

# City of Marceline

*Boyhood Home of Walt Disney*



**FILED**

SEP 02 2009

September 1, 2009

Missouri Public Service Commission  
PO Box 360  
Jefferson City MO 65102

Missouri Public  
Service Commission

Attn: Steven Reed, Secretary

Re: File No. EO-2010-0051

Dear Mr. Reed:

Please find enclosed the City of Marceline's response to the Meyers' request for change of electric supplier.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Cupp  
City Manager

cc: City Council  
Scot Othic, City Attorney

Enclosures

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the Application of Harold and                     )  
Debbie Meyer for Change of Electric Supplier                     )           File No. EO-2010-0051

**CITY OF MARCELINE'S RESPONSE TO MEYERS' REQUEST FOR CHANGE OF  
ELECTRIC SUPPLIER**

In response to the Request for Change of Electric Supplier, it is noted that the Meyers' purport their reason for the request to be "Poor service, outages every time the wind blows wrong, every storm! The problem was trees in the line...".

The City denies the allegations made by the Meyers'. It's further noted that other than the broad allegation made the Meyers' they have failed to submit to the Commission any documentation to support their claim. A review of our files indicates that we have not received any specific complaint from the Meyers. However, as a course of doing business we do keep "Trouble Call Reports" when outages of the electric service occur indicating the time and reason for the outage. These reports are attached for your review and information. I requested that the Utility Superintendent provide me with these documents to determine outages from as early as 2006 that might have interrupted the Meyers service, which are attached for your review. Please note that since 2006, there were four (4) interruptions that occurred on June 11, 2006, September 30, 2007, June 25, 2007 and June 26, 2008. All these interruptions were due to severe storms, high winds and lightning, which are acts of god that every utility provider, including Macon Electric Cooperative encounter. In each instance, except for the occurrence on September 30, 2007, involved only a temporary interruption. On September 30, 2007, it's noted that service to customers was disrupted for 30 minutes to 5 hours. What occurred was that service was restored to most customers within 30 minutes; however, it was necessary to replace the primary fusing on Hauser Street due to lighting which took a somewhat longer period of time.

Not noted in the reports is a problem which occurred on June 23, 2009. We experienced a very significant storm with lightning, heavy rain, extremely high winds and what can best be described as a micro-burst. The 66 circuit would be reset and electricity re-established; however, we continued to experience difficulties on June 26<sup>th</sup> and June 27<sup>th</sup>. We were able to determine that the source of the problem appeared to be on our 69,000 volt line which we acquired from Ameren UE. We physically walked the line in an effort to determine the problem. It was noted that in some areas tree branches had grown into the line. Also, we were provided assistance from Ameren UE to fly the line in a helicopter to determine if there were problems which we could not see from the ground. After the fly-over, Ameren UE advised it could find no problem except the tree branches we noted from the ground level. The City IMMEDIATELY contracted with a private tree trimming crew to remove the branches. While the crew was in the process of performing the trimming operation they advised the City of what they described as hearing a loud explosion. Having this information and upon closer inspection it was found that a static wire had blown loose during the storm and would occasionally hit the main line causing the breaker

for the 66 circuit to trip. Due to the nature of the problem it was necessary to disconnect from Ameren for a short period of time to replace the static wire. Since that incident no further problems have occurred or been reported.

The Meyers' note that they are outside of the City limits which is true. However, the City has been providing permanent electrical service to the structure located at 920 South Fairview Dr., Marceline, Missouri prior to 1973. Please note that Section 386.800 provides that the City may not provide electric service to any structure outside the Municipality's corporate boundaries after July 11, 1991, unless:

(1) The structure was lawfully receiving permanent service from the municipally owned electric service prior to July 11, 1991.

As noted above, we have been providing this service to the same residential structure since prior to 1973 we have the legal right to continue to do so. This is what I related to Mrs. Meyer during her telephone conversation with me as mentioned in the Request. Mrs. Meyer then wrote the City Council members a letter requesting that she be allowed to transfer to Macon Electric Cooperative. Upon review of her letter the Council decided it would not be in the City's best interest to allow the transfer. I then wrote a letter the following day, July 22, 2009, advising the Meyers' of the Council's decision. A copy of the letter is attached for your review.

It should be noted that in the past the City met with Wayne Hackman and other representatives of Macon Electric Cooperative in an effort to discuss a territorial agreement to be presented to the Public Service Commission for review and approval. To be quite blunt, Mr. Hackman made it very clear that any such agreement would be under his terms or nothing. Subsequently, I attempted to arrange a meeting with the Macon Electric Board, but was prevented from doing so, in my opinion, by Mr. Hackman.

Our review of the statutes that are relevant to the Meyers' request point to Section 393.106 (2) which provides that once we began providing retail services to the structure at 902 South Fairview, we retain the right to continue to do so if the service commenced prior to July 11, 1991, and further, that other providers "shall not have the right to provide service to the structure..." It's further noted that upon application by an affected party, the public service commission may order a change of suppliers "on the basis that it is in the public interest for a reason other than a rate differential".

