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EXHIBIT

Exhibit No.:
Issue: Cost of Capital
Witness: Daniel J. Lawton
Type of Exhibit: Direct
Sponsoring Party: OPC
Case No: ER-2010-0036
Date Prepared: December 18, 2009

304

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

§
In the Matter of Union Electric Company , §
d/b/a Ameren UE's Tariffs to Increase its annual § Case No. ER-2010-0036
Revenues for Electric Service §
§

Direct Testimony and Exhibits of

Daniel J. Lawton

On behalf of

Missouri Office of Public Counsel

December 18, 2009

Public Counsel
Exhibit No. 304
Date _____ Reporter _____
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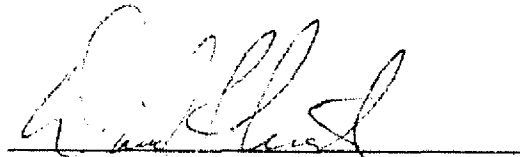
December 18, 2009

AFFIDAVIT OF DANIEL J. LAWTON
FOR CASE NO. ER-2010-0036

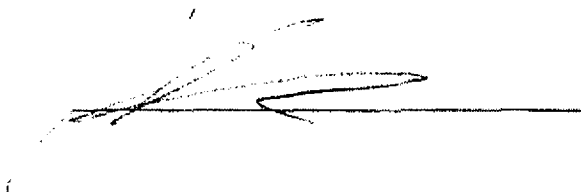
STATE OF TEXAS §

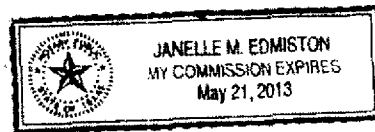
COUNTY OF TRAVIS §

Daniel J. Lawton, being duly sworn on oath, says that he is the person identified in the foregoing prepared direct testimony and exhibits; and that such testimony and exhibits were prepared by or under the direct supervision of said person; that such answers and/or information appearing therein are true and correct to the best of his knowledge and belief; and if asked the questions appearing therein, his answers would, under oath, be the same.


Daniel J. Lawton

Subscribed and Sworn to before me on this 10th day of December 2009.





My Commission Expires 5-21-2013

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION I:	INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND/SUMMARY.....	1
SECTION II:	REGULATORY ISSUES AND COST OF CAPITAL.....	8
SECTION III:	CURRENT CAPITAL MARKET CONDITIONS.....	12
SECTION IV:	COST OF EQUITY CAPTIAL DCF ANALYSIS.....	17
SECTION V:	RISK PREMIUM/CAPM COST OF EQUITY ESTIMATE.....	26
SECTION VI:	CAPITAL STRUCTURE.....	32
SECTION VII:	FINANCIAL INTEGRITY AND REGULATORY ENHANCEMENTS	36

SCHEDULE (DJL-1) – Resume of Daniel J. Lawton

SCHEDULE (DJL-2) – Historical Government Bond and Corporate Bond Yields and Yield Spreads

SCHEDULE (DJL-3) – Comparable Company Equity Ratios and Beta

SCHEDULE (DJL-4) – Comparable Company Price and Dividend Data

SCHEDULE (DJL-5) – Comparable Company Analysts Growth Forecast Estimates for EPS and Historical Growth Data

SCHEDULE (DJL-6) – Comparable Company Constant Growth DCF Results

SCHEDULE (DJL-7) – Comparable Company Two Stage Growth DCF Results

SCHEDULE (DJL-8) – Risk Premium Analysis Results

SCHEDULE (DJL-9) – Select Financial Metrics Based on a 10.2% Equity Return

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

DANIEL J. LAWTON

CASE NO. ER-2010-0036

1 **SECTION I: INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND/SUMMARY**

2

3 **Q1. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.**

4 A. My name is Daniel J. Lawton. My business address is 701 Brazos, Suite 500,
5 Austin, Texas 78701.

6 **Q2. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND AND**
7 **WORK EXPERIENCE.**

8 A. I have been working in the utility consulting business as an economist since 1983.
9 Consulting engagements have included electric utility load and revenue
10 forecasting, cost of capital analyses, revenue requirements/cost of service reviews,
11 and rate design analyses in litigated rate proceedings before federal, state and
12 local regulatory authorities. I have worked with municipal utilities developing
13 electric rate cost of service studies for reviewing and setting rates. In addition, I
14 have a law practice based in Austin, Texas. My main areas of legal practice
15 include administrative law representing municipalities in electric and gas rate
16 proceedings and other litigation and contract matters. I have included a brief
17 description of my relevant educational background and professional work
18 experience in Schedule (DJI-1).

19

1 **Q3. HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY FILED TESTIMONY IN RATE**
2 **PROCEEDINGS?**

3 A. Yes. A list of cases where I have previously filed testimony is included in
4 Schedule (DJL-1).

5 **Q4. ON WHOSE BEHALF ARE YOU FILING TESTIMONY IN THIS**
6 **PROCEEDING?**

7 A. I have been retained to review the Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE
8 ("Company or "AmerenUE") cost of capital request on behalf of the Missouri
9 Office of the Public Counsel ("OPC").

10 **Q5. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS**
11 **PROCEEDING?**

12 A. The purpose of my testimony in this proceeding is to address the Company's
13 requested overall cost of capital. I will address the Company's requested rate of
14 return, capital structure, and capital cost rates for equity, preferred stock and long-
15 term debt; which is presented in the pre-filed direct testimony of its cost of capital
16 witnesses, Mr. Michael G. O'Bryan. Also, I address the specific issue of common
17 equity costs set forth in the testimony of Dr. Roger Morin. Lastly, I address cash
18 flow coverage and cash flow risk issues that are addressed in Company witness
19 Lee Nickloy's testimony.

20 It should be noted that I have a number of comments regarding the Company's
21 return request and calculations. I will reserve those comments for rebuttal
22 testimony which will be filed on February 11, 2010, based on the current
23 procedural schedule.

24

1 **Q6. WHAT MATERIALS DID YOU REVIEW AND RELY ON FOR THIS**
2 **TESTIMONY?**

3 A. I have reviewed the Company's testimony in this proceeding, previous Missouri
4 Public Service Commission ("Commission") orders, Company responses to
5 interrogatories, Value Line Investment Survey ("Value Line"), financial reports of
6 the Company, and various other financial information and other materials
7 available in the public domain. When relying on other sources, I have referenced
8 such sources in my testimony and on attached schedules and/or included copies or
9 summaries in my attached schedules or workpapers.

10 **Q7. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS IN THIS**
11 **CASE.**

12 A. My analyses of the Company's requested 8.577% overall cost of capital and
13 11.50% return on equity indicate that the Company's request is overstated given
14 current market conditions and costs of capital.

15 Table 1 below shows the Company's requested capital structure, proposed cost
16 rates and overall return in this case.

17

1

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	RATIO	COST	WEIGHTED COST
Long-Term Debt	\$3,615,044,928	51.008%	5.967%	3.044%
Preferred Stock	114,502,040	1.600%	5.189%	0.083%
Common Equity	3,392,179,086	47.392%	11.5%	5.450%
Total	\$7,157,726,054	100.00%	—	8.577%
Rate Base (Missouri Jurisdictional)				\$6,001,444,000 ²
Requested Return				\$514,744,000 ³
Taxes at Claimed Return				\$198,140,000 ⁴
Return and Taxes Requested				\$712,884,000 ⁵

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As is demonstrated in Table 1 above, the Company seeks approval of an 8.577% return on a rate base investment level of \$6,001,444,000. Such a return to investors amounts to \$514,744,000 annually in revenue requirements. When the return related taxes of \$198,140,000 is considered, the total annual revenue requirement impact of return and taxes is \$712,884,000.

8

I have calculated a more appropriate cost of common equity of 10.2% for this

¹ Direct Testimony of Michael G. O'Bryan at Schedule MGO-E1

² See Direct Testimony of Gary S. Weiss at Schedule GSW-E19

³ *Id.* or (8.577% x \$6,001,444,000)

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ Sum of RoR and Taxes or (\$514,744,000 + \$198,140,000)

1 case which would result in an overall cost of capital 7.961% for the Company
2 employing the Company proposed capital structure and requested cost rates for
3 long-term debt and preferred equity.

4 Based on my analyses (which are fully explained in the following pages), I make
5 the following conclusions and recommendations:

6 (i) The Company's proposed 8.577% return on investment is overstated and
7 should not be adopted as representative of the Company's cost of capital
8 requirements;

9 (ii) The Company's proposed 11.50% return for equity shareholders is an
10 overstatement of the required return on equity to hold and attract equity capital;

11 (iii) The Company's required return on equity is in the range of 9.3% to
12 10.9%, and a midpoint estimate of 10.2% is reasonable; and

13 (iv) The Company's overall cost of capital to be earned on rate base
14 investment employing the proposed capital structure, proposed cost rates for
15 long-term debt and preferred stock and a 10.2% equity return is 7.961% for
16 setting just and reasonable rates for customers in this proceeding.

17

1 **Q8. PLEASE SUMMARIZE THE COMPANY'S RATE INCREASE REQUEST**
2 **IN THIS CASE.**

3 A. The Company's rate increase request is summarized in the following table:

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (000'S)
Rate Base Investment	\$6,001,444
Requested Return at 8.577%	\$514,744
Operating & Maintenance Expenses	\$1,794,748
Depreciation & Amortization	\$376,408
Taxes other than Income Taxes	\$130,950
Federal/State Income Tax & City Earnings Tax	\$198,140
Deferred Income Taxes	<6,581>
Total Revenue Requirement at Claimed Return	\$3,008,409
Current Rate Revenues at Present Rates	\$2,606,876
CLAIMED ANNUAL RATE INCREASE	\$401,533

4
5 Thus, the overall annual rate increase request is \$401.5 million or about 18%.⁷
6 Company witness Baxter testifies that about \$227 million of the \$401.5 million
7 increase is fuel related and that about \$175 million of the increase is associated
8 with non-fuel operating costs or base rates.⁸

9

⁶ Direct Testimony of Gary S. Weiss at Schedule GSW-E19

⁷ Direct Testimony of Warner L. Baxter at 5:8

⁸ *Id.* at 5:9-13.

1 **Q9. HAS THE COMPANY IDENTIFIED THE COST DRIVERS FOR THIS**
2 **RATE INCREASE REQUEST?**

3 A. Company witness Baxter, at pages 9:22 – 11:10, identifies what he describes as
4 “key drivers associated with the approximately \$175 million increase in non-fuel
5 costs...”⁹ Globally, the Company asserts higher investment and related expenses
6 associated with distribution system and power plants are driving the need for the
7 increase. Another key driver identified by Mr. Baxter is the cost of capital, along
8 with increases in depreciation expense.¹⁰

9 **Q10. HOW HAS THE CLAIMED INCREASE IN COST OF CAPITAL**
10 **IMPACTED THE COMPANY’S RATE REQUEST?**

11 A. A straightforward measure is to examine the Company’s equity cost increase from
12 this Commission’s January 27, 2009 decision in Case No. ER-2008-0318
13 compared to the Company’s request. The current authorized equity return for this
14 Company is 10.76%¹¹ and the Company requests equity return be increased to
15 11.50% in this proceeding. The return and federal income tax impact of
16 increasing equity return from 10.76% to 11.50% (assuming the Company’s
17 investment level of \$6,001,444,000) is about \$32.4 million in added revenue
18 requirements. Thus, \$32.4 million of the Company’s claimed \$175 million base
19 rate increase is for increased shareholder returns and associated income taxes.

20 Thus, while I agree with Mr. Baxter that the Company’s requested return,
21 specifically the equity return, is a significant factor impacting the rate increase
22 request; I disagree that the 11.50% request is justified. I will explain later in this
23 testimony why the market evidence supports a lower equity return.

⁹ *Id.* at 10:1-2.

¹⁰ *Id.* at 11:1-10.

¹¹ In the Matter of Union Electric Company d/b/a AmerenUE’s Tariffs to Increase its Annual Revenues for Electric Service; Public Service Commission of the State of Missouri, Report and Order Case No. ER-2008-0318 at 18.

1

2

SECTION II: REGULATORY ISSUES AND COST OF CAPITAL

3

4

**Q11. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE COST OF CAPITAL CONCEPT AS IT RELATES
5 TO THE REGULATORY PROCESS.**

5

6

A. The overall rate of return to be earned on rate base investment is an essential
7 element in the regulatory and rate setting process. The overall return earned on
8 rate base investment is typically a major portion of overall revenue requirements.
9 For example, in this case the Company's requested overall return for the
10 Company is 8.577%.¹² The Company's requested rate base investment level is
11 \$6,001,444,000.¹³ The Company's requested return on investment is
12 \$514,744,000.¹⁴

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The \$514,744,000 return on rate base investment represents about 22% of base
rate revenue requirements (all costs excluding gas cost).¹⁵ This means that 22
cents of every dollar paid by customers in base rates goes to satisfy return
requirements of investors. These calculations are after tax. When income tax and
revenue related is considered, the return requirement as a percentage of revenue
requirements is higher as tax obligations are to satisfy equity return requirements.
For example, if the federal, state and city earnings tax is combined with the return
requirement, then the return and associated tax obligation represents 30.86% of
base rates.

¹² See Direct Testimony of Gary S. Weiss at Schedule GSW-E19, line 2.

¹³ *Id.* at line 1.

¹⁴ *Id.* at line 2.

¹⁵ Base rate revenue requirement of approximately \$2,310,151,000 was estimate by removing the identified variable fuel amounts from O&M on Schedule GSW-E11-5 at lines 2 and 5.

1 **Q12. PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THE VARIOUS COMPONENTS OF COST OF**
2 **CAPITAL ARE DETERMINED.**

3 A. The overall rate of return in the regulatory process is best explained in two parts.
4 The first part is the return to senior securities, such as debt and preferred stock,
5 which is contractually set at issuance. The reasonableness of the cost of these
6 contractual obligations between the utility and its investors is examined by
7 regulatory agencies as part of the utility's overall cost of service.

8 The second part of a Company's overall return requirement is the appropriate cost
9 rate to assign the equity portion of capital costs. The return on equity should be
10 established at a level that will permit the firm an opportunity to earn a fair rate of
11 return. By fair rate of return, I mean a return earned by equity holders, which is
12 sufficient to hold and attract capital, sufficient to maintain financial integrity, and
13 a return on equity comparable to other investments of similar risks.

14 Two U.S. Supreme Court decisions are often cited as the legal standards for rate
15 of return determination. The first is Bluefield Water Works and Improvement
16 Company v. Public Service Commission of West Virginia, 262 U.S. 679 (1923).
17 The Bluefield case established the following general standards for a rate of return:
18 The return should be sufficient for maintaining financial integrity and capital
19 attraction and a public utility is entitled to a return equal to that of investments of
20 comparable risks.

21 The second U.S. Supreme Court decision is the Federal Power Commission v.
22 Hope Natural Gas Company, 320 U.S. 591 (1942). In the Hope decision, the
23 Court affirmed its earlier Bluefield standards and found that methods for
24 determining return are not the test of reasonableness rather the result and impact
25 of the end result are controlling.

1 The cost of capital is defined as the annual percentage that a utility must receive
2 to maintain its financial integrity, to pay a return to security owners and to insure
3 the continued attraction of capital at a reasonable cost and in an amount adequate
4 to meet future needs. Mathematically, the cost of capital is the composite of the
5 cost of several classes of capital used by the utility – debt, preferred stock, and
6 common stock, weighted on the basis of an appropriate capital structure.

7 The ratemaking process requires the regulator to determine the utility's cost of
8 capital for debt, preferred stock and equity costs. These calculations of cost rates,
9 when combined with the proportions of each type of capital in the capital
10 structure, result in a percentage figure that is then multiplied by the value of assets
11 (investment) used and useful in the production of the utility service to ultimately
12 arrive at a rate charged to customers. Rates should not be excessive (exceed
13 actual costs) or burdensome to the customer and at the same time should be just
14 and reasonable to the utility.

15 In summary, the objective of overall rate of return determination in the regulatory
16 process is to compute the return such that the embedded (contractually required)
17 cost of senior securities is recovered. In addition, a regulated utility should be
18 provided an opportunity to generate additional earnings that are sufficient to
19 compensate equity investors at a level that will hold existing investors, attract new
20 investors, and maintain the financial integrity of the utility.

21

1 **Q13. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE COST OF EQUITY CONCEPT.**

2 A. The cost of equity, or return on equity capital, is the return expected by investors
3 over some prospective time period. The cost of equity one seeks to estimate in
4 this proceeding is the return investors expect prospectively when the rates from
5 this case will be in effect.

6 The cost of common equity is not set by contract, and there are no hard and fast
7 mathematical formulae with which to measure investor expectations with regard
8 to equity requirements and perceptions of risk. As a result, any valid cost of
9 equity recommendation must reflect investors' expectations of the risks facing a
10 utility.

11 **Q14. WHAT PRINCIPAL METHODOLOGY DO YOU EMPLOY IN YOUR**
12 **COST OF EQUITY CAPITAL ANALYSES?**

13 A. I employ the Discounted Cash Flow ("DCF") methodology for estimating the cost
14 of equity, keeping in mind the general premise that any utility's cost of equity
15 capital is the risk free return plus the premium required by investors for accepting
16 the risk of investing in an equity instrument of the utility. It is my opinion that the
17 best analytical technique for measuring a utility's cost of common equity is the
18 DCF methodology. Other return on equity modeling techniques such as the
19 Capital Asset Pricing Model ("CAPM") and risk premium are often used to check
20 the reasonableness of the DCF results.

21 **Q15. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE RISKS YOU REFER TO ABOVE.**

22 A. As I stated earlier in this testimony, equity investors require compensation above
23 and beyond the risk free return because of the increased risk factors investors face
24 in the equity markets. Thus, investors require the risk free return plus some risk
25 premium above the risk free return. The basic risks faced by investors that make
26 up the equity risk premium include business risks, financial risks, regulatory risks,

1 and liquidity risks.

2 **SECTION III: CURRENT CAPITAL MARKET CONDITIONS**

3

4 **Q16. ARE CURRENT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS CONTINUING TO**
5 **DECLINE?**

6 A. The impacts of the global recession continue. The U.S. and global financial
7 markets did struggle with liquidity issues following the collapse of the subprime
8 mortgage markets. The Federal Reserve and central banks around the world
9 continue efforts to encourage lending in an effort to restore the financial markets
10 to pre-financial crisis levels.

11 The Federal Reserve Chairman, Ben Bernanke, predicted that the global financial
12 markets crisis will restrain U. S. economic growth well into 2009: and he was
13 correct. Thus, while inflation issues have recently receded, economic conditions
14 have worsened prospects of economic growth. While economic conditions have
15 turned around significantly, unemployment and slow growth continue to impact
16 the economy.

17 The Federal Reserve has taken numerous steps to address financial market
18 liquidity issues including the cut in the federal funds rate to a target range of 0%
19 to 0.25% as of December 16, 2008. These rates continue to be reaffirmed by the
20 Federal Reserve. I have included in my Schedule (DJL-2) monthly bond yields
21 for various securities showing changes by month since January 2006 through
22 November 2009. As I discuss below, AAA and BBB Corporate bond yields are at
23 levels that prevailed well before the recent financial crisis.

24

1 **Q17. DO YOU HAVE ANY GENERAL OBSERVATIONS CONCERNING THE**
2 **RECENT TRENDS IN ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AND THE IMPACT**
3 **ON CAPITAL COSTS?**

4 A. Yes. As a general matter the U.S. economy has enjoyed growth, prosperity and
5 stability since the early 1990's. Over this time period there has been a general
6 level of economic expansions accompanied by historical low levels of inflation
7 and interest rates.

8 Now, the economy has slowed significantly at least initially as a result of the
9 “sub-prime” mortgage problems and more recently as a result of the liquidity
10 crisis in the financial markets. Moreover, the economic slow down is having
11 global impacts as can be seen in declining energy prices (natural gas, oil) as well
12 as general commodity prices.

13 The financial sector crisis intensified through the last quarter of 2008, following
14 the collapse and/or bailout of such institutions as Bear Stearns, Lehman Brothers,
15 Merrill Lynch, Freddie Mac, Fannie Mae, AIG and Citigroup, Inc. The U.S.
16 Government and governments around the world have been and continue to
17 employ unprecedented monetary actions to minimize the impacts of the financial
18 crisis on economic growth. While the impacts of these government rescue efforts
19 and other monetary policy actions have not yet resolved all the tight credit market
20 problems, these efforts have had, and continue to have, a significant impact.

21 The one sure thing is that an economic slowdown has occurred and is expected to
22 continue. For this reason economic growth will be lower than past forecast
23 estimates have suggested. This is true across all economic sectors including the
24 utility industry. Thus, while utility stock prices may be lower and dividend yields
25 higher – the other side of the coin shows lower economic growth expectations by
26 investors.

