

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
JEFFERSON CITY
December 21, 2001**

CASE NO: ER-2001-672

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Enclosed find certified copy of an NOTICE OF EX PARTE in the above-numbered case(s).

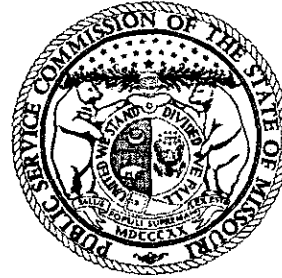
Sincerely,



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

Notice of *Ex Parte* Contact

TO: Commission Data Center:
All Parties in Case No. ER-2001-672
All Commissioners



FROM: Chair Kelvin Simmons *KS*
Commissioner Connie Murray *CM*
Commissioner Sheila Lumpe *SL*
Commissioner Steve Gaw *SG*
Commissioner Bryan Forbis *BF*

DATE: December 20, 2001

On December 20, 2001, we received the attached letter from Richard B. Vastine, Jr., concerning a proposed rate/fee increase by Missouri Public Service. The Commission is currently considering this issue in Case Number ER-2001-672 and is bound by the same *ex parte* rule as a court of law.

Pursuant to 4 CSR 240-4.020(4) no person may attempt to sway the judgment of the Commission or a Regulatory Law Judge in a proceeding before the Commission outside the hearing process. Whenever such contact might occur 4 CSR 240-4.020(8) states: as *ex parte* communications (either oral or written) may occur inadvertently, any member of the Commission or Regulatory Law Judge who received the communication shall immediately prepare a written report concerning the communication and submit it to the Chair and each member of the Commission. The report shall identify the person(s) who participated in the *ex parte* communication, the circumstances which resulted in the communication, the substance of the communication, and the relationship of the communication to a particular matter at issue before the Commission.

Therefore, out of an abundance of caution, I think it appropriate to submit this notice of *ex parte* contact pursuant to the standards set out in the rules cited above. This will ensure that any party to this case will have notice of the contact and a full and fair opportunity to respond to the comments presented.

cc: Executive Director
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge
General Counsel

Richard B. Vastine Jr.
310 Apple Valley Parkway
Belton, MO 64012
Home Phone 816-318-1702

December 16, 2001

part 1
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Commissioner Sheila Lumpe
Missouri Public Service Commission
Governor Office Building
200 Madison Street
PO Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102 0360

Dear Commissioner Lumpe,

In my November 2001 billing from Missouri Public Service (Energy One), I received a Notice of Hearing relative to a proposed rate / fee increase. A copy of this notice is included for your review. If I understand this notice, it appears that an additional charge of \$14.00 per month on usage of 1,000 kwh, or \$.014 per kilowatt hour is requested.

Referring to the table below, I have list my usage for the last twelve months demonstrating my current bill and the same bill under the proposed rate increases.