It should be abundantly clear that no public interest will be served by allowing one (1) customer to change suppliers when the City is providing quality service to a number of customers outside the corporate boundaries and have been doing so for quite some time. Let's cut to the chase. Based on the information provided as well as the attached documents, the Meyers' accusations are baseless. The real reason for their request is that Macon Electric's rates are somewhat lower than our retail rates and they want to take advantage of the reduced rate. This is clearly not within the Commission's purview and serves no public interest.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Meyers' complaint.

# City of Marceline

*Boyhood Home of Walt Disney*



July 22, 2009

Mr. & Mrs. Harold Meyer  
902 S Fairview  
Marceline MO 64658

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Meyer:

The Council voted last night at their meeting not to release you from the City's electric service.

The structure was lawfully receiving permanent service from our municipally owned electric utility prior to July 11, 1991.

If you have any questions, please stop by the office.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Cupp  
City Manager

cc: File

Date: 6/11/06

TROUBLE CALL REPORT

This report to be made and turned in at garage, power plant or distribution office as soon as work is completed and forwarded to District Superintendent.

LOCATION OF TROUBLE MARCELINE PD

TOWN OR LINE 66

CUSTOMERS NAME VARIOUS

NATURE OF TROUBLE AND GIVE REASON FOR OUTAGE IF POSSIBLE POWER OUTAGE, STORM

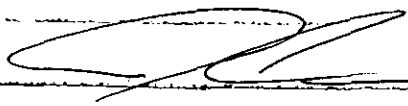
LENGTH OF CUSTOMER OUTAGE IF KNOWN 30 MIN

TIME EMPLOYEE REPORTED TO WORK OR STARTED ON TROUBLE 3:00 AM

TIME WORK COMPLETED 3:30 AM

REMARKS BREAKER TRIPPED AT PLANT, RESET BREAKER, BREAKER HAD

WORK TO BE DONE TO PUT SYSTEM EQUIPMENT BACK TO NORMAL CONDITION NONE

SIGNED 

DATE 6/11/06

This part of report to be completed by crew going back to do permanent work.

REPORT ON PERMANENT REPAIR WORK DONE

WORK COMPLETED BY

DATE

COMPLETED WORK NOTED BY DIST. SUPT.

Date 9/30/07

TROUBLE CALL REPORT

This report to be made and turned in at garage, power plant or distribution office as soon as work is completed and forwarded to District Superintendent.

LOCATION OF TROUBLE 13.8 66 CIRCUIT

TOWN OR LINE MARCELINE

CUSTOMERS NAME VARIOUS

NATURE OF TROUBLE AND GIVE REASON FOR OUTAGE IF POSSIBLE BREAKER TRIPPED AT PLANT, PRIMARY FUSE BLOWN ON 400 BLK WEST HAUSER, HIGH WINDS, RAIN & LIGHTNING.

LENGTH OF CUSTOMER OUTAGE IF KNOWN 30 min TO 5 HRS

TIME EMPLOYEE REPORTED TO WORK OR STARTED ON TROUBLE 9:30 AM

TIME WORK COMPLETED 11:30 PM

REMARKS RESET BREAKER AT PLANT, REPLACED PRIMARY FUSING ON HAUSER ST.

WORK TO BE DONE TO PUT SYSTEM EQUIPMENT BACK TO NORMAL CONDITION NONE

SIGNED [Signature]

DATE 9/30/07.

This part of report to be completed by crew going back to do permanent work.

REPORT ON PERMANENT REPAIR WORK DONE \_\_\_\_\_

WORK COMPLETED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

COMPLETED WORK NOTED BY DIST. SUPT. \_\_\_\_\_

Date 6/25/08

TROUBLE CALL REPORT

This report to be made and turned in at garage, power plant or distribution office as soon as work is completed and forwarded to District Superintendent.

LOCATION OF TROUBLE 138 66 CIRCUIT

TOWN OR LINE MAZCELING

CUSTOMERS NAME VARIOUS

NATURE OF TROUBLE AND GIVE REASON FOR OUTAGE IF POSSIBLE BREAKER TRIPPED AT PLANT, STORM

LENGTH OF CUSTOMER OUTAGE IF KNOWN 30 MIN

TIME EMPLOYEE REPORTED TO WORK OR STARTED ON TROUBLE 2:40 AM

TIME WORK COMPLETED 2:50 AM

REMARKS RESET BREAKER IN PLANT

WORK TO BE DONE TO PUT SYSTEM EQUIPMENT BACK TO NORMAL CONDITION NONE

SIGNED [Signature] DATE 6/25/08

This part of report to be completed by crew going back to do permanent work.

REPORT ON PERMANENT REPAIR WORK DONE \_\_\_\_\_

WORK COMPLETED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

COMPLETED WORK NOTED BY DIST. SUPT. \_\_\_\_\_

Date 6/26/02

TROUBLE CALL REPORT

This report to be made and turned in at garage, power plant or distribution office as soon as work is completed and forwarded to District Superintendent.