1 **Q18. PLEASE DISCUSS THE FINANCIAL MARKETS, THE ECONOMY AND**
2 **THE GENERAL RESPONSE OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.**

3 A. There is no question that the mortgage market collapse, subprime mortgage crisis,
4 credit/liquidity crisis, economic recession and the subsequent bailout and
5 restructuring of financial institutions has not only had tremendous impacts on the
6 U.S. national economy, but global economic implications as well. After initial
7 problems developed in the mortgage market, these problems associated with the
8 subprime developed into a crisis which led to the collapse and need for bailout of
9 certain financial institutions. The turmoil in the U.S. markets peaked in the third-
10 quarter of 2008. During the summer of 2008 commodity prices increased sharply
11 with a barrel of oil increasing to over \$150 and natural gas exceeding \$12 mmbtu.
12 Now, in December 2009, a barrel of oil is at \$77.61 and gas is at \$4.581 mmbtu.

13 The U.S. economy entered recession in late 2007 and unemployment figures have
14 been increasing. As of November 2009, the unemployment rate is at about 10%
15 unemployment. Commodity prices have declined, but have rebounded from first
16 quarter 2009 lows. The stock market for 2009 hit a low in March, but has since
17 rebounded from March 2009 levels. Both the Dow and S&P 500 indexes are at
18 their highest levels in a year and the Dow Jones Utility Average is approaching its
19 highest level in a year. The change in course regarding commodity prices and the
20 market downturn from early 2009 levels is evidence that the downward economic
21 slide is over. While unemployment figures lag other economic indicators,
22 financial news has improved in the markets.

23 In response to the economic crisis, the Federal Reserve has taken extraordinary
24 and substantial measures to stabilize financial markets and address the significant
25 resulting liquidity crisis. Among the numerous Federal Reserve measures is the
26 opening of lending facilities to numerous banking and investment firms to free up
27 tight credit markets. The development of the Troubled Asset Relief Program

1 ("TARP") is designed to provide over \$700 billion in government funds into the
2 banking system through capital infusions. In addition, the federal government has
3 added billions of additional dollars to bail out and stabilize such prominent
4 financial institutions as AIG, Citigroup and Bank of America. The federal
5 government has expended substantial sums to bail out other industries such as the
6 auto industry with cash for General Motors and Chrysler.

7 As part of the overall budget process, we have seen the federal government
8 provide almost \$800 billion of economic stimulus – including tax cuts and
9 additional government spending aimed at creating jobs and addressing the overall
10 economic slowdown.

11 **Q19. HOW HAVE THE FINANCIAL MARKETS RESPONDED TO THE**
12 **ACTIONS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE AND OTHER STIMULUS**
13 **ACTIONS?**

14 A. The long-term credit market response has been significant as of the end of 2009.
15 The credit/liquidity crisis is associated with concerns and reluctance by credit
16 providers to provide needed capital due to concerns over the weak economy. As
17 shown in Schedule (DJL-2), interest rates on BBB rated bonds increased
18 substantially, about 7.0% in June 2008 to over 9.0% in November 2008. Since
19 the November 2008 peak in the midst of the liquidity crisis, BBB rated bonds
20 have steadily declined. Now, for November 2009, BBB rated bonds have
21 averaged about 6.3%¹⁶ or are at levels seen just prior to the liquidity crisis.
22 Current daily BBB bond yields are at 6.3% as of early December 2009.

23 Further, BBB bonds and the AAA corporate bond yields are approaching or are
24 back to the pre-credit/liquidity crisis levels. These historical bond yields are

¹⁶ www.federalreserve.gov/releaseh15date/weekly, three month average of September 2009 – November 2009. Also see Schedule (DJL-2)

1 shown in Schedule (DJI-2).

2 In summary, the market evidence appears to demonstrate that the massive
3 government response have had the desired effect on credit markets. Actions by
4 the Federal Reserve and the current administration show a continued commitment
5 to restoring the economic health and financial markets quickly. Economic
6 recovery is expected to gain momentum slowly with some economic segments
7 growing more slowly than others.

8 Thus, while the economy is slowly changing course in terms of economic growth,
9 the upheaval in financial markets is an event of the past as we see interest rates
10 and capital costs back to or approaching pre-financial crisis levels.

11 **Q20. WHAT CONCLUSIONS DO YOU DRAW FROM CURRENT ECONOMIC**
12 **CONDITIONS IN PROVIDING GUIDANCE IN SETTING EQUITY**
13 **CAPITAL COSTS IN THIS PROCEEDING?**

14 A. While the bottom tier of corporate bond rates (BBB) increased substantially in
15 September 2008 – such increases do not appear to be a trend, but rather the direct
16 impact of an atypical event in the capital markets. The economic slowdown or
17 recession caused general investor expectations of growth to decline. The bottom
18 line is that the general economic data does not support increasing capital costs.
19 Further, it is not sound ratemaking to establish revenue requirements and rates on
20 atypical or abnormal events – especially when such events (continuation of the
21 financial liquidity crisis) are not likely to continue or be repeated.

22
23

1 **SECTION IV: COST OF EQUITY CAPITAL DCF ANALYSIS**

2
3 **Q21. YOU STATED ABOVE THAT YOU RELIED ON A DCF ANALYSIS.**
4 **PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW YOU CONDUCTED YOUR DCF ANALYSIS.**

5 A. For my cost of capital analyses I have employed a 31 company comparable group
6 as a proxy for AmerenUE. The Company as a subsidiary of Ameren Corporation
7 has no publically traded stock or other published financial measures for which a
8 study can be performed. The goal is to establish an equity return for the
9 AmerenUE Missouri operations. Therefore, I have developed a 31 company
10 group of electric utility companies that are followed by Value Line.

11 I employed the same comparable companies as employed in Company witness,
12 Dr. Morin's, analysis.¹⁷ These two groups are sufficiently large such that no
13 individual company results will bias the group average. Moreover, by employing
14 the same proxy companies, the differences between my proposals and the
15 Company's on return are limited to the analyses presented.

16 Given that Dr. Morin's second group of companies (the S&P Index Utilities)
17 shown in his schedule (RAM-E7), page 3, provides only two different utilities
18 from his first proxy group; I merely combined these two additional companies
19 with the first group to arrive at a 31 company comparable group.

20

¹⁷ The proxy group electric utilities relied on by Dr. Morin for his DCF results are presented in his Schedules (RAM-E5, p.2), (RAM-E6, p.2), (RAM-E7, p.3) and (RAM-E8, p.3).

1 **Q22. WHY HAVE YOU EXAMINED COMPARABLE ELECTRIC**
2 **COMPANIES?**

3 A. There are several reasons why it is appropriate to examine a group of companies
4 rather than rely solely on one company.

5 1) A comparable risk group analysis is consistent with the
6 requirements of a fair and reasonable return addressed in the *Hope*
7 and *Bluefield* cases. The return on investment should be
8 commensurate with returns earned by firms with comparable risk.
9 Thus, there is a need to examine firms of comparable risk to
10 identify the fair and reasonable comparable returns being earned. In
11 addition, the equity returns of comparable firms are viewed as
12 opportunity costs of forgone investments in the market which, like
13 other investment opportunities, will directly impact the cost of
14 equity of the Company.

15 2) The reliability of the cost of equity estimate is enhanced when the
16 calculation is based on equity capital estimates from a variety of
17 risk equivalent companies. A group of comparable companies can
18 be employed as a check on a single company analysis. Further, the
19 comparable group analysis, whether employed as a check or the
20 primary analysis, mitigates any distortions resulting from
21 measurement errors in dividend yield and expected growth
22 measures and estimates. For example, the average growth rate
23 estimate based on forecasts of several comparable firms is less
24 likely to deviate from investor expectations of growth than an
25 estimate for a single firm. Moreover, the general assumptions
26 underlying the DCF model are more likely to be met for a group of
27 companies than for a single firm.

1 3) An analysis of a comparable group also avoids circularity problems.
2 In the analysis of investor-owned utilities, the stock price (that is,
3 the cost of capital) is a direct function of an investor's growth rate
4 expectations, which is also a function of an investor's perception of
5 the regulatory environment. The bottom line is that the cost of
6 equity depends in part on the anticipated regulatory environment
7 and actions. Thus, both the components of the DCF model –
8 dividend yield and growth expectations – are influenced by the
9 regulatory process.

 4) Extending the sample size of comparable companies beyond a
 single regulatory influence will mitigate the regulatory circulatory
 problem. Specific conditions concerning a subject utility often
 requires that a comparable company analysis be employed. As is
 the case here, one of the most common conditions is the lack of
 market data necessary to perform a DCF analysis. In times of utility
 consolidation and merger, many utilities are owned and controlled
 by a single parent holding company, which is the case with the
 Company.

10 **Q23. HAVE YOU PROVIDED A LISTING OF THE COMPANIES IN THE**
11 **COMPARABLE GROUP?**

12 A. Yes. Contained in my Schedule (DJI-3) is a list of the 31 companies in the
13 comparable group, along with additional data of Company equity ratio projected
14 for 2009, 2010 and 2012-2014.

15 **Q24. PLEASE EXPLAIN THE DCF METHODOLOGY YOU HAVE**
16 **EMPLOYED IN YOUR ANALYSIS.**

17 A. The foundation of the DCF model is in the theory of security valuation. The price

1 that an investor is willing to pay for a share of common stock today is determined
2 by what income stream the investor expects to receive from the investment. The
3 return the investor expects to receive over the investment time horizon is
4 composed of: (i) dividend payments, and (ii) the appreciated sale value of the
5 investment. A proper analysis adds dividends to the gain on the final sale value,
6 and discounts these expected future earnings to a present value.

7 To determine or estimate investor requirements using the DCF model, one
8 computes a cost of capital requirement, or discount rate from the current market
9 data and the expected dividend stream. The DCF model stated as a formula is as
10 follows:

11 $K = D/P + G$

12 where:

13 K = required return on equity,

14 D = dividend rate,

15 P = stock price,

16 D/P = dividend yield, and

17 G = growth in dividends.

18 **Q25. PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW YOU CALCULATED THE DIVIDEND YIELD**
19 **FOR THE COMPARABLE COMPANIES.**

20 A. The dividend yield is the ratio of the annual expected dividend to the stock price.
21 When calculating the dividend yield, one must be cautious and not rely on spot
22 stock prices. One must be equally cautious not to rely on long periods of time as
23 the data becomes unrepresentative of market conditions. The objective is to use a
24 period of time such that the resulting dividend yield is representative of the
25 prospective period when rates will be in effect.

1 While there is no fixed period for selecting the denominator of the dividend yield
2 (i.e., stock price), the key guideline is that the yield not be distorted due to
3 fluctuations in stock market prices. On the other hand, dividends, the numerator
4 of the yield calculation, are relatively stable, as opposed to the stock prices, which
5 are subject to daily and cyclical market fluctuations. The selection of a
6 representative time period will dampen the effect of stock market changes.

7 The price and dividend data used for each of the companies in the comparable
8 group is contained in my Schedule (DJI-4).

9 As I discussed earlier in this testimony, there has been substantial volatility in the
10 market due to impacts associated with the current financial market crisis. For
11 these reasons I have reviewed an average 52-week high and low price for a recent
12 twelve month period ending in November 2009. In addition, I have examined
13 shorter time periods to evaluate the dividend yield. For this case, I am employing
14 a dividend yield based on a recent six week period through November 2009 of
15 stock data.

16 To calculate dividends, I annualized the current dividend and increased the
17 resulting annual dividend by one half the growth rate. The resulting dividend
18 yield is shown on my Schedule (DJI-4) for the comparable group.

19 **Q26. HOW DOES YOUR DIVIDEND YIELD CALCULATION COMPARE TO**
20 **DR. MORIN'S ESTIMATES OF DIVIDEND YIELD?**

21 A. As shown on my Schedule (DJI-4), the comparable group average and median
22 dividend yield is about 5.0% - 5.3% before growth adjustments. Dr. Morin's
23 analysis shown in his Schedules (RAM 5-8), shows a dividend yield range for the
24 comparable group of 5.6% to 5.7%, which is about 30-70 basis points above my
25 estimate for the comparable group. In my opinion, the difference in dividend
26 yield is primarily related to the time period of when the respective analyses were

1 conducted.

2 **Q27. PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW YOU HAVE CALCULATED THE EXPECTED**
3 **GROWTH RATE IN YOUR DCF ANALYSIS FOR THE COMPANIES IN**
4 **THE COMPARABLE GROUP.**

5 A. Like dividend yields, there exists no single or simple method to calculate growth
6 rates. The calculation of investor growth expectations is the most difficult part of
7 the DCF analysis. To estimate investor expectations of growth, I have examined
8 forecasted growth rates, and other financial data for each of the companies in the
9 comparable group.

10 Implementation of the DCF model requires the exercise of considerable judgment
11 with regard to estimating investor expectations of growth and it is a difficult task,
12 but such difficulties are not insurmountable. Many factors affect capital markets
13 in general and individual stocks specifically. Investors are aware and informed of
14 current economic conditions and expectations. Such economic variables entail
15 the current state of the economy, the trade deficit, federal budget uncertainty,
16 fiscal policy, inflation and Federal Reserve Board policies on interest rates.

17 Investors generally have good information on the economic and financial
18 variables outlined above. All of this information is available quickly, especially
19 in recent decades with easy access to the worldwide web. This information
20 influences return expectations and, as a result, the maximum price an investor will
21 pay for various securities.

22 Like the information available on the general economy, investors also have access
23 to a wealth of information about particular types of securities, industries and
24 specific company investments. This information is also factored into investor
25 expectations and therefore the stock price individuals are willing to pay.

1 Common earnings growth rate forecasts and historical growth rate data may be
2 found in the Value Line Investment survey ("Value Line") publication. These
3 Value Line earnings estimates are five year projections in annual earnings.
4 Again, Value Line is widely available to the public, and is a good source of
5 earnings projections. Other earnings estimates are forecasted by Zacks as well as
6 First Call projections, widely available on the internet at Zacks.com and Yahoo
7 Finance respectively. Those earnings projections along with other stock specific
8 financial data provide a range of estimates of earnings and are readily available at
9 no cost.

10 **Q28. PLEASE EXPLAIN YOUR GROWTH RATE ANALYSIS.**

11 A. I have included in my Schedule (DJI-5) the growth rates I have reviewed in my
12 analysis. Along with historical growth rates, the first set of growth rates is the
13 Value Line forecasted growth rates in earnings per share ("EPS") for each
14 company in the comparable group. The second set of growth rates examined is
15 the Zacks forecasted growth rates in earnings. The third growth estimate
16 considered is the First Call growth rates which are readily available to investors at
17 Yahoo Finance.

18 The growth rates described above provide a range of estimates for each of the
19 comparable companies. The resulting range of average and median forecasted
20 growth rates for the companies in and the comparable group is from 5.0% to
21 5.9%. Relying on the combined forecasted earnings per share estimates, the
22 growth rate average and median range can be narrowed to 5.40% to 5.75% as
23 shown in Schedule (DJI-5).

24 **Q29. HOW DO THESE GROWTH RATES COMPARE TO GROWTH**
25 **ESTIMATES EMPLOYED BY DR. MORIN?**

26 A. Reviewing Dr. Morin's Schedules (RAM 5-8), it appears Dr. Morin has relied

1 upon a growth rate range of 5.5% - 6.7% for the comparable group. This estimate
2 is limited to Value Line and Zacks earnings and estimates that are both outdated
3 and overstated. The end result is Dr. Morin's estimates should not be relied on in
4 this case.

5 **Q30. DID YOU RELY ON THE HISTORICAL GROWTH RATES IN**
6 **EARNINGS?**

7 A. No. While the growth in earnings as reported by Value Line for a recent five and
8 ten year history are presented in my Schedule (DJL-5), they were not used in this
9 case. First, many companies had negative earnings growth over this historical
10 period which would substantially limit the sample size of the DCF comparable
11 group analysis. Second, investors (whose expectations we seek to estimate) do
12 rely on analyst forecasts. Thus, current growth forecasts provide more insight
13 into investor capital cost expectations than the historical earnings performance.

14 **Q31. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR CONSTANT GROWTH DCF ANALYSIS.**

15 A. I have summarized these results in my Schedule (DJL-6). For the comparable
16 group the range of results is 10.9% to 11.1%.

17 **Q32. HAVE YOU CALCULATED ADDITIONAL DCF ANALYSES FOR THE**
18 **COMPARABLE GROUP COMPANIES?**

19 A. Yes. I have calculated in Schedule (DJL-7) a two stage non-constant growth DCF
20 analysis for the comparable group companies.

21 **Q33. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR TWO-STAGE NON-CONSTANT GROWTH**
22 **DCF.**

23 A. This analysis calculates equity cost using a non-constant growth Two Stage DCF
24 Model. The constant growth DCF model is often adjusted to reflect multiple
25 growth assumptions because the constant growth rate assumption is often not

1 consistent with investor expectations. As an example, it is often the case where
2 short-term growth estimates are not consistent with long-term sustainable growth
3 projections. In those instances, where more than one growth rate estimate is
4 appropriate, a multi-stage non-constant growth model can be employed to derive a
5 cost of capital estimate. In other words, the constant growth model is adjusted to
6 incorporate multiple growth rate periods, assuring a constant growth (long-term)
7 rate is estimated for a longer period.

8 For the first growth stage (years 1-4) of the model, the Value Line growth in
9 dividends is employed and an annual dividend is calculated. The second stage
10 (years 5 and beyond)¹⁸ an earnings growth estimate based on averaging the
11 comparable group median of forecasts of EPS, from Schedule (DJL-5), of 5.11%
12 is employed. This long-run earnings estimate is based on the median for Value
13 Line, Zacks, and First Call earnings forecasts.

14 In the two-stage model the dividend cash flows are discounted equal to the price¹⁹
15 paid for the stock. The calculated discount rate or internal rate of return is the cost
16 of equity capital estimate.

17 **Q34. WHAT ARE THE RESULTS OF THE TWO-STAGE NON-CONSTANT**
18 **GROWTH DCF ANALYSIS?**

19 A. The results of the two-stage non-constant growth DCF analysis are shown in
20 Schedule (DJL-7). The comparable group average indicates a cost of equity of
21 10.2 – 10.4%%.

22

¹⁸ The model is ended at year 150.

¹⁹ Price is based on the 6 week average of closing prices ending November 2009.

10.65%
7.13

1 **Q35. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR DCF ESTIMATES.**

2 A. The table below is a summary of the DCF results:

3

TABLE 3 COST OF EQUITY CAPITAL SUMMARY	
DESCRIPTION	COMPARABLE GROUP
Constant Growth DCF	10.9% - 11.1%
Non-Constant Growth Two Stage DCF	10.2% - 10.4%

4

5 This range of estimates for the Comparable Group range from 10.2%-11.1%, with
6 a DCF midpoint of 10.65%.

7

8 **SECTION V: RISK PREMIUM/CAPM COST OF EQUITY ESTIMATE**

9

10 **Q36. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE RISK PREMIUM ANALYSIS.**

11 A. Debt instruments such as bonds (long-term debt) are less risky than common
12 equity when both classes of capital are issued by the same entity. Bondholders
13 have a prior contractual claim to the earnings of the corporation and returns on
14 bonds are less variable and more predictable than stocks. The bottom line is that
15 debt is less risky than equity. There are numerous return studies of capital market
16 investments, all of which show lower returns with lower risks and higher returns
17 with higher risk investments. These financial truisms provide a sound theoretical
18 basis and foundation for the risk premium method for estimating equity costs.

7.13

1 The risk premium approach is useful in that the analysis is based on current
2 market interest rates, that is, the current observable cost of debt capital. But, the
3 risk premium approach is not without its problems and drawbacks. In practice,
4 there is considerable debate as to the time period to analyze in the determination
5 of the bond/equity return risk spread. Historical debt/equity risk spreads
6 measured over many decades may not be relevant to current capital market
7 requirements. Others argue that a long-term analysis is necessary, since the goal
8 is to measure investors' long-term expectations.

9 Another version of the risk premium method is the capital asset pricing model
10 ("CAPM"). Generally, the CAPM begins with a theoretically risk-free interest
11 rate such as a three-month Treasury bill rate. The risk premium, or equity spread
12 above and beyond the risk free rate is adjusted by the stock beta.²⁰ The risk free
13 return measure is combined with the equity risk premium adjusted for the measure
14 of beta to arrive at a CAPM result.

15 Like the risk premium discussed above, the CAPM is subject to measurement
16 uncertainties. First, the general problem of how to measure the equity risk
17 premium and the time period for which the premium is analyzed is subject to
18 considerable debate. This problem and associated criticisms is generic to all
19 variants of the risk premium model. Second, measures of beta are often unstable
20 from period to period and may not reflect the equity risk spread measure.

