In the Matter of:

THE APPLICATION OF KCP&L GREATER MISSOURI OPERATIONS COMPANY, etc.

EO-2019-0244, VOL. III

October 17, 2019



www.tigercr.com 573.999.2662

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             BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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                       STATE OF MISSOURI
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                   TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
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 6
                      Evidentiary Hearing
 7
                        October 17, 2019
 8
                   Jefferson City, Missouri
 9
                            Volume 3
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   In The Matter Of The ) File No. EO-2019-0244 Application of KCP&L Greater )
13
    Missouri Operations Company For)
14
    Approval Of A Special Rate For )
    a Facility Whose Primary
15
    Industry Is The Production Or )
    Fabrication Of Steel In Or
16
    Around Sedalia, Missouri
17
18
                     MORRIS L. WOODRUFF, Presiding
                          CHIEF REGULATORY LAW JUDGE
19
                      RYAN A. SILVEY, Chairman,
                      WILLIAM P. KENNEY,
                      DANIEL Y. HALL,
20
                      SCOTT T. RUPP,
21
                         COMMISSIONERS
22
    REPORTED BY:
23
    Tracy Taylor, CCR No. 939
    TIGER COURT REPORTING, LLC
24
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1	KEVIN	A. THOMPSON
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4	FOR:	573.526.4887 Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission
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                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: We're here for the
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    evidentiary hearing in the matter of the application
   of KCPL Greater Missouri Operations Company for
 3
   approval of a special rate for a facility whose
5
   primary industry is the production or fabrication of
    steel in and around Sedalia, Missouri, File Number
6
 7
   EO-2019-0244.
8
                 We'll start the day off by taking entries
9
   of appearance beginning with Evergy Missouri West.
10
                 MR. FISCHER: Thank you, Judge. Let the
    record reflect the appearance of Roger W. Steiner and
11
12
    James M. Fischer on behalf of the Company.
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And I will add that
13
    there might be a little confusion in this case with
14
15
    the name of the company. Do you want to be Evergy
16
    Missouri West or do you want to be GMO?
17
                 MR. FISCHER: I was going to mention that
    in my opening and just indicate if we slip into using
18
    GMO again, just note that the change -- the name has
19
20
    changed and it's really Evergy West Missouri. But I
    think our testimony reflects GMO yet and that's
21
   probably where we'll end up talking today.
22
23
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. Very good.
                 For Nucor?
24
25
                 MS. BELL: Yes, Your Honor.
                                              It's
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1
    Stephanie Bell and Mike Lavanga for Nucor, and the
 2
    court reporter has our information.
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And for the Staff.
 3
 4
                 MR. THOMPSON: Kevin A. Thompson for the
 5
    Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, Post
    Office Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65109.
 6
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And for Public Counsel.
 7
 8
                 MR. HALL: Good morning. Caleb Hall
 9
    appearing on behalf of the Office of Public Counsel.
    I have previously given my contact information to the
10
    court reporter.
11
12
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: For MECG.
13
                 MR. WOODSMALL: David Woodsmall appearing
    on behalf of Midwest Energy Consumers Group.
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15
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. I don't
    believe there's any preliminary matters to be
16
17
    addressed at this point, so we'll go to opening
18
    statements.
19
                 MR. STEINER: Do you want to pre-mark
20
    exhibits, Judge?
21
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF:
                                  There's only four of
    them, I believe. So we'll just wait and do them as
22
23
    they come.
                 MR. STEINER: We were also going to enter
24
25
    the stipulation. Is that something that you want to
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have order-- entered?
1
 2
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Well, it's up to you, if
 3
   you want.
              I mean, it's -- it's an evidentiary
   decision.
5
                 MR. STEINER:
                               Okay.
 6
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: In fact, now that I
 7
    think of it, let's go ahead and I'll go off the record
 8
    for a moment while you go ahead and mark those four
 9
    exhibits and then we'll get them out of the way -- or
    five exhibits.
10
                 (Off the record.)
11
12
                 (Company Exhibits 1, 2P, 2C, 3, 4, 5P and
    5C were marked for identification.)
13
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. Let's go ahead
14
    and get started with opening statements, beginning
15
16
    with Evergy.
17
                 MR. FISCHER:
                               Thank you, Judge. May it
   please the Commission. My name is Jim Fischer. Roger
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    Steiner and I will be representing the Company today
19
20
    in this proceeding.
                 I should note though that effective
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    October 7th of this year, Evergy Missouri West, Inc.,
22
23
    doing business as Evergy Missouri West, adopted the
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    service territory of KCPL Greater Missouri Operations
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    Company or what we refer to as GMO. Some of the
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1 testimony refers to GMO in the record and we may slip 2 back into referring to the Company occasionally as GMO, but -- but just please note that the actual name 3 has changed. 4 This case involves the Company's request 5 6 for authority for a special incremental load rate for 7 a steel production facility in Sedalia, Missouri owned 8 by Nucor Se-- Nucor Steel Sedalia, LLC. 9 I think attracting Nucor to Missouri was a very significant economic win for our state. 10 ability of the state of Missouri and Sedalia to win 11 12 the project over the competition from multiple other aggressive states I think exemplifies the 13 14 public/private partnership approach to economic 15 development in Missouri. The -- the success is expected to have a ripple effect on other projects 16 17 considering locating in our state and in the Midwest. 18 Finally, the Nucor expansion into Sedalia will create a local opportunity for many businesses 19 because, you know, local businesses follow the jobs. 20 Nucor will invest approximately 250 million dollars to 21 build a steel bar micro mill in Sedalia, a substantial 22 23 portion of which has already been completed. 24 This is a new project to Missouri. When it's completed and commercially operational, it's 25

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expected that the Nucor facility will create more than
1
 2
    250 well-paying jobs. These jobs are permanent,
    full-time and they have average wages that are about
 3
    65,000 dollars a year, which is about twice the
    average for the county of Pettis.
 5
 6
                 Nucor broke ground on the Sedalia
 7
    facility in late April of 2018 and is expected to be
 8
    ready to begin commercial operations in the first
 9
    quarter of 2020.
10
                 Now, the price of electricity comprises a
    substantial component of the steel manufacturer's cost
11
12
    of doing business. Therefore, a competitive
    electricity rate is very important to a steel
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14
    manufacturer like Nucor and represented a primary
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    factor in their decision to locate in Sedalia.
                 In order to provide a competitive
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17
    electricity rate, the Company offered an attractive
    rate structure to make the Missouri business case for
18
   Nucor even more competitive. The Company and Nucor
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20
   have entered into a contract for a special rate based
    upon the provisions of a new tariff, the Company's
21
    special rate for incremental load tariff. And we're
22
23
    seeking, in this proceeding, approval of the Nucor
    contract and the tariff.
24
                 The details of the incremental cost and
25
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rate are contained in the Direct Testimony of Darrin 1 2 Ives on page 10. While the in-- that information is confidential, I can say that the Company will more 3 than recover its incremental cost and make a 5 meaningful contribution to the recovery of fixed costs and thereby reduce rates paid by all other customers. 6 There will also be other benefits to the 7 8 Company's other customers. These benefits include an 9 increase in the number of residential customers that will result from the addition of the 250 jobs at Nucor 10 and the addition of new jobs that will be created in 11 12 the Sedalia area by businesses that will be providing services and supplies to Nucor. 13 Now, if one were to conservatively 14 15 estimate that half of the Nucor jobs and half of the local business jobs were -- were new people coming 16 into town, that would indicate that -- and assuming 17 they're all residential, the additional revenues 18 associated with that new job growth would be about 19 20 261,000 dollars annually; a portion of which would, again, offset the fixed costs borne by the other new 21 non-Nucor customers. 22 23 On September 19th of this year, the Company, Nucor and the Commission Staff entered into a 24 Non-unanimous Stipulation and Agreement that 25

recommends the approval of the Nucor contract and the special incremental load tariff. The Office of Public Counsel did not sign, but it did not object to the stipulation.

The Midwest Energy Consumers Group, however, is an objecting party. Under the terms of the stipulation, there will be extensive monitoring and reporting of the costs and the revenues. Over the course of the ten-year contract, we expect to yield a profit that will contribute to the recovery of the Company's fixed costs and, therefore, reduce the rates paid by all customers. The expected profits from the ten-year contract are addressed in the confidential version of Darrin Ives Direct Testimony, again on page 10.

There are also significant customer protections to ensure that other customers are not adversely affected by the Nucor contract or its operation. The specifics of those protections and -- are contained in paragraph 7 and paragraph 8 of the stipulation. And I thought Mr. Thompson's position statement did a very good job of laying out those customer protections, if you want to look there.

The Commission Staff and other parties will be kept informed through detailed and regular

reporting commitments. The anticipated reporting 1 2 format is included in Exhibit 1 to the stipulation and it will include the following. It will include, 3 first, the Company will identify and isolate the plant 5 costs to provide service to Nucor, and the Company will also identify and isolate the supply costs 6 attributable to Nucor. 8 These are expected to include the energy 9 as obtained through the SPP integrated marketplace and all transactions associated with the renewable supply 10 source, which will be a designated wind facility for 11 12 Nucor. As a result, this special contract promotes the State's policy in favor of renewable energy. 13 14 The Company will monitor Nucor's 15 operations and will identify additional SPP-related costs resulting from unexpected operational events. 16 If these unexpected operational events would happen to 17 increase costs to non-Nucor customers, the amount of 18 the increased costs will be identified and reflected 19 20 in the subsequent FAC rate changes and appropriate adjustments would be made. 21 22 Now, at the time of a general rate case, 23 the portion of the Company's revenue requirement associated with the incremental cost net of the wind 24 PPA revenues to serve Nucor would be assigned to 25

Nucor. And the amount by which the Nucor's rate 1 2 revenues exceed the incremental cost would be used to lower the rates are reflected in the revenue 3 requirement and that would lower rates to other 5 customers. 6 Now, if Nucor's revenues do not exceed 7 the incremental costs to serve Nucor, the Company will 8 make an additional revenue adjustment covering the 9 shortfall in the revenue requirement. This will ensure that non-Nucor customers will be held harmless 10 from the effects of serving Nucor. 11 12 In other words, we expect this to be a profitable contract that will benefit all customers, 13 14 but in no event will any revenue deficiency from the 15 Nucor operations be reflected in the rates of other 16 customers. 17 There will also be communication between 18 Nucor and the Company related to things like planned outages, maintenance outages and similar operational 19 20 details that the Company will be in a position to carefully monitor what's going on at the plant and 21 what effects that would have on its electric system. 22 23 Now, after the stipulation was filed, Mr. Woodsmall, on behalf of his incorporated entity 24 the Midwest Energy Consumers Group, filed an objection 25

to the stipulation. It's my understanding that MECG
is not opposing the rate that Nucor will receive under
the contract. Instead, he's opposing GMO's right to
request the special incremental load tariff and enter
into a contract that provides the Company an
opportunity to make a profit and ultimately provide
the opportunity to share that profit with customers in
the future.

He may raise the point that GMO did not propose to use the tracker that's provided in Section 393.355, but this is a red herring because the Company did not file its case under the provisions of Section 393.355. According to subsection 2 of that statute, this statute is specifically designed for situations where the special contract is -- and I'll quote -- not based upon an electric company's cost-of-service for a facility. In our case, it is based upon the Company's cost of serving the Nucor facility.

Mr. Ives also explains in his testimony that Section 393.355 was an effort to reopen the Noranda aluminum smelter plant in southeast Missouri and to generally make Missouri attractive to aluminum and steel production industries. It was specifically designed for the Noranda situation where there was no need for new investment. And since that investment

already existed, it was already in the rate-base of 1 2 the serving public utility. Although the statute indicates that it's 3 intended to have a broader applicability than just 4 5 that, it's technically deficient in the situation like 6 we have with Nucor. The Company here is making an 7 18 to 20 million dollar investment in new facilities 8 and it will need to be able to earn a return on those 9 investments. Subsection 21 of that -- of 355 would not 10 allow an increase in the net income of the Company, 11 12 which would mean that the Company would not be recovering its investment in the new facilities 13 necessary to serve Nucor. Nor would that special rate 14 be covering the incremental cost of making a 15 contribution to the fixed cost which helps to keep 16 rates lower for other customers. 17 KCPL and GMO both have had, over the 18 years, many special contracts approved by the 19 20 Commission under your general rate-making authority. Usually that's -- the authority is cited as Section 21 393.150, subsection 1, and 393.140, subsection 11, as 22 23 well as the general statute 393.130. 24 The fact that Section 393.355 gives the Commission additional rate-making authority under 25

appropriate circumstances does not preclude the 1 2 Commission from exercising its normal rate-making authority to approve special contracts as it's done 3 4 for years. 5 There's nothing in Section 355 that 6 states that it's the exclusive or the only means by 7 which the Commission has the authority to approve a 8 special rate outside of a rate case. Section 393.355 9 is, in my mind, just another tool in the -- in the Public Service Commission's toolbox for dealing with 10 these special contracts. These statutes can be 11 12 clearly harmonized and both given affect as required by case law. 13 The Commission has often exercised that 14 15 authority under Section 393.140 and 393.150 to approve special contracts in the past. And we've -- we've 16 17 cited several there. The GS Technology's case, the ARMCO Steel special contract, and the more recent 18 special contracts approved as a part of KCPL's 19 20 comprehensive energy plan. And we're requesting that the Commission exercise that traditional rate-making 21 authority to approve the Nucor contract and the tariff 22 23 in this case.

The Company will be sponsoring three witnesses today: Mr. Darrin Ives, the vice president,

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regulatory affairs for the Company; Mr. Mark
1
 2
    Stombaugh, director of Regional Engagement Division of
    the Missouri Department of Economic Development; and
 3
   Ms. Jessica L. Craig, the executive director of
5
   Economic Development, Sedalia-Pettis County.
 6
                 And as our first witness today, Nucor
 7
   will sponsor Mr. Kevin Van de Ven, the vice president
8
   and general manager of Nucor Sedalia, LLC. Now, we
9
    appreciate the fact he's going to be participating by
   phone since he's currently in Europe observing the
10
    construction of manufacturing equipment for use at the
11
12
    Sedalia plant.
                 These witnesses will be happy to answer
13
   your questions, but in conclusion, the Company's
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15
    requesting the Commission approve the Nucor contract
    and its special rate for incremental load tariff with
16
    the additional customer protections that are included
17
    in the Non-Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement signed
18
   by the Staff, Nucor and the Company. Thank you.
19
20
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Any questions for
   Mr. Fischer? Mr. Chairman?
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22
                 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: I have none, thank
23
   you.
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Commissioner Hall?
24
   BY COMMISSIONER HALL:
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1 Q. Good morning.

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- A. Good morning.
- Q. You noted that this Commission has approved a number of special contracts for the Company in -- in the past. Were any of those special contracts approved outside of a general rate case?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. Could you -- could you elaborate on that?
- 9 Α. I think the ARMCO Steel case was approved outside of contract. I think the GST Technology case 10 also. And then the special contracts that I mentioned 11 12 were -- let me give you the case number. Related to the -- the comprehensive energy plan, that was --13 14 those were EO-2006-0193, the steel contract was 15 EO-78-227. And I don't have the number on the GST Technologies, but that was -- that was the subject of 16
- 18 context of rate cases.

 19 Q. Okay. What harm would occur from your

the court appeal. So many of those are outside the

- perspective, from the Company's perspective, if you had made this request under 393.355?
 - A. Well, several things. The --
- Q. I understand your argument that you think it's inapplicable because the -- because it is based on the electric corporation's cost-of-service. But

putting that aside for a moment -- and I want to ask more about that, but putting that aside, what harm would --

- A. Well, several things. As I mentioned, the Company's making an 18 to 20 million dollar investment there at the plant. It does need to get a return on that. This mechanism would allow them to do that and then the amount above of the incremental costs would be used to keep other company's rate -- ratepayers' rates lower. If you used -- if you use --
 - Q. Let me stop you there for a second.
 - A. Yes, sir.

- Q. Because I think that's really important what you're -- so your -- your -- your position -- the Company's position is that the 18 to 20 million dollar investment which will be necessary to provide service to this customer, under -- if -- if you used the House Bill 1 special rate, under Section 3, the Company would not be allowed to recover on that investment?
- A. Yes. As I understand that, net income could not go up or go down as a result of that. And that would keep the Company from being -- earning a return on that 20 million dollars. That's -- that's a fundamental problem, but there are other things too that concern us.

Would that -- well, I mean, that's a 1 Ο. 2 pretty big one though. Definitely. It's a major one. 3 Α. 4 Would -- would -- would the Company's Ο. 5 inability to get a return on that investment just be 6 until the next rate case, or would it be beyond the next rate case? 8 Α. I don't know that that statute's been 9 employed, so I'm not sure --10 Q. Right. -- how it would be interpreted. It could 11 Α. 12 be interpreted there's just no income increase at all, but I would hope -- I would hope that even if you 13 14 didn't get a return on it in the interim, you'd --15 you'd at least get to do it in the rate case --I would think so --16 O. 17 Α. -- but I don't know how it would be interpreted. 18 I would think so as well, because you --19 0. 20 you would just put that amount in --I mean it would be a substantial problem 21 if it -- under that -- if you -- if you had to keep 22 23 net income zero throughout the entire life of that 24 plant. 25 Q. Yeah. I -- I can't imagine that would be

the result. But it is clear that between now and the 1 2 next rate case, the Company would not be able to get a return on that 18 to 20 million dollar investment? 3

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- And there would be no profit on that as a result that would be used to keep ratepayers' rates lower. In the event there was actually a loss, it could be interpreted that you would socialize that to the other ratepayers.
- And under 564 it couldn't be -- it Ο. wouldn't qualify under PISA because it's bringing in new revenue. Correct?
- 12 I hadn't thought about that, but that Α. would be another issue. 13
 - Okay. Thank you. Well, actually so you Ο. were -- you were giving other reasons, other potential harm and I -- and I stopped you with -- with the first one.
- 18 Well, I think one of the major benefits Α. is that we are going to have a profitable contract 19 20 here that is going to benefit not only the Company but other ratepayers. I think you can interpret the no 21 net income increase or decrease as indicating that if 22 you had a loss on a contract, it would have to be socialized by the other ratepayers and paid for by 24 other classes of service. We don't think that's what 25

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we want to do here and that's -- that would be a
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 2
    concern.
 3
           Q.
                 Okay. Thank you.
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you.
 4
                 Next then, we'll move to Nucor.
 5
 6
                 MR. LAVANGA: May it please the
 7
    Commission.
                My name is Mike Lavanga with the law firm
    of Stone Mattheis Xenopoulos and Brew. My partner,
8
 9
    Pete Mattheis, and I are representing Nucor Steel
    Sedalia in this case, along with our co-counsel,
10
    Stephanie Bell of Ellinger and Associates.
11
12
                 I would also like to introduce Trevor
    Saunders, the melt shop manager at Nucor Sedalia, and
13
    John Kinter, the environmental manager at Nucor
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15
    Sedalia who are with us at the hearing today.
                 At the outset, we would like to express
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17
    our appreciation to the Commission and the other
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   parties for agreeing to allow Kevin Van de Ven's
    appearance by telephone today. Mr. Van de Ven is the
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20
    vice president and general manager of Nucor Sedalia.
    He is overseeing the construction of the plant and
21
    will be charge -- in charge of the plant once it is up
22
23
    and running. Mr. Van de Ven is currently in Italy
    observing the testing of equipment needed for the
24
25
   plant and regrets not being able to be here in person.
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1 Power supply for the steel mill is a 2 critical issue though and Mr. Van de Ven recognizes the importance of this hearing and the need for the 3 Commission to hear from him directly. So, again, we 5 appreciate that the Commission was able to facilitate 6 Mr. Van de Ven's appearance by phone and Mr. Van de Ven looks forward -- looks forward to answering any 7 8 questions the Commission and the parties might have. 9 I'd like to start with a quick overview of Nucor Corporation and Nucor Sedalia. 10 11 Corporation is the nation's largest steel maker. 12 Nucor is headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina and has facilities engaged in the manufacture of steel 13 14 and steel products located throughout the country. 15 Among these facilities are 21 steel mills that employ electric arc furnaces to melt and recycle 16 17 scrap steel into new steel products. In addition to being the largest steel maker in the United States, 18 Nucor is also the largest recycler in North America. 19 20 The newest steel mill in Nucor's fleet is nearing completion just about an hour away down the 21 road in Sedalia. When completed, the plant will 22 23 provide over 250 full-time jobs. Nucor Sedalia will produce steel rebar for the regional market 24 encompassing Missouri, Kansas and the surrounding 25

1 states.

At this point Nucor expects to start operations and testing at the plant before the end of the year and expects to start full commercial operations in the first quarter of 2020. The need to have the rate approved and in place prior to the start of commercial operations meant that we and GMO had to ask for an expedited procedural schedule. We really appreciate the willingness of all the parties and the Commission to recognize the significance of this project and to accommodate the schedule in the case.

Sedalia will be Nucor's first electric arc furnace steel mill in Missouri when it is completed, it is not Nucor's only facility in the state. Other Nucor facilities include Nucor LMP Steel in Maryville; Nucor St. Louis Cold Drawn; Harris Steel, a subsidiary of Nucor has facilities in St. Louis and Kansas City; and Nucor Scrap Steel affiliate David J. Joseph Company has several facilities located throughout the state of Missouri. These other Nucor facilities currently provide hundreds of jobs throughout the state.

Because electric arc furnace steel making is extremely energy intensive, electric costs are typically among the highest variable costs at Nucor

1 steel mills. 2 Nucor -- the Sedalia facility will be no exception. Nucor Sedalia will use massive amounts of 3 electricity at a cost of millions of dollars a year. 5 For this reason, the availability of a competitive long-term electric rate was a critical factor in 6 Nucor's decision to site the plant in Sedalia. 8 Nucor is appreciative of the efforts of 9 the parties involved in bring the new plant to Sedalia, including the Governor's office, Pettis 10 County, the City of Sedalia, the Missouri Departments 11 12 of Economic Development, Natural Resources, Revenue and Transportation, Sedalia-Pettis County Economic 13 14 Development, and KCP&L GMO. 15 As part of the negotiations with the Missouri team, GMO committed to provide a rate with 16 17 the pricing and the term that Nucor needed to come to Sedalia. And as Mr. Van de Ven testifies, Nucor would 18 not have selected the Sedalia site without this 19 2.0 commitment. 21 In late 2017, soon after Nucor publicly announced that it was coming to Sedalia, Nucor and GMO 22 23 began negotiating the power supply agreement in 24 earnest. The negotiations resulted in the power

supply agreement and rate schedule SIL that were filed

in this case in July. The power supply agreement
meets Nucor's needs in term of price, term and rate
design.

After several weeks of discussion following the filing, the Commission Staff, GMO and Nucor entered into the stipulation that was filed on September 19th. The Office of Public Counsel did not object. Under the stipulation, the settling parties recommend that the Nucor contract and rate be approved and affirms the operational communication commitments included in the Nucor contract.

The stipulation also sets out mechanisms that will be used by GMO, Staff and OPC to monitor and report costs and revenues associated with the Nucor contract and address how the contract will be treated for purposes of rate-making. With the objection of M-- MECG, the stipulation becomes the joint position of the Staff, GMO and Nucor.

Nucor respects -- respectfully requests that the Commission approve the application of GMO consistent with the terms and conditions in the stipulation.

In conclusion, Nucor is pleased to be here today and is excited to be opening its new steel mill in Sedalia. The project has already brought many

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jobs to the Sedalia area and we think that the
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 2
   permanent jobs at the plant, along with the additional
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    investment in economic development activities directly
   and indirectly related to the plant, will benefit
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    Sedalia, Pettis County and the state of Missouri for
   years to come. Thank you.
6
 7
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF:
                                  Thank you.
8
                 Any questions, Mr. Chairman?
9
                 CHAIRMAN SILVEY:
                                   Briefly.
   BY CHAIRMAN SILVEY:
10
                 Thank you, sir. When Nucor initially
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           O.
12
    sought the special rate, was it due to the language in
   House Bill 1 or the publicity around House Bill 1, or
13
14
   has it always been the Company's understanding that
    this would be sought under the Commission's general
15
   rate-making authority?
16
17
                 Chairman Silvey, I don't think we --
   Nucor had a -- a understanding one way or the other in
18
    terms of -- of House -- of 355. We -- we understood
19
20
    that the -- that statute had been passed, but we -- we
   were not -- our concern -- Nucor's concern was getting
21
    the rate it needed. And whatever mechanism that --
22
23
    that GMO thought would work best, we thought we -- we
   would be okay with.
24
2.5
                 We -- the -- we -- again, we did
```

```
1
   understand that 355 was on the books. It created a --
 2
   a -- a environment that seemed to be welcoming to new
    investment in these types of facilities, but it
 3
   wasn't -- our -- Nucor's agreement to come to Sedalia
    didn't -- didn't hinge on 355 or having a contract
 5
    under 355.
 6
 7
           Ο.
                 Okay. Thank you.
 8
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Commissioner Kenney?
 9
                 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: No questions.
    Thank you.
10
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Commissioner Hall?
11
12
                 COMMISSIONER HALL: No questions.
                                                    Thank
13
   you.
14
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you very much
15
    then.
16
                 MR. LAVANGA: Thank you.
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And we'll move to Staff.
17
18
                 MR. THOMPSON: Good morning. May it
   please the Commission.
19
20
                 You have heard in some detail a
    description by the Company and by Nucor of the
21
    agreement that they have made of the rate at which GMO
22
23
   has agreed to provide power to Nucor under the
   proposed SIL tariff and about the significant economic
24
   benefits that the Nucor special contract and the SIL
25
```

1 tariff will deliver to Sedalia, Pettis County and the 2 state of Missouri.

2.0

You have also heard what Staff considers to be the most salient feature of this proposal, which is that while the anticipated benefits will be shared with the ratepayers, the detriments, should there be any, will be borne by GMO's shareholders.

It is a remarkable thing when a utility proposes a new venture in which the risk of loss is borne by the shareholders. It is even more remarkable when that occurs in an economic development context in which the ratepayers are generally expected to provide a subsidy in order to allow some worthwhile venture to go forward.

Staff understands this provision as a sure token that GMO does not expect any loss. This provision made it very easy for Staff to simply accept GMO's proposal. It is a win-win for GMO's ratepayers. They will share the benefits of success, but they will not share the risk of failure.

The tariff and special contract are not proposed under Section 393.355, as you have heard. That provision contains features that are unattractive to the Company, as Mr. Ives explains in his testimony and as Mr. Fischer has explained in his opening

1 statement.

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2 It also contains a feature that is unattractive to Staff. I refer to subsection 2, 3 part 2, which provides after approval of the special rate, the Commission allocates in each general rate 5 6 proceeding of the electrical corporation serving the 7 facility the reduced revenues from the special rate as 8 compared to the revenues that would have been 9 generated at the rate the facility would have paid without the special rate, to the electrical 10 corporation's other customers through a uniform 11 12 percentage adjustment to all components of the base rates of all customer classes. 13

In other words, under Section 393.355, the ratepayers are on the hook. The ratepayers are required -- required -- to subsidize the special rate. You heard Mr. Fischer say that gosh, maybe the ratepayers would be on the hook. No, the language of the statute makes it clear. The ratepayers are on the hook. And that is the feature that makes Staff choose this proposal, which is outside of 393.355, over a proposal under that section.

Under the proposed tariff and special contract that's before you today, the ratepayers are not required to provide any subsidy. In fact, they

are held harmless in the event of any revenue 1 2 deficiency. That is, as I have already said, a remarkable thing and Staff urges the Commission to 3 approve the proposed tariff and special contract. 4 Section 393.355 authorizes a special rate 5 6 for steel smelters, but nowhere provides that it is 7 the exclusive means by which a steel smelter may 8 obtain an economic development rate. 9 The proposed SIL tariff and the Nucor special contract are before you under 393.150, your 10 general authority for considering and approving new 11 12 rates or charges, new forms of contracts or agreements, new rules, regulations or practices 13 relating to any rate, charge or service. 14 15 Economic development rates and special contracts, in fact, are not unusual. Every electric 16 17 company in this state has an economic development 18 tariff of one sort or another or perhaps more than one. And special contracts, as you heard from 19 20 Mr. Fischer, already have existed and continue to exist without the authority of 393.355. 21 22 Because this is a new service offering, 23 the proposed SIL tariff is not required to be introduced in a general rate case. The consideration 24 of all relevant factors is not required. 25 The

prohibition on single issue rate-making does not
apply.

2.0

Section 393.130 requires rates to be just and reasonable. One aspect of just and reasonable rates is that they are neither unduly preferential nor unduly discriminatory with respect to any customer or class of customers.

As a matter of law, the Commission has no authority to approve discriminatory rates. The fixing of just and reasonable rates involves a balancing of investor interests and consumer interests and the making of pragmatic adjustments. In determining rates, a regulatory body is not bound to the use of any single formula or combination of formulas.

In the final analysis, it is not the methodology or theory used, but the impact of the rate order which determines whether the rates are just, reasonable, lawful and non-discriminatory.

Nucor will be GMO's largest single customer. Under the SIL tariff, Nucor will be in a customer class by itself. Neither the proposed SIL tariff nor the Nucor special contract is unduly preferential or unduly discriminatory because the difference in treatment according to Nucor relates to the difference in service taken by that customer.

1	As I said, this is a remarkable	
2	proposition for the reasons I've already described.	
3	The special contract rate is in excess of the	
4	incremental cost-of-service and, thus, is expected to	
5	provide additional revenue which will reduce the	
6	cost-of-service for all other GMO ratepayers.	
7	Those ratepayers are held harmless in the	
8	event of failure, in the event of a revenue	
9	deficiency. They're not required to make it up. The	
10	shareholders will eat it. It is a win-win for GMO's	
11	ratepayers. And Staff, therefore, urges the	
12	Commission to approve it subject to the conditions	
13	contained in paragraphs 5 through 11 of the	
14	Non-Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement. Thank you.	
15	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Questions?	
16	CHAIRMAN SILVEY: Briefly.	
17	BY CHAIRMAN SILVEY:	
18	Q. Thank you. So Staff is confident that	
19	the Commission has the authority to approve this under	
20	its general rate-making authority?	
21	A. Yes, sir.	
22	Q. And the cases that were referenced	
23	previously, you believe those to be directly	
24	applicable to this case?	
25	A. I have not examined those cases yet, but	

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I certainly will as soon as we get out of here. But I
1
 2
   do believe the Commission has authority to approve
    this tariff and this special contract.
 3
 4
                 Okay.
                        Thank you.
           Q.
5
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Commissioner Kenney?
   Commissioner Hall?
6
 7
   BY COMMISSIONER HALL:
8
           Q.
                Good morning.
9
           Α.
                Good morning, sir.
                 So looking at 393.355, sub 2 that you --
10
           Q.
                 Yes, sir.
11
           Α.
12
                 -- that you highlighted a moment ago, if
           0.
    the -- if the rate charged Nucor covered all of its
13
14
    incremental costs, how under Section 2 do you think
    that the reduced revenues would be allocated?
15
                 The rate proposed for Nucor will cover
16
           Α.
17
    incremental costs. It will not cover all costs in a
    traditional cost-of-service sense. So that's the
18
    differential. The rate that is provided to Nucor
19
20
    compared to the rate that would have been charged
    under traditional cost-of-service rate-making, the
21
   Nucor rate's going to be below that.
22
23
                 Nucor is -- is going to provide a
    contribution to fixed costs, but it's not going to
24
   carry its full allocated share of fixed costs, the
25
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- full share that it would pay under traditional rates.
 That's why it needs a special rate.
 - Q. Yeah. I understand all that and I agree with all that. But I'm trying to understand your position, Staff's position that Section 2 of this statute would still require -- in the situation that you just discussed, how that would allocate additional costs to all other ratepayers in that scenario?
 - A. As I understand the statute, you would take the rate that's charged Nucor and compare that to the rate it otherwise would pay, calculate the difference -- and that would be a difference over some period of time, let's say annually -- and you would then divide that and make a percentage adjustment to every other class rate.
 - Q. So from -- from your perspective, this is a provision that essentially makes the utility -- it holds the utility harmless from a revenue requirement, so it's going to increase everyone else's rates?
 - A. Yes.

- Q. So that the utility will ultimately get the rate that it would have received absent the special rate?
 - A. Yes, sir. It requires a subsidy.
 - Q. And that would obviously be post-rate

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case?
1
 2
           Α.
                 I think it would have to be.
 3
           Q.
                 Okay. Thank you.
 4
                 Thank you.
           Α.
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. Thank you.
 5
 6
                 And then we'll move onto Public Counsel.
 7
                 MR. HALL: May it please the Commission.
8
    Good morning.
                 I find it odd to say this at this time as
9
    an attorney, but I'm not actually going to have much
10
    to say on this case. Office of Public Counsel has
11
12
    taken no position. However, we -- I do want to say
    that our office does support the special rate for
13
14
   Nucor.
15
                 Instead, Public Counsel is here to listen
    and ask questions. I invite this Commission to also
16
17
    ask questions of the witnesses. Keep in mind you are
    an investigatory body. If you believe the record is
18
    lacking, you are free to call other witnesses and ask
19
20
    them whatever questions you have at that time.
                 If you have any other questions of me,
21
    that is all the time I'll take of you.
22
23
                 CHAIRMAN SILVEY: Briefly.
    BY CHAIRMAN SILVEY:
24
2.5
           O.
                 So you mentioned that you -- the Office
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1 of Public Counsel does support the special rate?

A. That is correct.

- Q. So do you concur with Staff and the Company's position that the general rate-making authority of the Commission is sufficient to approve this rate?
- A. That is a pointed question. And that's actually particularly why we joined two different list of issues because we believe that legal issue is the key crux of this case.

I cannot honestly say that I concur. And only because -- and I don't mean to quibble with you, but I can't give a definitive answer to that question. It is well recognized that the Commission would have authority to generate a special rate within a rate case. Economic development rider tariffs have -- have ex-- have existed for some time.

What I struggle with is the Commission's powers post-HB-1. A court could read HB-1 to be read as a merely ancillary statute that could be elected at a company's choosing. I struggle to read it that way simply because it makes that entire special session meaningless.

Q. Okay. So you definitively can't say that the Commission does have the authority under the

general rate-making authority, but conversely, you 1 2 can't say that we don't? What I'm -- what I'll say is we don't 3 Α. 4 have the case on point. In my review of the case law, 5 I -- this would be an issue of first impression. Ιf 6 you were going to ask me honestly as an attorney 7 advising you on how the -- how a court would take it, 8 right now, I would say it's a toss up and I would have 9 to personally do more research on that point. But if you believed that we couldn't, you 10 0. would have opposed the special rate? 11 12 If our office definitively believed that the Commission lacked that authority, we would need to 13 take that in consideration. And I don't mean to give 14 15 you a non-answer, but whether or not we would or would 16 not have opposed would have had to have been subject to deliberations within our office. 17 18 But where we are today, you have no Ο. position? 19 20 Α. Correct. 21 Ο. Okay. Thank you. 22 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Commissioner Kenney? 23 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: No, thank you. JUDGE WOODRUFF: Commissioner Hall? 24 25 COMMISSIONER HALL: No questions. Thank

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1
   you.
 2
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: We'll move to MECG.
                 MR. WOODSMALL: Good morning. David
 3
 4
   Woodsmall appearing on behalf of the Midwest Energy
   Consumers Group.
5
6
                 As an initial matter, I'd just like to
 7
    say, I hope Kip Smith is watching this. And I say
8
    that in all seriousness because what we're hearing
9
    from the signatories now is that the Commission had
    the authority to do what Noranda wanted all along but
10
    didn't do. And I'll get to that more.
11
12
                 As you know, MECG is opposing the
   Non-Unanimous Stipulation filed by Staff, GMO and
13
14
            I don't want to lead with the impression that
15
   because we objected to the stipulation, MECG is
    opposed to economic development. Nothing is further
16
17
    from the truth.
                 In fact, while none of the other
18
    signatory parties testified in support, MECG testified
19
20
    in support of House Bill 1, which created Section
    393.355.
21
22
                 In fact, Chairman Silvey was carrying
23
    that legislation and he may recall that I indicated in
   my testimony there that we supported the legislation,
24
25
   but that it was too narrowly focused. That by
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1
    limiting it to 50 megawatts of load, it eliminated so
 2
   many other customers. As -- as you heard, this steel
   mill will be GMO's largest customer, but they still
 3
   don't reach that. So it should have been brought down
   to five megawatts or something, if it wanted to truly
5
6
    stimulate economic development. So MECG is in favor
 7
   of economic development.
8
                 Furthermore, in SB 564, while we didn't
9
    support the entirety of that legislation, MECG
    supported the economic development discounts that were
10
    contained therein. And a couple of the companies that
11
12
    support MECG are utilizing those discounts.
                 Finally, I'll tell you that MECG is
13
    likely to propose legislation this year that will make
14
15
    the SB 564 discounts permanent. It is our belief that
    the Commission needs economic development authority.
16
17
    The SB 564 authority is tailored only to the time
   period that PISA is in effect. So it's going to go
18
19
    away.
20
                 We believe you need that authority and
    it's going to be our proposal to try and push
21
    legislation that gives you that authority as a
22
23
   permanent piece of legislation.
24
                 Just to be clear what our position is
    today, we believe that Nucor should be given the
25
```

special rate in this case. Not only the special rate, 1 2 but the ten-year term that it seeks. That said, and where MECG differs from the signatories, is that this 3 special rate and term should come with the tracker 5 that's mandated by Section 39-- 393.355. 6 That section says that the Commission 7 shall impose a tracker to ensure that GMO's, quote, net income is neither increased nor decreased, end 8 That's the entire substance of this case. 9 auote. That tracker. The tracker that customers want so that 10 we get all the upside profit and that GMO doesn't want 11 12 to have so that they can keep these profits in between 13 rate cases. That's the case. Do you give the tracker that the 14 15 legislation calls for? Or do you allow GMO to keep the profits in between the rate case? 16 17 In contrast to MEGC's position that this needs to be under 393.355, the signatories argue that 18 they have found a way to provide the special rate to 19 20 Nucor which is independent of 393.355 and that the net income tracker is not required. 21 I think that once we discuss the recent 22 23 Noranda case that all of you were involved in that led to the 2017 extraordinary session, you'll agree with 24

MECG.

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1
                 So let's talk about that case. How did
 2
    Section 393.355 ever come into existence? I'm sure
    all three of you will recall that Noranda aluminum
 3
    smelter is located in New Madrid. As you know,
    aluminum smelters use an incredible amount of energy.
 5
    In fact, the Noranda smelter used 600 megawatts of
 6
 7
    electricity; more than the entire city of Springfield.
 8
    The cost of electricity for this smelter, like the
 9
    steel mill, is a fundamental cost driver.
                 Noranda was concerned about its cost of
10
    electricity and in several cases asked the Commission
11
12
    to address this cost. Noranda pointed out because of
    the low cost of electricity for some of its
13
    competitors, it needed a lower cost from Ameren or it
14
15
    would cease to exist.
                 In a 2014 Ameren rate case, among all the
16
17
    issues -- other issues that were considered, the
18
    Commission considered a two-part proposal from
   Noranda. First, Noranda sought an incremental
19
    cost-based rate. Second, in order to provide it
20
    certainty and the ability to compete, Norenda --
21
   Noranda asked that this rate remain effective for ten
22
23
    years.
                 And that's the kicker. You didn't have
24
25
    the authority to give it to them for ten years.
```

Remember? All this authority that they now quote 1 2 existed then, but everybody told you and your order said we can't give you a ten-year rate. That's the 3 rub here. You don't have authority to give -- make 5 this rate ten years unless you do it under 393.355. 6 Ultimately, the Commission partially 7 agreed to Noranda's request. The Commission authorized an incremental cost rate of 36 dollars a 8 9 megawatt hour. The Commission pointed out, however, that it lacked the authority to provide Noranda the 10 ten-year term that it sought. 11 12 Now, Judge, I know you recall this because you wrote the decision, but that provision --13 14 that section of the order said, quote, While a 15 Stipulation and Agreement can be binding on its signatories for ten years, the Commission cannot bind 16 17 future Commissions, nor can it preclude future litigants from presenting contrary positions in future 18 rate cases, positions to which the Commission will 19 20 need to give due consideration, end quote. Clearly, if you listen to the 21 deliberations in that case, the Commission wanted to 22 23 do something for Noranda, but found itself powerless to do anything. So it created the incremental cost 24 rate, but it said this is the best we can do for you. 25

We can't give you a ten-year term. 1 So what happened then? Noranda took the 2 incremental cost rate and they set about trying to 3 pass legislation which would give it the certainty of a ten-year term. During the 2017 legislative session, 5 6 the General Assembly took up several electric utility related matters. 8 The Noranda rate issue kept getting 9 bogged down with the other utility rate-making bills that were also filed. After time finally ran out, the 10 Governor called the General Assembly in for an 11 12 extraordinary session to consider the Noranda issue. Out of the extraordinary session came House Bill 1. 13 Now, House Bill 1, Section 393.355 14 15 provides three primary things. First, it states that the Commission can authorize a special rate based upon 16 the utility's incremental cost. And this is available 17 to steel mills, aluminum smelters. An incremental 18 load that comes to the state in excess of 19 20 50 megawatts. Second, House Bill 1 says that the 21 Commission can make this incremental cost-based rate 22 effective for a period of ten years. 23 24 Third, and this is the important part, House Bill 1 also states that if you want the other 25

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things, you have to -- the Commission, quote, shall
1
 2
    establish, end quote, a tracking mechanism to assure
    that the, quote, electric corporation's net income is
 3
   neither increased nor decreased, end quote.
 5
                 With House Bill 1 we finally have the fix
    that Noranda was seeking, but we also have the
 6
 7
   mechanism to attract new steel mills and other large
8
    50 megawatt customers to Missouri.
 9
                 The problem in this case is that the
   Nucor contract does not comply with House Bill 1.
10
11
    Yes, the Nucor contract includes an incremental
12
    cost-based rate and the ten-year term provided in
    Section 393.355. That said, however, the stipulation
13
14
    does not include the mandated tracker for GMO's net
15
             Instead, while the stipulation uses the word,
    income.
    quote, "tracking," end quote, the provision is not a
16
17
    tracker. Rather, it is simply a reporting
18
    requirement.
                 The actual wording used in the
19
    stipulation, quote, GMO will monitor and report to
20
    Staff and OPC whether the revenues received under the
21
    special contract rate cover the incremental cost of
22
23
   providing service to Nucor. This reporting will be
    submitted quarterly, but this isn't a tracker.
24
                 As mentioned, while Section 393.355
25
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mandates a tracker to ensure that, quote, GMO's net 1 income is neither increased nor decreased, end quote, 2 the stipulation does not contain this net income 3 4 tracker. 5 Why? Why didn't they want to do this? 6 Well, I'll tell you that I believe like any other 7 company that is in the business to turn a profit, GMO 8 wants to make money from providing service to Nucor. 9 You'll recall that as a result of opting into plant in-service accounting in SB 564, the Evergy Missouri 10 companies cannot file a rate case in Missouri for 11 12 three years. Furthermore, as a result of concessions 13 14 that it gave in Kansas to get approval for the merger 15 with Westar, the Evergy Kansas companies cannot file a rate case in Kansas for five years. Given that it is 16 unable to file rate cases for such an extended period 17 of time, Evergy is scrambling for ways to find new 18 19 sources of money. 20 In this case, GMO is hoping that it can

In this case, GMO is hoping that it can keep all the profits from this in between rate cases to increase its net income. The problem is, as I said, 393.355 does not provide for that. In their statements of position, as you heard in the opening statements, all the signatories agree. They -- they

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22

23

24

all agree that this sig-- stipulation does not comply 1 2 with Section 393.355. GMO states, quote, the Company is not 3 required to utilize the provisions of Section 393.355. 4 5 Nucor provides similar argument, quote, although 6 Schedule SIL largely tracks the requirement of Section 7 393.355, GMO is not seeking approval for Schedule SIL 8 and Nucor contract under that statute. Finally, Staff 9 suggests that, quote, the proposed special incremental load tariff and Nucor special contract need not be 10 approved pursuant to Section 393.355. 11 12 I'm baffled. This settlement provides 13 for a ten-year term. Just four years ago the Commission struggled with a way to provide Noranda 14 15 this ten-year term. Ultimately as I stated and as I quoted from the Report and Order, the Commission 16 17 concluded that it could not bind future Commissions 18 and provide this ten-year term. Now the signatories claim that the 19 20 Commission had this authority all along. signatories are claiming that due to just general 21

done this for Noranda. The signatories are claiming
we never had to have an extraordinary session. The
Governor never needed to call 163 Representatives and

rate-making authority, that the Commission could have

```
34 Senators back to Jeff City. They didn't need to do
1
 2
   any of this because the Commission had general
   rate-making authority for this all along. I don't buy
 3
 4
    that.
                 What is most puzzling, however, is why
5
6
   Nucor would agree to this stipulation.
                                            If the
   Commission's order from four years ago is correct, and
 7
8
    the Commission does not have the authority outside of
9
    Section 393.355 to provide a ten-year term, why would
   Nucor agree to this?
10
                 Why wouldn't Nucor insist that the
11
12
    signatories proceed under Section 393.355 and
    quarantee this rate for ten years? Why subject itself
13
    to the risk that it's wrong; that the Commission will
14
   have to take this up in the -- in all the rate cases
15
16
    for the next ten years?
17
                 So what is the legal basis for the
    stipulation? After all, as the Supreme Court has
18
    stated since the Commission is, quote, a creature of
19
20
    statute, end quote, it must find statutory authority
    for the things that it does.
21
22
                 And I'm not talking just general
23
    authority. I'm talking specific statutory authority.
    The UCCM Supreme Court decision made that clear.
24
25
    that case, the Commission -- the Court was considering
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in 1979 the Commission's use of a fuel adjustment
1
 2
   clause. And all the parties came in much like here
 3
   and said oh, you have this general rate-making
   authority and oh, we've been doing it this way for
5
   years.
 6
                 And the Supreme Court said, that doesn't
 7
             I need specific statutory authority. And
   cut it.
8
    just because you've been doing it this way for years
9
    doesn't mean you have that authority. Ultimately the
   parties couldn't provide it and the court struck down
10
    the fuel adjustment clause.
11
12
                 So you are required to have specific
    statutory authority for the settlement that the
13
14
   parties are giving you. So let's look at those
    various parts of that settlement and see if there's
15
16
    statutory authority.
17
                 First, let's take up the ten-year term.
   And I've talked about that at some length. As I
18
   mentioned, the parties seek to make the ten-year term
19
    absolute. Noticeably, however, they just cite to
20
    general rate-making authority, but they don't provide
21
    any specific authority for a ten-year term.
22
23
                 Instead, they generally refer to the
    Commission's rate-making authority in Section 393.130,
24
25
   which is very general; 393.140 (11), which is the
```

Commission's general rate-making authority; and 1 2 Section 393.150.1, which is a more specific rate-making authority and the authority to suspend 3 statute -- or tariffs. 4 5 But none of these statutes say that the Commission can bind future Commissions. There's 6 7 nothing in those statutes that says that the 8 Commission can prove a contract that's binding on 9 future Commissions for ten years. In fact, each of these statutes were in existence just four years ago 10 when the Commission stated that it could not bind 11 12 future Commissions. 13 Let's look at the statutory authority for 14 the Commission to establish a rate-base on incremental 15 cost. And I agree. The Commission has the authority to establish a rate-base on incremental cost. 16 And MEGC does not oppose that rate. 17 The problem there is that the Commission 18 can only do that in a rate case. There -- Section 19 2.0 393.270.4 in the Missouri Water case from 1957 tell you that this isn't a rate case. There's no 21 consideration of all relevant factors in this case. 22 23 So this isn't a rate case. So where is the Commission's authority to set an incremental 24 cost-based rate here? The only place you can get that 25

from is from Section 393.355. 1 2 The second problem is -- with setting this incremental cost-based rate is that they want to 3 tell you that we're doing it with the Commission's 5 rate-making authority. Well, we have a problem 6 because GMO's opted into plant-in-service accounting, 7 which sets a three-year moratorium for GMO rates. 8 are you changing those rates if not for 393.355? 9 Now, I would suggest that GMO may be able to do that with a rate case, but it would have to give 10 up their PISA election in the meantime. 11 12 The third problem is that it appears that 13 the signatories seek to exempt Nucor from paying GMO's RESRAM charge. Now, there is express statutory 14 15 authority to exempt large customers from paying a utility's MEEIA cost. That authority is contained in 16 Section 393.1075.7. I'm unaware of any statutory 17 18 provision that allows any customers like Nucor to opt out of the utility's RESRAM charge. There's just no 19 20 authority for that. Finally, I'd like to address two other 21 quick points. First, the signatories have sought to 22 23 make this contract and its terms secret. I don't see the logic in the secrecy. Statutes call for the 24 25 Commission to approve tariffs and rates and to publish

those rates for public review. 1 2 When the Commission approved the rate -the incremental charge rate for Noranda, that rate was 3 made public. Why the secrecy behind this rate? 5 would argue that by making this rate public, we show 6 other potential customers that a rate of this 7 magnitude is possible in Missouri. We show other 8 potential customers look what you can do in Missouri; you may want to move here. 9 But if we hide this rate, if no one gets 10 to see it, they don't know the potential in Missouri. 11 12 You know, it seems somewhat contrary to economic development to give this rate, make it secret and then 13 not use it to attract other customers. So I would 14 argue that this rate shouldn't be made public. 15 16 Finally, GMO suggests that we can't 17 proceed under Section 393.355. They say that that 18 statute was only designed for current customers, that it wasn't designed for a new customer coming in, that 19 20 it wasn't designed for a customer that requires incremental investment. And I think that's clearly 21 22 wrong. 23 If you look at the Statute 393.355, it

extends to steel mills. Well, before Nucor, Missouri

didn't have any steel mills. So if it extends to

24

steel mills, by implication that had to be a new steel 1 2 mill. If you look later, it says that it also applies, quote, to a facility with new or incremental 3 increase in load equal to or in excess of 5 50 megawatts. New. 6 Clearly the General Assembly envisioned 7 that 393.355 would not only extend to the Norandas of 8 the world, but would extend to new customers. GMO 9 asserts that wow, well, we have a problem then because we have this 18 million dollar investment and our net 10 income can't go down. 11 12 That's not a problem. As I said, the track -- the statute says you have to have a tracker 13 14 to guarantee that their net income won't go up or go 15 So in addition to the net income tracker to down. make sure that all profits flow back to customers, 16 17 there's another part of this net income tracker which says we will give you carrying costs and depreciation 18 on this investment. 19 20 You do it all the time. You did it with Sibley, you did it with Iatan when it was built, you 21 did it with La Cygne when it was built. You give not 22 23 only the net income tracker to cover the increased profits, but also the net income tracker to make sure 24 that they don't suffer net income loss by tracking and 25

deferring their carrying costs and their depreciation on this investment. They're made whole. They don't get an increase because of profits, but they don't suffer any decrease because of the investment.

Just a couple other things. You were referred to several special contracts that the Commission has done. Those special contracts have never been challenged in any way. You've done them. I don't know the terms of them because I didn't see them. Do they have a ten-year term in them? If they do, I'd say the same problem exists. But there has never been a court case that says the Commission has the authority to do special contracts.

Now, the signatories tried to slide one by you by referring to a GST case, but -- and GST had a special contract, but the court case has nothing to do with special contracts. That court case, if you read that opinion, all has to do with whether the Commission should accept some evidence in a later dispute.

It didn't say that the Commission can approve special contracts. The fact that it uses the term "special contract" in the holding or in the entire decision doesn't mean you have that authority. So I would argue that the issue of whether the

Commission can approve a special contract is still 1 2 entirely up in the air. But that said, outside of Section 393.355, the special contract can't have a 3 term that binds future Commissions. Finally, getting to some questions from 5 6 Commissioner Hall to Mr. Thompson about the subsidy 7 here, the parties have all raved that, quote, rates will exceed incremental cost. I think Staff said sure 8 9 token that GMO does not expect any loss. There's going to be profits here. There can't be a subsidy if 10 there's profits. 11 12 Now, Staff tried to make it seem like there may be a subsidy, but what Staff fails to 13 14 realize is that current customers are picking up the entirety of fixed costs already. So the only cost 15 going forward will be the incremental cost. 16 17 And they told you the rate will exceed those incremental costs so there won't be a subsidy. 18 All there will be are profits. And that's the point 19 20 here today. There is going to be profits. statute says that between those rate cases, those 21 profits go back to other customers. They don't go to 22 23 the utility. So that's why I'm fighting here today. 24

Give this -- give the special contract this special

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rate, but make it in terms of Section 393.355 because
1
 2
    that's the only way you're going to be able to give
    the term that Nucor needs. That's all the questio--
 3
   all the comments I had.
5
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Commissioner Kenney?
   Commissioner Hall?
6
 7
   BY COMMISSIONER HALL:
8
           Q. Good morning.
9
           Α.
                Good morning.
                 Well, I do agree with you that House
10
           Ο.
   Bill 1 was designed both for new and existing
11
12
    customers. I think the words of the statute make that
    abundantly clear. But I'll also say I do not think
13
14
    that it was designed for a situation where the utility
   would have to expend significant amounts of money
15
    to -- to either put a new customer online or to
16
17
   provide additional service for an existing customer.
   And I think that that is perhaps the rub here.
18
                 Now, is your concern -- you used the word
19
           Α.
20
    "significant amounts of money." Is it significant
    amounts of money or any money?
21
22
                 Well, I'll -- I'll let you address both.
           Q.
23
           Α.
                 Okay.
                        I think the fact that -- there's
   no distinction. The statute does not distinguish
24
   whether it's one dollar to serve a new customer,
25
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1 whether it's a billion dollars. What the statute says 2 is net income shall not be increased or decreased. And you shall implement a tracker in order to do that. 3 We do that all the time. Like I said, 4 5 when Iatan 2 came online, we -- when La Cygne came 6 online, when Sibley renovation came online in 1979, 7 the Commission implemented trackers to make sure that 8 the utility's net income didn't go down as a result of 9 that. 10 And that's all the statute says. 11 Implement a tracker to make sure their net income 12 doesn't go down. So if GMO is making a hundred dollars now and they invest money to serve this 13 14 customer, they're going to have -- when that comes in 15 service, they're going to have carrying costs and depreciation. And absent some tracker, that will 16 drive their net income down. 17 So where -- where in the statute do you 18 0. see that the Company can get depreciation and carrying 19 2.0 costs --Let me grab the statute. 21 Α. 22 -- on this investment between rate cases? Q. 23 Α. It says -- 393.355.3 says the Commission shall establish trackers and shall ensure that the 24 changes in net margin experienced by the electrical 25

- corporation between general rate cases as a result of serving the facility are calculated in such a manner that the electrical corporation's net income is neither increased nor decreased.
- Q. So in your -- so from your perspective, that means that the Company would be able to get its depreciation on this 18 to 20 million dollar investment and its carrying costs?
 - A. Correct. And net income is neither increased nor decreased as a result of that.

9

10

- 11 Q. And that amount would be included in 12 the -- in the tracker?
- 13 A. Those amounts, depreciation and carrying
 14 costs, would be collected in a tracker, deferred into
 15 the next rate case at which point they would get
 16 recovery of that.
- Q. So then the only difference or the only issue would be the return on that investment?
 - A. Carrying cost is a return essentially.
- Q. So then -- so then -- well, it's usually a cost of debt, isn't it?
- A. The Commission -- there's no established rule. The Commission can determine what the carrying costs should be on that.
- Q. So then essentially your position is that

under the tracker, the Company is going to get
sessentially what it would get under this contract?

A. No.

- Q. Okay. Well, explain the difference then.
- A. What the Company is seeking under this contract is to keep all the profits in between rate cases.
- Q. So the differen-- so explain to me what you think the difference is between those profits and the depreciation and carrying costs.
- A. The profits -- the -- the profits -- they're -- the profits that are being -- that will be garnered as a result of this are not based upon any rate-making authority. So you can't say that the profits will be X like it would under a rate case.
- Q. Well, I mean I think what you're saying is that the profits will be the -- the difference between what the rates would be if it was just covering incremental costs and the -- the amount that it's going to cover on fixed costs. That is the amount of profits that I think you're identifying.
- A. Well, and since we're not doing a rate case, we don't know if there are additional profits. We don't know if the incremental cost of providing will be two cents per kilowatt hour and they're

- charging three cents a kilowatt hour. It's -- the
 statute makes clear that all profits go back to other
 customers and that the utility is simply made whole.
 No increase or decrease in net income.
- Q. Okay. Going back to -- I think it's your slide four in your Noranda history, which I found very interesting. Isn't it relevant though in that 2014 case that there was not a contract between Noranda and Ameren; whereas, there is a contract here? Isn't that of some relevance?
- I -- I don't think so. I don't think --11 Α. 12 the Commission, in my mind, doesn't have any additional authority to approve a ten-year term simply 13 because it's in a contract versus in a tariff. 14 authority is your authority. I mean if -- if that's 15 16 where your authority had to come from, I'm sure 17 Noranda would have been happy to execute a contract with Ameren. 18
 - Q. Oh, well, I -- not in -- not that year.
 - A. Well --

19

- 21 O. Not that year.
- A. -- Ameren might not have been happy to do
 it, but Noranda. I -- I think it is -- if -- if the
 fact that -- I don't see how a contract in and of
 itself gives you some type of authority. Your

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authority is contained in the statutes. If a contract 1 2 is all that's needed for you to get additional authority, everybody will be doing contracts. Your 3 authority is pinned in by 386 and 393. 5 COMMISSIONER HALL: It's somewhat 6 unorthodox, but I would really like to hear 7 Mr. Thompson and Mr. Fischer respond to that -- that 8 position, that -- that -- that the contract doesn't 9 extend -- doesn't affect Commission authority and we have -- what authority we have is either under the 10 statute or -- or under some other specific provision 11 12 in law, which have not been specifically identified. JUDGE WOODRUFF: I think that would be 13 14 appropriate. 15 I have one other question too that might draw a response from them as well, if asked that. 16 17 BY JUDGE WOODRUFF: And that's about the --18 Ο. Do you want me to sit down or --19 Α. 2.0 BY JUDGE WOODRUFF: 21 Ο. No, you can wait here. This is a question for you. 22 23 Α. Okay. And it's about the tracker requirement 24 Ο. in -- in -- in the statute. Does it -- is it a 25

tracker requirement until the first rate case after we 1 2 approve it or is it after that rate case, is there a new tracker until the next rate case until the end of 3 the -- the contract? 5 Α. It -- I wouldn't have written it this 6 I would argue that it should only be till the 7 first rate case until all those costs are put into 8 rates, but the statute clearly uses the plural when it 9 says between general rate proceedings. So it seems to mean that you'll have a tracker and then you'll have 10 another tracker. 11 12 But I would say that you wouldn't need another tracker because once that is all built into 13 14 rates, the profits are reflected in the rates, 15 that's -- we don't need another tracker. It's not like profits should go up or down. So six of one, 16 half dozen of the other. I don't know if it's 17 18 necessary. I was concerned about the same language. 19 Q. 20 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. Staff, Nucor and GMO -- we'll call them that -- do you have any 21 response? We'll start with -- with -- with GMO. Did 22 23 you have any response to those questions from the Commissioners? 24

MR. FISCHER: You're asking me?

25

I'm

1 sorry. 2 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Yes, I am. MR. FISCHER: Let me -- let me begin by 3 4 just saying that special crontract -- contracts have 5 had terms for many years. And I don't -- I think that if the Commission that at some future date wanted to 6 7 look at a contract and -- and it determined that for 8 some reason that it was not an appropriate rate under 9 changed circumstances, I think there's some old -- old case law that probably suggests that the Commission 10 has authority to look at that and to do it in the 11 12 future. But that is a future issue. It's not one 13 14 that says you can't approve a contract that has a 15 one-year or a ten-year term. That's not -- there's not -- I don't think there's any case law that would 16 17 suggest that that's not appropriate. I think there is 18 some case law that said you can -- if you looked at a contract in the future, you could -- you could revise 19 20 it if you needed to. And that general authority I think exists. 21 22 Was there another specific question? 23 COMMISSIONER HALL: Well --24 MR. FISCHER: And it's -- it's been done 25 outside the context of rate cases for many years, as

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I've pointed out.
1
                 COMMISSIONER HALL: So then it would be
 2
 3
   your position that four years from now a future
    Commission could come back and look at this contract
5
   and say it's no longer just and reasonable?
 6
                 MR. FISCHER:
                               I -- I've never seen that
 7
   directly addressed, but I think there is some old case
8
    law that suggests that the Commission has the
9
    authority to supersede contracts if they found that to
   be in the public interest. That may go back to about
10
    1913 though, Judge, so I'm not -- you know, I don't
11
12
    think it's been addressed just recently.
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: The other question I
13
    asked Mr. Woodsmall was about the redoing trackers.
14
15
   After another rate case, would there have to be
    another tracker?
16
                 MR. FISCHER: Well, that -- that issue
17
   was raised I think by Commissioner Hall a little bit.
18
   And I think it's unclear in that statute how --
19
20
    whether that net income would -- whether you ever
   could change it or not.
21
                 I think Mr. Thompson made a very good
22
23
   point though under Section 2. You could read that to
    say whatever the difference between the embedded rate
24
   under a tariff, say large power rate and the -- the
25
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lower discounted rate for the -- for the -- under the
1
 2
    special term would be socialized among other
    customers. And that -- that's not something the
 3
    Company wants to do.
5
                 I was actually addressing that if it fell
 6
   below incremental cost, then you would be socializing
 7
    it with other customers. But I think Mr. Thompson is
 8
    raising a very good point that under that statute, it
 9
    looks like it's the difference between the embedded
    rate and the actual contract rate.
10
                 And that's not -- that's not what -- the
11
12
    approach the Company wants to take. We don't want
    other customers to be helping to subsidize this.
13
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Over to Nucor then.
14
15
                 COMMISSIONER HALL: Well, let me ask
16
    one -- one more question to Mr. Fischer.
17
                 So do -- do you agree -- and I -- I may
   not characterize this correctly, but I'll try. Do you
18
    agree with Mr. Woodsmall that under Section 3 of
19
20
    393.355, that -- that the Company would be able to --
    to recover depreciation on that 18 to 20 million
21
    dollar investment and get carrying costs?
22
23
                 MR. FISCHER:
                               I'm not sure that's clear,
   but I think I'd suggest that you ask our accountant
24
25
   witness today, Mr. Darrin Ives, then how that net
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income would be determined. I think he'd be the
1
 2
   better person to address that kind of accounting
    question. But I don't think that's clear, no.
 3
                 COMMISSIONER HALL: So if -- but if he --
 4
 5
    if he is right that you would be able to recover that,
 6
    what would be the loss to the Company of -- of -- of
 7
    employing the tracker that is set forth in that
8
   provision?
9
                 MR. FISCHER: I don't think you'd be able
    to suggest that the -- the additional amount above the
10
    incremental cost would be used to -- to help lower
11
12
    other customers' rates under that scenario.
                 COMMISSIONER HALL: So it's not a harm to
13
14
    the Company, it's a potential harm to other customers?
15
                 MR. FISCHER: I think it could be both.
    I mean, in the interim we're -- we're not going to be
16
17
    able to earn a profit, that's --
18
                 COMMISSIONER HALL: I guess I'm trying to
    understand what that -- what it is that you think you
19
2.0
    would not be able to learn -- earn?
                 MR. FISCHER: Well, that's how you define
21
    the income. And that's where I think you ought to ask
22
23
    Mr. Ives how -- how that would be handled.
24
                 COMMISSIONER HALL: Okay. Thank you.
25
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Public Counsel, anything
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to add?
1
 2
                 MR. HALL: Could I ask for a rephrasing
   of the question? I believe the question was, is there
 3
   any implication between the -- whether there was a
5
    contract between the industrial customer and the
6
   utility company versus the situation without the
 7
    contract?
8
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF:
                                  Yes.
9
                 MR. HALL: As to -- at first blush, I
    fail to see a distinction in how the contract would
10
11
    involve that. What I would consider in the situation
12
   with a contract would be that if a customer relies
    upon the contract, as Nucor has testified they relied
13
14
    upon the special rate to come to Missouri, and then
15
    that special rate could not be approved for whatever
    reason, I would imagine that the industrial customer
16
17
   would have possible contract damages claims against
18
    the utility.
                 And that could possibly put the customer
19
2.0
    in a situation -- in a financial situation such that
    it would have been served under the special rate as a
21
    result of the successful contract claim.
22
23
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Mr. Woodsmall, any final
24
    responses?
25
                 MR. LAVANGA:
                               Judge --
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1 JUDGE WOODRUFF: I'm sorry. Go ahead. 2 MR. LAVANGA: I'd just like to make a couple points. And I haven't taken a close look at 3 the Noranda case, but it does appear that there are factual differences in that case and our case. 5 6 In that case, the Commission seemed very 7 concerned about the fact that there was a possibility 8 of other customers having to subsidize Noranda. And, 9 in fact, it seemed like the -- the rate was well below what the -- what the rate other customers paid, so 10 there was going to be some subsidization. I think 11 12 that's a key factual difference. The other thing I'd point out kind of 13 following up on OPC is if -- if there's a situation 14 15 where an industrial customer makes a contract for ten years and -- and there is a provision that allows the 16 17 Commission to reopen that and re-look at it, that could be a death nail for economic development in --18 in the state. You're not going to -- you're not going 19 20 to be able to draw customers like Nucor and other large industrial customers if there's that type of 21 uncertainty. 22 23 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. 24 MR. THOMPSON: Were you skipping Staff? 25 JUDGE WOODRUFF: I'm sorry. I guess I

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did skip you, Staff.
1
 2
                 MR. THOMPSON: With respect to the narrow
    question of the relevance of the contract, there's --
 3
    there's plenty of case law that contracts between
5
   utilities and -- and customers don't control or and
6
   abrogate the Commission's rate-making authority.
 7
    think that's good guidance that the contract doesn't
8
   matter with respect to rate-making.
9
                 In a larger sense, you know, when I hear
    Mr. Woodsmall explain his understanding of 355 and
10
    that carrying costs and depreciation can be recovered
11
12
   by the Company and that any excess profits would go
   back to other ratepayers, it seems to me that that's
13
   moving a 355 arrangement much closer to the
14
15
    arrangement that's in front of you under the SIL
    tariff and Nucor special contract.
16
17
                 The one difference that I see, in fact,
    at this point is that in the event of deficient
18
    revenues, under 355 the ratepayers are on the hook.
19
20
    Under what's been proposed under the SIL tariff and
    the Nucor special contract, the shareholders are on
21
    the hook. So that's the one difference that I see.
22
23
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Mr. Woodsmall?
24
                 MR. WOODSMALL: Yeah. Just to wrap up.
    I think Mr. Fischer hit on the exact point of my
25
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concern here between him and what Nucor said. 1 2 Mr. Fischer said the Commission -- in a special contract, the Commission can -- in the future can 3 change, review or revise in the future based upon 5 changed circumstances. But then you heard Nucor say that's a death nail to economic development. 6 7 that's the entire point. Section 393.355 binds the Commission. 8 Ιt 9 gives economic development the certainty it needs. The Commission can't review it in the future. 10 know it's going to be good for ten years. So what you 11 12 have seems to be going on here is a conflict between Nucor saying we want this for ten years, and GMO 13 14 saying well, we want to be able to keep the profits in between cases; therefore, we're going to subject it to 15 further Commission review, other parties coming in and 16 reviewing for the next ten years. 17 18 So if you want to make this a certainty, if you want to give economic development the -- the 19 20 certainty that their rate is going to lock in, 393.355 does that. 21 22 And so that's why I'm saying -- I 23 represent industrial customers. That's why I'm saying do this under 393.355. Don't go out there and try and 24 get creative and sink this. Don't go out there and 25

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try and get creative and cause uncertainty. We have a
1
 2
   certain path to get there. Do it.
   BY COMMISSIONER KENNEY:
 3
                 I just had one brief question. On -- you
5
   brought up on slide four that Commissioner Hall
6
   mentioned and you brought up -- and the ER-2014-0258
 7
   and you mentioned the case law where a Commission
   cannot bind further Commissions. But is there
8
9
    anywhere in the statute that prevents us, pro--
   prohibits us from accepting a ten-year contract?
10
                 There is -- and that's an important
11
           Α.
12
   point. The Commission's authority is limited to
    what's in the statute. The Commission's authority
13
14
    isn't everything that's out there except for what's in
15
    the statute. So there is no statute that says you
    can't do it --
16
17
           Ο.
                 There's no --
                 -- but there -- but there is case law --
18
           Α.
   plenty of case law out there.
19
20
           Ο.
                 Statute. I understand there's case law,
   but there's also case law on other issues, so --
21
                 There -- but there's not.
22
           Α.
23
           Q.
                 I didn't say on -- on -- okay.
                 There is case law --
24
           Α.
25
           Q.
                 I'm the only non-attorney in here, but I
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- 1 have two kids that are attorneys. That gives me an 2 idea.
- A. There's lots of case law out there that
 says that a doctrine called stare decisis does not
 apply to the Commission. And what stare decisis means
 is that the Commission has to follow its previous
 decisions. And the case law says that doesn't apply.
 One Commission doesn't bind a future Commission.
 - Q. So are you saying case law, that there's never been a contract that the Commission has accepted that exceeds the --
- 12 A. There has --

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- Q. -- to be considered in the next rate case?
 - A. There has never been, in all my knowledge, a case that says that the Commission is free to approve special contracts. The Commission's done it, just like the Commission back in the '70s did fuel adjustment clauses. But there was never a case to challenge it until '79 someone came along and said let's look at this.

And now I'm saying just because you've done it in the past doesn't mean you can do. But 355 says you can do it. Let's do it that way. Let's not get creative.

1	Q. Thank you.
2	JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. Thank you.
3	MR. WOODSMALL: Thank you.
4	JUDGE WOODRUFF: That's all the openings
5	then. We'll take a break before we call the first
6	witness. Let's come back at 11:45.
7	(A recess was taken.)
8	JUDGE WOODRUFF: We're back on the record
9	after our break. Mr. Van de Ven is on on the
10	telephone line. And we're ready to begin with the
11	first witness, which would be Mr. Van de Ven. And I
12	understand he's going to be testifying for Nucor; is
13	that correct?
14	MR. LAVANGA: Correct.
15	THE WITNESS: That's correct.
16	JUDGE WOODRUFF: So Nucor will be doing
17	the examination. And but before they do that,
18	I'll I'll give you the oath, Mr. Van de Ven.
19	(Witness sworn.)
20	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you very much.
21	You may inquire.
22	KEVIN VAN DE VEN, being first duly sworn, testified as
23	follows:
24	DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. LAVANGA:
25	Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Van de Ven.

Good afternoon. 1 Α. 2 Ο. Mr. Van de Ven, your -- your Direct Testimony has been labeled as Exhibit 4. Can you 3 please state your name and business address for the record? 5 6 My name is Kevin Van de Ven and my 7 business address is Nucor Steel Sedalia, 500 Rebar Road, Sedalia, Missouri. 8 9 Did you cause to be filed what has been Ο. marked as Exhibit 4? 10 11 Α. Yes. 12 Is this the pre-filed Direct Testimony --Ο. is this your pre-filed Direct Testimony in the case? 13 14 Α. Yes. 15 Do you have any corrections to make to Q. your testimony? 16 17 Α. No. If I were to ask you the same questions 18 Ο. as those contained in your testimony today, would your 19 2.0 answers be the same? 21 Could you repeat that, please? Α. 22 I'm sorry. If I were to ask you the same Q. 23 questions as those contained in your testimony today, would your answers be the same? 24 25 Α. Yes.

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MR. LAVANGA: Your Honor, I'd like to
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 2
   move Nucor -- or I'm sorry, Exhibit 4 into evidence
   and the witness is available for cross-examination.
 3
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. Exhibit 4 has
 4
 5
   been offered. Any objections to its receipt?
 6
                 Hearing none, it will be received.
 7
                 (Company Exhibit 4 was received into
8
    evidence.)
 9
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: For cross-examination
    then, we would begin with GMO.
10
11
                 MR. STEINER: We have some, Your Honor.
12
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right.
    CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. STEINER:
13
14
           Ο.
                 Can you -- Mr. Van de Ven, this is Roger
    Steiner, counsel for GMO, now Evergy. Can you hear
15
16
   me?
17
           Α.
                 Yes.
18
                 Could you give us an update on the status
           Ο.
    of construction at the Sedalia facility?
19
20
                 Sure. Much -- construction of much of
    the mill is largely complete. Overall, I'd say the
21
    construction is -- is 90 percent complete. We -- we
22
23
    are still finishing up tying up some loose ends in the
   melt shop. So currently our activities are around
24
25
    continuing to set equipment in the melt shop and
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```
commissioning the rowing mill. And we're still on
1
2
   schedule to safely strike our first arc late in the
   fourth quarter of this year.
3
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5

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12

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24

- And when do you anticipate the plant to begin commercial operations?
- Α. Well, there -- there's still a lot of unknowns so -- so we're not exactly sure. But at this point, you know, we've not really encountered any -any showstoppers and we're working on -- on starting commercial operations in the first quarter of 2020. 10 We think that's a -- that's achievable. 11
 - Okay. GMO has requested an effective date of January 1, 2020 for the contract, the tariff. Is this effective date important to Nucor?
 - Absolutely. We -- we need the rate Α. approved and in place, you know, prior to starting commercial operations. And as I said, we -- we -- you know, we're not sure if that will be January 1. are -- we are certain that will be in the first quarter. And we're hopeful that we can -- we can put some tons on a mill in January.
 - And you're aware that under the contract, Q. Nucor's load will be served by renewable energy, specifically wind energy; is that correct?
 - Α. Yes. I'm aware.

Will the fact that it's served pri--1 O. Nucor is served primarily by renewable energy provide 2 benefits to Nucor? 3 Yes. I think -- I think it will for 5 several reasons. As -- the wind resource is a -- is a 6 long-term resource and that's one that helps -- you 7 know, helps GMO be able to provide Nucor with a stable 8 rate over the term of the contract. The pricing of the wind is favorable, 9 which -- which I think allowed, you know, GMO to 10 develop a rate that -- that -- that met our required 11 12 price point. And then the fact that we'll be -- we'd be served by renewable energy really helps us with 13 14 some of our customer base that -- that -- you 15 know, that want suppliers that have a sustainable 16 energy source. 17 Ο. Do you support the use of wind energy to supply the Sedalia facility? 18 19 Α. Yes. 20 O. Thank you, Mr. Van de Ven. You're welcome. 21 Α. 22 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. Then we'll 23 move to Staff. 24 MR. THOMPSON: No questions. Thank you. JUDGE WOODRUFF: Public Counsel? 25

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. HALL:

- Q. Mr. Van de Ven, I'm not sure what time you're operating on, so I'll just say good day.
- A. Yeah. Thank you. Yeah, good day. That works perfect.
- Q. Mr. Van de Ven, I have a couple questions. On page 8 of your testimony, you talk about -- lines 5 through 6 I'm focusing on. You say but for the availability of a special rate, Nucor would not have chosen the loc-- located plants -- I'm paraphrasing -- near Sedalia. Are you following me?
- A. Yes. Yeah. I don't -- I've got that testimony here somewhere, but I recall that, yes, that was in my testimony. We would not have located without -- without assurance that we were going to be able to achieve a competitive rate that -- a rate that we had discussed prior to -- prior to determining the site.
- Q. Can I interpret that to mean that Nucor's real objective would be the special rate, not necessarily the energy that is -- the energy -- the source of the energy that is supplied at that special rate?
- A. Yeah. We -- it wasn't necessary that -it wasn't necessary that the energy was supplied by --

