P.O. Box 109	Linn, MO 65051	573-897-2109	573-897-0076
Pemiscot	8,382	Steele Enterprise	David C. Tennyson	227 West Main Street, P.O. Box 60	Steele, MO 63877	573-695-3415	573-695-2114
Pettis	337	Sedalia Democrat	Frank Lyon	700 South Massachusetts St., P.O. Box 848	Sedalia, MO 65302	660-826-1000	660-826-2413
Pike	7,051	Louisiana Press-Journal	Walt Gilbert	3406 West Georgia St., P.O. Box 466	Louisiana, MO 63353	573-754-5566	573-754-4749
Pulaski	1	Waynesville Guide	Joel Goodridge	108 Holly Drive, P.O. Box 578	Waynesville, MO 65583	573-336-3711	573-336-4640
Ralls	1,121	Hannibal Courier-Post	John R. Whitaker	200 North Third Street, P.O. Box A	Hannibal, MO 63401	573-221-2800	573-221-1568
Randolph	9,169	Moberly Monitor Index	Bob Cunningham	218 North Williams, P.O. Box 697	Moberly, MO 65270	660-263-4123	660-263-3626
Ray	1,819	Richmond News	Dennis McLouth	204 West North Main, P.O. Box 100	Richmond, MO 64085	816-776-5454	816-470-6397
Reynolds	126	Ellington Reynolds County Courier	H.T. Ellinghouse & M.B. Stivers	Temple Street, P.O. Box 130	Ellington, MO 63638	573-663-2243	573-663-2763
Ripley	1	Doniphan Prospect-News	Don Schrieber	110 Washington Street, P.O. Box 367	Doniphan, MO 63935	573-996-2103	573-996-2217
Saline	113	Marshall Democrat-News	Shelly Arth	121 North Lafayette, P.O. Box 100	Marshall, MO 65340	660-886-2233	660-886-8544
Schuyler	856	Lancaster Excelsior	Ann Bunch	West Side Square, P.O. Box 250	Lancaster, MO 63548	660-457-3707	660-457-3707
Scotland	337	Memphis Democrat	Tom Ellingsworth	121 South Main Street	Memphis, MO 63555	660-465-7016	660-465-2803
Scott	8,349	Sikeston Standard-Democrat	Michael Jensen	205 South New Madrid	Sikeston, MO 63801	573-471-1137	573-471-6277
Shelby	1,183	Shelbyville Shelby County Herald	Dennis W. Williams	106 East Main Street, P.O. Box 225	Shelbyville, MO 63469	573-633-2261	573-633-2133
St. Charles	85,968	St. Louis Post-Dispatch	Terrance C. Z. Egger	900 North Tucker Blvd.	St. Louis, MO 63101	314-340-8000	314-340-3140
St. Francois	21,107	Park Hills St. Francois Daily Journal	Russell Cannon	1513 St. Joe Drive, P.O. Box A	Park Hills, MO 63601	573-431-2010	573-431-7640
St. Louis City	174,282	St. Louis Post-Dispatch	Terrance C. Z. Egger	900 North Tucker Blvd.	St. Louis, MO 63101	314-340-8000	314-340-3140
St. Louis County	449,513	St. Louis Post-Dispatch	Terrance C. Z. Egger	900 North Tucker Blvd.	St. Louis, MO 63101	314-340-8000	314-340-3140
Ste. Genevieve	198	Ste. Genevieve Herald	Robert J. Burr	330 Market Street, P.O. Box 447	Ste. Genevieve, MO 63670	573-883-2222	573-883-2833
Stoddard	7,281	Dexter Daily Statesman	Barbara Hill	133 South Walnut St., P.O. Box 579	Dexter, MO 63841	573-624-4545	573-624-7449
Sullivan	615	Milan Standard	Robert W. Wilson	105 South Market Street, P.O. Box 266	Milan, MO 63556	660-265-4244	660-265-3180
Warren	6,434	St. Louis Post-Dispatch	Terrance C. Z. Egger	900 North Tucker Blvd.	St. Louis, MO 63101	314-340-8000	314-340-3140
Washington	9,646	Potosi Independent-Journal	Neil & Ruby Richards	119 East High Street, P.O. Box 340	Potosi, MO 63664	573-438-5141	573-438-4472
Wayne	324	Piedmont Journal-Banner	H.T. Ellinghouse & M.B. Stivers	101 West Elm Street, P.O. Box 97	Piedmont, MO 63957	573-223-7122	573-223-7871

AmerenUE Miscellaneous Safety Newspaper List

<u>Newspaper</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>City/State/Zip Code</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Fax</u>
Alton Telegraph	Judy Hayden	111 East Broadway, P.O. Box 278	Alton, IL 62202	618 463-2550	618 463-0951
Ashland Boone County Journal	Richard Flink	104 West Broadway, P.O. Box 197	Ashland, MO 65010	573-657-2334	573-657-2002
Bloomfield North Stoddard Co.	Elaine Pursell	615 North Prairie St., P.O. Box 680	Bloomfield, MO 63825	573-568-3310	573-568-3310
Boonville Daily News	Kim Alberts	412 High Street, P.O. Box 47	Boonville, MO 65233	660-882-5335	660-882-2256
California Democrat	Ray Grimes	319 South High St., P.O. Box 126	California, MO 65018	573-796-2135	573-796-4220
Cape Southeast Missorian	Pat Zellmer	301 Broadway, P.O. Box 699	Cape Girardeau, MO 63701	573-335-6611	573-339-0815
Centralia Fireside Guard	Lorry Myers	118 West Sneed St., P.O. Box 7	Centralia, MO 65240	573-882-2133	573-882-3361
Chaffee North Scott Co. Signal	Jim Litwicki	113 South Main St., P.O. Box 97	Chaffee, MO 63740	573-887-3636	573-887-3637
Columbia Tribune	Deb Jankowski	101 North Fourth St., P.O. Box 798	Columbia, MO 65201	573-815-1500	573-815-1801
Dexter Daily Statesman	Elaine Pursell	133 South Walnut St., P.O. Box 579	Dexter, MO 63841	573-624-4545	573-624-7449
Eldon Advertiser	Teri Bailey	409-15 South Maple St.; P.O. Box 315	Eldon, MO 65026	573-392-5658	573-392-7755
Elsberry Democrat	Sherrill Edelen	312 Broadway, P.O. Box 105	Elsberry, MO 63343	573-898-2318	573-898-2173
Jefferson City News Tribune	James Ward	210 Monroe St., P.O. Box 420	Jefferson City, MO 65102	573-636-3131	573-636-7035
Louisiana Press Journal	Nathan Lilley	3406 West Georgia St., P.O. Box 466	Louisiana, MO 63353	573-754-5566	573-754-4749
Marble Hill Banner Press	Brenda Jordan	103 Walnut, P.O. Box 45	Marble Hill, MO 63764	573-238-2821	573-238-0020
Mexico Ledger	Martin Keller	300 North Washington, P.O. Box 8	Mexico, MO 65265	573-581-1111	573-581-2029
Moberly Monitor/Huntsville	Judy Orton	218 North Williams, P.O. Box 697	Moberly, MO 65270	660-263-4123	660-263-3626
Stover Morgan County Journal	Barb Schnirch	Second & Maple St.; P.O. Box 130	Stover, MO 65078	573-377-4616	573-377-4512
Troy Lincoln County Journal	Sandy Turner	615 East Cherry St	Troy, MO 63379	314-528-9550	314-528-6694
Vandalia Leader	William Steiner	108 West State St., P.O. Box 239	Vandalia, MO 63382	573-594-222	573-594-6741
Versailles Leader Statesman	Dorothy Batson	104 West Jasper St, P.O. Box 348	Versailles, MO 65084	573-378-5441	573-378-4292
Warrenton Journal	Tina Simpson	1714 Deer Tracks Trail	St. Louis, MO 63131	314-821-1157	314-821-3408
Wellsville Optic News	Gay Hagan	123 West Hudson St, P.O. Box 73	Wellsville, MO 63384	573-684-2929	n/a
Wentzville Journal	Tina Simpson	1714 Deer Tracks Trail	St. Louis, MO 63131	314-821-1157	314-821-3408