

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
JEFFERSON CITY
January 15, 2002**

CASE NO: EM-2001-695

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Enclosed find certified copy of an ORDER in the above-numbered case(s).

Sincerely,



**Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Joint Application of Union Electric
Company and Lewis County Rural Electric Cooperative }
for an Order Approving the Change in Electric Supplier }
for Reasons in the Public Interest and Authorizing the }
Sale, Transfer and Assignment of Certain Electric }
Distribution Facilities, Easements and other Rights }
Generally from Union Electric Company to Lewis County }
Rural Electric Cooperative }

Case No. EM-2001-695

ORDER SUSPENDING PORTIONS OF PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE
AND DIRECTING FILING

On January 7, 2002, Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE, the Lewis County Electric Cooperative and the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission filed their Nonunanimous Stipulation and Agreement settling the issues between them regarding the sale, transfer and assignment of assets between AmerenUE and Cooperative and regarding a change of electric supplier affecting approximately 550 structures. The Office of the Public Counsel did not sign the agreement and thus the status of the agreement is nonunanimous.

On January 9, 2002, all the parties joined in a Joint Motion to Stay Procedural Schedule. The parties requested a suspension of the procedural schedule in this case excepting the hearing date, which the parties proposed to reserve. The parties indicated that discussions were continuing between them in an effort to resolve the Public Counsel's position regarding the agreement.

On January 14, 2002, the Staff filed its Suggestions in Support of the Nonunanimous Stipulation and Agreement. The suggestions provided Staff's basis for entering the agreement and stated that based on the circumstances and terms provided the change of electrical supplier proposed is in the public interest and that the transfer of assets presented is not detrimental to the public interest. Staff stated that any issue regarding the impact of the transactions presented on ratemaking would be reserved for future proceedings.

In requesting the stay to these proceedings, the parties stated that a unanimous agreement should be filed if such is obtained, or that the Public Counsel should file its request for a hearing or a position statement by January 22, 2002. If a hearing is requested, the parties would file a new proposed procedural schedule to accommodate a hearing on March 1, 2002.

The request by the parties for a stay is reasonable in light of the filing of the Nonunanimous Stipulation and Agreement. The stay will be granted and the parties will be directed to complete certain filings according to their suggestions and according to the need to timely determine the matters presented in this case.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. That the procedural schedule established for this case is suspended with the exception of the hearing date which shall remain as follows:

Evidentiary Hearing – 8:30 A.M. - March 1, 2002

2. That the evidentiary hearing will be held in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. The Governor Office Building meets accessibility standards required by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

If any person needs additional accommodations to participate in the hearing, please call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or 1-800-829-7541 (TDD) prior to the hearing.

3. That the Office of the Public Counsel shall file its request for hearing or a position statement no later than January 22, 2002.

4. That all parties that desire to respond to Staff Suggestions in Support of Nonunanimous Stipulation and Agreement shall do so no later than January 22, 2002.

5. That if a request for hearing is filed, the parties shall file a proposed procedural schedule no later than January 24, 2002, sufficient to allow hearing in this matter on March 1, 2002, and consistent with the requirements presented in the Commission's November 26, 2001 procedural order.

6. That this order shall become effective on January 15, 2002.

BY THE COMMISSION



Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

(S E A L)

Keith Thornburg, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority pursuant to
Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 15th day of January, 2002.

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and

I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City,

Missouri, this 15th day of Jan. 2002 .

Dale Hardy Roberts

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge

