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MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

UTILITY OPERATIONS DIVISION

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

MICHAEL S. PROCTOR

**UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY
d/b/a AmerenUE**

CASE NO. ER-2008-0318

**Jefferson City, Missouri
October 2008**

Staff Exhibit No. 212
Case No(s) ER-2008-0318
Date 12-12-08 Rptr XF

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

In the Matter of Union Electric Company)
d/b/a AmerenUE for Authority to File)
Tariffs Increasing Rates for Electric)
Service Provided to Customers in the)
Company's Missouri Service Area.)

Case No. ER-2008-0318

AFFIDAVIT OF MICHAEL S. PROCTOR

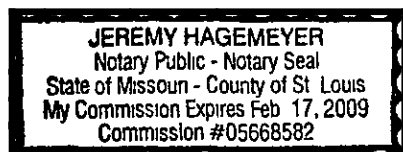
STATE OF MISSOURI)
) ss
COUNTY OF SAINT LOUIS)

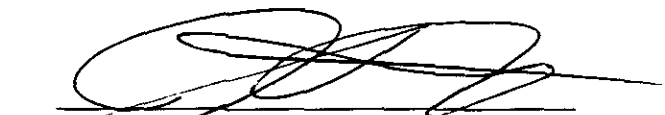
Michael S. Proctor, of lawful age, on his oath states that he has participated in the preparation of the following Rebuttal Testimony in question and answer form, consisting of 32 pages of Rebuttal Testimony to be presented in the above case, that the answers in the following Rebuttal Testimony were given by him; that he has knowledge of the matters set forth in such answers, and that such matters are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.



Michael S. Proctor

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of October, 2008.





Notary Public

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OF
MICHAEL S. PROCTOR
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d/b/a AmerenUE
CASE NO. ER-2008-0318

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1 Organization of Midwest ISO States' (OMS') Financial Transmission Rights Working Group
2 and co-chairman of the OMS' Transmission Pricing Working Group.

3 **Q. What are your current duties in the Energy Department as Chief**
4 **Regulatory Economist?**

5 A. I am actively involved with the activities of the Southwest Power Pool, Inc.
6 (SPP) and the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc (MISO) These
7 Regional Transmission Organizations (RTOs) coordinate the planning of the transmission
8 system on a regional basis and operate the regional power grid with the goals of increasing
9 efficiency and reliability in the competitive wholesale supply of electricity In meeting these
10 goals both SPP and MISO facilitate the operations of regional electricity markets

11 I am also responsible for testifying before the Commission on various issues where I
12 have relevant expertise and experience, with an emphasis in the economic analysis of utility
13 policy In addition, I consult with other Staff of the Commission on matters related to
14 *transmission expansion and wholesale electricity markets.*

15 **BACKGROUND - INTRODUCTION**

16 **Q. On what issues are you filing rebuttal testimony in this proceeding?**

17 A My rebuttal testimony will address the direct testimony of AmerenUE Witness
18 Ajay K. Arora Mr. Arora's direct testimony addresses the study used by AmerenUE to
19 assess the risks associated with the uncertainty of net fuel expenses

20 **Q. What is net fuel expense?**

21 A At this Commission for ratemaking purposes, net fuel expense includes the
22 delivered cost of fuels and the cost of purchased power less revenues received from sales of
23 electricity in the wholesale electricity markets

1 **Q. Why is it important to address the risks associated with the uncertainty of**
2 **net fuel expense?**

3 A AmerenUE's downside risk related to net fuel expense is the potential for
4 significant expense increases in net fuel subsequent to a determination by the Commission of
5 these costs in a rate case. As proposed by AmerenUE, this downside risk can be mitigated by
6 allowing for rates to AmerenUE's retail customers that periodically increase between rate
7 cases to cover higher net fuel expense. If the downside risk associated with net fuel expense
8 is relatively low, then there is little need for a Fuel Adjustment Clause (FAC) as provided for
9 by Section 383.266 and the Commission's rules, 4 CSR 240.240-3.161 and 4 CSR 240-
10 20.090.

11 **Q. Doesn't the fact that fuel costs for AmerenUE are increasing imply a high**
12 **downside risk in net fuel expense on a going forward basis?**

13 A No. I addressed this issue in my rebuttal testimony in AmerenUE's previous
14 rate case - Case No. ER-2007-0002. At page 6 of that rebuttal testimony I made the following
15 statement:

16 "Second, while changing fuel prices and wholesale electric prices impact the
17 level of profit margins, AmerenUE has not presented any studies to show what
18 this impact is. In essence, since there is a high level of correlation between fuel
19 prices and spot market prices for electricity, the net impact of changing prices
20 on profit margins could be fairly minimal, and I will present evidence to show
21 that this is the case."

22 On page 26 of its Report and Order in Case No. ER-2007-0002, the Commission
23 found that "A future rate case, not a fuel adjustment clause is the proper means by which
24 AmerenUE should recover its rising fuel costs."

25 **Q. Does the study submitted by AmerenUE in this case support the position**
26 **of the Staff in the previous AmerenUE rate case No. ER-2007-0002?**

1 A No While the AmerenUE study purportedly addresses the issue regarding the
2 interaction between net fuel expense and electricity prices, it does not arrive at the same
3 conclusion as the Staff in the previous AmerenUE rate case The purpose of my rebuttal
4 testimony in this case is to provide the Commission with my analysis of the study performed
5 by AmerenUE and filed in this case

6 **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

7 **Q. Do you agree with the study submitted by Mr. Arora?**

8 A No, I do not While the overall concepts that the study purportedly addresses
9 appear to be sound, the implementation of the study is flawed in several critical respects In
10 this regard, the Commission has no new evidence from Case No ER-2007-0002 on which to
11 change its decision to deny AmerenUE's request for a FAC

12 **Q. What specific flaws did you find in your review of the AmerenUE risk
13 assessment study for net fuel expense?**

14 A In this summary section I will list these flaws, and will explain why these are
15 flaws in the following sections of my rebuttal testimony

16 1 Wrong Estimates of Uncertainty for Electricity and Natural Gas Prices
17 AmerenUE's estimation of uncertainty for electricity prices and natural gas prices
18 uses the incorrect data to estimate the uncertainty for the model which was used to
19 calculate net fuel expense within each of the periods for which the study was
20 performed. The result is a significant over estimation of the variability in net fuel
21 expense

22 2 Wrong Estimate of Uncertainty for Coal Prices AmerenUE's estimation of
23 uncertainty for coal prices, which uses a different type of data than what was used
24 for electricity and natural gas prices, also uses the wrong data, and fails to account
25 for the correlation that exists between spot-market electricity prices and spot-
26 market coal prices

27 3 Incorrect Analysis of Correlations Among Variables AmerenUE's analysis of
28 correlation between electricity prices and coal prices used daily changes in forward
29 prices This analysis tests a hypothesis that, if true, may imply correlation in
30 forecasts of the spot-market price for these two variables, but is not a necessary

1 condition for correlation. In addition, AmerenUE presents an incorrect analysis of
2 annual average prices of the correlation of historical levels for coal, natural gas
3 and electricity prices. Finally, AmerenUE confuses causation with correlation in
4 the discussion of why AmerenUE's generation facilities do not cause the
5 electricity prices in the Midwest ISO's day-ahead energy market.

6 4 Results Do Not Meet A Sanity Check. The results for AmerenUE's 250 scenarios
7 for each period of the study indicate too high of a level of dispersion in the test-
8 year when correctly compared to historical data, and actually show declining
9 uncertainty for the out-year periods. The uncertainty should have increased in the
10 out-years to reflect an increasing level of forecasting uncertainty.

11 **Q. Based on these flaws in the AmerenUE implementation of its risk
12 assessment study, what is your recommendation to the Commission?**

13 A. The Commission should find that AmerenUE's risk assessment study for net
14 fuel expense does not provide the support necessary for it to approve AmerenUE's request for
15 a FAC.

16 **Q. How is the remainder of your rebuttal testimony structured?**

17 A. First, I will address the way in which AmerenUE risk assessment study of net
18 fuel expense should have been structured. Then, I will address each of the flaws in the way
19 that the study was implemented.

20 **STRUCTURING ISSUES REGARDING AMERENUE'S RISK**
21 **ASSESSMENT OF NET FUEL EXPENSE**

22 **Q. Have you previously addressed structuring a study for assessing the risk
23 of net fuel expense?**

24 A. Yes, I have. At page 6 of my rebuttal testimony in Case No.ER-2007-0002 I
25 made the following statement:

26 "There would be several elements that should be included in such a study, and
27 I would be more than willing to be involved with AmerenUE in the specific
28 design. For purposes of this testimony, I will present a basic structure that
29 should be followed."

30 **Q. What was the basic structure you set out in your previous testimony?**

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1 A I set out five steps for a study that would incorporate evaluating the impact of
2 uncertainty on net fuel expense. These steps are summarized below, and were covered in
3 greater detail on pages 6 through 11 of my rebuttal testimony in ER-2007-0002.

4 1 Determine the specific uncertain variables.

5 2 Determine statistical measures for the uncertain variables

6 3 Determine correlations among uncertain variables

7 4 Set out all of the scenarios involving uncertain variables to be analyzed.

