

# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of an Investigation into the  
Tree-Trimming Policies of Union Electric  
Company d/b/a AmerenUE.

)  
) **Case No. EW-2004-0583**  
)

### **ORDER ESTABLISHING PROTECTIVE ORDER**

Issue Date: September 20, 2005

Effective Date: September 20, 2005

This order grants the request for the Commission's standard protective order.

On May 13, 2004, the Commission opened this case to investigate the tree-trimming policies of Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE. On March 31, 2005, after receiving reports from AmerenUE and the Staff of the Commission, the Commission ordered AmerenUE to, among other things, file quarterly reports on its metropolitan St. Louis tree-trimming schedule.

On September 15, AmerenUE filed its quarterly report. On that same date, it filed a Motion for Protective Order.

AmerenUE asked that proprietary information that it filed with its report be subject to a protective order under Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.085. AmerenUE alleged that its report contained highly confidential information about its tree-trimming contracting practices. According to AmerenUE, if this information is made public, it would severely harm AmerenUE by giving competitors for tree-trimming services an unfair advantage. AmerenUE claims the information in the reports is not otherwise available to the public.

Upon review of the motion, the Commission finds that there is a need to protect confidential information and the request for a protective order is reasonable. The Commission has previously recognized the need to protect confidential information, and protective orders have helped minimize disputes in past cases. Therefore, the Commission concludes that a protective order should be granted.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. That the Motion for Protective Order filed by Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE is granted, and the protective order attached to this order as Attachment A is adopted.
2. That this order shall become effective on September 20, 2005.

**BY THE COMMISSION**



Colleen M. Dale  
Secretary

( S E A L )

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

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,  
on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2005.