21 For all of the above reasons, risk premium methods should be viewed with
22 considerable caution.

23

²⁰ Beta is a measure of the volatility of the specific stock movement relative to that of a market measure such as the S&P 500. A beta below 1.0 means that a specific stock is less volatile than the market measure, while a beta above 1.0 indicates a specific stock is more volatile than the market measure.

1 **Q37. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR RISK PREMIUM ANALYSIS**

2 A. The risk premium analysis is based on the differences between the average
3 authorized equity returns and the average corporate bond yields for each year to
4 estimate the indicated risk premium. Once the equity risk premium was estimated
5 I added the current estimated BBB bond yield to arrive at an equity estimate based
6 on a risk premium measure.

7 Employing this approach the risk premium is 3.19% (Schedule (DJL-8)).
8 Combining the estimated BBB bond yield of 6.1% with the 3.19% risk premium
9 results in an equity return estimate of 9.3%.

10 In a second part of this risk premium analysis, I calculated the interest rate / risk
11 premium relationship. Some analysts argue that because changes in debt costs do
12 not impact equity cost on a one for one basis, the equity risk premium should be
13 adjusted for this fact. To address this, I calculated the debt cost / risk premium
14 relationship to be 41.34% and increased the risk premium accordingly. The
15 resulting risk premium equity return estimate using this analysis is 10.55% as
16 shown in Schedule (DJL-8).

17 **Q38. HOW DID YOU DEVELOP A BBB BOND YIELD FOR YOUR**
18 **ANALYSIS?**

19 A. I started with the BBB corporate bond yields for November 2009 as reported by
20 the Federal Reserve.²¹ These BBB yields for November 2009, like all interest rates
21 for long-term securities, continue the steady decline from the peak November
22 2008 levels. The average yield for November 2009 is in the range of 6.3%.
23 Second, I compared the BBB corporate yields to BBB public utility bond yields
24 for the period January 2006 – May 2009 and calculated a 19 basis point

²¹ See www.federalreserve.gov

1 differential in the yields for this period. It should be noted that the yield spread is
2 closer to 30 basis points since October 2008, but that yield differential is declining
3 and to be conservative I have employed the 19 basis point longer term view yield
4 differential.

5 Combining the 6.3% current BBB corporate yield with the 19 basis point BBB
6 public utility bond differential, I estimated a current BBB rate of 6.1%. Thus, for
7 my risk premium analyses, I have employed a 6.1% BBB bond rate for this case.

8 **CAPITAL ASSET PRICING MODEL ANALYSIS**

9 **Q39. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE CAPITAL ASSET PRICING MODEL.**

10 A. The Capital Asset Pricing Model ("CAPM") is a version of the risk premium
11 approach described above. The CAPM measures the relationship between a
12 specific security's investment risk and its return. The general mathematical form
13 of the CAPM can be described as follows:

14
$$K = RF + B(RM - RF)$$

15 Where: K = cost of equity
16 Rf = risk free return
17 Rm = return on market
18 B = Beta
19 Rm - Rf = market risk premium
20

21 **Q40. HOW HAVE YOU CALCULATED YOUR CAPM ESTIMATES?**

22 A. The CAPM analysis I employ is the same analysis employed by Dr. Morin, except
23 that the CAPM input data is updated to current market costs. Employing a beta
24 value of .72, a current three month average (September 2009 – November 2009)

1 30 year U.S. Treasury yield of 4.2% and a market risk premium of 6.5% results in
2 a CAPM equity return estimate of 8.9%. Dr. Morin's outdated estimate produced
3 a 9.3% equity cost estimate.

4 I should note that this CAPM estimate is on the high side as the market risk
5 premium is overstated. This is an issue that will be addressed in rebuttal
6 testimony.

7 **Q41. PLEASE DESCRIBE THE BETA U.S. TREASURY YIELD YOU**
8 **EMPLOYED IN YOUR UPDATE OF DR. MORIN'S CAPM ANALYSIS.**

9 A. Beta is a measure of specific stock volatility relative to a market index. Betas less
10 than 1.0 move less than the market while Betas greater than 1.0 have more
11 movement or volatility relative to a market index. For this case I employed the
12 Value Line Betas for each company in the comparable group. These Value Line
13 Betas are shown in my Schedule (DJL-2). The 30 year U.S. Treasury yield is
14 based on a 3 month average of September through November 2009. This data is
15 shown in Schedule (DJL-2).

16 **Q42. DID YOU ESTIMATE AN UPDATE OF ALTERNATIVE CAPM**
17 **CALCULATION OF EQUITY RETURN?**

18 A. Yes, I calculated an update employing the alternative estimate of the empirical
19 version of the CAPM or ECAPM. It is argued that the CAPM estimate of equity
20 cost will underestimate the return required for low-beta securities and overstate
21 the required return for high-beta securities.

22 To address the flaws of the CAPM, the alternative ECAPM estimates the cost of
23 equity employing the following equation:

24
$$ROE = R_f + \alpha + (\beta \alpha (R_m - R_f))$$

25 Where (α) is the measure of the constant of a risk return line. Typically, an (α)

1 value of 1% to 2% is employed in the ECAPM analysis resulting in a more
2 conservative estimate of equity return. Employing a 1% (α) value results in the
3 following ECAPM:

4
$$ROE = R_f + .25 (R_m - R_f) + .75 \beta (R_m - R_f)$$

5 Employing current Value Line beta estimates and current 30 year U.S. Treasury
6 yields, the ECAP estimate is as follows:

7
$$4.2\% + .25(6.5\%) + .75(.72)(6.5) = 9.33\%.$$

8 **Q43. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR DCF, RISK PREMIUM AND CAPM**
9 **ANALYSES?**

10 A. The following table summarized the cost of equity results for each analysis:

11 **TABLE 4**

12 **COST OF EQUITY CAPITAL SUMMARY**

Model	<u>COMPARABLE GROUP</u>
	Range
Constant Growth DCF	10.9% - 11.1%
Two-Stage DCF	10.2% - 10.4%
Risk Premium	9.3% - 10.6%
CAPM	8.9% - 9.3%

13 The relevant range (after eliminating the highest and lowest results) for the
14 comparable group is 9.3% to 10.9%. The midpoint estimate for the comparable
15 group is about 10.2%. In my opinion, a return on equity estimate of 10.2% is a
16 reasonable estimate of AmerenUE's equity costs.

1 **Q44. DID YOU ADJUST THE COST OF EQUITY FOR FLOTATION COSTS?**

2 A. No. Flotation costs to the extent they are incurred can and should be requested in
3 cost of service – not as an increase in equity costs. This is an issue that will be
4 addressed in rebuttal testimony.

5

6 **SECTION VI: CAPITAL STRUCTURE**

7

8 **Q45. WHAT CAPITAL STRUCTURE, COST RATES AND OVERALL COST**
9 **OF CAPITAL IS THE COMPANY PROPOSING IN THIS CASE?**

10 A. The Company's proposed capital structure and cost rates is as follows:

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	RATIO	COST	WEIGHTED COST
Long-Term Debt	\$3,651,044,928	51.008%	5.967%	3.044%
Preferred Stock	114,502,040	1.600%	5.189%	0.083%
Common Equity	3,392,179,086	47.392%	11.5%	5.450%
Total	\$7,157,726,054	100.00%	—	8.577%

11

12

²² Direct Testimony of Michael G. O'Bryan at Schedule MGO-E1

1 **Q46. WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF CAPITAL STRUCTURE?**

2 A. The overall cost of capital is the sum of the weighted average cost rates of various
3 sources of capital. The quantity or portion of each type of capital, combined with
4 the cost rate of capital determines the overall rate of return that the Company
5 should be allowed to earn in this proceeding. The most significant relationship in
6 any capital structure is the debt to equity ratio.

7 **Q47. DOES THERE EXIST SOME SET RELATIONSHIP OR IDEAL MIX OF**
8 **DEBT AND EQUITY CAPITAL?**

9 A. There exists no set debt/equity relationship for all firms or all industries in terms
10 of leveraging. However, the ideal capital structure is one that minimizes the
11 overall cost of capital to the firm, while still maintaining financial integrity so as
12 to maintain the ability to attract capital at reasonable costs to meet future needs.
13 Because the cost of debt is generally lower than the cost of equity, and also
14 because the cost of debt represents a tax deductible expense, any increase in the
15 quantity of debt capital tends to decrease the overall cost of capital relative to
16 equity financing. One must keep in mind that increases in the quantity of debt
17 financing can cause the financial risk of the Company to increase. In other words,
18 there is a cost for the savings associated with increased debt leveraging. That cost
19 is increased financial risk to the firm.

20 In summary, it is not possible to determine with precision the exact proportion of
21 debt and equity that minimizes the overall cost of capital without imposing undue
22 financial risk upon the Company. There does exist some range of capital structure
23 that generally meets the goal of minimizing the overall cost of capital while
24 maintaining the firm's financial integrity.

25

1 **Q48. WHAT CRITERIA SHOULD REGULATORS EMPLOY IN**
2 **DETERMINING THE APPROPRIATE CAPITAL STRUCTURE TO BE**
3 **USED FOR RATEMAKING?**

4 A. In my opinion, rate regulation should focus on two criteria to determine the
5 appropriate capital structure. Those factors as outlined below should be economy
6 and safety.

7 The advantage of debt in the capital structure is that debt costs less than equity.
8 Moreover, interest charges are deductible for income tax purposes and act to
9 reduce taxes. Thus, the more debt in the capital structure the lower the cost of
10 capital will be. The question of economy is addressed by examining whether
11 increases in the debt ratio act to increase the cost rates of both debt and equity so
12 as to over balance the benefits of the larger proportion of debt.

13 In addition, there is always the overriding question of safety. In other words,
14 financial risk is increased if the proportion of debt is increased by such a
15 magnitude that interest obligations cannot be covered during periods of depressed
16 earnings.

17 **Q49. HOW DOES THE COMPANY'S CAPITAL STRUCTURE WHICH**
18 **INCLUDES A 47.4% EQUITY RATIO COMPARE WITH THE CAPITAL**
19 **STRUCTURE RATIOS OF THE COMPARABLE RISK COMPANIES?**

20 A. The Company's proposed capital structure compares quite favorably to the equity
21 ratios in the comparable group outlined in my Schedule DJL-2. As can be seen
22 from Schedule (DJL-2), the group equity ratio averages 47.0% to 47.5% percent
23 for 2009 and 2010. Thus, the Company has similar financial risk in terms of
24 leverage as the comparable group companies.