8 5 Run production cost models to determine the level of profit margins associated
9 with each scenario

10 **Q. Prior to filing its study in this case, did AmerenUE involve you, or to your**
11 **knowledge, any Staff in the specific design of what was filed by Mr. Arora?**

12 A I was not contacted with respect to the implementation specifics used by
13 AmerenUE in the study it filed in this case I am not aware of any other Staff having been
14 contacted prior to AmerenUE's filing of its study in this case

15 **Q. Did AmerenUE follow the five basic steps that you had set out in your**
16 **previous testimony on this matter?**

17 A. Essentially, AmerenUE's study covered each of the five steps listed above In
18 addition, AmerenUE expanded these five steps to include specifics regarding the future time
19 periods to be evaluated with respect to net fuel risk

20 **Q. What time periods were covered by AmerenUE's study?**

21 A AmerenUE's study covered the test year, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012

22 **Q. Do you agree that analysis of each of these time periods is relevant for the**
23 **Commission's determination of need for a FAC in this case?**

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1 A No, I do not As included in Section IX of the *Staff Report Cost of Service*
2 filed on August 28, 2008 (re-filed on September 8, 2008) in this case, AmerenUE is in the
3 process of performing environmental upgrades to its existing coal units that are due for
4 completion in December of 2009 and April of 2010 Thus, AmerenUE will likely file a rate
5 case to include the cost of these upgrades in rate base at some point prior to the in-service
6 dates for these environmental upgrades Moreover, the results for 2011 and 2012 are not
7 relevant, and the results for 2010 are on the margin of being relevant.

8 **Q. While AmerenUE followed the five steps that you set out in its previous**
9 **rate case, was the implementation of these steps performed in a manner that supports**
10 **the reasonableness of the results?**

11 A No, they were not Specifically, the study did not properly specify the
12 elements of uncertainty that should have been included, and therefore did not correctly
13 estimate uncertainty for the key variables that include electricity price, natural gas prices and
14 coal prices The study also included uncertainty for nuclear fuel costs, load, and forced
15 outages on generation units While emission prices are not included as a part of net fuel
16 expense, these prices are also needed in order to get the proper dispatch built into the
17 calculation of net fuel expense My rebuttal testimony focuses on electricity prices, natural
18 gas prices and coal prices.

19 **Q. For these three variables, what measures of uncertainty are necessary to**
20 **perform a proper study?**

21 A There are three distinct classes of uncertainty that are necessary to perform a
22 proper study

23 1 Profile Uncertainty Profiles relate to changes in the variables that occur for time
24 frames within a given year, such as hourly (load and electricity prices), daily

1 (natural gas prices) or monthly (coal prices) For load, electricity prices and, to a
2 lesser extent, natural gas prices, these changes are driven by changes in weather,
3 and the variability in these changes are driven by the variability in weather

4 2 Average Annual Uncertainty. When running simulations of a given year, the
5 profile uncertainty described above will result in variations in the average annual
6 levels for each of the variables. To the extent that profile uncertainty is driven by
7 the variability in weather, the deviations in average annual levels of the variables
8 should be similar to the deviations of the average annual levels for weather
9 However, when factors other than weather play a role in profile uncertainty, there
10 will be some differences

11 3 Forecast Uncertainty When uncertainty is included for years beyond the test year,
12 it is necessary to forecast the average annual levels for each variable These
13 forecasts may include uncertainty due to weather, but can also include additional
14 uncertainty to the extent there are other drivers for the forecast. It is important to
15 include correlations among the variables to properly calculate the forecasts and the
16 uncertainty associated with these forecasts.

17 **Q. What price forecasts are required for each of these variables?**

18 A All forecasts should be of the annual average level of each variable In
19 addition to the forecast of the annual average level of each variable, various profiles must also
20 be determined For load and electricity prices, hourly profiles are required For fuel prices,
21 monthly profiles are required, and for pricing of natural gas, AmerenUE's study also used
22 daily price profiles

23 **WRONG ESTIMATES OF UNCERTAINTY FOR ELECTRICITY AND**
24 **NATURAL GAS PRICES**

25 **Q. What was the overriding issue in the measure of statistical dispersion in**
26 **the AmerenUE study?**

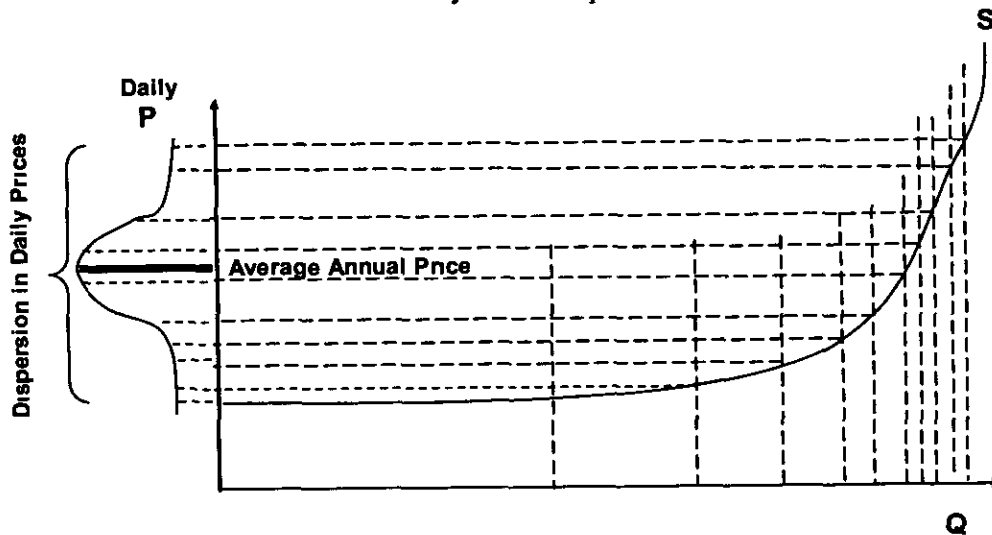
27 A As I stated previously, there is a difference between the uncertainty for an
28 annual average level of a variable compared to uncertainty for a profile (monthly, daily or
29 hourly), and there are differences in the levels of uncertainty associated with each In
30 statistics, this difference is illustrated by the difference between the measures of dispersion
31 around an average compared to the measure of dispersion for that average Unfortunately,

1 AmerenUE's measures of uncertainty confuse these concepts and therefore, incorrectly
2 measures the uncertainty associated with each

3 **Q. Can you illustrate this difference in the context of uncertainty related to**
4 **electricity prices?**

5 **A** Yes The following graph is an illustration of the variability that occurs in
6 daily electric prices with changes in weather that result in varying levels of demand

7 **Figure 1**
8 **Daily Price Dispersion**



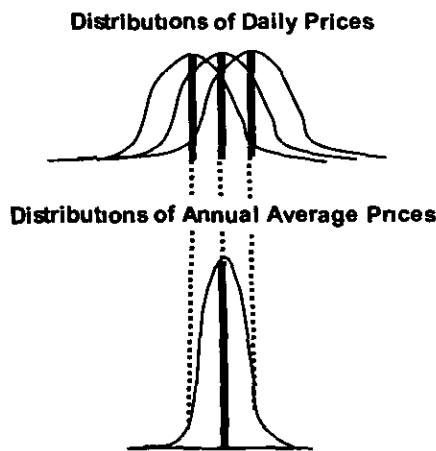
9
10 As weather changes, demand shifts and where the resulting demand for electricity
11 intersects with the supply curve for electricity determines the daily price This is shown in the
12 graph by dashed lines for varying levels of demand along the horizontal (Quantity) axis and
13 where these intersect with the supply curve, the dashed lines are extended to the vertical
14 (Price) axis to indicate the determination of a daily price

15 The distribution curve drawn to the left of the price axis illustrates the dispersion that
16 occurs throughout the year because of the daily changes in weather In the center of this
17 distribution the average of the daily prices is represented by the dark line. This distribution of

1 daily prices is the type of distribution that was estimated in the AmerenUE study for
2 dispersion in both electricity and natural gas prices. However, this is not the end of the story.

3 AmerenUE then constructed 250 simulations of these daily price distributions for each
4 of the periods set out in its study (i.e., test year, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012). What is at issue
5 here is the distribution of the 250 simulations. The figure below illustrates the difference in
6 the distribution of daily prices when compared to the distribution of the average annual prices
7 calculated for each of the 250 scenarios.

8 Figure 2



10
11 In the top of this figure the daily distributions for various scenarios are represented by
12 their individual distributions around the annual average. In the lower part of the figure, a
13 much narrower distribution represents the distribution of the annual averages that are
14 calculated for each of the scenarios. I will provide evidence in this section of my rebuttal
15 testimony that the distribution of the average annual prices is much narrower than for the
16 distribution of daily prices within a year. Because the AmerenUE study used the daily
17 distribution to represent the distribution of the annual averages, it has significantly over-
18 estimated the variability associated with electricity and natural gas prices.

1 **Q. From a statistical perspective, what is the difference between the measure**
2 **of dispersion around an average and a measure of dispersion for that average?**

3 A. As an example, the dispersion around an average is illustrated by the measure
4 of the deviations of monthly observations on a variable from the average annual levels for
5 those monthly observations. The dispersion of an average comes from repeating the
6 calculation of the annual average over multiple trials and calculating the deviation from the
7 overall mean of the averages calculated in each trial. Schedule 1 attached to my rebuttal
8 testimony illustrates this difference using two-day weighted average for daily mean
9 temperatures (2/3 today, 1/3 yesterday). I used daily data from 1970 through 2007. Two-day
10 weighted average for daily mean temperatures is the weather variable that Staff uses to
11 correlate with daily load for AmerenUE.

12 **Q. What do these example calculations illustrate?**

13 A. The standard deviation is a measure of dispersion of the data around its
14 average, and the ratio of the standard deviation to the average calculates the percentage
15 dispersion of the data around its average. This example shows the significant difference
16 between the dispersion of a daily weather profile when compared to the dispersion of annual
17 averages calculated from a repeated sample of daily profiles. The dispersions of daily
18 observation around their mean for the profiles are larger than the dispersion of the annual
19 averages calculated from a repeated sample of monthly profiles.

20 The specific results are that the standard deviations of daily temperatures around the
21 average annual temperature varied from as low as 16.3 degrees to as high as 21.8 degrees,
22 with ratios of the standard deviations to the mean in each year varying from a low of 29.3% to
23 a high of 41.6%. This shows there is a lot of variation in temperature within a single year.

1 | However, when the mean and standard deviation of the thirty-seven years of annual average
2 | temperatures is calculated, the standard deviation is only 1.76 degrees with a ratio to the
3 | overall mean of 3.17%. As I will explain in greater detail, AmerenUE's analysis of
4 | uncertainty mixes these two different concepts by estimating profile dispersion of prices using
5 | daily variations and then applying these estimates to repeated samples (scenarios) of annual
6 | averages.

7 | **Q. How did AmerenUE's study apply its estimates of uncertainty factors to**
8 | **the issue of risk associated with electricity prices?**

9 | A. Using estimates of "annual uncertainty factors," Mr. Arora calculates 250
10 | scenarios/trials of joint outcomes for the uncertain variables that he states were designed to
11 | reflect both the "annual dispersions around the base forecasts" and the "estimated correlations
12 | between the variables." The results are shown on Schedule AKA-E1 attached to Mr. Arora's
13 | direct testimony.

14 | **Q. What measures of uncertainty did AmerenUE use for electricity prices?**

15 | A. The measures varied for each variable. The details of what AmerenUE
16 | measured as uncertainty are found in section III of Mr. Arora's direct testimony starting on
17 | page 5 and going through page 14. Mr. Arora characterizes the estimates of uncertainty by
18 | what he calls the "annual uncertainty factor," which is defined at page 4 of his direct
19 | testimony as "a measure of the average annual dispersion around the base forecast" for each
20 | uncertain variable, and later at page 7, as the ratio of the standard deviation to the average
21 | annual level for the variable.

22 | **Q. How did AmerenUE measure the uncertainty associated with the "average**
23 | **annual dispersion around the base forecast" for electricity prices?**

1 A The AmerenUE's study did not measure the uncertainty associated with a
2 forecast of average annual electricity prices. Instead, it used measures of uncertainty for daily
3 price changes from historical profiles. In addition, the uncertainties associated with those
4 daily average electric prices were incorrectly estimated, resulting in too high estimates of
5 dispersion for year-to-year variations for its 250 scenarios.

6 **Q. How did Ameren UE measure the uncertainty associated with the average
7 price of electricity?**

8 A The daily average price was calculated for each of the four pricing periods
9 (Week day on-peak - 5x16, Saturday on-peak - 1x16, Sunday on-peak - 1x16 and off-peak -
10 7x8). For each month (January 2006 through December 2007) the standard deviation was
11 calculated as the sum of the squared differences between the mean price for that month and
12 the observed daily average price divided by the number of observations minus one.

13 **Q. Is the measure of uncertainty used by AmerenUE for daily average
14 electricity price uncertainty the appropriate measure to use for annual average
15 electricity price forecast uncertainty?**

16 A No, it is not. While it properly measures the standard deviation of daily
17 average electricity prices, this measure cannot be used to measure the dispersion associated
18 with changes in average annual levels for electricity prices. As Schedule 1 indicates, using
19 daily deviations in prices to represent deviations for annual changes in prices will
20 significantly overestimate the amount of variation for annual price levels.

21 **Q. Is the standard deviation of daily average electricity price the appropriate
22 measure to use for daily average electricity price uncertainty?**

1 A No it is not Daily average electricity prices are highly correlated with daily
2 weather This relationship should have been estimated and weather uncertainty should then
3 have been used to determine the uncertainty associated with daily profiles for average
4 electricity prices

5 **Q. Do you agree with the comparison Mr. Arora makes of his results to**
6 **average annual electricity prices in the Annual Average ATC Power Price table shown**
7 **on his Schedule AKA-E2?**

8 A No I do not Mr Arora is comparing oranges and apples The data on
9 Schedule AKA-E2 are average annual prices over time. The standard deviations used for
10 average annual prices over time shown in this table should not be compared to a calculation of
11 the standard deviation for daily average prices (see Mr. Arora's Schedule AKA-E1 for a
12 summary of the results of these trials). What Mr Arora calculated in Schedule AKA-E1 was
13 the average annual price for the 250 iterations/trials performed for the test year along with the
14 standard deviation for these 250 iterations These 250 iterations of electricity prices are based
15 on the standard deviations of daily average prices he inappropriately estimated from the 2006
16 and 2007 time period He divides the standard deviation by the average from the 250
17 iterations, calling the result the "annual uncertainty factor " He then compares this to the
18 annual uncertainty factor calculated from annual average prices over the period 1999 through
19 2007.

20 **Q. Why are the comparisons of the results for 250 iterations for the test year**
21 **to historical prices not appropriate?**

22 A These comparisons are inappropriate for several reasons First, what drives
23 price uncertainty within a year is totally different from what drives price uncertainty over a

1 sequence of years Specifically, within a given month, the supply curve for electricity is
2 relatively constant as fuel costs are relatively fixed The driver for differences in daily
3 average prices within a month is the change in demand that is being driven by weather.
4 However, over time, the supply curve for electricity is changing due to changes in fuel costs
5 While differences in demand due to differences in annual weather will contribute to the
6 determination of average annual prices over time, it is not comparable to differences that
7 occur within a fixed time frame when the supply curve is not changing, or is only changing in
8 minor ways compared to changes that occur over multiple years. Moreover, there is no reason
9 to expect the uncertainty factors within a year to be the same as those that would be measured
10 over multiple years

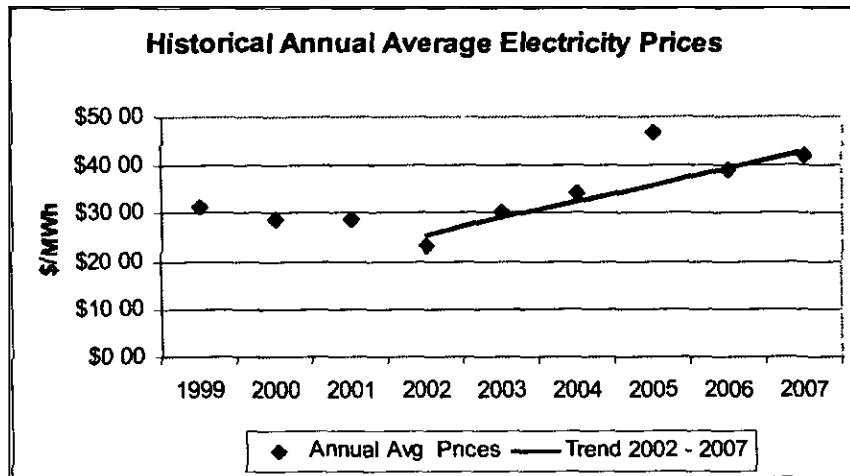
11 **Q. Can you give specific examples of how fuel cost drove the uncertainty**
12 **factor in Schedule AKA-E2?**

13 A Yes. Notice that 2005 was an exceptionally high price year This was the
14 result of two primary drivers, the rail problems with western coal and hurricanes Katrina and
15 Rita If the data from 2005 is removed from the set and the uncertainty factor is recalculated,
16 the uncertainty factor drops significantly from 22% to 18.75% The change is not due to
17 weather, but is due to a major upward shift in the supply curve for electricity caused by coal
18 supply restrictions and high natural gas prices.

19 In addition to eliminating the unusual shift that occurred in the supply for 2005, a plot
20 of the data shows an upward shift in electricity prices due to costs trending upward from 2002
21 through 2007

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Figure 3



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The following table shows the results of these prices with the unusual increase in 2005 and the upward price trends removed. These calculations show the significant difference in the standard deviation and its ratio as a percent of the average when the shifts in supply between years are removed. The standard deviation drops to less than 25% of the original and the ratio drops to about 26% of the standard deviation calculated from the observed data.

