Missouri Public Service Commission
Data Center
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0360

MO 419-2651 (9-10)

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Missourians for Safe Energy Bruce Morrison 705 Olive Street, Suite 614 St. Louis, MO 63101

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Fourth Prudence Review of)	
sts Subject to the Commission-Approved Fuel)	File No. EO-2015-0060
Adjustment Clause of Union Electric Company)	
d/b/a Ameren Missouri)	

ORDER DIRECTING NOTICE, ACKNOWLEDGING AUTOMATIC PARTIES, AND SETTING A DEADLINE FOR REQUESTING A HEARING

Issue Date: September 3, 2014 Effective Date: September 3, 2014

On September 3, 2014, the Commission's Staff filed a notice indicating it that started its prudence audit of Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri's ("Ameren Missouri") fuel adjustment clause on September 2, 2014. Section 386.266.4(4), RSMo Supp. 2013, the statute that authorizes an electric utility to use a fuel adjustment clause, requires the Commission to conduct a prudence review of the utility's fuel costs no less frequently than at 18-month intervals. The 18-month prudence review is also required by Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-20.090(7), which states:

- (7) Prudence Reviews Respecting RAMs.¹ A prudence review of the costs subject to the RAM shall be conducted no less frequently than at eighteen (18)-month intervals.
 - (A) All amounts ordered refunded by the commission shall include interest at the electric utility's short-term borrowing rate.
 - (B) The staff shall submit a recommendation regarding its examination and analysis to the commission not later than one hundred eighty (180) days after the staff initiates its prudence audit. The timing and frequency of prudence audits for each RAM shall be established in the general rate proceeding in which the RAM is established. The staff shall file notice within ten (10) days of starting its prudence audit. The commission shall issue an order not later

¹ 4 CSR 240.090(1)(G) defines "RAM" as follows:" Rate adjustment mechanism (RAM) refers to either a fuel adjustment clause or interim energy charge."

than two hundred ten (210) days after the staff commences its prudence audit if no party to the proceeding in which the prudence audit is occurring files, within one hundred ninety (190) days of the staff's commencement of its prudence audit, a request for a hearing.

- 1. If the staff, OPC or other party auditing the RAM believes that insufficient information has been supplied to make a recommendation regarding the prudence of the electric utility's RAM, it may utilize discovery to obtain the information it seeks. If the electric utility does not timely supply the information, the party asserting the failure to provide the required information must timely file a motion to compel with the commission. While the commission is considering the motion to compel the processing timeline shall be suspended. If the commission then issues an order requiring the information to be provided, the time necessary for the information to be provided shall further extend the processing timeline. For good cause shown the commission may further suspend this timeline.
- 2. If the timeline is extended due to an electric utility's failure to timely provide sufficient responses to discovery and a refund is due to the customers, the electric utility shall refund all imprudently incurred costs plus interest at the electric utility's short-term borrowing rate.

Because the rule requires Staff to file its recommendation regarding the audit no later than 180 days after it initiates the audit, Staff's audit will be due no later than March 2, 2015.² Additionally, the deadline for requesting a hearing will be March 11, 2015.

Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-3.161(10) provides that parties to the rate case in which the Commission established Ameren Missouri's fuel adjustment clause are automatically parties to this prudence audit, without the necessity of having to apply for intervention. Ameren Missouri's fuel adjustment clause was established for the first time in the report and order issued by the Commission in File No. ER-2008-0318. The Commission acknowledges that the parties to File No. ER-2008-0318 are parties to this case and are not required to file applications to intervene. The Commission will direct its Data Center to add those persons and entities to the service list.

² The 180th day falls on a Sunday; thus, the audit would be due the following Monday.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

- 1. The Commission's Data Center shall add all parties in File Number ER-2008-0318 to the certified service list for this file. In addition to providing electronic notice of this order through the Commission's Electronic Information and Filing System, the Data Center shall send a copy of this order to those parties by regular mail.
- 2. The Missouri Public Service Commission's Data Center shall send a copy of this notice to each of the parties in Ameren Missouri's current rate case, ER-2014-0258.
 - 3. Any request for a hearing shall be filed no later than March 11, 2015.
 - 4. This order shall become effective immediately.

BY THE COMMISSION

Morris Woodruff Secretary

Ronald D. Pridgin, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 3rd day of September, 2014.