Billing Date	kWh Usage	Cust Charge	Energy Charge	Energy Charge	Energy Charge	Total Energy Charge	City Fee	County Sales Tax	Total Billing	Prop Rate Inc. Add Energy	New Bill At Prop Rate	% Billing Inc.
1/15/01	660	\$6.71	\$42.00	\$2.87	\$0.00	\$44.87	\$3.88	\$0.52	\$55.98	\$9.24	\$65.99	17.88%
2/13/01	491	\$6.71	\$34.37	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$34.37	\$3.09	\$0.41	\$44.58	\$6.87	\$52.03	16.71%
3/14/01	492	\$6.71	\$34.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$34.44	\$3.10	\$0.41	\$44.66	\$6.89	\$52.12	16.71%
4/12/01	580	\$6.71	\$40.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$40.60	\$3.56	\$0.47	\$51.34	\$8.12	\$60.14	17.14%
5/11/01	695	\$6.71	\$42.00	\$4.55	\$0.00	\$46.55	\$4.01	\$0.53	\$57.80	\$9.73	\$68.34	18.24%
6/13/01	832	\$6.71	\$42.00	\$16.70	\$0.00	\$58.70	\$4.92	\$0.65	\$70.98	\$11.65	\$83.61	17.79%
7/17/01	1,313	\$6.71	\$42.00	\$28.80	\$23.66	\$94.46	\$7.62	\$1.01	\$109.80	\$18.38	\$129.71	18.14%
8/15/01	1,177	\$6.71	\$42.00	\$28.80	\$13.38	\$84.18	\$6.84	\$0.91	\$98.64	\$16.48	\$116.49	18.10%
9/14/01	1,282	\$6.71	\$42.00	\$28.80	\$21.32	\$92.12	\$7.44	\$0.99	\$107.26	\$17.95	\$126.70	18.13%
10/15/01	787	\$6.71	\$42.00	\$8.96	\$0.00	\$50.96	\$4.34	\$0.58	\$62.59	\$11.02	\$74.53	19.07%
11/13/01	804	\$6.71	\$42.00	\$9.77	\$0.00	\$51.77	\$4.40	\$0.58	\$63.46	\$11.26	\$75.66	19.23%
12/13/01	922	\$6.71	\$42.00	\$15.42	\$0.00	\$57.42	\$4.83	\$0.64	\$69.60	\$12.91	\$83.59	20.10%
Average									\$69.72		\$82.41	18.19%

As you can clearly see from the chart above, the overall percentage increase to my bill ranges from 16.71% to 20.10% or an average of 18.19%. The percentage increase identified in the Notice Of Hearing does not reflect my overall burden including taxes.

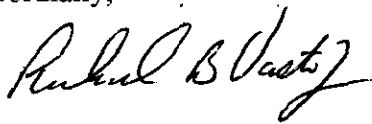
Regardless of my computed average or the 16.86% identified in the Notice of Hearing the requested increase is inappropriate and unwarranted. In fact defines greed.

I ask you, Commissioner [redacted] [redacted], to support the citizens of Missouri [redacted] and customers of Missouri Public Service (Energy One) by denying the requested increase or by allowing any increase. I suspect there are few customers of Missouri Public Service (Energy One) that have seen their personal incomes increase at a 16% plus rate.

In addition, I urge you to require Missouri Public Service (Energy One) to review their operations to determine what steps they can implement to reduce their operational costs. As in any business, it is essential to reduce costs to remain competitive, not pass those costs onto the consumer. As you are aware, we have no other supply alternative for our energy needs

I thank you for your attention and support in this matter.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Richard B. Vastine Jr.", written in dark ink.

Richard B. Vastine Jr.

Notice of Hearing

Missouri Public Service, a division of UtiliCorp United, Inc. has filed revised electric service tariff sheets with the Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC) which would increase the Company's Missouri jurisdictional annual gross revenues by approximately 16.86 percent. For the average residential customer using 1,000 kwh per month, the proposed increase would be approximately \$14.00 each month.

An evidentiary hearing has been set before the PSC at 9:00 o'clock a.m., January 25, 28-31, February 1, 4-8, 2002, at 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. If you wish to comment or secure information, you may contact the Office of the Public Counsel, Post Office Box 7800, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, telephone (573) 751-4857.

This building meets accessibility standards required by the Americans With Disabilities Act. If a customer needs additional accommodations to participate in these hearings, or seeks additional information, please call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or 1-800-829-7541 (TDD) prior to the hearing.

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE
ENERGYONE.

A Division of UtiliCorp United

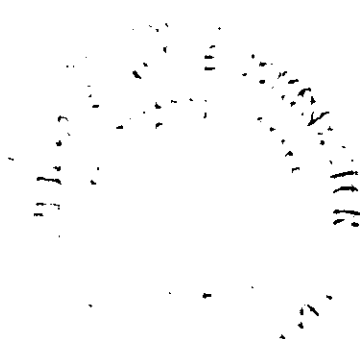
CC-103-01

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 21st day of Dec. 2001.



Dale Hardy Roberts

Dale Hardy Roberts
Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge