BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STATE OF MISSOURI

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

EVIDENTIARY HEARING

Missouri Coalition for Fair Competition and Corey Malone, Complainants, v. File No. EC-2023-0037 Union Electric Company, d/b/a Ameren Missouri, Respondent.

> Thursday, July 18, 2024 9:00 a.m. - 10:52 a.m.

Governor Office Building 200 Madison Street Jefferson City, MO 65101 and WebEx

> VOLUME II Pages 1 - 76

KENNETH SEYER, Presiding REGULATORY LAW JUDGE

KAYLA HAHN, Chair, JASON R. HOLSMAN, GLEN KOLKMEYER, JOHN MITCHELL, COMMISSIONERS.

Stenographically Reported By: Beverly Jean Bentch, RPR, CCR No. 640

Job No. 169584



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1	The following proceedings began at 9:03 a.m.:
2	JUDGE SEYER: All right. Let's go on the
3	record. Good morning. Today is July 18, 2024. The
4	time is 9:03 a.m. The Commission has set this time for
5	an evidentiary hearing in the case captioned as Missouri
6	Coalition for Fair Competition and Corey Malone,
7	Complainants, vs. Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren
8	Missouri, Respondent.
9	My name is Ken Seyer, and I'm the Regulatory
10	Law Judge presiding over this hearing. This hearing is
11	taking place in the Public Service Commission hearing
12	room, Room 310 of the Governor Office Building, in
13	Jefferson City, Missouri.
14	Let's have counsel for the parties make their
15	entries of appearance starting with counsel for the
16	Complainants.
17	MR. BARRETT: Good morning, Judge and
18	Commissioners. My name is David Barrett. I'm an
19	attorney here in Jefferson City.
20	JUDGE SEYER: Mr. Barrett, I'm going to ask
21	you to press the little button for the microphone and
22	repeat what you just said.
23	MR. BARRETT: It was pressed. I just wasn't
24	close enough. I apologize, Judge. My name is David
25	Barrett. I'm an attorney here in Jefferson City on

1 behalf of the Complainants. 2 JUDGE SEYER: And on behalf of the Staff of 3 the Commission. 4 MS. KERR: My name is Carolyn Kerr on behalf 5 of Staff. 6 JUDGE SEYER: And on behalf of Ameren 7 Missouri. 8 MR. LOWERY: Good morning, Judge. Jim Lowery 9 on behalf of Ameren Missouri. 10 JUDGE SEYER: All right. Thank you. For 11 those in the hearing room, I ask everyone to silence 12 their cell phones. And as we kind of found out already, 13 if you're here at the counsel tables, if you will press 14 that button for the microphone where the green light 15 lights up, that will help us greatly in being able to 16 hear you and the court reporter being able to hear you. 17 Mr. Lowery, you had filed a request to take 18 official notice. 19 MR. LOWERY: Yes, Your Honor. 20 Do the other parties have any JUDGE SEYER: 21 objection to that request? 2.2 MR. BARRETT: Complainants have no objection. 23 MS. KERR: No. 24 JUDGE SEYER: All right. Then I will take 25 official notice of those, what is it, 21 documents

- listed in the request, and for the sake of reference I'd like to number those as Exhibit Nos. 101 through 121, if that's all right.
 - MR. LOWERY: Judge, I actually anticipate -- I wasn't sure how you would want to handle it, but I actually have an exhibit list that lists them that way if you would like to have it.
- JUDGE SEYER: We are of the same mind, is that what you're saying?
- MR. LOWERY: But I wasn't sure so I didn't

 file it that way. I think it goes through 122, if you

 count the prefiled testimony, unless my paralegal got it

 wrong.
- JUDGE SEYER: Mr. Lowery, do you have copies of this for the other parties?
- MR. LOWERY: I don't, unfortunately. I can email it to them.
- JUDGE SEYER: If you would.

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- MR. LOWERY: Sure. Let me email those to them, Judge.
 - MR. BARRETT: Judge, if it makes it a little easier for you, we've agreed that Complainant's Exhibits 1 through 9 will also be offered and received without objections subject to hearsay objections, as well as Staff's exhibit. That way all the prefiled exhibits are



Τ	in just for simplicity sake.
2	JUDGE SEYER: All right.
3	MR. LOWERY: Judge, just for point of
4	clarification, I don't have an objection to the
5	admission of the Complainant's prefiled testimony
6	subject to the hearsay objections that are reflected in
7	our motion to strike that was filed I think on May 20.
8	Subject to those objections, I don't have an objection
9	and I will put Ms. Harmon on the stand when the time
LO	comes. She has a couple of minor corrections to her
L1	testimony. I'll just move it in in the normal manner at
L2	that time, if that's okay.
L3	JUDGE SEYER: Then the tribunal will take
L4	official notice of what is now marked as Exhibits 1
L5	through 122. The Exhibit 100 is admitted. Exhibits 1
L6	through 9 are admitted. And Exhibit 200 is admitted.
L7	(COMPANY EXHIBITS 101 THROUGH 122,
L8	COMPLAINANT'S EXHIBITS 1 THROUGH 9 AND STAFF'S EXHIBIT
L9	200 WERE RECEIVED INTO EVIDENCE AND MADE A PART OF THIS
20	RECORD.)
21	MR. LOWERY: The Complainant's exhibits you
22	just admitted are subject to our objections, correct?
23	JUDGE SEYER: Correct.
24	MR. LOWERY: Thank you.
25	JUDGE SEYER: All right. Before we go any



1 further, I'd like the Commissioners to identify 2 themselves for the record starting with Chair Hahn. CHAIR HAHN: 3 Kayla Hahn, Chair of the 4 Commission. 5 COMMISSIONER KOLKMEYER: Commissioner Glen 6 Kolkmeyer. 7 COMMISSIONER HOLSMAN: Commissioner Jason 8 Holsman. 9 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Commissioner John 10 Mitchell. 11 JUDGE SEYER: All right. Thank you, 12 Commissioners. 13 As far as the order of the witness testimony 14 today, we will begin, if Mr. Barrett -- As Mr. Barrett 15 informed me before we went on the record, we actually 16 will take his witnesses out of order, out of the order 17 that was previously filed. So we will hear testimony from Mr. Sir and Mr. Keeven first and then Mr. Malone 18 for the Missouri Coalition for Fair Competition and 19 20 Mr. Malone and then the Staff Witness Mark Kiesling and 21 Ameren Missouri Witness Shelly Harmon. 2.2 All right. Are the parties prepared for 23 opening statements? 24 Yes, sir. MR. BARRETT:

Mr. Barrett, you're free to give

JUDGE SEYER:

your opening statement. You can use the podium if you like or you can stay at your table.

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MR. BARRETT: I'll stay at the table just for convenience sake. Thank you, Judge.

Good morning, Commissioners. My name is David Barrett. I stand here in the place of our colleague Terry Allen who kept his promise to his wife to retire on his 80th birthday. Mr. Allen represented the Missouri Coalition for Fair Competition from its inception and in prior cases before this Commission.

The policy adopted by the legislature in the fair competition law that we're discussing here today is Utilities can't fund their participation in the simple. heating, ventilation and air-conditioning industry with regulated rates. The evidence will show that through contractors Ameren has been doing so. Instead of directly participating forbidden by statutes and previously prohibited in actions before this Commission, Ameren is now trying to do an end run hiding its participation in the industry under the quise of the Commission's energy efficiency tariffs, but they could not resist the temptation, or over the decades they forgot, that they can't.

So they ran the advertising campaign under their name without the disclaimers required by law.



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They set up a computer site under their own name that
recruits HVAC, heating, ventilation, air-conditioning
customers using rate-regulated funding and again without
the disclaimers required by the fair competition law.
They utilized a single contractor of the hundreds in
their service area and not only provided advertising and
sales leads to that contractor and later a couple of
other contractors in what we are calling a closed
contractor pool but made people look like Ameren
employees by dressing them in Ameren shirts, providing
Ameren ID cards and the estimates themselves bearing
Ameren's logos and other indicia.

By doing so, they have violated the spirit and the letter of the fair competition law. By doing so, consumers have been misled, ratepayers have provided for the advertising and administrative expenses when people choose a program.

They are losing out on fair competition and pay the price to Ameren and lose their utility service if they don't make the payments for these projects. We thank the Commission for its attention and look forward to the presentation of evidence.

JUDGE SEYER: All right. Thank you, Mr. Barrett. Ms. Kerr, would you like to give an opening statement for the Staff? Oh, I'm sorry. You are



1	correct, Chair. Chair, do you have questions for Mr.
2	Barrett?
3	CHAIR HAHN: I do. Good morning, Mr. Barrett.
4	MR. BARRETT: Good morning, ma'am.
5	CHAIR HAHN: I'm assuming that if Ameren did
6	engage with HVAC contractors, as you say they did, and
7	it was only for the purpose of the Pay As You Save or
8	other energy efficiency programs, if they were only
9	doing it in that way, explain to me the violation if
10	there's an exception in the law.
11	MR. BARRETT: I think what we are dealing
12	with, Commissioner, and what I anticipate I will brief
13	extensively is the idea that when you have two laws they
14	are to be read together. They are to be read, the Latin
15	term sometimes is pari materia, where following one law
16	does not excuse you from violating another.
17	CHAIR HAHN: Thank you.
18	JUDGE SEYER: Are there any other questions
19	from the Commissioners?
20	All right. Hearing none, Ms. Kerr, would you
21	like to give an opening statement?
22	MS. KERR: Yes. Thank you. May it please the
23	Commission. My name is Carolyn Kerr, and I'm the
24	attorney representing the Staff Counsel's Office of the
25	Missouri Public Service Commission.



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This case came to the attention of the Staff when Mr. Malone and Missouri Coalition for Fair Competition, or the MCFFC -- let me start. This case came to the attention of the Staff when Mr. Malone and the MCFFC filed a formal complaint with the PSC alleging that Ameren Missouri, or Ameren, had violated what it referred to as the fair competition law by engaging in HVAC services.

The law that Mr. Malone and the MCFFC refers to is codified in Sections 386.754 through 386.764, RSMo, and actually has no formal title but may also be referred to by the parties as the HVAC law. This law forbids utilities like Ameren from allowing their affiliate contractors to use its name to engage in HVAC services in a manner which subsidizes the activities of the company.

In doing so, Mr. Malone and MCFFC alleged that Ameren is using the affiliated contractor companies, in this case Anton's Air-Conditioning and Heating through the Pay As You Save, or PAYS program, and the CommunitySavers Low-Income programs within Ameren's MEEIA-approved programs to compete against his company, Air Comfort Service, and other small businesses thereby taking an unfair advantage against them. They claim that Ameren in these two MEEIA programs is purposefully

not allowing Mr. Malone's HVAC company to fairly compete for inclusion in those programs.

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Mr. Malone and MCFFC want the Commission to order the Staff to audit Ameren's books and records and make a finding that Ameren violated the provisions of Sections 386.754 through 386.764, RSMo, then refer the matter to the Attorney General's Office to take civil action against Ameren for civil penalties.

The problem with that is that the staff has already done an investigation and submitted its report. Staff Witness Mark Kiesling is here to testify and answer the questions the parties and the Commission has relating to the staff report he submitted on April 12, 2023.

Staff sent out data requests and asked questions and reviewed Ameren's records. It concluded that Ameren did not violate any statutes, rules, regulations pertaining to those sections of the law or any of its filed and approved tariffs. There's no more for staff or the Commission to do.

If Mr. Malone and MCFFC have any further complaints, the PSC is not the forum. I'll be happy to answer any questions. Thank you.

JUDGE SEYER: Do the Commissioners have any questions for Ms. Kerr?

1	COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: I have one quick
2	question. So if the PSC is not the appropriate forum
3	for this issue, then what is? Is it the Attorney
4	General?
5	JUDGE SEYER: I'm sorry. Is that Commissioner
6	Mitchell?
7	COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Commissioner Mitchell.
8	JUDGE SEYER: Does he need to repeat the
9	question?
10	MS. KERR: Yes, please.
11	COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: My question was, if
12	the PSC is not the appropriate forum to address this
13	question, what is the appropriate forum?
14	MS. KERR: Well, I believe the AG's Office
15	might be. The AG's Office is the office that
16	COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: That would be them?
17	MS. KERR: I think so.
18	COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Okay. Thank you.
19	JUDGE SEYER: All right.
20	MS. KERR: Or a civil court.
21	COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: Okay. Thank you.
22	Nothing further.
23	JUDGE SEYER: All right. Then Mr. Lowery,
24	would you like to give an opening statement on behalf of
25	Ameren Missouri?



MR. LOWERY: I would. I sit enough so I'm going to go ahead and stand up.

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Good morning. May it please the Commission. Mr. Barrett described a statute that I think the Coalition would like to exist but that actually doesn't To Chair Hahn's question, the Commission-approved and regulated energy efficiency programs at issue here are completely exempt from this And while I don't want to get into briefing or get law. in too far in the legal arguments, since Mr. Barrett mentioned it, the provision that says that is in the law in question. We're not talking about reconciling two different laws here. We're talking about reconciling And we're talking about applying the provisions of the law that they say that we have violated when that law itself says that we can't violate it through our energy efficiency program because you regulate them and you approve them. So just to clear up that point.

At the end of the day, while Complainants have made a great many allegations about their viewpoint about the statute and about our behavior, what the evidence will show they haven't done and that they can't do is establish that we've actually violated the statute either as a matter of law or as a matter of fact.



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Now, before I get in to some of those reasons, I want to make sure and level set that we know what programs we're talking about and what they are. There are two programs that have been raised in this case. There's three but one of them there's no allegation about a violation. They are the Pay As You Save program, which was approved by this Commission in 2020 and started in 2021, and there is the low-income income eligible program that the Commission approved as part of the MEEIA 3 Cycle and I believe it became effective in 2019. It is otherwise known as the CommunitySaver Single Family program.

They are both targeted at low-income customers. The PAYS program, as I think you know, essentially provides financing at a Commission-approved interest rate for not just HVAC systems but other energy efficiency upgrades made to the home to help customers save money, the idea being that the low-income folks to which it's targeted probably couldn't afford to come up with the cash up front themselves, and the CommunitySavers Single Family program actually pays for the measures that are installed instead of the homeowners paying them at all and it's only available to certain income-limited low-income customers.

There are differences -- The other program



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they brought up is the HVAC program. That's the rebate		
program. The rebate program is much larger. It's been		
around I think since the first MEEIA programs were		
adopted, and there are distinctions in both the scope		
and size and its operation that lead to different		
approaches by the program implementors to the contractor		
networks. And I encourage you to ask Ms. Harmon more		
about this when she takes the witness stand, because the		
differences in those programs, which incidentally the		
Coalition's members and Mr. Malone's company do		
participate in the HVAC program, the differences in		
those programs are key to why the contractor network for		
the low-income programs is much smaller and restricted		
as compared to the contractor network for the HVAC		
program.		

I would also note that the evidence will show that as we sit at hearing today, I don't believe the PAYS program is really an issue in this case any more anyway in terms of that program. The evidence will show that the Complainants could participate as contractors in that program if they chose to do so, if they chose to agree to the participation terms one of which is primarily that they have to provide their pricing because the low-income customers who will actually pay for the improvements to their home, they have the



ability to choose the contractor within the network that they want.

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But one of the criteria that they use to do that is price. So if they want to use a different contractor, they need to know what that price is going to be as opposed to defaulting to just the lowest cost contractor for a given set of improvements.

Back to why the complaint must fail. First and foremost, even if every word spoken by the Complainants in their complaint and in their prefiled testimony was true, as I mentioned, these programs are exempt from the statute. Really I could probably sit down now and I wouldn't need to say anything else. But second -- but I will say just a few more things.

Second, as staff has indicated, what the Coalition wants you to do is adjudge the company guilty of a civil violation that only a circuit judge who finds him or herself that there is a civil violation could adjudge and impose penalties that only that circuit judge could impose and only if the Attorney General refers the matter to the courts. So that's a second legal infirmity.

I will brief this in our case but there's a third legal infirmity that hasn't been brought up yet and that is Section 386.510, I think it is, I may have



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the citation wrong, but as you may know, there's specific provision in the Public Service Commission law that -- it's actually 386.550. Sorry. I remembered it as I was standing here. There's specific provision in the Public Service Commission law that prohibits a collateral attack on the Commission's orders and their tariffs. Those tariffs, by the way, have the force and effect of law as I think you know. And I would submit that this entire case is a collateral attack on your orders and the tariffs you've approved implementing the So that's another legal problem with programs at issue. the case.

Now, setting aside those legal infirmities,
Complainant's claims fail on the evidence anyway. Their
first claim, which is reflected in complaint paragraph
7, is that Ameren Missouri is engaged in HVAC services.
I'm going to take Ms. Kerr's lead and quit trying to say
HVAC. That's simply not true and the evidence doesn't
establish that it's true. In order to engage in HVAC
services, Ameren Missouri has to sell or warrant or
install or maintain, and I won't go through the whole
list, but there's a specific list in the statute that
defines what that is. There's no evidence that we have
done or do any of those things.

The second claim in paragraph 8 of the



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complaint is they allege that contractors, who by the way are not selected by Ameren Missouri and with whom Ameren Missouri has no contract, they claim that contractors are using our vehicles and service tools, et cetera, to engage in those services.

Well, first of all, there's no evidence that that's happening. And second of all, there's a specific definition of utility contractor in the statute that they rely upon, there's a specific definition of affiliate in the statute that they rely upon, and there's absolutely no evidence that these folks qualify as utility contractors within the meaning of the statute. We don't have a contract with them.

Therefore, they can't be utility contractors. We don't own or control them and so they can't be affiliates. So their claim fails. That claim also fails.

Their third complaint, complaint paragraph 9, is that we are not providing a disclaimer that they say we have to provide. First of all, the other exemptions and the fact that we're not providing the HVAC services and we're not assisting a utility contractor an affiliate makes that claim moot. But the claim also doesn't make any sense because what the disclaimer, when it's required, it's not required here, but what the disclaimer must say if it is required is that these



services are not regulated by the Public Service Commission.

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Well, these services are regulated by the Public Service Commission because they're being delivered pursuant to a regulated and approved program. So it doesn't make any sense you would give a disclaimer that says something that's not true.

Their next claim, paragraph 10, I guess I've really already covered that, that's the whole utility contractor and affiliate claim which simply fails both on the facts and the law.

And then their last claim, which is in paragraph 11, says we violated your HVAC law regulation. Well, the statute in question says that your regulation cannot enlarge, add to any requirement of the statute. Since we don't violate the statute, we can't violate your regulation. So that claim also fails.

At the end of the day, the Complainants don't like the way the program implementors who choose these contractors in CommunitySaver Single Family, they don't like the way they set up the contract any more. They don't like the fact that it's a narrow network and they want a piece of the pie so to speak. They want a piece of the energy efficiency dollars that are being paid to put systems and other improvements like installation, et

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cetera, in these customers' homes. But the HVAC law	e 21
doesn't prohibit that. In fact, the HVAC law recognize	es
that if you approve a program and you approve a tariff	
and we're delivering programs pursuant to that, then	
we're not within the HVAC law to begin with. So with	
that, I appreciate your attention this morning. If you	u
have any questions for me at this time, I will try to	
answer them.	
JUDGE SEYER: Do the Commissioners have	
questions for Mr. Lowery?	

Thank you very much. MR. LOWERY:

Before you leave, Mr. Lowery --JUDGE SEYER:

Yes, sir. MR. LOWERY:

-- I do have a question for you. JUDGE SEYER: In your request to take official notice of several documents, many of those documents had to do with a previous case that Mr. Malone and the Missouri Coalition for Fair Competition brought against Ameren and it's our Case No. EC-1999-0327. From Ameren's perspective, are there similarities between that case and this case?

MR. LOWERY: No, there aren't, for at least two reasons. First of all, that was a non-tariff non-approved program. It's just a program that Ameren Missouri offered on its bill. So it had nothing to do with energy efficiency. In fact, it had nothing to do



1 | with any Commission-approved or regulated program.

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Secondly, Ameren Missouri was, in fact, engaged in the activities that happened in that program. It's not a situation where Ameren Missouri had a contract with a program administrator who then separately hired an administrator and then implemented and hired contractors.

Ameren Missouri was engaged in the appliance repair. And what Ameren Missouri, and Ameren Missouri admitted to it in the case resolved by stipulation, the program was not regulated by the Commission and we didn't give the disclaimer. There's just no real question about that. So we agreed very quickly. We stopped very quickly. We agreed. We stipulated the case out quickly and you approved the stipulation and the case was over.

CHAIR HAHN: I have a question. Mr. Lowery, when the home assessments are done for the PAYS program, are there multiple contractors that are listed that the homeowner could use to install whatever energy efficiency upgrades they're having done or is there only one?

MR. LOWERY: I believe there are five or six at this time. Just to clarify, EEtility, which is the program implementor with whom we don't have a contract



1	but our administrator does, he actually does the
2	assessments. I think there are either five or six at
3	this time.
4	CHAIR HAHN: Okay. When EEtility does the
5	assessment, they're the ones that identify the homes
6	that might be eligible, they're the ones that identify
7	which contractors might be eligible to do the work?
8	MR. LOWERY: That's right. They select
9	They have requirements to be a participating contractor
10	and actually if the contractor meets those requirements,
11	any contractor can be available, but so far there's only
12	five or six who have expressed that willingness to do
13	that.
14	CHAIR HAHN: And EEtility sets those
15	contractual terms?
16	MR. LOWERY: Yes, EEtility sets those
17	contractual terms with those contractors.
18	CHAIR HAHN: Thank you.
19	JUDGE SEYER: Any further questions from the
20	Commissioners? Thank you, Mr. Lowery.
21	MR. LOWERY: Thank you.
22	JUDGE SEYER: Mr. Barrett, I will ask you the
23	same question that I asked Mr. Lowery as far as the 1999
24	case. From your perspective, are there similarities
25	between the two cases?



1	MR. BARRETT: He described it accurately.
2	It's just that we butted heads over this law before and
3	that's why it came up. I do not propose that these
4	situations were similar.
5	JUDGE SEYER: Okay. One thing that I meant to
6	mention at the top and neglected to was the Commission
7	does have an agenda meeting scheduled today for noon.
8	So we will have to break around that meeting. So
9	possibly break 11:30, 11:45, reconvene 1:00 or later.
L ₀	All right. Then we are at a point where we
L1	will take testimony from the witnesses. So Mr. Barrett,
L2	call your first witness.
L3	MR. BARRETT: I would like to call Mr. Keeven
L4	first.
L5	JUDGE SEYER: All right. Can you give me a
L6	second, Mr. Keeven.
L7	THE WITNESS: Sure.
L8	JUDGE SEYER: All right. Mr. Keeven, before
L9	you testify, I'd like to place you under oath.
20	THE WITNESS: Sure.
21	JUDGE SEYER: Do you swear or affirm that the
22	testimony you give in this hearing shall be the truth,
23	the whole truth and nothing but the truth?
24	THE WITNESS: I do.
25	JUDGE SEYER: All right. Mr. Barrett, go



1	ahead.
2	MR. BARRETT: Thank you.
3	MICHAEL KEEVEN,
4	having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified
5	as follows:
6	DIRECT EXAMINATION
7	BY MR. BARRETT:
8	Q. Mr. Keeven, this is Dave Barrett. Did you
9	prepare written testimony in advance of your appearance
10	here today?
11	A. Yes, I did.
12	Q. It bears your signature?
13	A. Yes, it does.
14	Q. In fact, it was signed before a notary public?
15	A. Yes, it was.
16	Q. All right. And are there any changes that you
17	would make in your testimony here today?
18	A. No.
19	Q. And certain parts of your testimony you tell
20	the Commission about things that you heard from other
21	people. You don't know if what those other people told
22	you specifically was true or not, do you?
23	A. No, sir.
24	Q. You just took their word for it and made your
25	own investigations and engaged in the conduct that's

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1	Page 26 described in your testimony based on what they said
2	whether it was true or not; is that right?
3	A. Yes.
4	MR. BARRETT: I have no other strike that.
5	I have no other questions of the witness.
6	JUDGE SEYER: Thank you. Ms. Kerr, do you
7	have questions for the witness?
8	MS. KERR: No.
9	JUDGE SEYER: Mr. Lowery.
10	MR. LOWERY: No questions, Judge.
11	JUDGE SEYER: All right. Mr. Keeven, thank
12	you for your testimony.
13	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
14	MR. BARRETT: And Mr. Keeven can hang up now,
15	can he not, Judge Seyer?
16	JUDGE SEYER: Yes.
17	MR. BARRETT: Thanks, Mike.
18	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
19	(Witness excused.)
20	JUDGE SEYER: Call your next witness.
21	MR. BARRETT: Dave Sir.
22	JUDGE SEYER: Excuse me. Mr. Sir is
23	testifying via WebEx as well.
24	MR. BARRETT: Are you there, Dave? Have you



unmuted yourself, Dave?

Transcript of Proceedings July 18, 2024 Page 27 1 THE WITNESS: Can you hear me? 2 MR. BARRETT: There you are. Yes. 3 JUDGE SEYER: Mr. Sir, it's Judge Seyer. Ι 4 will swear you in before you testify. Do you swear or 5 affirm that the testimony you give in this hearing shall 6 be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth? 7 Yes, sir. THE WITNESS: 8 JUDGE SEYER: All right. Thank you. 9 ahead, Mr. Barrett. 10 DAVID SIR, 11 having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified 12 as follows: 13 DIRECT EXAMINATION 14 BY MR. BARRETT: 15 Ο. Sir, would you please state your name for the 16 record? 17 David Lee Sir. Α. Mr. Sir, did you prefile testimony in regards 18 Ο. 19 to today? 20 Α. Yes. And did you sign that testimony? Ο. 22 Α. Yes, sir.

- 21
- 23 Did you sign it under oath before a notary Q. 24 public?
- 25 Α. Yes.



1	Q. And is the testimony that you would offer here
2	today if you were to go through all those questions and
3	answers, would it be the same?
4	A. Yes, sir.
5	Q. And there are parts of your testimony where
6	you mention things that you heard from other people.
7	You don't know if those things specifically are true or
8	not, do you?
9	A. I do not.
10	Q. But based on what they told you, you took
11	certain actions and those are reflected in your
12	testimony?
13	A. That is correct.
14	MR. BARRETT: I have no other questions of the
15	witness. Thank you, Judge.
	witness. Thank you, Judge. JUDGE SEYER: Ms. Kerr, any questions?
16	
15 16 17 18	JUDGE SEYER: Ms. Kerr, any questions?
16 17	JUDGE SEYER: Ms. Kerr, any questions? MS. KERR: No.
16 17 18	JUDGE SEYER: Ms. Kerr, any questions? MS. KERR: No. JUDGE SEYER: Mr. Lowery.
16 17 18	JUDGE SEYER: Ms. Kerr, any questions? MS. KERR: No. JUDGE SEYER: Mr. Lowery. MR. LOWERY: No questions, Judge.
16 17 18 19	JUDGE SEYER: Ms. Kerr, any questions? MS. KERR: No. JUDGE SEYER: Mr. Lowery. MR. LOWERY: No questions, Judge. JUDGE SEYER: Any questions from the
16 17 18 19 20	JUDGE SEYER: Ms. Kerr, any questions? MS. KERR: No. JUDGE SEYER: Mr. Lowery. MR. LOWERY: No questions, Judge. JUDGE SEYER: Any questions from the Commissioners?



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the Pay As You Save contractors and that you believe

1 that the program is administered unfairly. Are you 2 aware of the option to participate in the Pay As You 3 Save program as a contractor if you meet the terms that 4 are set by EEtility? 5 I was not. I was not informed THE WITNESS: 6 I heard it from others. I was not invited into of it. 7 it or received any documentation. 8 CHAIR HAHN: But nothing would prohibit you 9 from becoming a contractor; is that right? 10 THE WITNESS: That's right. 11 Thank you so much. CHAIR HAHN: 12 JUDGE SEYER: Is there any recross from the 13 other parties? 14 MR. LOWERY: No, Judge. 15 Any redirect, Mr. Barrett? MS. KERR: 16 No, thank you, sir. May Mr. Sir MR. BARRETT: 17 be excused? 18 JUDGE SEYER: Yes. 19 You're done, Dave. MR. BARRETT: Thank you. 2.0 (Witness excused.) 21 JUDGE SEYER: Mr. Barrett, call your next 2.2 witness. 23 Corey Malone, Judge, and MR. BARRETT: 24 Mr. Malone is here with us. 25 Mr. Malone, if you'd take the JUDGE SEYER:

1 witness stand there, please. Thank you. Would you 2 raise your right hand, please. Do you swear or affirm 3 that the testimony you give in this hearing shall be the 4 truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth? 5 THE WITNESS: I do. 6 JUDGE SEYER: Okay. Thank you. Go ahead, 7 Mr. Barrett. 8 MR. BARRETT: Thank you, Judge. 9 COREY MALONE, 10 having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified 11 as follows: 12 DIRECT EXAMINATION 13 BY MR. BARRETT: 14 Mr. Malone, would you please state your name 15 for the record? 16 Α. Corey Ryan Malone. 17 Mr. Malone, did you prefile testimony for Ο. 18 today? 19 I did not. Α. 20 Did you sign the document that we've marked as Q. 21 Exhibit 1 --22 Α. Yes. 23 -- where you answered in writing certain O. 24 questions?

I did, yes.

Α.

Т	Q.	In fact, we had attached exhibits to that.
2	There were	e some pictures, some documents, and so forth;
3	is that r	ight?
4	A.	Correct.
5	Q.	You signed that under oath?
6	A.	I did.
7	Q.	Before a notary public?
8	A.	I did.
9	Q.	At some inconvenience, as I recall?
10	A.	Yes, it was, yes.
11	Q.	After reading the prefiled testimony of Ms.
12	Harmon, yo	ou also filed reply testimony; is that right?
13	A.	Correct.
14	Q.	And that was also under oath signed before a
15	notary pul	olic?
16	A.	Correct.
17	Q.	If we went through the questions and answers,
18	would your	r answers to the questions be the same today as
19	they were	when this testimony was prefiled?
20	A.	Yes.
21	Q.	Well, essentially your deposition has been
22	taken and	Mr. Lowery made some fine points that I'm sure
23	he'll diso	cuss with you, but essentially your position in
24	this hasn	't changed, has it?
) E	7	No. We Towns brought gone points up that we



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- 2 MR. BARRETT: I have no other questions of the 3 witness, Judge.
- JUDGE SEYER: All right. Ms. Kerr, do you
- 5 | have any questions for the witness?
- 6 MS. KERR: No, thank you.
- JUDGE SEYER: All right. Mr. Lowery, any
- 8 questions?
- 9 MR. LOWERY: I have probably just a very few.
 10 Good morning, Mr. Malone.
- 11 THE WITNESS: Good morning.
- 12 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 13 BY MR. LOWERY:

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- Q. Mr. Barrett asked you whether your position
 has changed. I just really have one, maybe two areas of
 inquiry. First of all, your Exhibit 3 was actually
 attached by mistake and Exhibit 5 is what you sort of
 intended to be Exhibit 3 in terms of the text around the
 description of Exhibit 3; isn't that right?
 - A. Correct. That's one of the things we came up with at the deposition.
 - Q. Just so the record is clear. And then the second thing is while you may contend that this case was needed to make sure that the PAYS contractor network was opened up, the fact is, putting aside whether that was



4	A. Correct.
3	HVAC law, right?
2	longer contending that the PAYS program violates the
1	Page 3 true or not, the fact is as it stands today you're no

Because as you sit here today, you and your 0. members, if they agree to the terms for participation, couldn't be a contractor in the PAYS program, right?

Α. Yes, sir.

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That's all I have, Judge. MR. LOWERY: Thank you.

JUDGE SEYER: All right. Thank you. Chair Hahn, do you have questions? Any other questions or any questions from the other Commissioners? All right.

Mr. Malone, I have got a question or two.

OUESTIONS

BY JUDGE SEYER:

- I touched on it with Mr. Barrett and Mr. Lowery, but the 1999 case, what you allege that Ameren has done here recently, how is that similar to that previous case?
- Judge, this case is a little different in the Α. fact that Ameren was actually in the program and I believe it was home appliances back in 1999. The biggest difference between what we filed a few years ago and that program was the CommunitySavers program started



in 2019, and that program is still closed. As far as
conversation to try to even find out, my members came to
me as the Coalition president back around 2019, and
asked how they can participate in this program and we
were just stonewalled and not given any information and
still haven't to this day. When the PAYS program came
out, that was a closed program, to my knowledge, until
this action was filed. Once this action was filed, the
PAYS program was open to contractors when we had our
meeting in 2023.

- Q. And who is the administrator of the CommunitySavers program?
- A. That is, I can never remember their name,
 Resource -- it's in my notes. If I can grab my notes.
 May I?
- 16 Q. Sure.

- 17 A. Resource Innovations.
 - Q. All right. Thank you. From your perspective, how do you believe Ameren has violated this fair competition law, the HVAC law?
 - A. Our counsel has requested information on how the third-party administrators, which would be CommunitySavers, which would be Resource Innovations and PAYS, which would be EEtility, and I have a hard time saying that as well. We asked what the requirements



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Page 35

were on selecting those third-party administrators. And
to my knowledge, I think the terms were it was
irrelevant. So we don't know what the relationship is
between the third-party administrators and Ameren, and
all we ask is just an opportunity to be able to serve
our community and serve our customers.

The biggest issue that my members have is the CommunitySavers program is for low-income housing and it is a program that from what I understand the candidates, the homeowners or the renters, or whatever the case may be, don't pay for the program. It's basically a way to go in and update their homes to make them more energy efficient to lower the utility bills. But if the homeowner doesn't pay for it, then that means all the ratepayers pay for it, which includes all of us. With no competition, how we are to ensure that they are getting the best price for their repairs.

JUDGE SEYER: Okay. Ms. Kerr, do you have any follow up questions?

MS. KERR: No, thank you.

JUDGE SEYER: Mr. Lowery, any follow up?

MR. LOWERY: I may have just a few, Judge. I have an exhibit that I need to mark. I apologize. I don't think I have enough for everybody at the bench, Judge.

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1		Page 36 MR. BARRETT: You can certainly have mine
2	back. Thi	is is the same as my Exhibit 5.
3		MR. LOWERY: I at least have two out of three
4	for you.	I believe it would be 123; is that right,
5	Judge?	
6		JUDGE SEYER: That's correct.
7		FURTHER CROSS-EXAMINATION
8	BY MR. LOW	VERY:
9	Q.	Mr. Malone, you've been handed what's been
10	marked for	didentification in this case Exhibit 123.
11	It's also	Exhibit C from your deposition. Do you
12	recognize	that?
13	A.	Yes.
13	A. Q.	Yes. In response to the Judge's questions, you
	Q.	
14	Q. indicated	In response to the Judge's questions, you
14 15	Q. indicated for inform	In response to the Judge's questions, you that you had asked, your attorney had asked
14 15 16	Q. indicated for informabout the	In response to the Judge's questions, you that you had asked, your attorney had asked mation about, I believe you suggested or said,
14 15 16 17	Q. indicated for informabout the	In response to the Judge's questions, you that you had asked, your attorney had asked mation about, I believe you suggested or said, PAYS program and about the CommunitySavers
14 15 16 17	Q. indicated for inform about the Single Fam	In response to the Judge's questions, you that you had asked, your attorney had asked mation about, I believe you suggested or said, PAYS program and about the CommunitySavers mily program. Do you recall that?
14 15 16 17 18 19	Q. indicated for inform about the Single Fam A. Q.	In response to the Judge's questions, you that you had asked, your attorney had asked mation about, I believe you suggested or said, PAYS program and about the CommunitySavers mily program. Do you recall that? Yes.
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	Q. indicated for inform about the Single Fam A. Q.	In response to the Judge's questions, you that you had asked, your attorney had asked mation about, I believe you suggested or said, PAYS program and about the CommunitySavers mily program. Do you recall that? Yes. Isn't it true as shown on Exhibit 123 that the
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Q. indicated for inform about the Single Fam A. Q. questions	In response to the Judge's questions, you that you had asked, your attorney had asked mation about, I believe you suggested or said, PAYS program and about the CommunitySavers mily program. Do you recall that? Yes. Isn't it true as shown on Exhibit 123 that the

information -- First of all, you didn't ask for the

1	information that the company objected to as irrelevant;
2	you only asked for the PAYS information; you didn't
3	actually ask for the CommunitySavers information; isn't
4	that right?
5	A. I had asked for the RFP for the EEtility.
6	Q. And EEtility is involved with the PAYS
7	program, not with the CommunitySavers program; isn't
8	that right?
9	A. Correct.
10	MR. LOWERY: Judge, with that, those are the
11	only questions I have. Thank you.
12	JUDGE SEYER: Are you asking for Exhibit 123
13	to be admitted?
14	MR. LOWERY: No.
15	JUDGE SEYER: All right. Ms. Kerr, any follow
16	up questions?
17	MS. KERR: None.
18	JUDGE SEYER: Mr. Barrett, do you have any
19	redirect?
20	MR. BARRETT: I have none. Just so it's
21	easier for you when you look at the record later, Judge
22	Seyer, that exhibit is also my Exhibit 5.
23	JUDGE SEYER: Exhibit 5.
24	MR. BARRETT: So it's in the record if you
25	want to actually look at it.



1	Transcript of Flocedurings Sury 10, 2025
1	Page 38 MR. LOWERY: I forgot about that. Thank you.
2	MR. BARRETT: May Mr. Malone return to his
3	seat in the gallery?
4	JUDGE SEYER: Not at this time. Chair Hahn.
5	MR. BARRETT: My apologies.
6	CHAIR HAHN: Mr. Malone, after reviewing this
7	Exhibit 5, did you do a similar request for the
8	third-party vendor over the well, the CommunitySavers
9	program?
10	THE WITNESS: Not to my knowledge.
11	CHAIR HAHN: Okay.
12	MR. BARRETT: And the answer is no, if I might
13	interject, Chairman.
14	CHAIR HAHN: Thank you.
15	JUDGE SEYER: All right. Now, Mr. Malone, you
16	may step down.
17	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
18	(Witness excused.)
19	JUDGE SEYER: Mr. Barrett, do you have further
20	witnesses to call?
21	MR. BARRETT: The Complainants rest.
22	JUDGE SEYER: Ms. Kerr, you may call your
23	first witness.
24	MS. KERR: I'll call Mark Kiesling.
25	JUDGE SEYER: All right. Mr. Kiesling, you



	Transcript of Proceedings Suly 16, 202
1	Page 39 have your right hand raised. Thank you. Do you swear
2	or affirm that the testimony you give in this hearing
3	shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the
4	truth?
5	THE WITNESS: I do.
6	JUDGE SEYER: Thank you. Go ahead, Ms. Kerr.
7	MS. KERR: Morning.
8	THE WITNESS: Good morning.
9	MARK KIESLING,
10	having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified
11	as follows:
12	DIRECT EXAMINATION
13	BY MS. KERR:
14	Q. Could you please state your name and spell it
15	for the record?
16	A. It's Mark Kiesling, K-i-e-s-l-i-n-g.
17	Q. And by whom are you employed and what's your
18	position?
19	A. Missouri Public Service Commission. I'm a
20	senior data research analyst.
21	Q. And have you prepared and filed testimony in
22	this proceeding, specifically your rebuttal testimony on
23	June 5, 2024, which has been marked as Exhibit 200?
24	A. Yes.

Α. Yes.

25

And did you have an opportunity to prepare a



		Transcript of Proceedings July 18, 2	02
1	staff repo	Page ort in this case which is included as Schedule	
2	MK-R2 and	which is attached to Exhibit 200 to your	
3	rebuttal t	testimony?	
4	A.	Yes.	
5	Q.	Is the information you prepared and filed in	
6	this case	that's contained in those two documents true	
7	and accura	ate, to the best of your knowledge?	
8	A.	Yes.	
9	Q.	Do you have any changes or additions to make	
10	to any of	those documents today?	

Α. No.

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And Exhibit 200 I guess has been MS. KERR: already admitted into evidence.

> JUDGE SEYER: That's correct.

I tender the witness for cross. MS. KERR:

All right. JUDGE SEYER: Mr. Lowery, any

17 questions?

> MR. LOWERY: Just a few, Your Honor. Good

morning, Mr. Kiesling.

THE WITNESS: Good morning.

21 CROSS-EXAMINATION

2.2 BY MR. LOWERY:

> Mr. Kiesling, after conducting the investigation that the staff conducted and ultimately concluded that Ameren Missouri was not taking activities



in violation of the HVAC law, I want to clear up a couple things. EEtility, not Ameren Missouri, does the PAYS assessments, right?

A. Correct.

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Q. And Resource Innovations has contractors in their contractor network that do the assessments for the CommunitySavers Single Family program, not Ameren Missouri, right?

A. Correct.

Q. Staff didn't uncover any evidence that Ameren Missouri was selling or installing or maintaining or repairing or doing any other activities that are listed in the definition of HVAC services in connection with these two programs, did it?

A. No.

Q. In fact, staff didn't uncover any evidence that EEtility or Resource Innovations was engaged in any of those activities, did it?

A. No.

Q. And in fact, according to staff's investigation, it's EEtility that chooses the contractors for PAYS and it's Resource Innovations that chooses them for CommunitySavers Single Family, right?

A. Yes.

Q. There's no contractual relationship between

1	Ameren Missouri and any of those entities; isn't that
2	right?
3	A. Yes.
4	MR. LOWERY: Thank you.
5	JUDGE SEYER: Mr. Barrett, do you have cross?
6	MR. BARRETT: I do. Thank you.
7	CROSS-EXAMINATION
8	BY MR. BARRETT:
9	Q. Mr. Kiesling, my name is David Barrett. It's
10	a pleasure to make your acquaintance. I know Judge
11	Seyer no doubt and the Commissioners know you well. I
12	don't. If you'd indulge me with a couple of questions.
13	Could you tell us what background you have in
14	investigating these types of issues?
15	A. As far as the complaint?
16	Q. Yes.
17	A. I've been at the Commission for close to ten
18	years. I've worked several complaint cases.
19	Q. I looked at the list of prior cases that was
20	attached to your testimony. Could you tell me which
21	ones of those involved questions of statutory violations
22	like this?
23	A. Almost all complaints that come to the
24	Commission usually involve statutory issues potentially
25	or rule violations.



Q.	All right. And which ones specifically?
А.	It just depends on the complaint.
Q.	And based on staff's investigation, is there
any quest	ion that EEtility and Resource Innovations are
at least	contractors with Ameren?
А.	Can you repeat that again.
Q.	Based on your investigation, is there any
question	that EEtility and Resource Innovations are at
least con	tractors with Ameren?
	MR. LOWERY: Objection, assumes facts not in
evidence	unless he's asking a hypothetical that if they
were cont	ractors. There's no evidence that they are.
	JUDGE SEYER: I'll sustain the objection.
	coper salan a la suscula ene es jeccion.
BY MR. BA	
BY MR. BA	RRETT:
Q.	RRETT:
Q. did you m	RRETT: Hypothetically did you learn whether or not
Q. did you m	RRETT: Hypothetically did you learn whether or not ake any inquiry into whether EEtility and
Q. did you m Resource	RRETT: Hypothetically did you learn whether or not ake any inquiry into whether EEtility and Innovations were contractors with Ameren?
Q. did you m Resource A. Q.	RRETT: Hypothetically did you learn whether or not ake any inquiry into whether EEtility and Innovations were contractors with Ameren? No.
Q. did you m Resource A. Q.	RRETT: Hypothetically did you learn whether or not ake any inquiry into whether EEtility and Innovations were contractors with Ameren? No. Did you make any inquiry into whether they
Q. did you m Resource A. Q. were affi	RRETT: Hypothetically did you learn whether or not ake any inquiry into whether EEtility and Innovations were contractors with Ameren? No. Did you make any inquiry into whether they liates as defined by the statute?
Q. did you m Resource A. Q. were affi A.	RRETT: Hypothetically did you learn whether or not ake any inquiry into whether EEtility and Innovations were contractors with Ameren? No. Did you make any inquiry into whether they liates as defined by the statute? Yes.
Q. did you m Resource A. Q. were affi A. Q.	RRETT: Hypothetically did you learn whether or not ake any inquiry into whether EEtility and Innovations were contractors with Ameren? No. Did you make any inquiry into whether they liates as defined by the statute? Yes. And what did you discover?
	A. Q. any quest at least A. Q. question least con

1	A. They're implementors of programs through
2	Ameren's MEEIA program.
3	Q. How did they What was their relationship
4	with the company? How was that established? Just
5	friends in the same building?
6	A. No.
7	Q. Did they have some sort of agreement with
8	Ameren to provide these services?
9	A. Ameren has approved MEEIA programs and Ameren
10	finds third-party implementors to implement those
11	programs.
12	Q. And did they have some sort of contract with
13	Ameren to fulfill those obligations, if you know?
14	A. I don't know that off the top of my head.
15	Q. If you were to refer to your investigation,
16	would you be able to answer the question?
17	A. Possibly, yes.
18	Q. All right. If you would, please.
19	A. Is there a particular thing you'd like me to
20	look for?
21	Q. I didn't see it in there. That's why I'm
22	asking you to help me. If I missed it, Judge Seyer
23	needs to know about it. Is there anything in there
24	about the relationship, the formal relationship between
25	EEtility or Resource Innovations and Ameren?

1	A. Can I take a minute to go through my report
2	Q. Certainly.
3	A and refresh my memory.
4	Q. It's a little bit unfair. I understand.
5	A. There's a section here that we say that
6	EEtility serves as the implementation contractor for the
7	PAYS program.
8	Q. Implies there's a contract at the very least;
9	is that right?
10	A. Potentially. I don't know that.
11	Q. You never saw the contract?
12	A. Correct.
13	Q. In regards to Resource Innovations, there's
14	nothing in there at all about their relationship with
15	Ameren; is that right?
16	A. Correct.
17	Q. And is there any question that these program
18	costs are recoverable in regulated rates?
19	A. They're not in rates.
20	Q. In fact, the customers pay back the costs of
21	this program through rate M1. Don't the tariffs refer
22	to rate M1 and pay back and their responsibility to pay
23	back the costs of the program?
24	A. The program is not in rates.
25	Q. And in fact, Ameren has an approved 3 percent

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1	overhead charge for all of the costs that it incurs that
2	are passed on to these low-income customers, is there
3	not, or do you recall?
4	MS. KERR: Objection on relevance. Where are
5	we I'm not exactly sure where we're going with this
6	line of questioning.
7	MR. BARRETT: Well, I'm not sure what the
8	objection is.
9	MS. KERR: Relevance.
10	MR. BARRETT: As to the relevance, the statute
11	requires that I show that Ameren is using regulated
12	rates to pay for this conduct that we allege is improper
13	and that's why I'm asking the rate questions.
14	JUDGE SEYER: I'm going to overrule the
15	objection. Let's get to the point here.
16	MR. BARRETT: Yes, sir. Do you recall the
17	question, sir?
18	THE WITNESS: No.
19	MR. BARRETT: Judge Seyer, could we have it
20	read back.
21	JUDGE SEYER: Ms. Bentch, if you don't mind.
22	(The last question was read back by the court

23 reporter.)

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I don't recall. I'm not aware THE WITNESS: of what you're talking about.



BY MR. BARRETT:

- Q. Have you ever seen Complainant's Exhibit 9?
- MR. BARRETT: And may I approach the witness
- 4 to tender the exhibit, Judge.
- JUDGE SEYER: You may.
- 6 BY MR. BARRETT:
- Q. I'm not asking from memory. I'm actually going to try to be helpful. Have you had a chance to look at the exhibit, sir?
- 10 A. I've flipped through it, yes.
- 11 Q. Have you ever seen it before today?
- 12 A. No.
- Q. Haven't had a chance to see if it has any of the disclaimers that we suggest are required by the statute?
- 16 A. I'm not familiar which disclaimers you're
 17 referring to.
- 18 Q. Very good.
- 19 MR. BARRETT: If I can approach the witness
- 20 | again, Judge.
- JUDGE SEYER: You may.
- 22 BY MR. SEYER:
- Q. Sir, I'm going to trade you. I'm going to
- 24 | hand you what has been marked Exhibit 5 and I will take
- 25 | back Exhibit 9. Would you agree that the questions

1 asked in 1.4 and 1.5 are relevant to determining the 2 issue of the affiliation using the term colloquially the 3 relationship between Ameren and its contractors? 4 MR. LOWERY: I'm going to object to the extent 5 it's asking this witness to make a legal determination 6 about what is and isn't relevant. 7 If I might suggest, he was the MR. BARRETT: 8 investigator and so he probably has some idea of what 9 I'm talking about. I'm not asking for a legal 10 conclusion. I'm asking it in the scope of his 11 investigation. 12 I'll overrule the objection. JUDGE SEYER: 13 What was your question again? THE WITNESS: 14 I'm sorry. 15 MR. BARRETT: Could we have it read back, 16 Judge. 17 JUDGE SEYER: Ms. Bentch. 18 (The last question was read back by the court 19 reporter.) 20 THE WITNESS: I cannot make that determination 21 based on 1.4 and 1.5 on this paper. 2.2 BY MR. BARRETT: 23 I didn't mean Ameren and its customers. Τ 24 meant Ameren and EEtility and Resource Innovations. 25 Does that change your answer?

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Q. Thank you. Finally I notice, and just for convenience sake, page 6 of your memorandum. I believe it says something to the effect of staff is unaware of any statute or Commission rule that outlines or provides guidelines on how Ameren is to pick preferred contractors. Did I read that essentially accurately and it's page 6 near the top. Take your time, please. It's the last line of the second paragraph.

A. Yes, you read it accurately.

Q. Could Ameren, in fact, pick its contractors in a way that does not violate the fair competition law?

A. I'm not a legal analyst.

MS. KERR: Objection.

MR. BARRETT: It's a fair answer.

JUDGE SEYER: I'll sustain the objection. You don't have to answer the question.

18 BY MR. BARRETT:

- Q. The conclusion of your report was that staff was not provided sufficient documentation to find a violation. What efforts did staff make to find that information?
- A. We sent numerous data requests to not only the complainants but also Ameren.
 - Q. And you were aware of the allegation that

ag	e	50	

1	Page 50 Ameren had provided shirts, Ameren shirts and ID badges
2	to the contractors?
3	A. Yes.
4	Q. And have you subsequently become aware of the
5	photographs of people wearing Ameren shirts at the
6	Anton's company picture?
7	A. We were provided a response for the picture,
8	but it's blurry, it's hard to see.
9	Q. And you specifically noted in your report that
LO	Ameren had not been reimbursed for its website costs by
L1	Anton's; is that right?
L2	A. Can you repeat that.
L3	Q. Do you recall noting in your report that
L4	Ameren had not been reimbursed for the costs of
L5	operating its Pay As You Save website by Anton's?
L6	A. Can you point to where that is in our staff
L7	report, please.
L8	Q. Probably not. Let me put it this way. At the
L9	very least you don't remember addressing that issue?
20	A. I don't recall addressing that. That's why I
21	asked for you to repeat it.
22	JUDGE SEYER: Mr. Barrett, what was your
23	question?
24	MR. BARRETT: It was in regards to



reimbursement for website costs.

1	MS. KERR: Judge, I have copies of his
2	testimony and the staff report. I could hand those out
3	if you want me to.
4	MR. LOWERY: They're actually in evidence
5	already, Judge.
6	JUDGE SEYER: Right, they're in evidence, but
7	can you point us?
8	MS. KERR: I can look.
9	JUDGE SEYER: Can you point us to that alleged
10	portion of the memorandum?
11	MS. KERR: Let me look.
12	JUDGE SEYER: There is a portion on page 5
13	about two-thirds of the way down where it says staff
14	sent Ameren DRs asking if Ameren provides
15	program-approved contractors with Ameren shirts,
16	signing, advertising material and other company
17	materials. Ameren responded that they do not provide
18	any company material to program-approved contractors.
19	I don't know, Mr. Barrett, if that's what
20	you're referring to and if that includes the website
21	photograph.
22	MR. BARRETT: It addresses the issue.
23	BY MR. BARRETT:
24	Q. More specifically, Mr. Kiesling, do you recall
25	in the and I thought I had it printed here I seem to

have mislaid it, but do you recall in the staff document request 8.1 asking if, in paragraph 7, asking if Ameren Missouri bills program-approved contractors for website administrative costs?

A. What are you referring to?

- Q. I'm sorry. Your document, the staff document request to Ameren 8.1.
 - A. A data request?
- O. Yes.

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- A. What number was that again? I'm sorry.
 - Q. 8.1, paragraph 7 specifically.
 - A. I don't have an 8.1.
 - Q. And do you know if Ameren received reimbursement for its website administrative costs?

MR. LOWERY: Objection again to the extent it misstates facts that are not in evidence. I think his prior question was asking about Anton's and whether there's reimbursement by Anton's. There's no evidence that Anton's either in this data request response or otherwise that Anton's has anything to do with the website. To the extent the question assumes that Anton's incurred costs or Ameren Missouri incurred costs related to Anton's website or something, I object to that as assuming facts not in evidence.

MR. BARRETT: I think the spin is a little



	Page 5
1	different. The question is the Ameren website. I
2	certainly am not intending to make any inquiry about an
3	Anton's website.
4	JUDGE SEYER: He can answer the question as
5	far as Ameren's website.
6	THE WITNESS: I'm not aware of the data
7	request you're mentioning, and we never looked into any
8	kind of website reimbursement at all.
9	BY MR. BARRETT:
10	Q. And are you familiar with Ms. Harmon's
11	testimony in this case, prefiled testimony?
12	A. Yes.
13	Q. And there was apparently some confusion about
14	how the shirts were being used, whether they should have
15	been cobranded or some such?
16	A. I'm not going to speak on behalf of Ms.
17	Harmon's testimony. That's hers.
18	Q. It had no impact on your opinions in this
19	case?
20	A. We sent data requests requesting that
21	information.
22	MR. BARRETT: All right. No other questions
23	of the witness. Thank you.
24	JUDGE SEYER: Thank you. Any questions from

Chair Hahn.

the Commissioners?

1 Not a question but, Mr. Kiesling, CHAIR HAHN: 2 just appreciate your work to do the investigation, 3 seemed very thorough, appreciate the report. I think it 4 was very informative for us. Thank you so much. 5 THE WITNESS: Thank you. 6 All right. JUDGE SEYER: Any questions from 7 the other Commissioners? 8 COMMISSIONER MITCHELL: None from me, Judge. 9 JUDGE SEYER: All right. Mr. Lowery, do you 10 have recross? MR. LOWERY: Well, I think since the bench 11 12 didn't ask any questions, I don't think I get a chance 13 to recross, do I, Judge? 14 JUDGE SEYER: All right. Fair enough. 15 MR. LOWERY: I would like to, but I don't 16 think I'm supposed to. 17 Fair. All right. JUDGE SEYER: Then 18 Mr. Kiesling, I believe you're through. Thank you for 19 your testimony. 20 (Witness excused.) 21 JUDGE SEYER: All right. Let's go ahead and 2.2 take a break and reconvene at 10:25. Going off the 23 record. 24 (Off the record.) 25 All right. Going back on the JUDGE SEYER:

1	record.
2	All right. Ms. Kerr, correct me if I'm wrong,
3	but you don't have any further witnesses to call?
4	MS. KERR: I don't.
5	JUDGE SEYER: Okay. Then Mr. Lowery, call
6	your first witness.
7	MR. LOWERY: I'll call our first and only
8	witness, Shelly Harmon.
9	JUDGE SEYER: Ms. Harmon, you have your right
LO	hand raised. Thank you. Do you swear or affirm that
L1	the testimony that you give in this hearing shall be the
L2	truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?
L3	THE WITNESS: I do, yes.
L4	JUDGE SEYER: Thank you.
L5	MR. LOWERY: Good morning, Ms. Harmon.
L6	THE WITNESS: Good morning.
L7	SHELLY HARMON,
L8	having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified
L9	as follows:
20	DIRECT EXAMINATION
21	BY MR. LOWERY:
22	Q. This is your first time at the Commission,
23	correct?
24	A. Yes, yes, it is.
25	Q. Did you cause to be prepared for filing in



1	this docket rebuttal testimony that's been marked for
2	identification as Exhibit 100?
3	A. Yes.
4	Q. If I were to pose the questions in that
5	testimony Well, first of all, let me back up. Do you
6	have any corrections to that testimony?
7	A. Yes, I do.
8	Q. Could you please state for the record by page
9	and line number what those corrections are?
10	A. Yes. Page number 3, line number 7, file
11	number I need to add EO- in front of 2018-0211.
12	Q. Okay.
13	A. The second correction is page 5, line 9. I
14	need to change program implementors to program
15	administrators. And then on that same page on line 13,
16	I need to change program administrator to program
17	implementor. And on page 9, line 6, I need to add an s
18	to customers customer.
19	Q. To make customer plural?
20	A. That's correct.
21	Q. Are those the only changes you have to your
22	testimony?
23	A. Yes.
24	Q. With those changes, if I asked you the
25	questions in that testimony, would your answers be the

1	same here today?
2	A. Yes.
3	Q. And would they be true and correct, to the
4	best of your knowledge?
5	A. Yes.
6	MR. LOWERY: With that, Your Honor, I move for
7	the admission of Exhibit 100 and tender Ms. Harmon for
8	cross-examination.
9	JUDGE SEYER: I believe at the start of the
10	hearing I admitted Exhibit 100. But I will
11	MR. LOWERY: Okay. Thank you.
12	JUDGE SEYER: ask Ms. Kerr if she has any
13	questions for the witness.
14	MS. KERR: I do not.
15	JUDGE SEYER: Mr. Barrett.
16	CROSS-EXAMINATION
17	BY MR. BARRETT:
18	Q. In your testimony, ma'am, you refer to
19	cobranding issues. Could you tell us what that was
20	about, what led to that discussion?
21	A. What part of my testimony are you referring
22	to?
23	Q. In your testimony, you were asked the question
24	on page 15, line 10, does Ameren Missouri provide Ameren



Tell me when

shirts for HVAC participating contractors.

	Transcript of Proceedings	July 18, 20.
1	you get there.	Page 58
2	A. I'm here.	
3	Q. Okay. Have you had a chance to look at	it?
4	A. Yes.	
5	Q. What was the genesis of that comment? V	That
6	made you testify about that?	
7	A. There was questions around the Ameren sh	irts
8	and cobranding.	
9	Q. Let me take you back for a second just t	o make
LO	sure we're all on the same page. In what we call	the
L1	Kuelker estimate, K-u-e-l-k-e-r, there was a refer	ence
L2	to a representative will come out, they'll have or	ı an
L3	Ameren shirt, an Ameren ID card, and they'll be dr	riving
L4	an Anton's truck, isn't that right, something to t	hat
L5	effect?	
L6	A. I don't recall that.	
L7	Q. Okay. But for whatever reason, you deci	.ded
L8	you wanted to tell us about Ameren shirts. Okay.	And
L9	can you tell us why you addressed that?	
20	A. Because there was some questions around	the
21	Ameren shirts.	
22	Q. I guess that's my question. What were t	he
23	questions as you recall them?	

- I don't recall what the questions were. Α.
- Q. Just something that needed to be addressed?



- A. I think it needed to be something that was called out. There were allegations around the shirts.
- Q. Specifically you saw a picture of a bunch of guys standing in front of a sign that said Anton's and a bunch of them were wearing shirts that said Anton's and then there's a picture of I think it was three people standing there wearing what looks like black shirts with an Ameren emblem on the breast; isn't that true?
- I did see that picture, but it was unclear Α. whether those were Ameren shirts. I did, however, reach out to the implementation contractor and verified that they do wear Ameren branded shirts, but the most important part of the contractors going into customer homes is that they wear a contractor badge. So when they wear a contractor badge, there have been cases from what I understand where they were wearing Ameren shirts. And the reason why that's important is that these contractors are going into customers' homes. So for consumer protection and safety reasons, it's important that they know that they're working on behalf of the program.
 - Q. Why is that?

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- A. It's an important part of implementing the program.
 - Q. Why is that?

1	A. Because the customers particularly in the
2	single family income eligible program, they're
3	apprehensive because we're giving away free stuff. So
4	when they tie the program to something that's approved
5	by the Commission, they have trust that it's a
6	legitimate program.
7	Q. They're not wearing Commission shirts, are
8	they?
9	A. No, they are wearing
10	Q. They're wearing Ameren shirts?
11	A. Yes.
12	Q. In fact, they weren't cobranded shirts, were
13	they?
14	A. They were not cobranded, but these contractors
15	were wearing contractor badges. In fact, the
16	implementation contractor requires that they wear them
17	because it goes hand in hand.
18	Q. When we look at the Kuelker estimate though,
19	it says the people will have Ameren shirts and Ameren ID
20	badges. It doesn't say they'll have contractor ID
21	badges, does it?
22	A. I would have to look at it again to refresh my
23	memory on that.
24	Q. It's in evidence. We can deal with it later.
25	A. Okay.



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Q.	But why w	vould i	t be	import	tant	to :	know	the	
person is	from Ame	cen as	oppos	sed to	Air	Qua	lity	or an	У
other cont	tractor?	Isn't	the o	contrac	ctor	who	they	have	to
trust?									

- I'll talk about the programs a little bit, the Α. So these customers are signing CommunitySavers program. up for an Ameren program. Again, a program that is tied to a Commission-approved program. So it's important that very first, you know, when they go into the customer homes that they know it's an Ameren contractor. There's scams out there all the time. So it creates trust with that customer. And you know, that's been a challenge with this program in the beginning and again it creates trust that this is a Commission-approved program and that these are contractors that are working on behalf of the program.
- Q. There have been scamsters before that impersonate Ameren employees, have there not?
- A. I believe so but not pertaining to this program.
- Q. Sure. We're talking in general the importance of the Ameren shirt. It's not like getting a hold of an Ameren shirt is particularly difficult, is it?
- A. I don't think it would be that difficult, but you know, I don't know.



	MR. BARRETT: If I could have just a second,	
Judge.	Judge, I thank the witness for her time and I	
have no	other questions for her.	

JUDGE SEYER: All right. Do the Commissioners have any questions for the witness?

All right. Hearing none, I do have a couple of questions myself.

OUESTIONS

BY JUDGE SEYER:

- Q. When you talk about cobranded shirts, are we talking about a shirt that would have the Ameren UE logo or patch, as well as the like in this case Anton's company logo as well?
- A. It may say Anton's or it may say a contractor working on behalf of the program. I'll give you an example. You referred to -- I want to read specifically what it says -- the badge. It indicates that it's -- It indicates the implementation contractor -- give me just a second. For instance, the contractor badge will say approved contractor for the Ameren Missouri Residential Energy Efficiency program and it says verified by Franklin Energy, which is the administrator for the program.
 - Q. That's on the shirt or on the badge?
- A. That's on the badge.



Q. In your rebuttal testimony, page 16, lines 3
to 5 roughly, you're saying if there are any Ameren
Missouri branded shirts, they should be cobranded with
Anton's logo or the CommunitySavers program logo. So if
that shirt had the CommunitySavers logo on it, what else
would be on that shirt?

- A. It should be cobranded with a qualified contractor by Franklin Energy or something like that.
 - O. On the shirt?

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- Α. On the shirt. These were guidelines that were put out from our marketing team. The intent was to make sure that the logo was accurate. This shirt cobranding, it didn't follow the guidelines. You know, we looked into -- I looked into that. Again, the most important part is that badge. You know, I think about it like Whenever they pull up to your house in an Amazon truck or Amazon box, you trust that. Same with the Ameren Missouri program and logo. We want to make sure that that's not damaged.
- Q. Anton's is involved in which program? CommunitySavers?
- A. They're involved in the CommunitySavers program and the Pay As You Save program and the heating and cooling program.
 - Q. Are there any contractors under either of



those programs that you know of that wear the cobranded shirts with Ameren's logo, their logo?

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- A. No. Typically I'll talk about the heating and cooling program. The heating and cooling contractors want -- they want to display their logo, not Ameren Missouri's, but the implementation contractor for the CommunitySavers program and, you know, the strategy works. It's important that they have that trust with the customer to get in the customer's home, which is why they require the badges. So to answer your question, no.
 - Q. In those instances where you have provided cobranded shirts, who pays for that?
 - A. The implementation contractor.
 - Q. So in the CommunitySavers program, that would be Resource Innovations?
 - A. That would be Resource Innovations.
- Q. I believe there was prefiled testimony that indicated that Ameren's website at one time stated that home energy advisor that would come to visit the home would be wearing an Ameren Missouri shirt and would have an Ameren picture ID badge. You're saying that's not how it actually happens; is that correct?
- A. That is how it happens for the CommunitySavers program. So they were --



1 An Ameren Missouri shirt? Q. 2 Yeah, that should have been cobranded per the Α. 3 quidelines. 4 So if that information is still on your Ο. 5 website, that would be accurate? 6 It is not on our website now, and the reason 7 why that is it did call out Anton's specifically at one 8 That's because we only had one contractor in the 9 program in the CommunitySavers program. There has since 10 been another contractor added. So what is on the 11 website is look for a contractor badge, Ameren 12 representative wearing a contractor badge. I'll correct 13 It did say that the CommunitySavers myself there. 14 program was fully subscribed now. So we took that part 15 out. But it did before it was subscribed giving 16 customers an indication what to look for. 17 JUDGE SEYER: Okay. Those are the only 18 questions I have. 19 Ms. Kerr, do you have any follow up questions? 20 No, thank you. MS. KERR: 21 JUDGE SEYER: Mr. Barrett. 2.2 MR. BARRETT: No, thank you. 23 JUDGE SEYER: And Mr. Lowery, do you have any 24 redirect?

Maybe just a little, Your Honor.

MR. LOWERY:

REDIRECT EXAMINATION

2 BY MR. LOWERY:

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- Q. Just to make sure the record is clear, and I think maybe the Judge can actually see this, is the contractor badge that you refer to, is that actually included in one of the schedules to your testimony?
 - A. Yes, it is.
 - Q. And is that part of Schedule SRH-R3?
 - A. Yes, it is.
- Q. You refer to a heating and cooling program.

 Is that the same as the HVAC program that I talked about earlier this morning?
 - A. Yes, it is.
- Q. Could you explain why -- In the questions I believe, well, I know you got from Mr. Barrett and maybe some from the Judge as well, there was a discussion about cobranding. You talked about sort of a trust and security issue making sure customers understood that these were Commission-approved Ameren Missouri Energy Efficiency programs. But then in one of the answers you gave to the Judge I think you suggested that that's really not an issue with the HVAC program. Can you explain why?
- A. In the HVAC program, customers are choosing the contractors. They're choosing which contractor from



a network of 400 that are in the program. So they choose them. They know which contractor they chose and they know which contractor is coming to their home.

- Q. Ameren Missouri is not out there suggesting contractors to them or actually doing anything in their homes. Ameren Missouri all it does is if you buy the right air-conditioner and it's got, say, a thousand dollar rebate, the contractor they chose is the one that fills all that out and makes sure they get the rebate; is that right?
 - A. That's correct.

- Q. Why is there 400 plus contractors in the HVAC program and only a couple in CommunitySavers Single Family and maybe five or six in PAYS? Why is that?
- A. By virtue of the energy savings goals and the sheer volume of HVAC systems that go through the programs. So I'll give you an example. On average from 2019, I pulled some data on the number of systems.

 From 2019 to 2023, there were over 14,000 installations of HVAC systems in the heating and cooling program or the HVAC program. In the Single Family Income Eligible program as part of the CommunitySavers program, there were less than 200. So 163 systems on average. So 1 percent.
 - Q. So you just don't need very many contractors



to handle that level of installations a year?

- A. No, it's not a cost effective approach to open that network up to a wide range of contractors, because it takes a lot to set up, takes a lot to set up these contractors. They have to -- The implementation contractor, they not only perform HVAC services, they go in and they do assessments, they install other measures, and they have to integrate their systems with the scheduling systems. So it's not cost effective to set up a lot of contractors. So it's the best strategy for our customers to deliver the energy savings goals for the program at the budget that we have.
- Q. So one last question. If the program implementor, which is Resource Innovations; is that right?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. If they implemented the program at a less cost effective way, who ends up paying for that?
- A. Customers end up paying for that. That is important. Just to clarify, it is important to keep the costs low because it is true that ratepayers pay for this. It's not in base rates, but it is included in an energy efficiency investment charge, a separate line item on customers' bills, so all customers. So it's important to keep that cost low. And the strategy

Т	chosen by the implementation contractors works. It's a
2	well performing program.
3	MR. LOWERY: Thank you, Ms. Harmon. Those are
4	the only questions I have, Judge.
5	JUDGE SEYER: All right. Thank you. Ms.
6	Harmon, I have kind of a tangential question for you.
7	You were here earlier when Mr. Kiesling testified,
8	correct?
9	THE WITNESS: Yes.
10	JUDGE SEYER: And Mr. Kiesling used the term
11	MEEIA. I should have asked him this question, but that
12	is M-E-E-I-A, correct?
13	THE WITNESS: That's correct.
14	JUDGE SEYER: For the sake of the record, can
15	you tell us what that stands for?
16	THE WITNESS: Missouri Energy Efficiency
17	Investment Act.
18	JUDGE SEYER: Thank you. All right. Having
19	said that, Mr. Lowery, do you disagree with that?
20	MR. LOWERY: No, no. No questions based on
21	that, Judge.
22	JUDGE SEYER: You're shaking your head.
23	MR. LOWERY: Sorry.
24	JUDGE SEYER: Ms. Kerr, do you have any
25	recross?



1 I apologize for not having MS. KERR: No. 2 Mr. Kiesling explain what that acronym meant. 3 JUDGE SEYER: Mr. Barrett, do you have any 4 recross? 5 MR. BARRETT: Thank you, Judge. None. 6 So this witness may be excused? JUDGE SEYER: 7 All right. Thank you for your testimony. 8 (Witness excused.) 9 Any further witnesses, Mr. JUDGE SEYER: 10 Lowery? 11 No, Your Honor. MR. LOWERY: 12 Are the parties ready to present JUDGE SEYER: 13 closing arguments? 14 I wasn't expecting to since we MR. BARRETT: 15 are planning on briefing it. 16 MR. LOWERY: I wasn't. 17 MR. BARRETT: I see no reason to tell you 18 inartfully what I hope to write somewhat eloquently. 19 I also was not prepared to make a MR. LOWERY: 20 closing argument unless you wanted. 21 MR. BARRETT: But if you want. 2.2 JUDGE SEYER: You're building this up. These 23 better be good briefs. All right. I'm told that the 24 transcripts, we should receive the transcripts by July

The initial briefs are due on August --

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MR. LOWERY: Judge, if I might, in terms of
the due dates of the brief. Those dates were set and
agreed upon before I was involved in the case. My wife
and I are going to be on vacation for two weeks right
around when they're due. I've checked with counsel and
I was hoping that we could change the initial brief date
to the 21st of August and the reply to the 30th.
Counsel have indicated they have no objection to that.
JUDGE SEYER: That works out nicely because
I've had people tell me that I'm overly picky, and so
that will give me more time to pick over the transcript
and make sure it's correct, although I rarely need to
make any changes to Ms. Bentch's transcripts.
All right. So initial briefs August 21, reply
briefs August 30.
MR. LOWERY: Yes, thank you.
MR. BARRETT: Do I need to remember that or
are you going to do an order?
JUDGE SEYER: I'll do an order.
MR. BARRETT: Bless you.
JUDGE SEYER: All right. So is there anything
further?
MR. BARRETT: Nothing from Complainants.



Then I'll adjourn

MR. LOWERY:

JUDGE SEYER:

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Nothing from the Company.

All right.

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     the hearing. We'll go off the record.
 1
                                                  Going off the
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     record.
                 (WHEREUPON, the proceedings concluded at 10:52
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     a.m.)
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1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
2	STATE OF MISSOURI)
3	COUNTY OF COLE)
4	I, Beverly Jean Bentch, RPR, CCR No. 640, do
5	hereby certify that I was authorized to and did
6	stenographically report the foregoing Public Service
7	Commission Evidentiary Hearing and that the transcript,
8	pages 1 through 75, is a true record of my stenographic
9	notes.
10	I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative,
11	employee, attorney, or counsel of any of the parties,
12	nor am I a relative or counsel connected with the
13	action, nor am I financially interested in the action.
14	Dated this 30th day of July, 2024.
15 16	Beverly Jean Bertch
17	Beverly Jean Bentch, RPR, CCR No. 640
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	



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