25

1 **Q50. WHAT CAPITAL STRUCTURE AND COST RATES DO YOU**
2 **RECOMMEND IN THIS CASE?**

3 A. I recommend the Company's proposed capital structure be employed and those
4 cost rates are as follows:

5

TABLE 6			
<u>AmerenUE CAPITAL STRUCTURE</u>			
DESCRIPTION	RATIO	COST	WEIGHTED COST
Long-Term Debt	51.008%	5.967%	3.044%
Preferred Stock	1.600%	5.189%	0.083%
Common Equity	47.392%	10.2%	4.834%
Total	100.00%		7.961%

6 As can be seen from the above, I am recommending an overall return on
7 investment of 7.961%. This recommendation is based on the Company's
8 proposed capital structure and proposed cost rates for long-term debt and
9 preferred combined with my recommended 10.2% equity return.

10 **Q51. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR OVERALL COST OF CAPITAL**
11 **RECOMMENDATION IN THIS CASE.**

12 A. The Company's requested 11.50% return on equity is overstated. A more
13 reasoned cost of equity analysis results in a required return on shareholder equity
14 of 10.2%. The combination of the recommended equity return adjustment and use
15 of the Company's proposed capital structure results in an overall cost of capital of
16 7.961% in this case.

17

1 **SECTION VII: FINANCIAL INTEGRITY AND REGULATORY**
2 **ENHANCEMENTS**

3
4 **Q52. WILL YOUR RECOMMENDED RETURN PROVIDE THE COMPANY**
5 **SUFFICIENT INTEREST COVERAGE TO MAINTAIN ITS FINANCIAL**
6 **INTEGRITY?**

7 A. Yes. Based on the capital structure above, my recommended overall cost of
8 capital (which is based on a 10.2% ROE) provides sufficient interest coverage and
9 financial metrics for the Company.

10 **Q53. WHAT FINANCIAL RATIOS OR FINANCIAL METRICS SHOULD THE**
11 **COMMISSION CONSIDER WHEN EVALUATING COST OF EQUITY?**

12 A. In my opinion, the Commission should consider the financial metrics that bond
13 rating agencies consider in evaluating credit risk to a Company. Key financial
14 metrics measure cash flow as a percentage of debt, and debt leverage ratio.

15 **Q54. HOW ARE THESE FINANCIAL RATIOS CONSIDERED AND**
16 **CALCULATED?**

17 A. Ratings agencies such as Standard & Poor's develop rating guidelines that make
18 explicit general ratings outcomes that are typical or expected given various
19 financial and business risk combinations. A rating matrix or guideline is just that,
20 a guideline, not a rule written in stone that guarantees a particular rating for a
21 particular achieved financial metric level.

22 Funds from a company's operations, in other words cash flow, are very critical to
23 any rating/risk consideration. Interest and principal obligations of a company
24 cannot be paid out of earnings if earnings are not cash. Thus, analyses of cash
25 flow reveal debt servicing ability.

1 Debt and capital structure considerations are indicative of leverage and flexibility
2 to address financial changes. The liquidity crisis that hit all markets and
3 industries starting last year is an example of the importance of financial
4 flexibility. Stable and continuous cash flows provide financial flexibility.

5 Each of these financial ratios are calculated in my Schedule (DJI-9) employing
6 the Company's request and my recommendations in this proceeding. The results
7 of my analyses indicate strong financial metrics.

8 **Q55. HOW DID YOU DETERMINE WHICH S&P FINANCIAL METRIC**
9 **MEASURES TO EMPLOY IN EVALUATING CASH FLOW FOR THIS**
10 **PROCEEDING?**

11 A. Starting with the Standard & Poor's Ratings Direct of May 27, 2009; "Criteria
12 Methodology: Business Risk/Financial Risk Matrix Expanded", I employed cash
13 flow risk measures for a financial risk profile of "significant" to "intermediate"
14 for a "BBB" to "A" rating.²³ The resulting financial risk indicative ratios are as
15 follows:

16

²³ I have included the source documents in my workpapers.

1

Table 7 Financial Risk Benchmarks	
1. Funds from operations / debt (%)	30% - 60%
2. Debt / Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, amortization (x)	1.5 - 3.0
3. Debt / Capital (%)	25% - 45%

2
3
4
5
6
7

These financial metrics are commonly employed by rating agencies and are readily calculated or estimated from revenue requirement schedules to arrive at a measurable estimate of financial integrity. Again, these financial benchmarks are guidelines and not guarantees. Nonetheless, such benchmarks do provide some guidance as to the impact of cash flow impacts on the regulated operations of the Company.

8
9
10
11
12
13

I should also note that I have calculated interest coverage ratios, both pre-tax and after tax, from the capital structure and overall return requested by the Company and the overall return I recommend. These basic interest coverage calculations are provided in my Schedule (DJL-9). In addition, I also calculate interest coverage off of funds from operations along with the other financial measures I discuss below.

14
15

Q56. PLEASE DESCRIBE THESE FINANCIAL RISK METRICS YOU ARE ANALYZING FOR PURPOSES OF FINANCIAL INTEGRITY.

16
17
18
19
20
21

A. All these financial measures look to the Company's leverage or (debt) level and ability to service interest obligations on the debt. The first metric I will discuss is funds from operations to total debt (FFO/Debt) which measures cash flow from a company's operations to the total outstanding debt of the firm. The more funds from operations a company has relative to outstanding debt – the lower the risk. Thus, the higher the percentage the better.

1 Looking at FFO/Debt (%) from an individual perspective – banks would view a
2 borrower more favorably if he had earnings of \$100,000 per year and total
3 outstanding debt of \$200,000 ($\$100,000/\$200,000 = 50\%$) versus a borrower who
4 made \$50,000 per year but had outstanding debt of \$200,000 ($\$50,000/\$200,000$)
5 = 25%. Thus, the higher the FFO/Debt percentage – the greater the ability to
6 service the debt.

7 The second measure is the debt/earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and
8 amortization or Debt / EBITA (x) measure. This Debt/EBITA (x) metric measures
9 the multiple of total debt obligations to annual cash flow. The lower the multiple
10 – the better for credit quality. Again, viewing this measure from an individual
11 perspective – a borrower who has \$200,000 of outstanding debt and \$100,000 of
12 cash flow income ($\$200,000/\$100,000 = 2.0x$), is a better financial risk than an
13 individual who has \$200,000 of outstanding debt and a \$50,000 per year cash
14 flow income ($\$200,000/\$50,000 = 4.0x$).

15 Interest coverage ratios measure the capacity of income streams to service
16 ongoing interest obligations. Thus, the higher the annual flow of funds from
17 operations relative to interest obligations, the lower the risk.

18 Lastly, the Debt/Capital (%) is a measure of total leverage. Obviously, the lower
19 the outstanding debt – the lower the overall financial risk.

20 **Q57. HAVE YOU CALCULATED THESE FINANCIAL METRICS**
21 **EMPLOYING THE COMPANY'S FILING?**

22 A. Yes. Included in my Schedule (DJL-9) is a calculation of these basic financial
23 measures employing the results of the Company's filed case (an equity return of
24 11.5%) and under a proposal employing a 10.2% return on equity.

25 As expected, the cash flow metrics decrease somewhat when a lower return, i.e.
26 10.2%, is employed: but, in my opinion, not enough to threaten bond rating or

1 financial integrity.

2 The bottom line is that a 10.2% equity return in this case will allow the Company
3 to maintain financial integrity, and in my opinion, is consistent with just and
4 reasonable rates to consumers.

5 **Q58. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

6 A. Yes.

**DANIEL J. LAWTON
LAWTON CONSULTING
B.A. ECONOMICS, MERRIMACK COLLEGE
M.A. ECONOMICS, TUFTS UNIVERSITY**

Prior to beginning his own consulting practice Diversified Utility Consultants, Inc., in 1986 where he practiced as a firm principal through December 31, 2005, Mr. Lawton had been in the utility consulting business with a national engineering and consulting firm. In addition, Mr. Lawton has been employed as a senior analyst and statistical analyst with the Department of Public Service in Minnesota. Prior to Mr. Lawton's involvement in utility regulation and consulting he taught economics, econometrics, statistics and computer science at Doane College.

Mr. Lawton has conducted numerous financial and cost of capital studies on electric, gas and telephone utilities for various interveners before local, state and federal regulatory bodies. In addition, Mr. Lawton has provided studies, analyses, and expert testimony on statistics, econometrics, account, forecasting, and cost of service issues. Other projects in which Mr. Lawton has been involved include rate design and analyses, prudence analyses, fuel cost reviews and regulatory policy issues for electric, gas and telephone utilities. Mr. Lawton has developed software systems, databases and management systems for cost of service analyses.

In addition, Mr. Lawton has developed and reviewed numerous forecasts of energy and demand used for utility generation expansion studies as well as municipal financing. Mr. Lawton has represented numerous municipalities as a negotiator in utility related matters. Such negotiations ranges from the settlement of electric rate cases to the negotiation of provisions in purchase power contracts.

A list of cases in which Mr. Lawton has provided testimony is attached.