LOCATION OF TROUBLE 66 CIRCUIT

TOWN OR LINE MARCELINE

CUSTOMERS NAME VARIOUS

NATURE OF TROUBLE AND GIVE REASON FOR OUTAGE IF POSSIBLE BREAKER TRIPPED IN PLANT, CAUSED MOST LIKELY BY LIGHTNING.

LENGTH OF CUSTOMER OUTAGE IF KNOWN ?

TIME EMPLOYEE REPORTED TO WORK OR STARTED ON TROUBLE 3:00AM

TIME WORK COMPLETED 4:00AM

REMARKS 66 CIRCUIT BREAKER TRIPPED AT PLANT, CHECKED SUB & FUSES THEN RESET BREAKER. SYSTEM OK

WORK TO BE DONE TO PUT SYSTEM EQUIPMENT BACK TO NORMAL CONDITION NONE

SIGNED 

DATE 6/26/02

This part of report to be completed by crew going back to do permanent work.

REPORT ON PERMANENT REPAIR WORK DONE

WORK COMPLETED BY

DATE

COMPLETED WORK NOTED BY DIST. SUPT.



Date 8/4/09

TROUBLE CALL REPORT

This report to be made and turned in at garage, power plant or distribution office as soon as work is completed and forwarded to District Superintendent.

LOCATION OF TROUBLE 66 CIRCUIT

TOWN OR LINE \_\_\_\_\_

CUSTOMERS NAME SEVERAL

NATURE OF TROUBLE AND GIVE REASON FOR OUTAGE IF POSSIBLE BREAKER IN PLANT  
TRIPPED, MOST LIKELY DUE TO LIGHTNING

LENGTH OF CUSTOMER OUTAGE IF KNOWN HR

TIME EMPLOYEE REPORTED TO WORK OR STARTED ON TROUBLE 445AM  
TIME WORK COMPLETED 5:00AM

REMARKS RESET BREAKER IN PLANT

BAD WEATHER

WORK TO BE DONE TO PUT SYSTEM EQUIPMENT BACK TO NORMAL CONDITION NONE

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE 8/4/09

This part of report to be completed by crew going back to do permanent work.

REPORT ON PERMANENT REPAIR WORK DONE \_\_\_\_\_

WORK COMPLETED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

COMPLETED WORK NOTED BY DIST. SUPT. \_\_\_\_\_

**Liz Cupp**

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**From:** Albrecht, Jon M [JAlbrecht@ameren.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2009 10:14 AM  
**To:** liz@marceline.org  
**Subject:** Marcceline outage history

Liz,

The history of your 69kV feeder is below. This report does not show the outage that the City experienced on 6/24. The line was requested open for the tree trimmers. Looking back at the history I think it is safe to say the outages from 5/13/09 until 6/27/09 are due to the tree contact and the broken ground wire. If you need anymore information please let me know.

Thanks,

Jon Albrecht  
Superintendent  
JC DCO  
573-681-7565

REVIEW OF PRIOR ORDERS  
FROM 01/01/08 TO 08/20/09  
FEEDER 865043  
EXTENDED OUTAGES  
MOMENTARY OUTAGES INCLUDED  
SUBTRANSMISSION ONLY

DATE	TIME	DIST	SUB	FEEDER	KV	TP	CAUSE	HR/MIN	CUST	ORDER NO
06/25/08	11:13	L.D.	MOB	865-043	34	ST	TREES	1 34	2 081775527	Marceline out for 1 hr 34 minutes. Cause was a tree on Ameren UE side
07/22/08	07:47	L.D.	MOB	865-043	34	MM	UNKNOWN	0 00	0 082046923	This is a momentary outage (lights went off then came back on usually caused by lightning.)
05/13/09	18:32	L.D.	MOB	865-043	34	ST	OH PROB	1 48	1 091339309	Marceline out for 1 hr 48 minutes. Completed a foot patrol from Marceline tap to the Rothville switch station and did not find a problem.
05/15/09	18:11	L.D.	MOB	865-043	34	MM	UNKNOWN	0 00	2 091357936	Momentary outage. Patrolled the Ameren UE line and did not find a problem.
06/23/09	20:35	L.D.	MOB	865-043	34	ST	OTHER	2 58	2 091749174	Marceline out for 2 hr 58 minutes. This was the night of the storm and we had very difficult conditons to drive and work in. Conducted a patrol using

growth on the tap to Marceline. Notified the  
tree problems.

helicopter. Found heavy tree  
City of Marecline about the

06/26/09 12:52 L.D. MOB 865-043 34 MM UNKNOWN 0 00 2 091775945  
Discussed problem w/ Marceline Superintendent

from sagging bottom phase into trees.

the Marceline line and trimmed a tree before

Momentary outage.

started generation to keep

Ameren UE also patrolled

metering.

06/27/09 08:54 L.D. MOB 865-043 34 MM UNKNOWN 0 00 0 091780328

13:19 L.D. MOB 865-043 34 MM UNKNOWN 0 00 2 091780655

14:19 L.D. MOB 865-043 34 MM OH PROB 0 00 2 091780744

Marceline Tree

trimmers found the ground wire contacting phase.

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