

Exhibit No.:
Issue: Noranda Impact
Witness: Harvey Cooper
Type of Exhibit: Direct Testimony
Sponsoring Party: Noranda
Case Number: EA-2005-0180
Date Testimony Prepared: Dec. 21, 2004

AmerenUE

Case No. EA-2005-0180

Prepared Direct Testimony of

Harvey Cooper

On behalf of

Noranda Aluminum, Inc.

December 2004

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the matter of the Application)
of AmerenUE for Expansion or)
Adjustment of its Electric Service)
Territory in Missouri . . .)

EA-2005-0180
~~CP-2005-~~ . . .

Affidavit of Harvey Cooper

State of Missouri)
County of _____) ss

Harvey Cooper, of lawful age, on his oath states: that he has reviewed the attached written testimony in question and answer form, all to be presented in the above case, that the interest in the attached written testimony were given by him; that he has knowledge of the matters set forth in such answers; that such matters are true to the best of his knowledge, information and belief.

Harvey Cooper
Harvey Cooper

Subscribed and sworn before me this 12th day of December, 2004

Ellie Shultz
Notary Public

[SEAL]

My Commission expires: 3/30/05

Before the
Missouri Public Service Commission

AmerenUE

Case No. EA-2005-0180

Prepared Direct Testimony of Harvey Cooper

1 **Q PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.**

2 A My name is Harvey Cooper. I live in Sikeston, Missouri.

3 **Q MR. COOPER, BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND WHAT IS YOUR JOB THERE?**

4 A I am the Executive Director of Community Sheltered Workshop, Incorporated.

5 **Q CAN YOU DESCRIBE FOR US THE BUSINESS OF THE COMMUNITY SHELTERED**
6 **WORKSHOP?**

7 A Community Sheltered Workshop is one of 95 workshops across the State of
8 Missouri that is designed to be operated with employment of handicapped
9 individuals, people with mental disabilities.

1 Q AND HOW MANY PEOPLE DO YOU EMPLOY AT YOUR LOCAL FACILITY?

2 A Presently we employ 140 people.

3 Q AND MOST OF THOSE ARE HANDICAPPED?

4 A All of those are handicapped and plus we have 22 staff members.

5 Q AND DO YOU SELL YOUR PRODUCT TO THE NORANDA SMELTER IN NEW
6 MADRID, MISSOURI?

7 A Yes we do. Noranda for the past 23 years has been our largest account. We do
8 custom pallet work for them, building wood products for them to ship their
9 product out on, their rod and their billets of aluminum go out on our wood that
10 we cut for them. As an example, we're heavy into the wood products part.

11 Q IS NORANDA ONE OF YOUR LARGEST CUSTOMERS?

12 A Yes. Presently our budget for sales in our woodworking industry there at the
13 workshop is around \$1,000,000 per year and Noranda is well over the 50
14 percent mark as far as our customer base goes so they provide at least 50
15 percent of the market that we send our products to.

16 Q HAVE YOU LOST ANY LARGE CUSTOMERS IN RECENT YEARS?

17 A About a year and a half to two years ago we were notified that Essex Wire and
18 Cable would be shutting down in Sikeston and moving to Florence, Alabama and

1 you know so we lost a fairly substantial customer. That contract would have
2 been around \$160,000 per year that we lost and so you know with Noranda
3 being the size that it is and with them taking up the slack on our base there for
4 sales, there's just no comparison to what Noranda means to our shop.

5 **Q WOULD IT BE A PROBLEM FOR YOU IF NORANDA WENT OUT OF BUSINESS?**

6 **A**Well, absolutely it would be a problem. Right now they're well over 50 percent
7 of our sales base, probably around 30 percent of our workforce, mainly
8 handicap, would have a real good chance of losing their jobs because we just
9 wouldn't be able to you know keep the product going with the same number of
10 people there. We'd cut back just like anyone else would.

11 **Q MR. COOPER COULD YOU TELL US JUST A LITTLE BIT OF YOUR EXPERIENCE**
12 **AT THE WORKSHOP?**

13 **A**Well I started with Community Shelter Workshop in 1981. At that time we
14 started doing business with Noranda just almost immediately and so we've
15 been doing business with them for a long time, for those 23 years or so.

16 In that timeframe we have employed anywhere from 90 to 130 people.
17 At present we're at 140. Our people there at the workshop, being
18 handicapped, had not been able to experience a whole lot in life that most
19 people would in a normal sense. And to many of our folks there for the jobs

1 that we do for Noranda - the people have taken on the attitudes that they work
2 for Noranda rather than for Community Sheltered Workshop because they take
3 such an interest in getting the Noranda jobs out.

4 Our job at Community Sheltered Workshop is to provide a place for them
5 to work and a safe atmosphere so they're not being injured and hurt on the job
6 and allow them to fulfill their self-esteem. You know if we have them doing a
7 job for Noranda -- I might do that job in an hour. It might take them three
8 hours to do that same job and yet we are able to work with them and so that
9 they can produce the same product that anyone who's non-handicapped could
10 produce and yet we don't push them to that point of letting them go or firing
11 them because they can't keep production up at the level that non-handicapped
12 people can.

13 **Q MR. COOPER I JUST WANT TO THANK YOU VERY MUCH. IT'S BEEN VERY**
14 **HELPFUL.**

15 **A You are welcome.**

16 **Q DOES THAT CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

17 **A Yes it does.**