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Table 1
Electricity Prices With Annual Supply Shifts Removed

Year	Observed	Detrended
1999	\$31.34	\$31.34
2000	\$28.74	\$28.74
2001	\$28.73	\$28.73
2002	\$23.19	\$25.78
2003	\$30.31	\$29.43
2004	\$34.25	\$29.90
2005	\$46.74	\$28.00
2006	\$39.01	\$27.72
2007	\$41.94	\$27.18
Average	\$33.81	\$28.53
St Dev	\$7.44	\$1.62
Ratio	22.02%	5.68%

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Moreover, Mr Arora's comparison mixes deviations from movements along a supply curve driven by changes in demand associated with changing weather (illustrated by the detrended data) with deviations that occur from shifts in the supply curve (illustrated by the

1 | observed data) Had calculations similar to those presented in Table 1 been performed as a
2 | reasonableness check against the results, this error could have been avoided.

3 | **Q. How were daily changes in observed prices used to calculate uncertainty**
4 | **for natural gas price?**

5 | A AmerenUE estimated the standard deviation of daily natural gas prices for each
6 | month during the period January 2006 through December 2007 This approach appears to be
7 | similar to what it used for electricity prices These results were also inappropriately applied
8 | to create the 250 scenarios for each period in AmerenUE's study. Mr Arora also compares
9 | the dispersion results of these 250 scenarios from the test year to multiple year dispersions
10 | shown on Schedule AKA-E2. As with electricity prices, this is an inappropriate comparison

11 | **WRONG ESTIMATE OF UNCERTAINTY FOR COAL PRICES**

12 | **Q. Did AmerenUE use the same methodology for coal prices as it used for**
13 | **estimating the uncertainty for electricity prices?**

14 | A No For coal prices, something like forecast uncertainty was calculated using
15 | forward prices as the forecasting tool for the commodity component of coal

16 | **Q. Is there significant profile uncertainty associated with coal prices?**

17 | A. Because AmerenUE hedges what it pays for coal, there is not significant
18 | uncertainty associated with coal prices within any given year. The greatest uncertainty
19 | associated with coal costs are from forecasts of the prices and delivery costs for future
20 | periods

21 | **Q. How were forward prices used to calculate coal commodity price**
22 | **uncertainty?**

1 A AmerenUE did not compare future price forecasts to actual prices for purposes
2 of estimating forecasting uncertainty. Instead, AmerenUE simply calculated the standard
3 deviation of forward prices that had occurred over the period from January 2006 through
4 December 2007 for delivery of coal in 2009 and 2012. Daily changes in forward prices have
5 little to do with forecast uncertainty. These changes simply reflect the daily changes in
6 commodity traders' expectations about prices at a fixed future date. This is not the proper
7 measure of the uncertainty surrounding a forecast of future prices.

8 **Q. Can you provide an example of how AmerenUE should have estimated the**
9 **uncertainty associated with a one-year ahead forecast of coal prices?**

10 A Yes. I will provide two such examples, one using forward prices as the
11 forecast and a second using the United States Department of Energy's (DOE) forecasts. First,
12 if future prices are chosen as the base forecast for price one-year ahead, the first decision is
13 what future prices to use as the basis for the forecast. Daily futures prices are likely to be too
14 volatile as a forecasting mechanism. AmerenUE chose to use the two-year average of daily
15 futures prices over 2006-2007 as the basis for its forecast for 2009 coal prices. A one-year
16 average or less of future prices would have been preferable. For example a one-year average
17 of future coal prices from 2006 to forecast the one-year average actual coal prices for 2007
18 would be a one-year ahead forecast. This approach could be repeated over multiple years
19 going back in time to determine deviations between forecasts and observed prices. A similar
20 approach could be used using DOE's one-year ahead forecasts of coal prices and comparing
21 them to observed prices.

22 These two alternatives were used as illustrations, not as the only forecasts to be
23 considered, I recommend seeking out other forecasts for comparison, e.g., published forecasts

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1 from various forecasting groups, and perhaps internal forecasts generated by AmerenUE I
2 would then compare the alternatives looking at recent forecasting accuracy, choosing the
3 forecast that has been most accurate.

4 **Q. Do you also disagree with Mr. Arora's comparison of the results of the 250**
5 **scenarios/trials with the year-to-year data for coal prices on Schedule AKA-E2?**

6 A. Yes As with electricity prices, AmerenUE is comparing oranges and apples
7 One should not compare deviations from averages within a year to deviations from the
8 average calculated over multiple years

9 **Q. Were uncertainty factors calculated for other variables?**

10 A Yes In addition to the commodity component of coal price, AmerenUE
11 calculated uncertainty factors for the diesel fuel surcharge in a similar fashion to what it
12 calculated for coal commodity costs. I have already addressed the methodological issues with
13 this approach. In addition, AmerenUE witness Mr Robert K Neff estimated uncertainty
14 factors for other coal price components and nuclear fuel prices Uncertainty factors for
15 generating unit availability were calculated by AmerenUE witness Mr Timothy D. Finnell
16 from the work he does on production cost simulations. I am not discussing these components
17 in my rebuttal testimony Finally, load uncertainty was calculated by correlating load with
18 weather and modeling 250 monthly weather patterns. I am not addressing the accuracy of the
19 regression models used or whether or not the appropriate weather data was used There are
20 other Staff experts in these areas, and to my knowledge AmerenUE did not consult with those
21 Staff experts in its development of the load uncertainty

1 **INCORRECT ANALYSIS OF CORRELATIONS AMONG VARIABLES**

2 **Q. What correlations among uncertain variables did AmerenUE use in its**
3 **study of net fuel expense?**

4 A Apparently the only correlations used by AmerenUE are among loads,
5 electricity prices and natural gas prices AmerenUE did this by correlating daily loads,
6 electricity prices and natural gas prices with daily temperatures using data from January 2006
7 through December 2007.

8 **Q. Do you generally agree with the correlations used by AmerenUE?**

9 A For purposes of creating profiles, I agree that daily electricity prices and daily
10 loads are highly correlated with daily weather I also agree that monthly natural gas prices
11 tend to exhibit a seasonal pattern, with higher prices during the winter and lower prices during
12 the summer. I am somewhat concerned about the daily correlations within months between
13 daily temperatures and daily gas prices However, the results on Mr Arora's Schedule AKA-
14 E10 show that these have very poor correlations

15 **Q. What is the purpose of the types of correlations that were used in the**
16 **AmerenUE study of net fuel expense?**

17 A These correlations to weather are used to model variation in patterns within a
18 given year that are consistent. Moreover, within a given year weather variations can create
19 different patterns in prices and loads Using the correlations to match prices and loads to the
20 same weather ensures that price and load patterns are not mismatched

21 **Q. Did AmerenUE attempt to correlate the forecasts of the uncertain**
22 **variables?**

1 A No In fact, Mr Arora's direct testimony is that there exists no correlation
2 among the average annual prices of coal, natural gas and electricity He discusses this
3 absence of correlation on pages 15 through 26

4 **Q. Do you agree with AmerenUE's finding of no correlation among the price**
5 **of coal, natural gas and electricity?**

6 A. No, I do not AmerenUE did not correctly analyze the historical data, and used
7 the wrong data and wrong type of analysis to measure correlations

8 **Q. What evidence of lack of correlation of historical prices did Mr. Arora**
9 **present?**

10 A. The historical prices for AmerenUE's coal and natural gas prices are presented
11 on Mr Arora's Schedule AKS-E5 He calculates percentage changes by year and draws
12 arrows either up or down to show lack of correlation This is not a proper analysis of
13 correlation for historical prices Instead, Mr Arora should have plotted the prices against
14 each other to see if there was a pattern of correlation. If he had done this, he would have seen
15 that, except for 2005, the prices are highly correlated I have plotted these data and they are
16 shown on Schedules 2.A and 2.B attached to my rebuttal testimony

17 **Q. What happened in 2005 to cause the correlations to deviate from the**
18 **regression lines that fit the remaining data?**

19 A. In 2005, two major events impacted electricity markets First, the rail
20 problems for the Powder River Basin (PRB) coal deliveries affected coal supplies from these
21 crucial sources of low sulfur coal. Because of this coal supply shortage, those offering
22 electricity into the MISO energy markets increased their offer prices and to some extent
23 lowered the amounts they were willing to burn to sell into the market, realizing that they may

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1 | be at risk for having an insufficient coal supply to meet their own native loads. In addition,
2 | with hurricanes Katrina and Rita, natural gas prices increased significantly because of a
3 | concern for lack of supply. Thus, two unexpected events affected the electricity markets,
4 | particularly through the summer and fall of 2005. This resulted in unusually high market
5 | prices for electricity compared to the increase in coal prices, and unusually high market prices
6 | for natural gas compared to electricity and coal prices. While unexpected events can, and do
7 | impact markets in unusual ways, the underlying correlation between prices was restored as
8 | shown by the graphs in Schedules 2.A and 2.B that include data from both 2006 and 2007.

9 | **Q. Mr. Arora also pointed out the lack of correlation between delivered**
10 | **(hedged) coal prices and electricity prices. Do you agree with this lack of correlation?**

11 | A To some extent, I do agree that AmerenUE's hedged coal costs are not as
12 | highly correlated with spot-market prices for electricity, coal or natural gas. However, one
13 | would not expect for there to be as high a level of correlation between a hedged cost and spot-
14 | market costs as between spot-market prices themselves. This is because AmerenUE's and
15 | other utilities offers into the MISO spot-markets for electricity incorporate what AmerenUE
16 | calls *dispatch cost*. *Dispatch coal costs* differ from hedged coal costs as they reflect spot-
17 | market prices for fuels, while hedged coal costs are more directly related to forward coal
18 | prices. Schedule 3 attached to this rebuttal testimony shows the relationship between hedged
19 | coal costs and spot market coal costs.

20 | **Q. What does Schedule 3 show as the relationship between hedged coal costs**
21 | **and spot-market coal costs?**

22 | A Schedule 3 shows that over the last several years, the hedged cost of coal at
23 | AmerenUE has been below the spot-market price for coal, producing significant savings for

1 AmerenUE's retail customers At the same time, Schedule 3 shows that both the dollars per
2 MMBtu of savings as well as the percent of savings varies from year-to-year The dollars per
3 MMBtu of savings trended up from 2003 through 2005, where it reached it highest level
4 While hedged coal costs appear to be correlated with spot-market prices over these three
5 years, one would have anticipated the dollars per MMBtu of savings to max out in 2005, as
6 this was the year when spot-market prices for coal increased dramatically because of the rail
7 problems associated with the PRB coal In 2006, the savings from hedging leveled off, but
8 still stayed at a relatively high level As the markets for coal normalized in 2007, the savings
9 from hedging declined.

10 **Q. How does Schedule 3 relate to the issue of downside risk respecting net**
11 **fuel costs?**

12 A The most important lesson to learn from Schedule 3 is that when unexpected
13 events drive spot-market coal prices up, hedging that price before those unexpected events
14 occur is a prudent strategy It may be possible that an unexpected event could also drive spot-
15 market coal prices down, resulting in additional costs from hedging coal costs before the
16 downturn in spot market prices However, the recent history in coal markets does not provide
17 any examples, and therefore, it would be difficult to find data to support estimating the
18 probability of this occurring

19 **Q. How did AmerenUE treat hedging of coal costs in its study of risk**
20 **associated with net fuel expense?**

21 A AmerenUE's treatment of hedged coal costs is described on pages 8 and 9 of
22 Mr Arora's direct testimony For purposes of the study submitted by Mr. Arora the hedge
23 ratios for coal cost applied to the test year were 100% and for the 2009 through 2012 years the

1 | hedge ratios used were “the actual hedge ratios in place for those years as of February 2008 ”
2 | The un-hedged portion of coal costs then is subject to the same uncertainty as the spot-market
3 | for coal

4 | **Q. Do you agree with the approach taken by AmerenUE for treating hedged**
5 | **coal costs in its study of risk associated with net fuel expense?**

6 | A Initially, using the hedge ratios at the time the AmerenUE study was performed
7 | appears to be reasonable. However, by the time rates go into effect from this case most if not
8 | all of the coal scheduled for delivery in 2009 is hedged and the percent hedged for 2010 will
9 | have increased from what it was in February of this year. Moreover, AmerenUE has a
10 | specific schedule for hedging its coal cost, and the Commission would get a better picture of
11 | downside risk for future net fuel expense had this schedule been incorporated into the study
12 | on a forward-looking basis.

13 | **Q. Mr. Arora devoted several pages of his direct testimony to arguing that**
14 | **MISO’s electricity prices at AmerenUE are not correlated to AmerenUE’s fuel costs. Do**
15 | **you agree with this argument?**

16 | A No. At pages 15 through 18, Mr. Arora presents reasons that he believes
17 | support the hypothesis that MISO’s electricity prices at AmerenUE are not caused by the fuel
18 | costs at AmerenUE’s generation facilities. Even if Mr. Arora’s arguments are correct, the fact
19 | that fuel costs at AmerenUE’s generation facilities do not set the electricity prices is neither a
20 | necessary nor sufficient condition for AmerenUE’s fuel cost to not be correlated with MISO’s
21 | electricity prices. Moreover, correlation and direct causation are different concepts.

22 | Consider the following simple example that illustrates this difference. Utility A, like
23 | AmerenUE has the low cost, base-load generation, predominately fired by coal. Utility B has

1 | higher cost, base-load generation, some fired by coal and some fired by natural gas. Almost
2 | always, Utility B's generation sets the market price for electricity. Thus, Utility A's
3 | generation rarely sets the market price, but benefits from the higher price by being able to sell
4 | excess generation not needed to serve its own load into the market. Suppose now the price of
5 | coal increases for both utilities. This also impacts the spot-markets for natural gas, as more
6 | generation from natural gas becomes competitive to coal-fired generation, and with the
7 | increase in demand for natural gas, natural gas prices also increase. With higher coal prices
8 | and higher natural gas prices, the price for electricity increases. Notice that while Utility A's
9 | generation still does not set the market price for electricity, its coal costs and the price it
10 | receives for sales of electricity to the market have increased, resulting in a correlation between
11 | the two without direct causation.

12 | **Q. What would happen if the coal costs to only Utility B had increased, but**
13 | **not to Utility A?**

14 | **A. The direct answer to this question is that if this occurred, the correlation**
15 | **between Utility A's fuel costs and electricity prices would be broken. However, this**
16 | **hypothetical situation is not likely to occur even if Utility A and Utility B have different coal**
17 | **supplies. This is because the various markets for coal are not isolated for extended periods of**
18 | **time. Many coal-fired plants can burn mixes of various types of coal. When the spot-market**
19 | **price goes up for one type of coal, the lower priced coal will be substituted for the higher**
20 | **price coal, increasing the demand and therefore the price for the lower cost coal. While we**
21 | **can discuss in great detail the relationships among various markets for fuel, such discussions**
22 | **are theoretical, not empirical. What the Commission should look for is not theoretical**
23 | **arguments about whether or not MISO's electricity prices are caused by AmerenUE's fuel**

1 | costs, rather it should look at the empirical evidence of correlation such as is demonstrated in
2 | Schedules 2 A and 2 B attached to this rebuttal testimony

3 | **Q. Regarding empirical evidence, don't the plots on Mr. Arora's Schedules**
4 | **AKA-E6-2 indicate a lack of correlation between coal prices and electricity price?**

5 | A No, they do not. These plots show the lack of correlation between daily
6 | changes in forward prices for the PRB coal markets and electricity markets that occurred over
7 | the period January 2006 through December 2007 for delivery in 2009. Specifically, this
8 | analysis is an empirical test of the hypothesis that commodity traders in these two markets
9 | react to the same information resulting in simultaneous changes in forward prices in both
10 | markets Mr Arora's own direct testimony supports that this is the hypothesis being tested
11 | At page 21, lines 8 through 12, Mr. Arora states. "If, for example, power price uncertainty and
12 | coal price uncertainty were highly correlated then we would expect information that moves
13 | power forward prices would correspondingly move coal forward prices, and vice-versa
14 | Hence we compute our correlations using simultaneous movements in prices (i.e. price
15 | changes) to see which uncertainties are likely to have coincident high or low outcomes" I
16 | disagree with the first sentence of Mr Arora's statement, but included it because it clearly
17 | indicates the hypothesis being tested is that information that moves electric forward prices
18 | will also move coal forward prices.

19 | **Q. Why do you disagree with the first sentence that you have quoted from**
20 | **Mr. Arora's direct testimony?**

21 | A. First, Mr. Arora's condition of correlation between electricity price uncertainty
22 | and coal price uncertainty is misplaced by looking at changes in forward prices over time
23 | Instead and as stated previously in my rebuttal testimony, the time period of the forecast

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1 should be fixed and uncertainty with respect to a fixed time forward should be estimated by
2 looking at the deviations of the forecasts from observed levels for the variable, not by looking
3 at changes in forward prices through time. Thus, Mr Arora uses the wrong data and is
4 measuring the wrong type of uncertainty. Second, the hypothesis tested by Mr Arora is not
5 that price uncertainty in the two markets are correlated, the hypothesis is that over time,
6 traders in these two markets act simultaneously in the same way with the same information.
7 Mr Arora's analysis proves that hypothesis to not be supported by the data, but that in itself
8 does not prove that the spot-market prices for electricity and coal are not correlated, nor does
9 it prove that forecasts of the spot-market prices for electricity and coal are not correlated.
10 Moreover, while the hypothesis that, over time, traders in these two markets act
11 simultaneously in the same way with the same information might be a sufficient condition for
12 spot-market prices for electricity and coal or forecasts of these spot-market prices to be
13 correlated, it is not a necessary condition.

14 **Q. Why is it not a necessary condition for coal and electricity spot-markets to**
15 **be correlated that traders in futures markets act simultaneously in the same way with**
16 **the same information?**

17 **A.** I have already presented in this rebuttal testimony clear empirical evidence of
18 the correlation between spot-market prices for coal and electricity. Forward prices must
19 converge to spot-market prices as the period forward approaches real time. In the same way,
20 the uncertainty surrounding these forecasts must narrow as the period forward approaches real
21 time. Imposing the condition on futures prices that are two to three years away from the
22 future date does not recognize the fact that uncertainty is greater the further away the forecast
23 is from real time.

1 Finally, I most strongly disagree with the fundamental basis for Mr Arora's test of
2 correlation for spot market prices – the correlation of forward price changes two to three years
3 out from the date of the spot market as a necessary condition for there to be correlation
4 between prices in the spot markets Mr Arora's test does not recognize the possibility that by
5 looking two to three years out from the date of the spot market, forward price changes in one
6 market can be in a sequence that does not match the sequence of forward price changes in the
7 other market, and yet these forward prices converge to spot market prices that are correlated
8 Moreover, as is evidenced by the data in this case, different patterns of forward price changes
9 two to three years out from the date of the spot market, that do not appear to be correlated, do
10 converge to spot market prices that are correlated.

11 **Q. Yet, doesn't AmerenUE's analysis provide strong evidence that we should**
12 **not expect price forecasts for coal price and electricity price to be correlated?**

13 A No Instead AmerenUE's test of a hypothesis related to the behavior of
14 participants in the electricity and coal futures markets simply eliminates one of many possible
15 ways in which price forecasts could be correlated However, the hypothesis tested by
16 AmerenUE provides a highly unlikely way for coal and electric price forecasts to be
17 correlated In addition, it only looks at one possible type of forecast that uses forward prices.
18 Ultimately, the Commission should look at the evidence that shows spot-market prices among
19 coal, electricity and natural gas are highly correlated, and ask what is the value of forecasts
20 that do not recognize this fact? Apparently, the forecasts and the uncertainty related to those
21 forecasts used by AmerenUE in its study did not take this correlation into account

22 **Q. What are the implications of the high level of correlation among spot-**
23 **market prices for coal, natural gas and electricity?**

1 A Just as the high level of correlations of load, electricity price and to a lesser
2 extent, natural gas prices to weather are used to construct consistent scenarios for the profiles
3 of these variables, the high level of correlation of electricity, coal and natural gas spot-market
4 prices should have been used to construct scenarios for forecasts of their average annual
5 levels. The issue here is **consistency**. Instead, AmerenUE took the position that no such
6 correlations existed, used the wrong analysis to measure uncertainty and did not incorporate
7 any consistency in its base forecasts and the uncertainty surrounding these forecasts in its
8 study.

9 **RESULTS DO NOT MEET A SANITY CHECK**

10 **Q. Did AmerenUE set out all of the scenarios involving uncertain variables to**
11 **be analyzed?**

12 A It appears that they did. But I have significant concerns with what is shown as
13 the results of these scenarios. For example, on Mr. Arora's Schedule AKA-E1, is a table
14 showing a summary of the results for 250 scenarios developed for electricity prices and
15 natural gas prices for the test year and for 2009 through 2012. These results are intended to
16 show consistency among the various years having almost identical uncertainty factors within
17 each year and with decreasing standard deviations in the out years. But in this instance,
18 sameness in results across years is a major problem.

19 **Q. Why is having the same or nearly the same uncertainty factors across the**
20 **various years a major problem?**

21 A Due to increasing uncertainty associated with forecasts, one would expect the
22 uncertainty of the forecasts to increase over time. While the uncertainty factors for profiles
23 within each year should be the same, as they are correlated to the same uncertainty in weather,

1 when these profiles interact with increasing uncertainty related to forecasts, the overall result
2 should have been an increase in standard deviations over time, which would result in higher
3 uncertainty the further out the forecasts

4 Specifically, in the test year, there is no forecast uncertainty, and the only uncertainty
5 that should have been in the results is the uncertainty resulting from weather as it relates to the
6 power prices and natural gas prices Yet, the uncertainty factor for electricity price in the test
7 year is actually higher than for 2009 While this in part might be a result of a lower average
8 price in the test year compared to 2009, the uncertainty factor in the test year is significantly
9 too high for variations in the annual average price of electricity simply due to changes in
10 weather scenarios Comparing the 10% and 90% strata means to the overall average results
11 for the test year show an average annual price variation from the overall mean of +34% and -
12 38% In essence, the test year should represent a case with changes in demand from weather
13 variation, but minimal changes in supply This level of variation in the annual average price
14 for the MISO electricity markets is simply too high from changing profiles that should have
15 been driven by changing weather

16 In addition both the standard deviations and the uncertainty factors for electricity price
17 for 2009 and 2010 are higher than for 2011 and 2012 This is not possible with correct
18 modeling that incorporates higher load forecast uncertainty the further out the forecast
19 Bottom line, the results of the scenarios generated do not meet a basic check for
20 reasonableness

21 **Q. Can you illustrate the problem associated with the results from**
22 **AmerenUE's generation of scenarios for the test year?**

1 A. Yes. In AmerenUE's previous rate case I performed an analysis of monthly
2 on-peak electricity prices in which the trend was removed from monthly average on-peak
3 prices over the period from 2003 through 2006. Removing the trend from this data is
4 equivalent to removing the impact that a changing supply curve from year-to-year has on
5 these prices. Using that same data, I then calculated the mean (average annual price) and
6 standard deviation over the four years. The results of these calculations are shown on
7 Schedule 4 attached to this rebuttal testimony. While this is a small sample compared to those
8 in Schedule 1 for weather variations, it does provide an order of magnitude for the price
9 variations against which to check the results of AmerenUE's results for the test year. In this
10 calculation, the ratio of the standard deviations to the mean is 5.09%, significantly lower than
11 the 26% from AmerenUE's results for the test-year. As a check against this calculation, I
12 repeated the calculations for the observed data from the four years period that includes the
13 shifts that occurred in the supply curve for electricity. The result is a ratio of the standard
14 deviation to the mean of 20.97%, a significant increase, yet still below the results AmerenUE
15 reports for the test year. Moreover, including the supply shifts that occurred over a four-year
16 period is analogous to the including the uncertainty that is introduced by something akin to a
17 four-year forecast, except in this case the unexpected events of 2005 have been introduced
18 into the forecast uncertainty. My conclusion from these calculations is that the variability
19 included for the test year in the AmerenUE study are of an order of magnitude five (5) times
20 larger than what I would have expected.

21 **Q. Did AmerenUE run a production cost model to determine the level of net**
22 **fuel costs associated with each scenario?**

1 A. Yes. The results of these runs are shown on Mr Arora's Schedule AKA-E11
2 Mr Arora presents an analysis of these results on pages 28 through 33 of his direct testimony

3 **Q. Do you agree with Mr. Arora's analysis of these net fuel results?**

4 A If faced with the same results, my analysis of those results would be similar to
5 that presented by Mr Arora. Having said that I don't disagree with Mr. Arora's analysis of
6 the results should in no way be taken to mean that I agree with the results or what the results
7 have to say about the downside risk faced by AmerenUE for net fuel costs. For example,
8 Table 2 on page 31 of Mr Arora's direct testimony indicates a significant risk in net fuel cost
9 for the test year due to the uncertainty attributed to electricity prices as reflected in significant
10 variation in revenues for off-system sales. But recall, AmerenUE used the wrong measure for
11 the variability in electricity prices, and the results on Mr Arora's Schedule AKA-E1 show
12 greater variability in electricity prices for the test year than for any of the forecasted years of
13 2009 through 2012. The test year should have only contained variability in the various
14 profiles, with no variability associated with the forecast of average annual levels. Thus, while
15 Mr Arora's analysis of the results is correct, the conclusions are wrong for the test year
16 because the variability introduced into the test year is wrong.

17 **Q. What are your conclusions upon reviewing the AmerenUE study of risk**
18 **related to net fuel expense?**

19 A The concept of the study is sound, but the implementation contained major
20 flaws that likely increased the variability in the 250 scenarios by a factor of five times. This is
21 not a minor flaw, instead it so critical that the results of the study cannot be relied upon.
22 Therefore, I recommend that the Commission find that the AmerenUE risk assessment study
23 for net fuel expense does not provide a basis for support of AmerenUE's request for a FAC.

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1

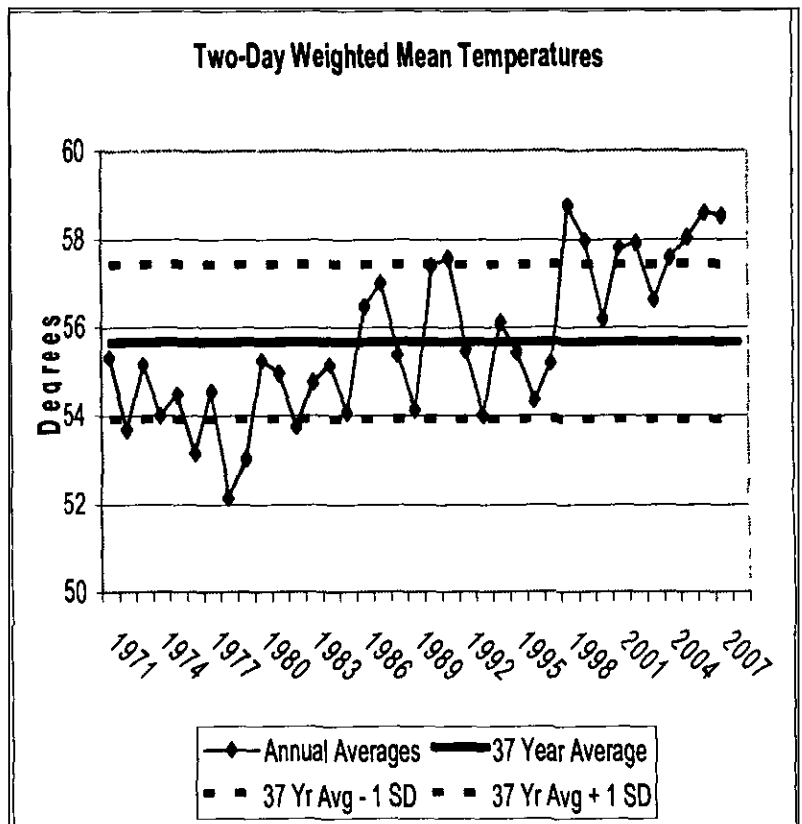
Q. Does this complete your rebuttal testimony?

2

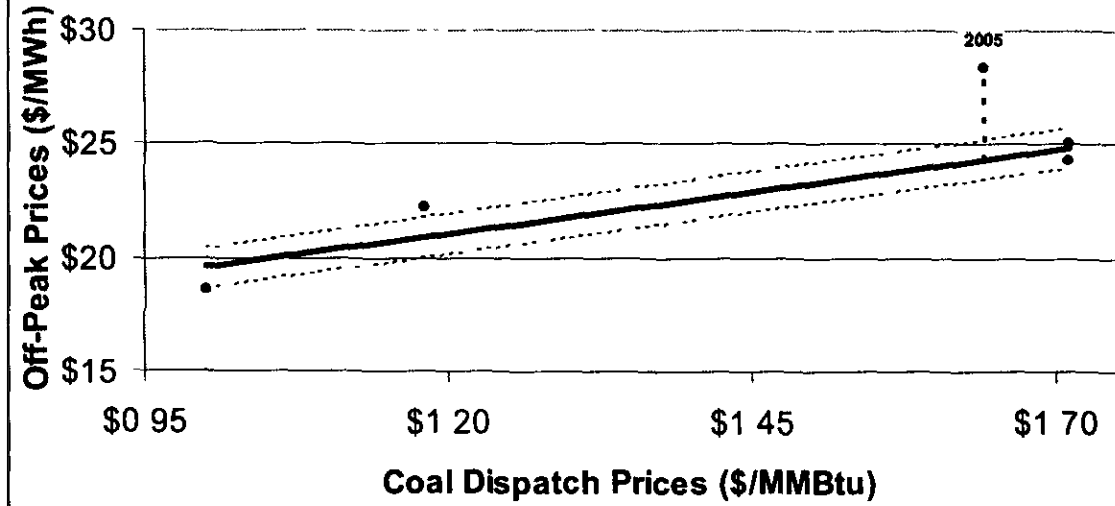
A. Yes, it does

Annual Averages for Two-Day Weighted Daily Mean Temperatures

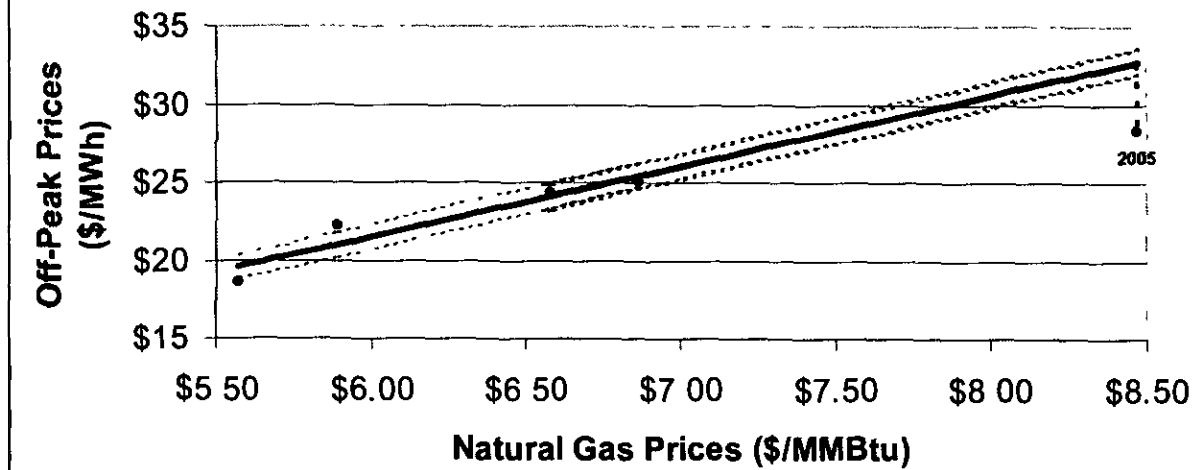
Year	Annual Average	Profile Std Dev	Ratio
1971	55.31	18.94	34.25%
1972	53.67	19.43	36.21%
1973	55.12	18.34	33.27%
1974	53.98	18.00	33.35%
1975	54.45	18.80	34.52%
1976	53.14	18.91	35.58%
1977	54.52	21.80	39.98%
1978	52.15	21.69	41.58%
1979	53.01	21.75	41.04%
1980	55.24	21.01	38.03%
1981	54.94	18.60	33.85%
1982	53.74	19.95	37.12%
1983	54.74	21.36	39.02%
1984	55.13	19.20	34.82%
1985	54.06	20.52	37.96%
1986	56.46	18.92	33.51%
1987	57.00	18.24	32.00%
1988	55.38	20.22	36.52%
1989	54.11	20.18	37.30%
1990	57.39	17.23	30.02%
1991	57.57	19.36	33.63%
1992	55.48	16.27	29.32%
1993	53.99	19.06	35.31%
1994	56.11	18.58	33.11%
1995	55.44	19.47	35.11%
1996	54.34	19.72	36.29%
1997	55.18	18.84	34.14%
1998	58.75	18.04	30.71%
1999	57.97	17.74	30.60%
2000	56.19	19.60	34.88%
2001	57.81	18.44	31.89%
2002	57.90	18.48	31.91%
2003	56.61	18.50	32.67%
2004	57.57	17.78	30.89%
2005	58.04	19.00	32.74%
2006	58.59	17.40	29.70%
2007	58.52	19.88	33.97%
Average	55.67	19.17	34.51%
Std Dev	1.76		
Ratio	3.17%		
Max	58.75	21.80	41.58%
Min	52.15	16.27	29.32%



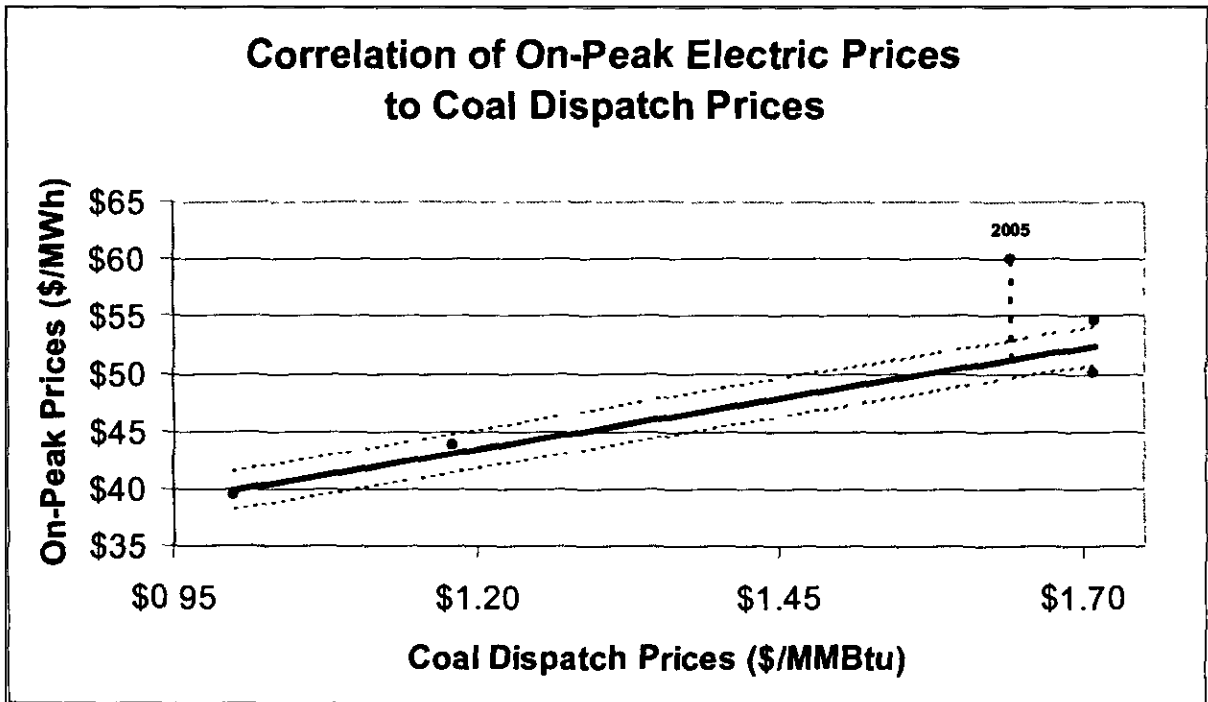
**Correlation of Off-Peak Electric Prices
to Coal Dispatch Prices**