```
by wind, you know, the -- the wind resource. However,
1
 2
   we are -- we are intrigued by that and we think
    there's some -- there's a lot of potential benefits to
 3
    that.
 5
                 Mr. Van de Ven, jumping subjects, are you
 6
    familiar with any special rate legislation at the
   Missouri legislature passed in 2018?
 8
                 I -- I've actually been listening in
           Α.
 9
    to -- on the streaming, watching the hearing so far so
    I've learned a lot this morning. But, you know, we --
10
    we were aware of -- that Missouri had passed a new law
11
12
    allowing for special electric rates -- rates for
    aluminum steel mills. But, you know, that's about the
13
    extent of it. You know, we weren't involved in
14
15
    drafting the law and we're not experts on it.
16
                 And, you know, KCP&L at a later date
17
    said, hey, they didn't feel like this was the best
18
    vehicle for us to use moving forward and that was --
    that was fine with us. So I'm -- I'm -- I've -- I'm
19
20
    familiar with it, but, you know we weren't involved in
    drafting the law and we're certainly not experts on
21
22
    it.
23
                 So Mr. Van de Ven, maybe I'll be a little
           Q.
    less -- little less subtle. The discussions that you
24
25
   may have seen on the stream were referring to what
```

```
people are calling HB-1. That was passed in 2017.
1
 2
    I'm asking about any legislation in 2018.
 3
                 Let me posit to you that a piece of
 4
    legislation was passed in that year, Section 393.1640.
5
   Did you or do you know of anyone at Nucor who reviewed
 6
    that potential avenue for Nucor to get a special rate?
 7
                 I -- I don't.
           Α.
 8
           Q.
                 Thank you. No further questions.
 9
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF:
                                  MECG.
                 MR. WOODSMALL: Briefly.
10
    CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. WOODSMALL:
11
12
                 Good -- good evening, sir.
           Ο.
                Good evening.
13
           Α.
14
           Q.
                Can you hear me?
15
           Α.
                 Yes.
16
                 A couple brief questions. First off, do
           O.
17
   you know the nature of the service that you'll be
18
    receiving from GMO? Is it transmission level,
    substation level? Do you know what voltage level
19
20
   you'll be receiving service?
                 You know, I'm not -- I'm not an
21
    electrical engineer. I know that -- I know that
22
23
    our -- you know, we're in the -- our -- our -- I think
   we're estimating our annual kilowatts to be in the
24
    240,000 kilowatts annually and our usage to be 40, 45.
25
```

1 Q. Okay. 2 Are you ta-- is that what you're Α. referring to? 3 4 No. But you did fine. Did -- there Ο. 5 was -- are you aware that there was the necessity for a new substation to serve you? 6 7 An investment in the new substation? Α. 8 I aware of that? 9 Ο. Yes. Α. 10 Yes. And did -- do you know did Nucor have to 11 O. 12 pay any of that investment in that substation? Nucor did not -- there was a -- that --13 14 that substation -- I don't want to say in the 15 entirety, because I don't want to speak out -- out of 16 line, but the -- the majority of that infrastructure 17 was part of our agreement to relocate to -- to -to -- not relocate, but to locate to Sedalia. 18 Okay. So --19 Q. 20 Α. That was -- that -- the majority of that was -- was paid for by KCP&L. 21 22 You say a majority. Did you --Q. 23 Maybe and pos-- and possibility all. I Α. 24 just -- I think there may be some items that -- that 25 we had to pay for. And I -- I don't want to speak out

1 of --2 Ο. I understand. 3 Α. -- I don't want to tell you something 4 that's not accurate. 5 Q. Okay. 6 Α. KCP&L made a significant investment. 7 Okay. Are you aware of a GMO tariff that O. 8 allows non-residential customers to purchase renewable 9 energy and the associated renewable energy credits? I'm not. Α. 10 Okay. And so you don't know if that 11 Ο. 12 would satisfy any benefits that Nucor would have by being able to show that they are served by renewable 13 14 energy? 15 Α. No. Our -- our -- our interest, you 16 know, and as I said, you know, it was not -- being 17 served by renewable was not part of our decision to 18 locate. It was about the rate. You know, we had to have -- we have two -- two primary variable costs. 19 20 We've got scrap and we've got utilities. And we have to have competitive -- we have to have a competitive 21 price for both of those. 22 23 The fact that we're being served now by renewable I think is -- is a great story for Missouri. 24 25 We've got -- you know, we're the largest recycler in

North America. We're using scrap, we're collecting 1 2 scrap from Missouri scrap yards, using 100 percent of -- of our raw material as scrap. We use renewable 3 energy from a -- from a power company in Missouri 5 that -- that worked with the Economic Development in 6 Pettis County, the state of Missouri, the Governor's 7 office. So I think it's -- I think it's a great 8 story. 9 You know, we can -- we can use these renewables then to help rebuild Missouri. So it 10 wasn't -- it wasn't a reason that we -- that we chose 11 12 Missouri, but I think that -- I think there's a great story there. 13 14 Ο. Okay. But you don't know if that same benefit could have been achieved with other GMO 15 tariffs; is that correct? 16 17 Α. That's correct. 18 Okay. Moving on -- and I'm almost done. Ο. Can you kind of express for me how -- you said that 19 20 the rate was, quote, primary. But can you tell me how critical was it to Nucor that they get a ten-year term 21 for the rate? 22 23 We needed a long-term rate and, you know, Α. ten years would -- would cover that. I mean 24

the longer, the better. I would say ten years at --

- you know at -- at a minimum. And, you know, the -
 the rate's critically important to us. We've -- you

 know, that's -- it's our -- it's our second largest

 variable cost behind scrap.
 - Q. If -- if this rate is subject to review in future rate cases, would that concern Nucor?
 - A. I -- repeat that, please.

- Q. If the Nucor rate is subject to review and possibly changing in future rate cases, would that concern Nucor?
- A. Well, I think all of our rates are ultimately subject to review at some point. It's just a matter of when they're subject to review, you know.

 And -- and -- and a long-term stable power rate is critical to us, you know.

You know, we're -- we're going to make rebar and we're going to -- we're going to quote people prices on rebar for construction projects that many times last years. You know, we have to have a stable and a predictable power rate.

- Q. Let me try that a different way. How critical -- would it concern Nucor if their rate is subject to review and changing within the next ten years?
 - A. Within the next -- inside of the next ten

1 | years?

7

8

9

10

11

12

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18

19

20

21

22

- Q. Yes.
- A. Yeah. That -- that would be concerning.

 If we have a ten-year agreement and we're going to

 change it inside ten years, I would say that that

 would give us some pause for concern.
 - Q. Okay. So hypothetically if Nucor could proceed in two different ways, one being that it got the rate you want and the ten years was locked down, set in stone, or the second is you could get the rate you want but there's no certainty and it could change in the future, which option would you prefer?
 - A. Let me -- I think I heard you right. You said would we prefer an option where we could be guaranteed the -- the rate we negotiated for the term that we negotiated without it changing or we would prefer to have that up for review even though we -- is that your question?
 - Q. Right. Which option would you prefer?
 - A. Yeah, obviously we would prefer that -that the agreement be -- be honored and not reviewed
 and -- before the agreement expires.
- Q. Thank you. I have no further questions.

 Enjoy Italy.
 - A. Thank you.

```
JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. We'll move
1
 2
    up from questions for the Bench. Commissioner Kenney?
                 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: I have no questions
 3
 4
    for Mr. Van de Ven. Thank you.
 5
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: I have no questions
    either, so no recross. Any redirect?
 6
 7
                 MR. LAVANGA: No redirect, Your Honor.
 8
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. Then Thank
 9
   you, Mr. Van de Ven. I'm going to hang up the call
    and you can go ahead and keep watching on -- on the
10
11
    screen.
12
                 THE WITNESS: All right. Thank you very
13
   much.
                                  Thank you.
14
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF:
15
                 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Mr. Woodsmall?
                 MR. WOODSMALL: Yes.
16
17
                 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: I just had one
    question. Are there any specific industrial clients
18
    that you -- that are supporting your position today
19
20
    that you represent?
                 MR. WOODSMALL: I'm not going to disclose
21
          There -- there is United States Supreme Court
22
23
    case law that protects membership in entities like
   mine from having to disclose their members.
24
25
                 As you saw from some of the efforts by
```

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some of the parties in this case, they would love to
1
 2
   get at the identity of those members and I'm not going
    to subject my supporting entities to that type of
 3
   harassment. So I'm not going to disclose that.
 4
 5
                 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Okay. Thank you.
 6
                 MR. WOODSMALL: But there are.
                                                 The
 7
    answer is yes, but I won't identify them.
 8
                 MR. FISCHER: Commissioner, I would also
 9
    direct you to the pre-hearing conference transcript
    where Mr. Woodsmall indicated he did not have a
10
    customer at that time.
11
12
                 MR. WOODSMALL: No. I said I represent
    MECG. I didn't say who supported MECG.
13
14
                 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Okay. Thank you.
15
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: We'll move onto the next
    witness then, which is Mr. Stombaugh. Well, it's
16
17
   moved to good afternoon now.
18
                 THE WITNESS: Yes.
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Please raise your right
19
20
   hand and I'll swear you in.
21
                 (Witness sworn.)
22
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you.
23
                 You may inquire.
    MARK STOMBAUGH, being first duly sworn, testified as
24
    follows:
25
```

1 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. STEINER: 2 Please state your name for the record. Ο. 3 Α. Yes. Good afternoon. My name is Mark 4 Stombaugh. 5 Q. Mr. Stombaugh, where do you work? 6 Α. I work for the Department of Economic 7 Development. 8 Q. And what do you do there? I'm the division director for our 9 Α. regional engagement teams. 10 11 Did you cause to be filed pre-filed 12 Direct Testimony, which is -- which has been marked as Exhibit 3 in this case? 13 I did. 14 Α. 15 Do you have any changes to that testimony, Mr. Stombaugh? 16 17 Α. I do not. 18 Ο. If I were to ask you the same questions contained in Exhibit 3, would your answers be the 19 2.0 same? 21 They would, sir. Α. 22 MR. STEINER: Judge, I would offer 23 Exhibit 3 and tender the witness for cross. JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. Exhibit 3 24 has been offered. Any objections to its receipt? 25

```
Hearing none, it will be received.
1
 2
                 (Company Exhibit 3 was received into
 3
    evidence.)
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: For cross-examination
 4
 5
    then we begin with Nucor.
 6
                 MR. LAVANGA: No questions, Your Honor.
 7
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Staff.
                 MR. THOMPSON: No questions. Thank you.
 8
 9
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Public Counsel.
                 MR. HALL: No questions. Thank you.
10
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: MECG.
11
12
                 MR. WOODSMALL: No questions.
13
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Any questions from the
14
    Bench?
15
                 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: I do have a
    question or two just to be consistent.
16
17
    QUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONER KENNEY:
                 Hello, sir.
18
           Ο.
                 Good afternoon.
19
           Α.
20
           Ο.
                 Did -- who asked you to testify here
    today?
21
                 GMO did, Commissioner.
22
           Α.
23
           Q.
                 Did you get any approval from Economic
    Development -- anybody in Economic Development?
24
2.5
           Α.
                 Yes. In conversations and providing the
```

_	
1	testimony, have have gotten approval from our
2	general counsel as well as the department director.
3	Q. Did anybody help you prepare your
4	testimony?
5	A. No.
6	Q. No. Are you getting other than state
7	salary, are you getting paid for this in any way?
8	A. I am not.
9	Q. Okay. Thank you.
10	A. Yep.
11	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Any recross based on
12	those questions from the Bench?
13	MR. STEINER: No, Your Honor.
14	MR. THOMPSON: None from Staff.
15	MR. HALL: None from Public Counsel.
16	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Any redirect?
17	MR. STEINER: No.
18	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Then Mr. Stombaugh, you
19	can step down.
20	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
21	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Next witness then would
22	be Jessica Craig.
23	Good afternoon.
24	THE WITNESS: Good afternoon.
25	JUDGE WOODRUFF: Please raise your right

```
1
   hand.
 2
                 (Witness sworn.)
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you.
 3
 4
                 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
 5
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: You may inquire.
 6
    JESSICA CRAIG, being first duly sworn, testified as
 7
    follows:
   DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. STEINER:
 8
 9
           Ο.
                 Good afternoon.
                 Hello. Good afternoon.
           Α.
10
                 State your name for the record, please.
11
           Ο.
12
                 Jessica Craiq.
           Α.
13
                 Ms. Craig, where do you work and what's
           Ο.
14
   your position there?
15
                 I'm the economic -- executive director
           Α.
    for Economic Development in Sedalia, Pettis County.
16
17
           Ο.
                 And did you cause to be prepared
   pre-filed Direct Testimony, which has been premarked
18
    as Exhibit 1 in this case?
19
20
           Α.
                 I did.
21
           Ο.
                 Do you have any changes to that
    testimony?
22
23
           Α.
                 I do not.
24
                 If I were to ask you the same questions
           O.
25
   contained in that testimony, would your answer be the
```

```
same?
1
 2
           Α.
                 Yes.
 3
                 MR. STEINER: Move for the admission of
    Exhibit 1 and I would tender this witness for cross,
 4
 5
    Your Honor.
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Exhibit 1 has been
 6
 7
    offered. Any objections to its receipt?
 8
                 MR. THOMPSON: No objections from Staff.
 9
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: It will be received.
10
                 (Company Exhibit 1 was received into
11
    evidence.)
12
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Cross-examination then
13
   beginning with Nucor.
14
                 MR. LAVANGA: No questions, Your Honor.
15
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Staff.
16
                 MR. THOMPSON: No questions. Thank you.
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Public Counsel.
17
18
                 MR. HALL: No questions.
19
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: MECG.
20
                 MR. WOODSMALL: No questions.
21
                 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: I'm going to ask
22
    the same questions.
23
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right.
    QUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONER KENNEY:
24
                 Who asked you to testify here today?
2.5
           Q.
```

1 Α. GMO. 2 Q. Did anyone help you in preparing GMO. 3 your testimony? 4 Α. No. 5 Q. You prepared it all yourself? 6 Α. Uh-huh. 7 Quite a boon for Sedalia, huh? Ο. 8 Α. It is. 9 I've been driving through Sedalia for Ο. about 20 years now. And what -- what's the expected 10 economic impact for the area? 11 12 So it really rep-- you mentioned that you've seen it. It represents the largest project 13 from a company investing new into the community since 14 15 probably the late '70s. So there's -- there's a significant direct impact with the number of new jobs 16 17 created, the capital investment, the 250 million dollars capital investment. 18 But the indirect benefit, the 400 to 500 19 20 construction employees that are onsite every day, those individuals are staying in our community, having 21 lunch in our community, buying groceries in our 22 23 community. And we've had about 50 new families that not only have moved to Pettis County, but also to our 24 surrounding counties. We're a very transient work 25

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```
1
    force and so we have -- all the surrounding
 2
    communities have also benefited from the direct
    investment.
 3
           Q.
                Okay. Thank you.
 5
           Α.
                 Thank you.
 6
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Any recross based on
 7
    those questions from the Bench?
 8
                 MR. THOMPSON: None from Staff.
 9
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: I don't see any. Any
   redirect?
10
11
                 MR. STEINER: No, Your Honor.
12
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. Ms. Craig,
13
   you can step down.
14
                 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
15
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And we'll bring up
   Mr. Ives. Good afternoon.
16
17
                 THE WITNESS: Good afternoon.
18
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Please raise your right
19
   hand.
20
                 (Witness sworn.)
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you. You may
21
22
    inquire.
23
   DARRIN IVES, being first duly sworn, testified as
    follows:
24
   DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. FISCHER:
25
```

Please state your name and address for 1 Ο. 2 the record. My name is Darrin Ives, I-v-e-s. 3 Α. МУ address is 1200 Main, Kansas City, Missouri. 5 Are you the same Darrin Ives that caused to be filed in this case what has been now marked as 6 7 Exhibit 2, both the confidential and a public version of your Direct Testimony? 8 9 Α. Yes, I am. Do you have any corrections or changes 10 0. that need to be made to that testimony? 11 12 Not that I'm aware of. Α. 13 And if I ask you the questions contained Ο. in that document, would your answers be the same 14 15 today? Yes, they would. 16 Α. 17 Ο. And they're true and accurate to the best of your knowledge and belief? 18 19 Yes, they are. Α. 20 MR. FISCHER: Judge with that, I would move for the admission of Exhibit 2-C and 2-P and 21 tender the witness for cross. 22 23 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. Exhibit 2, confidential and public versions, have been offered. 24

Any objections to their receipt?

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1
                 Hearing none, they will be received.
 2
                 (Company Exhibits 2-P and 2-C were
    received into evidence.)
 3
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And for
 4
 5
    cross-examination, again we begin with Nucor.
 6
                 MR. LAVANGA: Just a couple of questions,
 7
    Your Honor.
    CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. LAVANGA:
 8
 9
           Ο.
                 Good afternoon, Mr. Ives.
                 Good afternoon.
           Α.
10
11
                 I want to ask you a couple of quick
           Ο.
12
    questions about the stipulation in this case that's
    been marked as Exhibit 5.
13
14
           Α.
                 Okay.
15
                 You're aware of the stipulation.
           O.
16
    Correct?
17
           Α.
                 I am.
                 Do you believe that the stipulation
18
           0.
    represents a reasonable resolution to this proceeding?
19
20
           Α.
                 I do.
21
                 Can you provide a general overview of the
           Ο.
    stipulation?
22
23
           Α.
                 Yeah. At a high level, the stipulation
    provides for adoption of the special incremental load
24
    tariff as proposed by -- by the Company in this
25
```

proceeding with a few amendments that -- that were entered through negotiation.

The stipulation, those amendments mostly surround additional customer protections based upon the monitoring and -- and reporting criteria that were -- were outlined in the stipulation that went beyond what was in our direct filed testimony.

It also provides for acceptance of the special incremental load tariff rate and contract that was entered between GMO and Nucor.

- Q. Okay. Can you explain in a little more detail the provisions related to the cost and revenue monitoring and reporting?
- A. Yes. So a couple things. It was important to us and to the parties to the stipulation that we create sub-accounts and mechanisms to be able to identify the costs to serve Nucor that are being incurred and -- and the revenues that are coming in from Nucor.

We've put mechanisms in place for that, outlines of which, from an exemplary basis, are attached to the stipulation that was filed. The stipulation also talks about, as was discussed in the openings, the treatment that will -- will occur at -- at the next general rate case, which -- which allows

for an evaluation of those costs and revenues that are being monitored and reported upon based upon the test year results in -- in that case so that we can compare the revenues to -- to the cost to serve Nucor.

And -- and as was mentioned by some of the attorneys in opening, to the extent that the revenues during that period exceed the cost to serve Nucor, those revenues would be available to offset part of the revenue requirement for non-Nucor customers.

And to the extent that the cost in that period happened to exceed the revenues that were generated from the Nucor rate, there would be an additional revenue adjustment made to hold harmless non-Nucor customers from that cost exceedance during the test year.

I think it's important for the Commission to know that we -- we did a lot of analysis when we put together the costs to serve Nucor and -- and the rate that -- that we could agree to with Nucor in order to serve them on a fixed basis over ten years.

One thing we know is the -- the wind resource being utilized to supply Nucor, while it is extremely helpful in allowing us to set a fixed rate for Nucor over the ten-year period, we all know wind

is an intermittent resource and we'll have performance deviation at any given point in time over the ten years.

So while we've built the contract to -to cover the costs over the entirety of the ten-year
term, there is the potential, based on wind
performance or Nucor performance, that in any given
test year leading into a general rate case, there
could be revenues in excess of cost or cost in excess
of revenues based on the intermittence of the wind
and -- and the performance at Nucor.

And that's why we felt it was important to put the hold harmless protection in so that non-Nucor customers would -- would not be in a position of subsidizing service to Nucor as a result of what we would expect to be a -- a near term blip in performance, but -- but not representative of the ten-year nature of our contract with Nucor.

- Q. Can you talk a little bit about how the stipulation addresses Section 393.1655?
- A. Yes. In the stipulation and -- and the negotiations around that, we talked about the -- the implications of Senate Bill 564 or 1955 and determined that it made sense to be very clear in the stipulation that because we were coming in for a special ten-year

rate fixed for Nucor, to -- to be crystal clear in the stipulation that Nucor would not be subject to any effects from PISA or the investments that were being incurred during the period for that.

And -- and in that same vein, make sure that no one would mistake the single customer special contract with Nucor to be a new class of customer that would impact the way the provisions of that -- that legislation operate, which has a different PISA cap for the large power class compared to -- to other general classes.

So we made it clear that they should not be considered in that determination either. All -- all in an effort to be clear that other customers are not being impacted by the provision of service to Nucor specific to PISA and ensuring that it was -- was crystal clear in that regard.

- Q. Mr. Ives, in your view, does this stipulation protect customers -- non-Nucor customers?
- A. It does. You know, Mr. Thompson alluded to it in his opening, but, you know, we -- we felt it was comfortable in -- or -- or we felt it was necessary in our discussions with Nucor and in ongoing discussions that we have with other interested customers to come into the state of Missouri, that all

other customers not be put in a position to -- to subsidize service to -- to large customers coming into the state.

We think we've crafted a rate and a term that meets Nucor's needs and requirements. We think we've done it in a way that puts us in a position to not impact non-Nucor customers.

And then finally, because of some of the things I discussed about timing and intermittence of supply, we've provided a hold harmless to ensure that if there were a situation where non-Nucor customers would be asked to subsidize, that we will make an adjustment to make sure that does not happen.

- Q. Okay. Mr. Ives, in your view is the stipulation in the public interest?
- A. Absolutely it is. And we didn't hear a lot from -- from the other witnesses that were up a little bit ago, but the written testimony certainly supports significant benefits to -- to the state of Missouri and to -- to Sedalia and Pettis County.

