

May 7, 2001

VIA HAND DELIVERY



Mr. Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
Missouri Public Service Commission
200 Madison Street, Suite 100
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Re: MPSC Case No. ES-2001-359

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of Union Electric Company, d/b/a AmerenUE, in the above matter, please find an original and eight (8) copies of its **Initial Reply to Staff's Incident Report and Motion for Protective Order**.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of this filing by stamping a copy of the enclosed letter and returning it to me in the enclosed self-addressed envelope.

Very truly yours,

James J. Cook/sh

James J. Cook
Managing Associate General Counsel

JJC/mlh
Enclosures

cc: J. Ketter
Office of Public Counsel

FILED³
MAY 07 2001

Missouri Public
Service Commission

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

FILED³
MAY 07 2001

Missouri Public
Service Commission

In the Matter of Union Electric Company,
d/b/a AmerenUE regarding an incident at
the Venice Power Plant in Venice, Illinois
on August 10, 2000.

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Case No. ES-2001-359

**INITIAL REPLY TO
STAFF'S REPORT AND MOTION
FOR PROTECTIVE ORDER**

COMES NOW Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE ("the Company") and hereby submits its Initial Reply to Staff Incident Report and Motion for Protective Order in the above styled case.

The Company will submit its reply to the Incident Report within the 30-day time limit.

Concerning the Motion for Protective Order, the Company appreciates the Staff's cooperation in treating certain information in a confidential manner, pending the issuance of a protective order by the Commission. The Company hereby requests that the Commission treat the Staff's filings confidentially, pending a decision on the Motion. The Company is re-examining the information included in the Staff's report, to see if confidential treatment will still be requested. The Company will notify the Staff and the Commission as soon as possible whether it will, in fact, seek confidential treatment.

WHEREFORE, Union Electric Company requests that the Commission withhold
action on Staff's Motion For Protective Order temporarily.

Dated May 7, 2001

Respectfully submitted,
Union Electric Company
d/b/a AmerenUE

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing document was served on the following parties of record via U.S. First-Class Mail on this 7th day of May, 2001:

General Counsel
Missouri Public Service Commission
P. O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Office of the Public Counsel
P. O. Box 7800
Jefferson City, MO 65102

James J. Cook/sh
James J. Cook