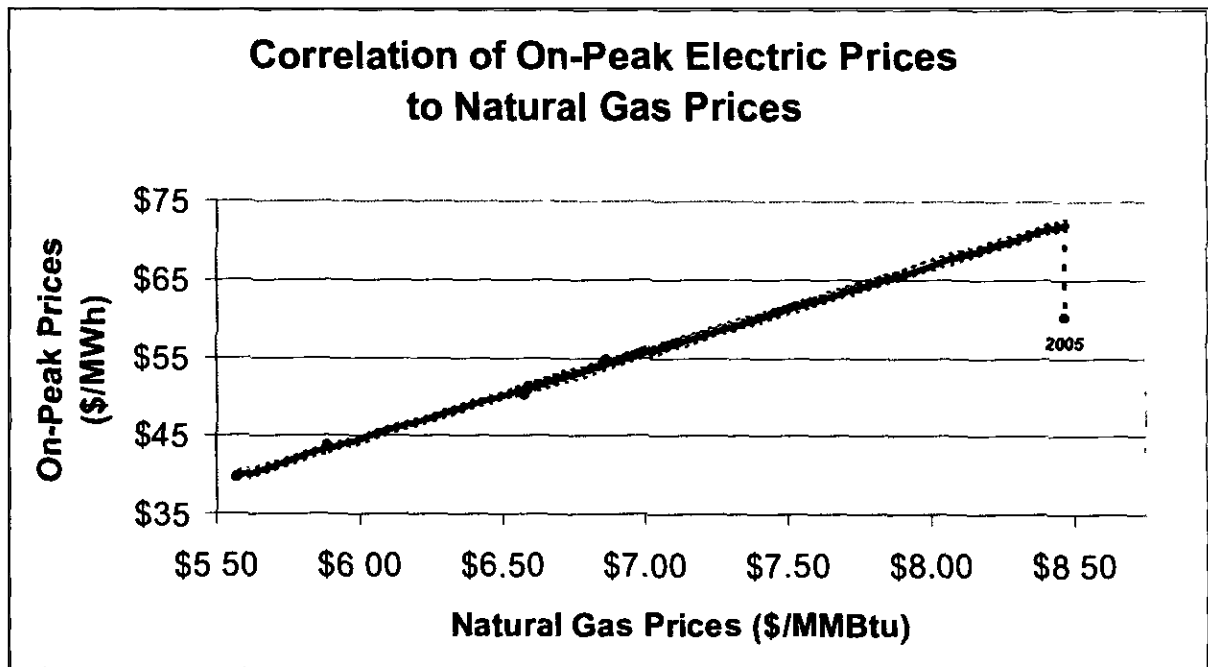
**Correlation of Off-Peak Electric Prices
to Natural Gas Prices**



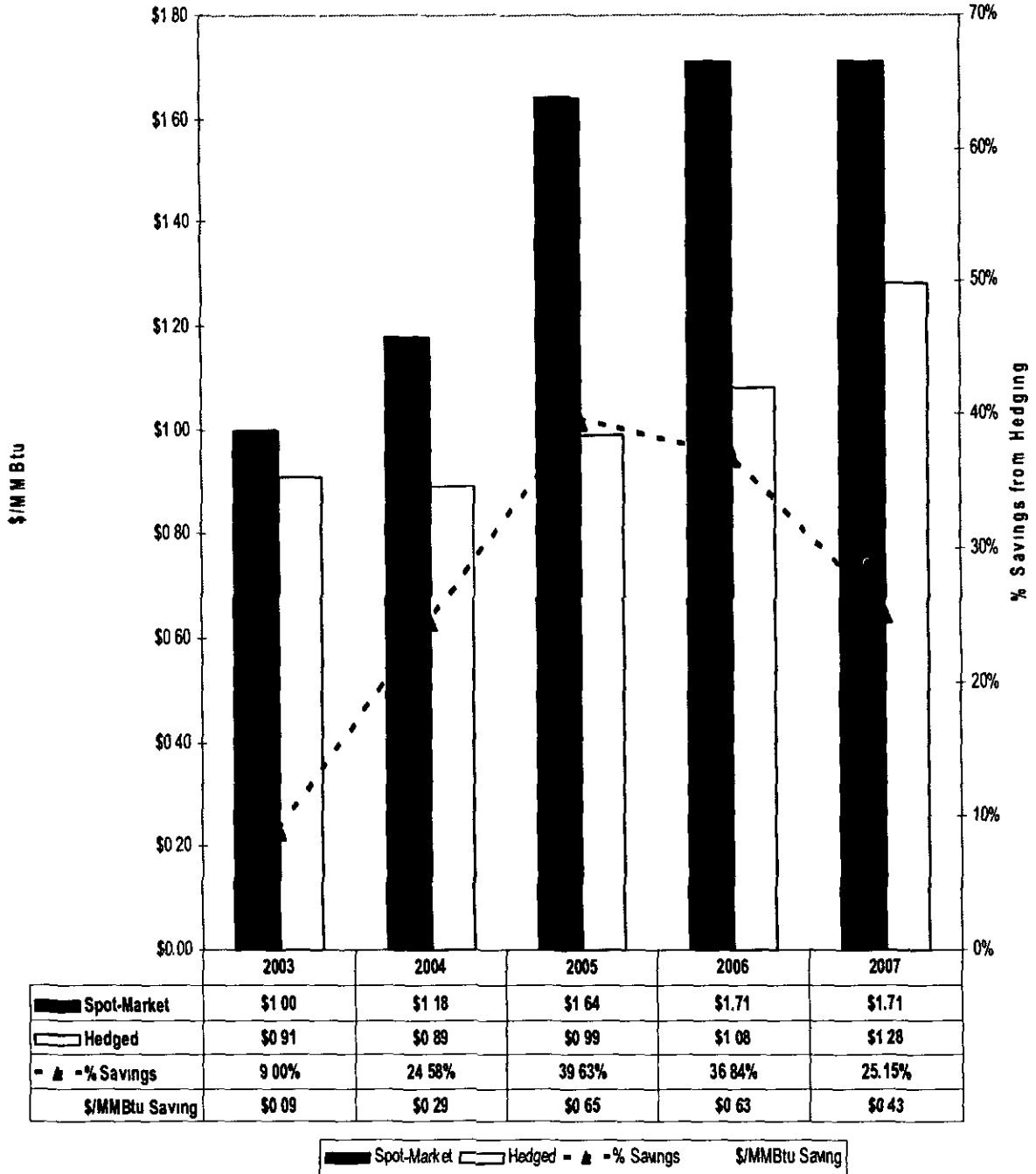
**Correlation of On-Peak Electric Prices
to Coal Dispatch Prices**



**Correlation of On-Peak Electric Prices
to Natural Gas Prices**



Comparing Spot-Market to Hedged Costs for Coal



Detrended On-Peak Monthly Average Prices

Month	2003	2004	2005	2006
Jan	\$46 03	\$59 86	\$53 76	\$38 28
Feb	\$61 57	\$59 51	\$46 77	\$35 46
Mar	\$64 24	\$56 88	\$51 95	\$40 12
Apr	\$57 15	\$56 93	\$50 52	\$49 06
May	\$45 74	\$65 90	\$33 97	\$44 68
Jun	\$46 89	\$57 48	\$59 98	\$57 74
Jul	\$56 82	\$55 94	\$66 78	\$72 35
Aug	\$63 31	\$50 17	\$76 06	\$76 98
Sep	\$47 75	\$48 27	\$67 55	\$43 06
Oct	\$47 83	\$53 06	\$65 78	\$49 15
Nov	\$47 63	\$53 16	\$46 34	\$55 01
Dec	\$52 64	\$49 19	\$71 23	\$52 68
Averages	\$53 13	\$55 53	\$57 56	\$51 21
St Dev	\$7 13	\$5 08	\$12 36	\$12 89
Ratio	13 42%	9 14%	21 48%	25 16%

Year	Averages
2003	\$53 13
2004	\$55 53
2005	\$57 56
2006	\$51 21
Average	\$54 36
St Dev	\$2 77
Ratio	5 09%

Observed On-Peak Monthly Average Prices

Month	2003	2004	2005	2006
Jan	\$44 39	\$44 64	\$50 37	\$48 94
Feb	\$54 54	\$44 61	\$45 35	\$44 83
Mar	\$53 47	\$42 35	\$52 56	\$47 71
Apr	\$43 89	\$42 85	\$53 17	\$54 42
May	\$30 93	\$52 36	\$38 61	\$47 47
Jun	\$31 18	\$44 61	\$66 49	\$57 74
Jul	\$40 68	\$43 89	\$74 97	\$69 54
Aug	\$47 04	\$39 12	\$85 68	\$71 61
Sep	\$31 55	\$38 39	\$78 26	\$35 67
Oct	\$31 81	\$44 55	\$77 19	\$40 70
Nov	\$31 84	\$46 19	\$58 01	\$46 92
Dec	\$37 13	\$43 94	\$82 65	\$46 95
Averages	\$39 87	\$43 96	\$63 61	\$51 04
St Dev	\$8 79	\$3 51	\$15 90	\$10 72
Ratio	22 05%	7 98%	25 00%	21 01%

Year	Averages
2003	\$39 87
2004	\$43 96
2005	\$63 61
2006	\$51 04
Average	\$49 62
St Dev	\$10 41
Ratio	20 97%