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 9th day of October 2014.

Morris L. Woodruff

Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION September 3, 2014

File/Case No. EO-2015-0060

Missouri Public Service Commission Kevin Thompson

200 Madison Street, Suite 800 P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102 Kevin.Thompson@psc.mo.gov

Renew Missouri

Andrew J Linhares 910 E Broadway, Ste 205 Columbia, MO 65201 Andrew@renewmo.org

Sierra Club

Henry B Robertson 319 N. Fourth St., Suite 800 St. Louis, MO 63102 hrobertson@greatriverslaw.org

The Commercial Group

Rick D Chamberlain 6 NE 63rd Street, Ste. 400 Oklahoma City, OK 73105 rchamberlain@okenergylaw.com

Union Electric Company

Matthew R Tomc 1901 Chouteau St. Louis, MO 63166 AmerenMOService@ameren.com

Missouri Retailers Association

Stephanie S Bell 308 East High Street, Suite 301 Jefferson City, MO 65101 sbell@blitzbardgett.com

Missourians for Safe Energy

Bruce A Morrison 705 Olive Street, Suite 614 St. Louis, MO 63101 bamorrison@greatriverslaw.org Missouri Public Service Commission

Office General Counsel 200 Madison Street, Suite 800 P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102 staffcounselservice@psc.mo.gov

Sierra Club

Sunil Bector 85 Second Street, 2nd Floor San Francisco, CA 94105-3441 sunil.bector@sierraclub.org

State of Missouri

Robert E Carlson P.O. Box 861 St. Louis, MO 63188 bob.carlson@ago.mo.gov

Union Electric Company

Russ Mitten 312 E. Capitol Ave P.O. Box 456 Jefferson City, MO 65102 rmitten@brydonlaw.com

Union Electric Company

Thomas M Byrne 1901 Chouteau Avenue P.O. Box 66149 St. Louis, MO 63166-6149 tbyrne@ameren.com

Missouri Retailers Association

Thomas R Schwarz 308 E High Street, Ste. 301 Jefferson City, MO 65101 tschwarz@blitzbardgett.com

Missourians for Safe Energy

Henry B Robertson 319 N. Fourth St., Suite 800 St. Louis, MO 63102 hrobertson@greatriverslaw.org Office of the Public Counsel

Dustin Allison
200 Madison Street, Suite 650
P.O. Box 2230
Jefferson City, MO 65102
opcservice@ded.mo.gov

Sierra Club

Thomas Cmar 5042 N. Leavitt St., Ste. 1 Chicago, IL 60625 tcmar@earthjustice.org

The Commercial Group

Koriambanya S Carew 2555 Grand Boulevard Kansas City, MO 64108 kcarew@shb.com

Union Electric Company

James B Lowery 111 South Ninth St., Suite 200 P.O. Box 918 Columbia, MO 65205-0918 lowery@smithlewis.com

Union Electric Company

Wendy Tatro 1901 Chouteau Avenue St. Louis, MO 63166-6149 AmerenMOService@ameren.com

Missourians for Safe Energy

Kathleen G Henry 319 No. Fourth St., Ste. 800A St. Louis, MO 63102 khenry@greatriverslaw.org

Natural Resources Defense Council

Henry B Robertson 319 N. Fourth St., Suite 800 St. Louis, MO 63102 hrobertson@greatriverslaw.org Noranda Aluminum, Inc. Diana M Vuylsteke 211 N. Broadway, Suite 3600 St. Louis, MO 63102 dmvuylsteke@bryancave.com

City of Ballwin, Missouri Carl J Lumley 130 S. Bemiston, Ste 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 clumley@lawfirmemail.com

City of Ballwin, Missouri Edward J Sluys 130 S. Bemiston, Suite 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 esluys@lawfirmemail.com

City of O'Fallon, Missouri Robert Jones 130 S. Bemiston, Suite 200 Clayton, MO 63105 rejones@lawfirmemail.com

IBEW Local Union 1439 Sherrie Hall 7730 Carondelet Ave., Ste 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 sahall@hammondshinners.com

IBEW Local Union 1455 Sherrie Hall 7730 Carondelet Ave., Ste 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 sahall@hammondshinners.com

IBEW Local Union 2 Michael A Evans 7730 Carondelet, Suite 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 mevans@hammondshinners.com