**UTILITY RATE PROCEEDINGS IN WHICH
TESTIMONY HAS BEEN PRESENTED BY DANIEL J. LAWTON**

JURISDICTION/COMPANY	DOCKET NO.	TESTIMONY TOPIC
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ALASKA REGULATORY COMMISSION		
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Beluga Pipe Line Company	P-04-81	Cost of Capital
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FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION		
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Alabama Power Company	ER83-369-000	Cost of Capital
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Arizona Public Service Company	ER84-450-000	Cost of Capital
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Florida Power & Light	EL83-24-000	Cost Allocation, Rate Design
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Florida Power & Light	ER84-379-000	Cost of Capital, Rate Design, Cost of Service
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Southern California Edison	ER82-427-000	Forecasting
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LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION		
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Louisiana Power & Light	U-15684	Cost of Capital, Depreciation
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Louisiana Power & Light	U-16518	Interim Rate Relief
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Louisiana Power & Light	U-16945	Nuclear Prudence, Cost of Service
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MARYLAND PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION		
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Baltimore Gas and Electric Company	9173	Financial
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MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION		
Continental Telephone	P407/GR-81-700	Cost of Capital
Interstate Power Co.	E001/GR-81-345	Financial
Montana Dakota Utilities	G009/GR-81-448	Financial, Cost of Capital
New ULM Telephone Company	P419/GR81767	Financial
Norman County Telephone	P420/GR-81-230	Rate Design, Cost of Capital
Northern States Power	G002/GR80556	Statistical Forecasting, Cost of Capital
Northwestern Bell	P421/GR80911	Rate Design, Forecasting

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION		
Missouri Gas Energy	GR-2009-0355	Financial

FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION		
Progress Energy	070052-EI	Cost Recovery
Florida Power and Light	080677-EI	Financial
Florida Power and Light	090130-EI	Depreciation

NORTH CAROLINA UTILITIES COMMISSION		
North Carolina Natural Gas	G-21, Sub 235	Forecasting, Cost of Capital, Cost of Service

OKLAHOMA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION		
Arkansas Oklahoma Gas Corporation	200300088	Cost of Capital
Public Service Company of Oklahoma	200600285	Cost of Capital

Public Service Company of Oklahoma	200800144	Cost of Capital
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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF INDIANA		
Kokomo Gas & Fuel Company	38096	Cost of Capital

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF NEVADA		
Nevada Bell	99-9017	Cost of Capital
Nevada Power Company	99-4005	Cost of Capital
Sierra Pacific Power Company	99-4002	Cost of Capital
Nevada Power Company	08-12002	Cost of Capital
Southwest Gas Corporation	09-04003	Cost of Capital

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF UTAH		
PacifiCorp	04-035-42	Cost of Capital
Rocky Mountain Power	08-035-38	Cost of Capital

SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION		
Piedmont Municipal Power	82-352-E	Forecasting

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS		
Central Power & Light Company	6375	Cost of Capital, Financial Integrity
Central Power & Light Company	9561	Cost of Capital, Revenue Requirements
Central Power & Light Company	7560	Deferred Accounting

Central Power & Light Company	8646	Rate Design, Excess Capacity
Central Power & Light Company	12820	STP Adj. Cost of Capital, Post Test-year adjustments, Rate Case Expenses
Central Power & Light Company	14965	Salary & Wage Exp., Self-Ins. Reserve, Plant Held for Future use, Post Test Year Adjustments, Demand Side Management, Rate Case Exp.
Central Power & Light Company	21528	Securitization of Regulatory Assets
El Paso Electric Company	9945	Cost of Capital, Revenue Requirements, Decommissioning Funding
El Paso Electric Company	12700	Cost of Capital, Rate Moderation Plan, CWIP, Rate Case Expenses
Entergy Gulf States Incorporated	16705	Cost of Service, Rate Base, Revenues, Cost of Capital, Quality of Service
Entergy Gulf States Incorporated	21111	Cost Allocation
Entergy Gulf States Incorporated	21984	Unbundling
Entergy Gulf States Incorporated	22344	Capital Structure
Entergy Gulf States Incorporated	22356	Unbundling
Entergy Gulf States Incorporated	24336	Price to Beat
Gulf States Utilities Company	5560	Cost of Service
Gulf States Utilities Company	6525	Cost of Capital, Financial Integrity
Gulf States Utilities Company	6755/7195	Cost of Service, Cost of Capital, Excess Capacity
Gulf States Utilities Company	8702	Deferred Accounting, Cost of Capital, Cost of Service
Gulf States Utilities Company	10894	Affiliate Transaction
Gulf States Utilities Company	11793	Section 63, Affiliate Transaction
Gulf States Utilities Company	12852	Deferred acctng., self-Ins. reserve, contra AFUDC adj., River Bend Plant specifically assignable to Louisiana, River Bend Decomm., Cost of Capital, Financial

		Integrity, Cost of Service, Rate Case Expenses
GTE Southwest, Inc.	15332	Rate Case Expenses
Houston Lighting & Power	6765	Forecasting
Houston Lighting & Power	18465	Stranded costs
Lower Colorado River Authority	8400	Debt Service Coverage, Rate Design
Southwestern Electric Power Company	5301	Cost of Service
Southwestern Electric Power Company	4628	Rate Design, Financial Forecasting
Southwestern Electric Power Company	24449	Price to Beat Fuel Factor
Southwestern Bell Telephone Company	8585	Yellow Pages
Southwestern Bell Telephone Company	18509	Rate Group Re-Classification
Southwestern Public Service Company	13456	Interruptible Rates
Southwestern Public Service Company	11520	Cost of Capital
Southwestern Public Service Company	14174	Fuel Reconciliation
Southwestern Public Service Company	14499	TUCO Acquisition
Southwestern Public Service Company	19512	Fuel Reconciliation
Texas-New Mexico Power Company	9491	Cost of Capital, Revenue Requirements, Prudence
Texas-New Mexico Power Company	10200	Prudence
Texas-New Mexico Power Company	17751	Rate Case Expenses
Texas-New Mexico Power Company	21112	Acquisition risks/merger benefits
Texas Utilities Electric Company	9300	Cost of Service, Cost of Capital

Texas Utilities Electric Company	11735	Revenue Requirements
TXU Electric Company	21527	Securitization of Regulatory Assets
West Texas Utilities Company	7510	Cost of Capital, Cost of Service
West Texas Utilities Company	13369	Rate Design

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS		
Energas Company	5793	Cost of Capital
Energas Company	8205	Cost of Capital
Energas Company	9002-9135	Cost of Capital, Revenues, Allocation
Lone Star Gas Company	8664	Rate Design, Cost of Capital, Accumulated Depr. & DFIT, Rate Case Exp.
Lone Star Gas Company-Transmission	8935	Implementation of Billing Cycle Adjustment
Southern Union Gas Company	6968	Rate Relief
Southern Union Gas Company	8878	Test Year Revenues, Joint and Common Costs
Texas Gas Service Company	9465	Cost of Capital, Cost of Service, Allocation
TXU Lone Star Pipeline	8976	Cost of Capital, Capital Structure
TXU-Gas Distribution	9145-9151	Cost of Capital, Transport Fee, Cost Allocation, Adjustment Clause
TXU-Gas Distribution	9400	Cost of Service, Allocation, Rate Base, Cost of Capital, Rate Design
Westar Transmission Company	4892/5168	Cost of Capital, Cost of Service
Westar Transmission Company	5787	Cost of Capital, Revenue Requirement
TEXAS WATER COMMISSION		
Southern Utilities Company	7371-R	Cost of Capital, Cost of Service

SCOTSBUFF NEBRASKA CITY COUNCIL		
K. N. Energy, Inc.		Cost of Capital

HOUSTON CITY COUNCIL		
Houston Lighting & Power Company		Forecasting

PUBLIC UTILITY REGULATION BOARD OF EL PASO, TEXAS		
Southern Union Gas Company		Cost of Capital

DISTRICT COURT CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS		
City of San Benito, et. al. vs. PGE Gas Transmission et. al.	96-12-7404	Fairness Hearing

DISTRICT COURT HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS		
City of Wharton, et al vs. Houston Lighting & Power	96-016613	Franchise fees

DISTRICT COURT TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS		
City of Round Rock, et al vs. Railroad Commission of Texas et al	GV 304,700	Mandamus

AmerenUE
CASE NO. ER-2010-0036
COMPARABLE GROUP
HISTORICAL INTEREST RATES & YIELD SPREADS

DATE	30 US	AAA	BBB	US TREASURY/ AAA	US TREASURY/ BBB
	TREASURY BONDS	CORPORATE BOND YIELD	CORPORATE BOND YIELD	CORPORATE YIELD SPREAD	CORPORATE YIELD SPREAD
Jan-06	n/a	5.29%	6.24%		
Feb-06	4.54%	5.35%	6.27%	-0.81%	-1.73%
Mar-06	4.73%	5.53%	6.41%	-0.80%	-1.68%
Apr-06	5.06%	5.84%	6.68%	-0.78%	-1.62%
May-06	5.20%	5.95%	6.75%	-0.75%	-1.55%
Jun-06	5.15%	5.89%	6.78%	-0.74%	-1.63%
Jul-06	5.13%	5.85%	6.76%	-0.72%	-1.63%
Aug-06	5.00%	5.68%	6.59%	-0.68%	-1.59%
Sep-06	4.85%	5.51%	6.43%	-0.66%	-1.58%
Oct-06	4.85%	5.51%	6.42%	-0.66%	-1.57%
Nov-06	4.69%	5.33%	6.20%	-0.64%	-1.51%
Dec-06	4.68%	5.32%	6.22%	-0.64%	-1.54%
Jan-07	4.85%	5.40%	6.34%	-0.55%	-1.49%
Feb-07	4.82%	5.39%	6.28%	-0.57%	-1.46%
Mar-07	4.72%	5.30%	6.27%	-0.58%	-1.55%
Apr-07	4.87%	5.47%	6.39%	-0.60%	-1.52%
May-07	4.90%	5.47%	6.39%	-0.57%	-1.49%
Jun-07	5.20%	5.79%	6.70%	-0.59%	-1.50%
Jul-07	5.11%	5.73%	6.65%	-0.62%	-1.54%
Aug-07	4.93%	5.79%	6.65%	-0.86%	-1.72%
Sep-07	4.79%	5.74%	6.59%	-0.95%	-1.80%
Oct-07	4.77%	5.66%	6.48%	-0.89%	-1.71%
Nov-07	4.52%	5.44%	6.40%	-0.92%	-1.88%
Dec-07	4.53%	5.49%	6.65%	-0.96%	-2.12%
Jan-08	4.33%	5.33%	6.54%	-1.00%	-2.21%
Feb-08	4.52%	5.53%	6.82%	-1.01%	-2.30%
Mar-08	4.39%	5.51%	6.89%	-1.12%	-2.50%
Apr-08	4.44%	5.55%	6.97%	-1.11%	-2.53%
May-08	4.60%	5.57%	6.93%	-0.97%	-2.33%
Jun-08	4.69%	5.68%	7.07%	-0.99%	-2.38%
Jul-08	4.57%	5.67%	7.16%	-1.10%	-2.59%
Aug-08	4.50%	5.64%	7.15%	-1.14%	-2.65%
Sep-08	4.27%	5.65%	7.31%	-1.38%	-3.04%
Oct-08	4.17%	6.28%	8.88%	-2.11%	-4.71%
Nov-08	4.00%	6.12%	9.21%	-2.12%	-5.21%
Dec-08	2.87%	5.05%	8.43%	-2.18%	-5.56%
Jan-09	3.13%	5.05%	8.14%	-1.92%	-5.01%
Feb-09	3.59%	5.27%	8.08%	-1.68%	-4.49%
Mar-09	3.64%	5.50%	8.42%	-1.86%	-4.78%
Apr-09	3.76%	5.39%	8.39%	-1.63%	-4.63%
May-09	4.23%	5.54%	8.06%	-1.31%	-3.83%
Jun-09	4.52%	5.61%	7.50%	-1.09%	-2.98%
Jul-09	4.41%	5.41%	7.09%	-1.00%	-2.68%
Aug-09	4.37%	5.26%	6.58%	-0.89%	-2.21%
Sep-09	4.19%	5.13%	6.31%	-0.94%	-2.12%
Oct-09	4.19%	5.15%	6.29%	-0.96%	-2.10%
Nov-09	4.31%	5.19%	6.32%	-0.88%	-2.01%
Average	4.51%	5.53%	6.95%		
3-Month					
Average	4.23%	5.16%	6.31%		

