BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Spigel Properties,)
Complainant,)
v.) Case No. EC-2005-0110
Union Electric Company, d/b/a AmerenUE,)
Respondent.)

ANSWER

COMES NOW Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE ("AmerenUE"), and for its Answer to the Complaint filed in this proceeding, states as follows:

- 1. On October 19, 2004, Spigel Properties of 7601 Florissant Road, St. Louis, Missouri ("Spigel" or "Complainant"), initiated this proceeding by filing a Complaint against AmerenUE.
- 2. In paragraph 1 of the Complaint, Spigel alleges that AmerenUE is located in St. Louis, Missouri, and that AmerenUE is a public utility under the jurisdiction and supervision of the Public Service Commission of the State of Missouri. AmerenUE admits the allegations contained in paragraph 1 of the Complaint.
- 3. In paragraph 2 of the Complaint, Spigel alleges that in a letter dated October 5, 2004 AmerenUE advised Complainant that it was being charged \$240,653.02 for alleged under charging on Complainant's electric bill from June 18, 2001 to June 18, 2004. The cause of this alleged under billing was AmerenUE's improperly wiring an A Phase potential transformer. AmerenUE admits these allegations.

- 4. Paragraph 2 of Spigel's Complaint further alleges that there was no prior notice given to the Complainant of this billing error, that the billing error is due to no fault on the part of the Complainant and that there is no evidence to support the amount of the corrected bill AmerenUE has provided Spigel. AmerenUE admits that the October 5, 2004 was the first notice provided to Spigel of the billing problem and admits that the billing error is due to no fault on the part of Spigel. AmerenUE denies that there is no evidence to support the amount of the corrected bill AmerenUE has provided Spigel. In fact, the evidence shows that the amount of the corrected bill was computed in accordance with AmerenUE's tariff.
- 5. In paragraph 2 of the Complainant, Spigel further alleges that that the October 5, 2004 letter stated that if the bill was not paid by October 1, 2004, there would be a penalty of \$3,609.80. AmerenUE admits that Spigel's bill provided with the October 5, 2004 contained a pre-printed statement reflecting AmerenUE's tariffed late charge of 1.5%. However, AmerenUE will not assess late fees against the Complainant's account for the amounts in dispute until the Commission issues an order ruling on this Complaint.
- 6. In Paragraph 3 Complainant alleges it contacted AmerenUE's customer service department and complained about the lack of documentation to support the charges. In addition Complainant alleges it contacted Jim West, the superintendent of metering for AmerenUE, to discuss the method of calculation used to determine the increased charges. AmerenUE admits these allegations.
- 7. In its request for relief, the Complainant requests an independent determination of the actual usage based on the alleged improper wiring that AmerenUE claims, and a new determination of what if any additional charges are due. AmerenUE does not oppose the request that the Commission Staff conduct an independent review of this situation and determine what it

believes the appropriate bill for the Complainant should be. However, AmerenUE reserves its right to agree or disagree with the Staff's conclusion on this issue.

WHEREFORE AmerenUE respectfully requests that the Commission issue an order requiring its Staff to conduct an independent investigation of this Complaint, and to determine what it believes the amount of the Complainant's bill should be.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

Thomas M. Byrne, MBE No. 33340

Thomas M Kyn

Associate General Counsel Ameren Services Company

P. O. Box 66149 (MC 1310)

St. Louis, MO 63166-6149

(314) 554-2514 (Direct Line)

(314) 554-4014 (Facsimile)

tbyrne@ameren.com

Dated: December 8, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that true and correct copies of the foregoing have been e-mailed or mailed, via first-class United States Mail, postage pre-paid, to the service list of record this 8th day of December, 2004.

Dana K. Joyce P.O. Box 360 200 Madison Street, Suite 800 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 gencounsel@psc.mo.gov

John Gladden Spigel Properties 12800 Flint Lane Overland Park, MO 66213 John B. Coffman P.O. Box 7800 200 Madison Street, Suite 640 Jefferson City, MO 65102 opcservice@ded.mo.gov

Thomas M. Byrne