IBEW Local Union 649 Sherrie Hall 7730 Carondelet Ave., Ste 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 sahall@hammondshinners.com AARP
John B Coffman
871 Tuxedo Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63119-2044
john@johncoffman.net

City of Ballwin, Missouri Leland B Curtis 130 S. Bemiston, Suite 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 Icurtis@lawfirmemail.com

City of O'Fallon, Missouri Carl J Lumley 130 S. Bemiston, Ste 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 clumley@lawfirmemail.com

City of O'Fallon, Missouri Edward J Sluys 130 S. Bemiston, Suite 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 esluys@lawfirmemail.com

IBEW Local Union 1439 Michael A Evans 7730 Carondelet, Suite 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 mevans@hammondshinners.com

IBEW Local Union 1455
Michael A Evans
7730 Carondelet, Suite 200
St. Louis, MO 63105
mevans@hammondshinners.com

IBEW Local Union 309 Sherrie Hall 7730 Carondelet Ave., Ste 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 sahall@hammondshinners.com

IBEW Local Union 649 Michael A Evans 7730 Carondelet, Suite 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 mevans@hammondshinners.com Brubaker & Associates, Inc. Maurice Brubaker P.O. Box 412000 St. Louis, MO 63141-2000 mbrubaker@consultbai.com

City of Ballwin, Missouri Robert Jones 130 S. Bemiston, Suite 200 Clayton, MO 63105 rejones@lawfirmemail.com

City of O'Fallon, Missouri Leland B Curtis 130 S. Bemiston, Suite 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 lcurtis@lawfirmemail.com

Consumers Council of Missouri John B Coffman 871 Tuxedo Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63119-2044 john@johncoffman.net

IBEW Local Union 1439 Emily Perez 7730 Carondelet Ave., Suite 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 eperez@hammondshinners.com

IBEW Local Union 2 Sherrie Hall 7730 Carondelet Ave., Ste 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 sahall@hammondshinners.com

IBEW Local Union 309 Michael A Evans 7730 Carondelet, Suite 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 mevans@hammondshinners.com

IBEW Local Union 702 Sherrie Hall 7730 Carondelet Ave., Ste 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 sahall@hammondshinners.com IBEW Local Union 702 Michael A Evans 7730 Carondelet, Suite 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 mevans@hammondshinners.com International Union of Operating Engineers-Local No 148 Sherrie Hall 7730 Carondelet Ave., Ste 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 sahall@hammondshinners.com International Union of Operating Engineers-Local No 148 Michael A Evans 7730 Carondelet, Suite 200 St. Louis, MO 63105 mevans@hammondshinners.com

Laclede Gas Company Michael C Pendergast 720 Olive Street, Suite 1520 St. Louis, MO 63101 mpendergast@lacledegas.com Laclede Gas Company
Rick E Zucker
720 Olive Street
St. Louis, MO 63101
rick.zucker@thelacledegroup.com

Midwest Energy Consumers Group David Woodsmall 807 Winston Court Jefferson City, MO 65101 david.woodsmall@woodsmalllaw.com

Missouri Coalition for the Environment Kathleen G Henry 319 No. Fourth St., Ste. 800A St. Louis, MO 63102 khenry@greatriverslaw.org Missouri Coalition for the Environment Bruce A Morrison 705 Olive Street, Suite 614 St. Louis, MO 63101 bamorrison@greatriverslaw.org Missouri Coalition for the Environment Henry B Robertson 319 N. Fourth St., Suite 800 St. Louis, MO 63102 hrobertson@greatriverslaw.org

Missouri Division of Energy Legal Department 301 W. High St., Room 720 P.O. Box 1766 Jefferson City, MO 65102 Missouri Division of Energy Jeremy D Knee 301 West High Street P.O. Box 1157 Jefferson City, MO 65102 jeremy.knee@ded.mo.gov Missouri Energy Group Lisa C Langeneckert P.O. Box 411793 St. Louis, MO 63141 llangeneckert@att.net

Missouri Industrial Energy Consumers (MIEC) Edward F Downey 221 Bolivar Street, Suite 101 Jefferson City, MO 65101 efdowney@bryancave.com Missouri Industrial Energy Consumers (MIEC) Diana M Vuylsteke 211 N. Broadway, Suite 3600 St. Louis, MO 63102 dmvuylsteke@bryancave.com

Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.