Not just from service to Nucor directly, but from new employment, from construction employment, from expected suppliers and -- and indirect increases in revenues that -- that will benefit all customers in the state.

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Thank you, Mr. Ives. That's all I have.
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                 MR. LAVANGA: Your Honor, I'd like to
   move that the stipulation be admitted into the record.
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                 JUDGE WOODRUFF:
                                  That was Exhibit 5?
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                 MR. LAVANGA: Yes.
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                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Confidential and public
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    versions of it.
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                 MR. LAVANGA: Yes. 5-P and C.
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                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: 5-C and P have been
    offered. Any objections to their receipt?
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                 Hearing none, they will be received.
12
                 (Company Exhibits 5-C and 5-P were
   received into evidence.)
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                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: And further
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15
    cross-examination then we move to Staff.
                 MR. THOMPSON: No, thank you, Judge.
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                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Public Counsel?
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                 MR. HALL: Yes. Hopefully briefly.
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    CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. HALL:
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           O.
                 Mr. Ives, good afternoon.
                 Good afternoon.
21
           Α.
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                 I'm trying to conceptualize the power
           Q.
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   purchase agreement. Assuming there was no power
   purchase agreement, would GMO be able to supply energy
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    to the Nucor facility at the special rate?
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- A. I think it's very unlikely that I could sit here today and say we could do it over a ten-year period without either a loss or the potential for the rate to be subsidized by non-Nucor customers.
 - Q. Why would there be a loss under the scenario I -- I gave you?

- A. Well, in general, all of our power to -to supply customers ultimately comes from SPP and -and is served at the node of operation to GMO.
- That -- that price has the potential to vary based on market conditions and certainly has the potential to vary over a ten-year period.
 - What we endeavor to do in order to -- to fix a ten-year price to Nucor to meet their requirements was to match a specific supply source, in this case the -- the PPA for wind resource that -- that will lock in the energy supply cost that -- that is being utilized to -- to serve Nucor directly versus subject ourselves to other potential market impacts.
 - Q. It's my understanding that the wind facility applicable to the purchase -- power purchase agreement won't be operational by the time Nucor is up and running at the beginning of next year. Is my understanding correct?
 - A. That is correct.

How does your mechanism work then for 1 O. 2 that first year of there not being a wind facility for the PPA? 3 Yeah, so that's a great question. Α. 5 know, the -- the reporting and monitoring document 6 that we've put together contemplates that there will be -- that there will be SPP market impacts of serving 8 Nucor. 9 For the majority of the term of the contract, it -- it's the result of the intermittency 10 of -- of the wind resource and the -- what I talked 11 12 about earlier, that sometimes you could just have a mismatch between our wind supply and -- and the 13 production needs of Nucor. And those costs would be 14 15 captured at that point obviously that -- that are being incurred. 16 17 The second piece of that is it also captures a cost that -- that will be incurred to 18 supply Nucor in advance of -- of the wind facility 19 20 coming online. And -- and we knew that was a likely scenario when we were negotiating this arrangement 21 with Nucor. I mean it's a little bit of a chicken or 22 23 the egg scenario. Right? I mean you want to have wind supply so 24 25 that you can understand how to price your incremental

cost to -- to Nucor. You also want to have some certainty that Nucor is going to execute a contract and begin construction before you have a dedicated wind supply.

So we knew what the market was, we knew the market was likely going to be such that we couldn't have a wind facility contracted for and constructed and in place to specifically supply them until the latter part of 2020 in a most likely scenario. So our pricing considered the fact that —that our cost to serve might be higher in that first number of months until we could have the wind supply on.

That's why I mentioned earlier that when we -- when we set a price to cover incremental costs for Nucor, we attempted to do it over -- over the ten-year term of the agreement, not at a specific point in time because of the -- the variability in -- in cost versus production.

Q. Does the mechanism involve Evergy
Missouri West needing to acquire capacity from -pardon my ignorance of what KCPL Missouri is referring
to itself now with the Evergy ac-- merger. But KC-whatever entity would otherwise be known as KCPL
Missouri?

A. Does not require it. What it does require, like any other customer that takes service on our system, we have to have the capacity in order to serve the -- the customer's needs, plus provide the -- the adequate capacity reserve margin over the load being served for SPP purposes.

So whether it's capacity from GMO itself, capacity from an agreement between GMO -- I'm using legacy terms. I would use Evergy, but it might just be too early. But GMO or -- or the legacy KCPL organization or capacity that GMO acquired from anyplace else to meet its needs.

Point being we have priced into the rate for Nucor an expected cost of capacity to serve them because they are new incremental load to GMO's system.

- Q. Could that capacity agreement or something similar supply energy to the Nucor facility instead of a power purchase agreement?
- A. Well, there's a difference between a capacity agreement and an energy supply agreement. If you have a capacity only agreement, it doesn't give you access to energy, which -- which is lots of times what happens is you -- you might take energy off of the SPP marketplace or -- or energy from another source, but -- but still have a capacity requirement

in order to demonstrate that you can serve customers
and cover the capacity reserve margins that are
required. So -- so they are oftentimes separate and
distinct arrangements.

- Q. For the clarity of the record then generally, can you explain the difference between a capacity agreement versus an energy agreement?
- A. Yeah. Capacity generally is the access to the -- the supply resource and -- and energy is actually access to the output from the supply resource.

So, you know, from -- from a reliability standpoint, you need to have access to capacity to not only meet the projected peak load demand from your customers, but also a reserve margin above that in order to meet the requirements of the Southwest Power Pool.

Energy, we obviously need access to the kilowatt hours to flow across the system and -- and provide service to -- to all of our customers. But it's a demand or a potential system need compared to the actual flow of electricity.

Q. Mr. Ives, your testimony refers to a confidential number for the incremental cost to serve Nucor. I'm not going to ask you to divulge anything

regarding that confidential number or -- I'm not going 1 2 to ask you to get into confidential information, but I'm curious, does the calculation that was used to 3 generate this number contemplate the additional 5 substation that the parties have been discussing, the

18 million dollar investment?

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- It -- it contemplates all incremental Α. 8 investment that -- that we expect to have to -- to serve Nucor. So it covers the expected cost of capacity to serve them, the expected cost of energy to 10 serve Nucor, and the expected recovery of incremental 11 12 investment to serve Nucor.
 - So the 18 million dollar substation is included in the calculation of this figure?
 - Recovery of the 18 million dollars over Α. the term of the agreement, the ten years, is in there kind of on a traditional rate-making determination for that type of asset, yes.
- Do you have a copy of your testimony in 19 Ο. 20 front of you?
- Α. I do. 21
- 22 Could you please turn to page 14, lines Q. 23 20 and 21? I'm focusing on the only complete sentence therein where you mention that dedicated account 24 coding or special queries will be used to isolate 25

Nucor's related revenues and charges. Are you 1 2 following me? 3 Α. I am. Is this account coding, is that referring 4 Ο. to Uniform System of Accounts? When we ac-- is that 5 6 referring to a regulatory liability or asset that 7 we're dealing with? 8 Α. No. There's no -- no regulatory 9 liability or asset, but that -- that's very different 10 than your question about Uniform System of Accounts. Certainly when we record revenues and costs, we record 11 12 them consistent with the Uniform System of Accounts. What is --13 14 Ο. I just realized that. Sorry. Not to 15 interrupt. That -- that is a fair -- that is a fair response. I'm not going to ask about consistent with 16 17 the Uniform System of Accounts. But could you speak 18 to whether this is involving -- this is involving a regulatory liability or asset? 19 20 Yeah. I think my first part of my answer was it -- it's not involving a regulatory asset or 21 22 liability. It -- it's involving having separate 23 identifiers -- sub-accounts and -- and separate -separate identifiers within the Uniform System of 24

Accounts so that we can capture the costs and revenues

directly associated with the service of Nucor and consider them in the reporting and monitoring document that's attached to the stipulation. And also consider them as we look at the revenue requirement impacts in a cost-of-service filing for a general rate case.

Q. Am I correct to infer then that this is not a tracker in the traditional Missouri Public Service Commission sense?

- A. This is not a tracker. This is -- this is a methodology to identify specific costs to utilize in the monitoring and reporting that we agreed to with Staff in the Non-Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement.
- Q. I believe the contract attached to your testimony was confidential so without going into specific terms, I've heard discussion today of Nucor being exempt from the renewable energy standard rate adjustment mechanism charges. For the -- for clarity for the Commission, could you point to in the contract where we could find that provision?
- A. I think the best place to look for it is actually in Exhibit 4 to the Non-Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement, which is the amended special rate for incremental load service. In that Exhibit 4 on the first page, page 157 of that document, in the bottom part of that is where it identifies that the service

under the tariff won't be combined with a number of 2 riders. And it also was excluded from calculations for charges for FAC RESRAM and all those areas.

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And -- and I think it's consistent with the request in front of the Commission under the Stipulation and Agreement, which is suggesting that we would like approval for a fixed rate for Nucor for a ten-year contract. Making them subject to the various riders or other components generally available under our standard tariffs would make it very difficult to have a flat rate over a ten-year term.

- I don't wish to misquote people, but I believe Staff counsel had said that the contract in the stipulation is going to put, quote, shareholders on the hook for any deficits associated with servicing the Nucor facility. Assuming I'm quoting Mr. Thompson accurately, would you agree with that statement?
- I -- I think from the standpoint -- I mean, I would go back and reiterate. We built the rate based upon the expected cost to serve Nucor over the ten-year term of the agreement. We built that rate to cover those costs, which over the entirety of that agreement, if we're right over the ten years would say that there's not expected to be a shortfall.

That said, you know, as I mentioned

earlier, be-- because of potential variation in load 1 2 at Nucor's facility itself during a test year of a general rate case and certainly the -- the potential 3 variability in the wind supply that's direct supplying 5 them during a test year in the case, that test year could show costs in excess of revenues collected 6 during the test year. 8 And in that situation, I agree with 9 Mr. Thompson that if -- if that event were to occur, we have agreed to make an additional revenue 10 adjustment in that case to zero out those costs in 11 12 excess of revenues so that there's no impact to non-Nucor customers. 13 14 And that necessarily would mean we would be collecting -- if we made that adjustment, we would 15 be collecting less revenue than we otherwise could 16 17 prove up in our revenue requirement calculation in that general rate case. 18 At the risk of asking an asked and 19 20 answered question, if there is a deferential between -- so if there's a deferential such that the 21 incremental rate used to serve GMO -- pardon me. 22 23 me restart. If there's a differential such that --24

sorry not differential. If there's a deficit in terms

of the incremental cost to serve Nucor that was
calculated versus the actual cost, the Company is
saying now that its investments will be on the hook?

- A. I'm not sure I understand the end of your question. Could you --
 - O. Sure.

- A. -- could you restate that?
- Q. Of course. If there's a deficit between the incremental cost that was calculated to service the Nucor facility versus the actual costs incurred to service Nucor, is the Company saying now that its shareholders would be on the hook for that deficiency?
- A. At a high level, the answer is -- is yes. I might clarify that when we're evaluating that -- that comparison is based on actual costs and actual revenues from the service of Nucor at the time that we're looking at the revenue requirement in a general rate case. Because that's when you have the potential to impact the costs to non-Nucor customers.

So when we look at those actual costs during that period compared to the actual revenues generated from -- from serving Nucor, if those costs were in excess of those revenues in that period, then in effect, shareholders will be covering that differential because we'll make an adjustment in the

1 rate case to ensure non-Nucor customers are not 2 impacted. And probably the last thing that we 3 haven't talked about but it's -- it's worth talking 4 5 about because it's also part of the monitoring and 6 reporting and -- and the attachments to -- to the 7 stipulation is we're also monitoring and evaluating 8 the inputs to the fuel adjustment clause so that we 9 can specifically identify any costs to serve Nucor that -- that would be falling through accounts that 10 would normally be a part of the fuel adjustment clause 11 12 so that we can demonstrate that we're not putting those costs to non-Nucor customers as well. That's 13 14 part of the reporting and monitoring. 15 So it's not just the base rates at a general case. We're also making that determination so 16 17 we can -- we can ensure those costs don't impact customers in the fuel adjustment clause. 18 I have no further questions. Thank you. 19 Ο. 20 JUDGE WOODRUFF: MECG? CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. WOODSMALL: 21 Thank you. Good afternoon. 22 Q. 23 Α. Good afternoon. 24 I think I'll be pretty brief. I asked O. Mr. Van de Ven a question, but maybe you can help. 25

you know what voltage level Nucor will be served at? 1 2 Α. Yeah. It -- it's going to be served at the low side coming off of the substation, so 3 13,800 --5 But for purposes --Q. 6 Α. -- something. 7 -- of comparison to other tariffs, O. 8 they're -- they're basically served at substation 9 voltage is the term; is that correct? Α. Yeah. We certainly put in a substation. 10 They're coming off the low side of the substation 11 12 voltage. 13 Okay. GMO has opted into PISA; is that 14 correct? 15 Yes. We did at -- I think it was the Α. beginning of 2019. 16 17 Ο. And in Kansas, the Evergy companies have a five-year moratorium; is that correct? 18 A five-year moratorium from the 19 20 conclusion of the last general rate case for KCP&L Kansas. 21 22 Not -- for five years from the Westar Q. 23 conclusion? Westar's moratorium is also from the end 24 Α. of the conclusion of the KCPL Kansas case. 25

1 Q. Okay. So both of those --

- A. Both of them are synched to the date that we have to file for new rates, but that -- their cases ended at different times so that means the moratoriums are a little bit different duration.
- Q. Gotcha. Okay. Now, going to some questions that Mr. Hall asked you and I -- I don't know if it's real clear, maybe I'm just a little obtuse today.

There was some discussion about the source used to provide service will not be available for a year. And I want to delve into that a little bit. You said that due to the intermittency of wind, that the load profile of the customer won't exactly match up with the load profile of the generation used to serve them; is that correct?

- A. At any given point in time, that's correct.
- Q. Right. So it may be a situation where -I'm just using fictitious numbers -- Nucor needs 100
 kilowatt hours and there's no wind blowing wherever
 the wind farm is so it's not generating. So those
 100 kilowatt hours are coming from a different source;
 is that correct?
 - A. That -- that's correct. There -- there

are a couple mitigating factors that we considered 1 2 when we -- when we did this. One of the them is we're -- we're going to over-size the wind resource 3 from a megawatt hour perspective because capacity factors are lower for wind and it's more intermittent. 5 6 So we've proposed to -- to utilize 7 probably about 75 megawatts of a wind farm capacity, 8 which is -- which is larger than what the expected 9 demand from Nucor's facility will be. Part of that is to, over the ten-year 10 term, have a closer match of energy to expected energy 11 12 requirements from Nucor over the ten-year term. doesn't help -- help all the intermittency that --13 that you were talking about though. So there 14 certainly will be periods where we'll have to serve, 15 16 you know, from -- from other energy supply. 17 And that's why it was important to Staff, and us as well, to have the detail in the -- the 18 monitoring and -- and reporting mechanism so that we 19 20 can -- we can identify those costs and make sure that that's part of our comparison to costs -- of costs to 21 revenues from Nucor. 22 23 And it was also a consideration that was built into the -- the price that was quoted in the 24 25 contract to Nucor. We knew we would have to have some

- 1 of that because of the intermittency of the wind.
- Q. Let's talk about the capacity. Are you aware what SPP gives for a capacity accreditation for wind currently?
 - A. Yeah. It varies a little bit by -- by wind farm and capability obviously, but -- but in general right now I think it's 30 to 35 percent of -- of the cap-- of the nameplate capacity.
 - Q. You believe it's that high?
- 10 A. It is that high in SPP right now. It did
 11 not used to be that high.
 - Q. When did that change?

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- 13 A. Two years ago maybe, year and a half ago.
- Q. That's completely different than what we learned in Empire. But be that as it may --
- 16 A. It used to -- it used to be in the 17 15 range, something like that.
- Q. Okay. Let's go with 33 percent for round numbers. Mr. Van de Ven testified earlier that Nucor would use a demand of approximately 45 megawatts; is that correct?
- A. He -- he said that. I -- I probably
 won't delve into it too far because I think -- I think
 those factors are listed as confidential in the
 testimony. But -- but it's --

1 Q. I won't got any further.

- A. -- it's not an unreasonable range for -- for their expectation.
- Q. So if wind is given a 33 percent capacity factor, that would mean in order to serve the capacity needs of Nucor, you would have to have 135 megawatt wind farm; is that correct?
- A. For capacity purposes, you would either have to do all of -- that much wind to supply your capacity there or you would -- would be utilizing other capacity resources.
- Q. Okay. And so they would need -- if it was single source, they would need 135 megawatts, but you said you're going to sign a PPA with roughly 75 megawatts; is that correct?
- A. Single source for energy is what our expectation is from a capacity standpoint. They certainly get -- get the credit for the capacity that's coming off of the single source wind. But -- but we also have built into the price for Nucor and built into the reporting and monitor-- monitoring document where we will identify the cost of the remainder of the capacity to serve them and -- and match that against the revenues.
 - Q. So -- so bottom line, you will need to

- rely upon other generation not only to meet capacity
 needs at Nucor, but also to meet energy needs due to
 their load profile not exactly matching with the wind
 generation; is that correct?

 A. From -- from time to time on the energy,
 - absolutely. Either -- either energy that we've supplied that's coming back through the node or energy from other resources within SPP that are coming through the -- the GMO node certainly will be part of that -- that avenue to address the intermittency.
 - And then capacity will -- there will be a need to -- to have capacity from resources other than the single source energy supply wind resource.
 - Q. Moving on, are you familiar with the recently approved renewable energy rider?
 - A. I am.

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- Q. Can you tell me what that does?
- A. Yeah. In general -- and I'm not an expert on it. You know, if we would have had a different -- a different roll out of this case, we probably would have had a more technical witness in later on in this case.
- But -- but in general, it affords an opportunity for us to -- to have customers sign up for renewable resource supply. And when we meet a certain

threshold of sign up, we can -- we can construct or acquire a wind resource to -- to serve those -- those customers that -- that have signed up.

Q. And ---

- A. It's got some -- it's got some parameters around it about how much of it we have to have subscribed and how we deal with under-subscribed amounts compared to what we build or procure, right.
- Q. In laymen's jargon, tell me if you agree with this statement: The renewable energy rider is a mechanism designed to allow non-residential customers to receive REC so they can say they're accessing sustainable energy?
- A. Yeah. It's a little bit more broad than -- than just a -- what I call a traditional REC green tariff. I mean it -- it requires a specific incremental supply of wind; whereas a traditional REC green tariff, you could just go out and buy RECs on the market and use those to serve customers if they pay the incremental cost for those RECs. This actually brings the -- the resource into the market as well. But that's certainly a piece of it.

Part of the reason why we did not use that mechanism for a customer like Nucor is because it has a lot of interplay with the fuel adjustment clause

and -- and some of the other mechanisms that are in 1 2 play in the state. And -- and it is much easier from our perspective to isolate the wind resource specific 3 to Nucor and make sure that we're not having costs impact non-Nucor customers then trying to use the 5 existing tariff that's so tightly woven with the FAC 6 and other general rate-making mechanisms in the state. 8 Q. You were asked some questions by Mr. Hall 9 about the investment in the substation, and I want to make sure the record is clear. I believe you said 10 that the return on that investment is built into the 11 12 rate for Nucor; is that correct? We -- we have built in return on and of 13 Α. 14 rate. 15 And I think that might have clarified. O. So both return on and of the depreciation are both 16 built into that? 17 At -- at kind of the standard rate-making 18 expected life for the resource, right, for the 19 2.0 substation. 21 O. Okay. 22 Α. But --23 Q. Okay. The -- do you have a copy of the stipulation in front of you? 24 25 Α. T do.

- Q. Turning to page 2, provision 7, it's entitled costs and revenue tracking. Let me know when you get there.
 - A. I'm there.

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- Q. And I think Mr. Hall might have touched on this as well. The fact that it used tracking doesn't mean that it's a tracker. Would you agree with that?
- A. I agree with that. It is not what -what traditionally would be referred to as a -- as a
 tracker that might come out of an AAO or -- or an
 accounting mechanism that would result in a regulatory
 asset or a regulatory liability.
- Q. Okay. So if the Company experiences an increase in profits or a decrease in profits between rate cases, that is not being tracked for recovery in a future case?
- It -- it is not. It is like -- I would 18 say it's like any new customer that comes on to the 19 20 system between cases. If there are new revenues coming on to the system and new costs to serve coming 21 22 on to the system, they plus or minus are, you know 23 flowing to the benefit or detriment of the Company until a rate case kind of resets that -- that customer 24 25 activity.

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                 So this is more in line with reporting
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    requirements; is that accurate?
                 To -- reporting and monitoring and it's
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    doing two things. Right? It's -- it's trying to make
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    sure the parties understand that we are adequately
    doing that -- that identif-- identification of the
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    types of costs that are -- that are being incurred to
    serve Nucor and matching them against the revenues
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    from -- from the Nucor rate.
                 And it's also the foundation that will
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    set that adjustment at the general rate case when
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    we -- when we go into the revenue requirement model
    and compare costs and -- and revenues in -- to see
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    whether we need to make a revenue adjustment at the
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    time of the general rate case or not.
                 And my last area of questioning --
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           Ο.
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                 MR. WOODSMALL: May I approach the
    witness, Your Honor? I have an exhibit.
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                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: You may.
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20
                 MR. WOODSMALL: Your Honor, can I mark
    this as Exhibit 6?
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22
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Yes, you may.
23
                 (MEGC Exhibit 6 was marked for
    identification.)
24
   BY MR. WOODSMALL:
25
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1	Q. Do you have Exhibit 6 in front of you,			
2	sir?			
3	A. I've got it here, yes.			
4	Q. And can you identify that for me?			
5	A. It looks like it is our currently in			
6	effect large power electric service tariff set of			
7	schedules for KCPL GMO.			
8	Q. And just generally, absent the special			
9	contract, would you agree that Nucor could use this			
10	for getting electric service from KC from GMO?			
11	A. Other than if this were their option,			
12	they wouldn't have come to Missouri.			
13	Q. Sure. But it provides them the same			
14	services?			
15	A. They they can get that level of			
16	service. They can't get the rate and the term that			
17	was important to them.			
18	MR. WOODSMALL: Okay. And I'm not going			
19	to go into it because I don't want to have to go into			
20	in-camera, but I wanted to make this an exhibit so			
21	that the Commission would be able to compare the rates			
22	that would have been available to them absent the			
23	special contract. So I'm not going to delve into			
24	those rates, but that was the purpose of it.			
25	Your Honor, could I move for the			

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admission of Exhibit 6?
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                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Six has been offered.
   Any objections to its receipt?
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                 Hearing none, it will be received.
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                 (MEGC Exhibit 6 was received into
   evidence.)
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                 MR. WOODSMALL: And that was all the
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    questions I had. Thank you.
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                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: All right. We'll come
   up for questions from the Bench. Commissioner Kenney?
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                 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: I have no
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    questions. Thank you, Mr. Ives.
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                 THE WITNESS:
                               Thank you.
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                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: No need for recross.
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   Any redirect?
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                 MR. FISCHER: Just briefly, Judge.
17
   REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. FISCHER:
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                 You were asked some questions, Mr. Ives,
           0.
    about the reporting and monitoring features that are
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    in the stipulation and that -- I believe you indicated
    that is not what you would consider to be a tracker;
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    is that right? Do you recall that?
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23
           Α.
                 I do recall, and that's correct.
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                 How does that differ from the provisions
           Ο.
    that are included in Section 355 of the statute that's
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been discussed earlier today? 1 2 Yeah. You know, those were discussed in openings a little bit. And, you know, when I look --3 and I'm not an attorney and I'm sure everybody will 5 brief the application of 355. Right? 6 But when I look at the provisions in 355, 7 it -- it seems to indicate to me that you would have a 8 tracker that would compare the costs and the revenues 9 to -- to serve Nucor kind of from inception until at least the first general rate case where -- where they 10 come in effect. 11 12 And -- and candidly, we looked long and hard at the provisions of 355 for precisely the 13 14 reasons Mr. Woodsmall indicated. Right? legislation that we felt was very good legislation in 15 16 terms of pursuing economic development in the state of 17 Missouri and certainly was -- was something that with we would like to be able to utilize to attract 18 customers to the state. 19 20 That said, for whatever reason, my opinion, non-at-- non-- nonlegal opinion, when you 21 22 look at the language in that statute and the 23 development of the words around that tracker, it does not seem to -- to capture the fact that new 24 25 incremental investment put in the ground to serve a

new greenfield customer in the state of Missouri will not provide a return to the utility during the time that that tracker is in effect.

In openings it was asserted that because you get to look at the depreciation and the carrying costs on the -- the investment, that the Company is -- is made whole, that the flip side of that tracker is that it's going to pick up the revenues that are coming in from Nucor that -- that also has priced into it the expected effect of the depreciation and the carrying costs.

So the net effect on the tracker of -- of that is zero, which means there's no ability for the Company to participate in the return on that investment during that period. And that's where I disagree with Mr. Woodsmall's characterization that that tracker keeps the Company whole related to return and depreciation.

- Q. Does that answer go to the question that Commissioner Hall asked your counsel about what is this net income and what you wouldn't recover?
- A. That -- that is the primary piece that led us to the conclusion that the language was not sufficient in 355 for us to be able to make the type of investment to put a greenfield customer like Nucor

in and have the opportunity to earn a return on that asset, which is the same opportunity that we would normally get if a new customer came in and we had to put infrastructure in place to -- to put them in a new greenfield space.

- Q. What other concerns did the Company have regarding that tracker in 355 perhaps related to customer impact?
- A. Yeah. The -- the flip side of that, I think it was alluded to in some somebody's response to questions, is when we spoke with Nucor about the rate that -- that it would -- would take for them to be interested in moving to Missouri, our emphasis from the beginning of those discussions was a rate to supply Nucor that would support the incremental cost to serve Nucor over the ten-year term.

We believe the tracker in 355 has -- has the ability -- in the event of what we talked about, if the intermittence of the wind results in costs in excess of revenues, it has the ability to socialize those costs across non-Nucor customers. We don't think that's good regulatory policy, we don't think it matches cost causation and recovery of costs that -- that -- that a customer is causing to be incurred and we never intended our rate to be built that way.

- Q. What do you mean when you say socialize across other customers?
- A. Would be -- would put it in a position

 where we had a reg liability in that tracker or -- I'm

 sorry, a reg asset in that tracker that would need to

 be recovered from non-Nucor customers in order to zero

 out that tracker.

2.0

- Q. Was the Company considering the impact on other customers when they chose the monitoring and reporting mechanism that is included in the stipulation?
- A. We certainly were. And -- and that ultimately is the feeder for the adjustment that will be looked at and evaluated at the time of a general rate case, which is, if you've handled the FAC correctly, is the time you could impact non-Nucor customers.

So that reporting and monitoring will ultimately lead to the evaluation or revenues versus costs at the time of a rate case. And we -- we felt so strongly that we wanted to build a rate for Nucor that would cover their costs over the ten-year term, that we said in a given case if it doesn't, we'll make an adjustment to assure that it doesn't have a negative impact on non-Nucor customers.

- I believe in reference to one of the 1 O. 2 customers that was asked by Mr. Hall, you made a reference to other perspective perhaps special contract customers or something along that line. Are there other customers that are out there currently today interested in special contracts?
 - Α. There absolutely are. And to be fair --MR. WOODSMALL: Your Honor, I'm going to object. I attempted to do some discovery on this and it was objected to and you ruled that any discovery related to these other customers that may be out there is irrelevant.
 - Now after I was shut down on discovery, the Company's trying to raise that exact question and I'm left hanging and never got to do the discovery. So I don't think it's appropriate for the Company to go into this when they themselves admitted that this is entirely irrelevant.
- MR. FISCHER: I'll withdraw the question, 19 20 I don't want to get into a big fight about this. 21
- BY MR. FISCHER: 22

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23 Q. Are there other special contracts that the Company has today that you're aware of or have had 24 25 in the past?

- We -- we certainly have had special 1 Α. 2 contracts in the past. Certainly some that were related to the -- the start of our comprehensive 3 energy plan at Kansas City Power & Light and certainly 5 some that were related to customers, you know, well 6 before my time in -- in regulatory. We do not --7 other than in the Legacy Westar territory, we -- we do 8 not have additional special contracts in place for 9 customers today.
 - Q. A question was asked from the Bench about whether those had been approved outside the context of rate cases. Are you familiar with that?

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- A. It's my understanding that they -- that they were put in place outside of a general rate case for new customers coming in on those special contracts. And we have an existing special contract tariff out there in place today that this SIL tariff is modeled closely after. We just don't have any customers being served on it at this point in time.
- Q. Do you know if special contracts in the past have had fixed rate terms?
- A. My understanding is, is they had terms. The discussion earlier that Mr. Woodsmall held in front of the Commission was around a ten-year term specific to Noranda. And I honestly don't know what

the length of the term was for special contracts that
we've had, but they've obviously not been recurrent
one-year contracts from inception.

Q. Did you sufficiently get a chance to define net income for purposes of the question from the Bench?

5

6

22

- 7 Α. Yeah. I was just going to say I think 8 when I was responding to that question, and maybe we 9 talked about it a little bit later, that -- that the -- the utilization of the 355 tracker and the need 10 to not have an increase or decrease to net margin or 11 12 net income necessarily means that we're not going to be able to receive a return for investors for new 13 14 investment that's made to put a customer like Nucor in a greenfield space because that tracker under 355 15 picks up both the revenue side, which has priced those 16 17 amounts in, and the cost side, which causes a zero effect in the tracker. 18
- So -- so we wouldn't -- we wouldn't have
 that opportunity to pick it up at a later date.

 That's just lost return.
 - Q. Are you specifically talking about that 18 to 20 million dollars I referenced in the opening?
- A. I am. I am. For the -- for the incremental infrastructure investment on a greenfield

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1
    customer.
 2
                 MR. FISCHER: I think that's all I have,
 3
    Judge.
            Thank you.
 4
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Thank you.
 5
                 And then you can step down.
 6
                 THE WITNESS:
                               Thank you.
 7
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: That's all the
 8
   witnesses.
 9
                 MR. WOODSMALL: Your Honor, before we go
    any further, I'd like to offer an exhibit. Section
10
    536.070 gives the Commission authority to take as
11
12
    evidence records and documents. And I'd like to mark
    as an exhibit and have offered into evidence the
13
   portion of the Commission's order in the Noranda case
14
    in which they address this.
15
16
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Okay. Unfortunately, it
17
    looks familiar.
18
                 MR. WOODSMALL: I guess this would be
    Exhibit 6, Your Honor.
19
20
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Yes.
                 MR. WOODSMALL: Exhibit 7, I'm sorry.
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                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Exhibit 7. It's been
22
23
    offered. Any objections to its receipt?
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                 MR. FISCHER: Judge, I don't think it's
25
   evidence. He can certainly cite to it. It might be
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more convenient to have a copy with you, but I don't
1
 2
    consider it evidence.
                 MR. WOODSMALL: Your Honor, it --
 3
    536.070(5) states evidence, records and documents of
 4
 5
    the agency. And I would agree that I could cite to
 6
        The problem is when I get on appeal, I've heard
 7
    of situations in which the Commission says oh, no, you
    can't use that because it wasn't in the record on
 8
 9
    appeal. So I'm kind of belt and suspenders here, but
    that's the reason I'm offering it.
10
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: I'll receive it.
11
12
                 (MEGC Exhibit 7 was received into
13
    evidence.)
14
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: The alternative would be
15
    to take administrative notice of it and it is helpful
    to actually have it in the record.
16
17
                 MR. WOODSMALL: And that's all I had,
    Your Honor.
18
19
                 JUDGE WOODRUFF: Anything else?
20
                 All right. The schedule calls for briefs
    to be filed on November 1st with reply briefs on
21
   November 8. Since that is coming up very quickly,
22
23
   we'll need to expedite the transcript. I'm thinking
   making the transcript due on next Wednesday, the 23rd.
24
   Would that be okay for everybody? It's not like it
25
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1
    will be a real long transcript.
                 All right. We'll make the transcript due
 2
    on the 23rd.
 3
                 Anything else we need to take up while
 4
   we're still on the record? All right. Then we are
 5
    adjourned.
 6
 7
                  (MEGC Exhibit 7 was marked for
    identification.)
 8
                  (Whereupon, the hearing was adjourned.)
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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, Tracy Thorpe Taylor, CCR No. 939, within the State of Missouri, do hereby certify that the testimony appearing in the foregoing matter was duly sworn by me; that the testimony of said witnesses was taken by me to the best of my ability and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction; that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this matter was taken, and further, that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties thereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.

2.2

Tracy Thorpe Taylor, CCR

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