AmerenUE
CASE NO. ER-2010-0036
COMPARABLE GROUP
FINANCIAL DATE

LINE NO.	COMPANY	SYMBOL	BETA	EQUITY RATIO 2009	EQUITY RATIO 2010	EQUITY RATIO 2012-14
1	ALLETE, INC.	ALE	0.70	55.50%	53.50%	51.50%
2	ALLEGHENY ENERGY	AYE	0.95	42.00%	44.00%	49.00%
3	ALLIANT ENERGY CORO.	LNT	0.70	60.00%	59.00%	60.50%
4	AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY INC.	AEP	0.70	46.50%	45.50%	48.00%
5	AMEREN	AEE	0.80	51.00%	52.00%	54.00%
6	CMS ENERGY CORPORATION	CMS	0.80	28.50%	29.50%	31.50%
7	CLECO CORPORATION	CNL	0.65	47.00%	48.50%	52.50%
8	CONSOLIDATED EDISON, INC.	ED	0.65	51.00%	51.50%	51.50%
9	DPL INC	DPL	0.60	43.50%	47.00%	47.00%
10	DTE ENERGY COMPANY	DTE	0.75	44.00%	44.00%	44.50%
11	DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION	DUK	0.65	59.00%	57.00%	51.50%
12	EDISON INTERNATIONAL	EIX	0.80	44.50%	44.00%	46.00%
13	EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY	EDE	0.75	46.00%	46.50%	49.00%
14	ENTERGY CORPORATION	ETR	0.70	40.50%	41.50%	44.00%
15	EXELON CORPORATION	EXC	0.85	52.00%	55.00%	57.00%
16	FPL GROUP, INC	FPL	0.75	45.00%	45.00%	44.50%
17	FIRSTENERGY CORP	FE	0.80	46.50%	46.50%	47.50%
18	GREAT PLAINS ENERGY INCORPORATED	GXP	0.75	46.00%	45.50%	48.00%
19	HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES, INC	HE	0.70	50.00%	52.00%	55.50%

AmerenUE
CASE NO. ER-2010-0036
COMPARABLE GROUP
HISTORICAL PRICE DATA AND CURRENT YIELDS

LINE NO.	COMPANY	SYMBOL	MONTHLY												AVERAGE	8 WEEK AVERAGE	6 WEEK AVERAGE	52 WEEK AVERAGE	INTADAY	CURRENT	ANNUAL DIVIDEND	DIVIDEND YIELD	52 WEEK LOW	52 WEEK HIGH
			8-Sep-09	14-Sep-09	21-Sep-09	28-Sep-09	5-Oct-09	12-Oct-09	19-Oct-09	26-Oct-09	2-Nov-09	9-Nov-09	16-Nov-09	23-Nov-09					SPOT PRICE DEC. 1, 2009	QUARTERLY DIVIDEND				
1	ALLETE, INC.	ALE	\$33.12	\$34.27	\$33.59	\$32.96	\$33.32	\$34.11	\$34.57	\$33.85	\$32.96	\$32.88	\$32.69	\$33.32	\$33.47	\$33.46	\$33.38	\$29.27	\$34.03	\$0.44	\$1.76	5.27%	\$23.35	\$35.19
2	ALLEGHENY ENERGY	AYE	\$25.85	\$27.64	\$26.71	\$25.40	\$25.84	\$26.43	\$26.30	\$22.82	\$22.88	\$22.40	\$22.09	\$21.95	\$24.68	\$23.81	\$23.04	\$28.15	\$22.37	\$0.15	\$0.60	2.60%	\$20.32	\$35.97
3	ALLIANT ENERGY CORP.	LNT	\$25.17	\$28.18	\$28.40	\$26.88	\$27.18	\$27.72	\$27.47	\$26.56	\$27.35	\$27.61	\$27.38	\$27.25	\$27.35	\$27.32	\$27.27	\$25.87	\$27.74	\$0.38	\$1.50	5.50%	\$20.31	\$31.42
4	AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY INC.	AEP	\$30.69	\$32.06	\$30.98	\$30.37	\$30.71	\$31.43	\$30.81	\$30.22	\$31.03	\$31.62	\$31.27	\$31.55	\$31.06	\$31.08	\$31.08	\$29.17	\$32.64	\$0.41	\$1.64	5.28%	\$24.00	\$34.34
5	AMEREN CORP.	AEE	\$25.45	\$26.05	\$25.48	\$24.52	\$25.27	\$25.61	\$25.20	\$24.34	\$24.68	\$25.72	\$25.28	\$25.58	\$25.27	\$25.21	\$25.13	\$27.43	\$26.29	\$0.39	\$1.54	6.13%	\$19.51	\$35.35
6	CMS ENERGY CORPORATION	CMS	\$12.99	\$13.43	\$13.35	\$13.21	\$13.47	\$13.75	\$13.59	\$13.30	\$13.53	\$14.37	\$14.05	\$14.14	\$13.60	\$13.78	\$13.83	\$12.13	\$14.45	\$0.13	\$0.50	3.62%	\$9.12	\$15.14
7	CLECO CORPORATION	CHL	\$24.47	\$25.19	\$24.93	\$24.45	\$25.57	\$25.46	\$24.98	\$24.75	\$24.58	\$25.13	\$25.40	\$25.50	\$25.03	\$25.17	\$25.06	\$22.48	\$25.62	\$0.23	\$0.90	3.59%	\$18.69	\$26.26
8	CONSOLIDATED EDISON, INC.	ED	\$39.63	\$41.48	\$41.07	\$40.35	\$41.09	\$41.33	\$41.81	\$40.68	\$41.53	\$42.05	\$41.90	\$42.44	\$41.28	\$41.60	\$41.73	\$38.57	\$44.47	\$0.59	\$2.36	5.65%	\$32.56	\$44.57
9	DPL INC	DPL	\$25.11	\$26.38	\$26.23	\$25.40	\$26.06	\$26.17	\$25.58	\$25.34	\$27.05	\$27.57	\$26.95	\$26.95	\$26.23	\$26.46	\$26.57	\$23.52	\$27.28	\$0.29	\$1.14	4.29%	\$19.18	\$27.86
10	DTE ENERGY COMPANY	DTE	\$35.12	\$35.25	\$35.03	\$34.04	\$35.12	\$36.53	\$37.85	\$36.98	\$38.34	\$39.68	\$39.68	\$39.83	\$36.95	\$38.00	\$38.73	\$32.07	\$40.73	\$0.53	\$2.12	5.47%	\$23.32	\$40.81
11	DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION	DUK	\$15.43	\$15.96	\$15.83	\$15.38	\$15.60	\$15.79	\$16.10	\$15.82	\$16.05	\$16.04	\$16.22	\$16.69	\$15.91	\$16.04	\$16.15	\$14.32	\$16.89	\$0.24	\$0.96	5.94%	\$11.72	\$16.92
12	EDISON INTERNATIONAL	EIX	\$33.55	\$34.99	\$34.14	\$32.57	\$33.10	\$33.50	\$32.64	\$31.82	\$33.19	\$33.32	\$33.04	\$33.83	\$33.30	\$33.06	\$32.97	\$29.25	\$34.38	\$0.31	\$1.24	3.76%	\$23.09	\$35.20
13	EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY	EDF	\$17.99	\$18.11	\$18.01	\$17.96	\$18.60	\$18.41	\$18.40	\$18.06	\$18.32	\$18.20	\$18.18	\$18.07	\$18.19	\$18.28	\$18.21	\$15.46	\$18.30	\$0.32	\$1.28	7.03%	\$11.92	\$19.00
14	ENERGY CORPORATION	ETR	\$77.69	\$80.89	\$79.35	\$77.38	\$79.73	\$80.64	\$79.29	\$76.72	\$77.01	\$78.64	\$77.79	\$78.50	\$78.64	\$78.54	\$77.99	\$73.24	\$80.33	\$0.75	\$3.00	3.85%	\$59.87	\$86.61
15	EXELON CORPORATION	EXC	\$48.39	\$51.37	\$49.86	\$47.98	\$49.42	\$50.10	\$49.87	\$46.96	\$46.70	\$46.61	\$46.81	\$47.66	\$48.48	\$48.02	\$47.44	\$48.70	\$48.62	\$0.53	\$2.10	4.43%	\$38.41	\$58.98
16	FPL GROUP, INC.	FPL	\$53.42	\$55.03	\$54.39	\$53.23	\$53.10	\$53.50	\$52.63	\$49.10	\$49.76	\$51.14	\$51.11	\$51.58	\$52.33	\$51.43	\$50.89	\$51.05	\$52.73	\$0.47	\$1.89	3.72%	\$41.48	\$60.61
17	FIRSTENERGY CORP	FE	\$45.91	\$46.98	\$45.67	\$44.79	\$45.81	\$47.13	\$45.93	\$43.28	\$42.39	\$42.07	\$41.95	\$42.61	\$44.54	\$43.90	\$43.04	\$46.79	\$43.32	\$0.55	\$2.20	5.11%	\$35.26	\$58.31
18	GREAT PLAINS ENERGY INCORPORATED	GXP	\$17.84	\$17.97	\$17.86	\$17.88	\$18.43	\$18.39	\$17.90	\$17.30	\$17.35	\$17.89	\$17.78	\$17.85	\$17.87	\$17.86	\$17.68	\$15.36	\$17.97	\$0.21	\$0.83	4.71%	\$10.20	\$20.52
19	HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES, INC.	HE	\$17.05	\$18.40	\$18.34	\$17.97	\$18.77	\$18.34	\$18.27	\$17.85	\$18.88	\$19.14	\$19.14	\$20.00	\$18.51	\$18.80	\$18.88	\$19.66	\$19.89	\$0.31	\$1.24	6.57%	\$12.09	\$27.23
20	IDACORP, INC.	IDA	\$28.12	\$28.93	\$28.54	\$28.33	\$29.22	\$28.91	\$28.79	\$28.09	\$28.81	\$29.12	\$29.45	\$29.55	\$28.82	\$28.99	\$28.97	\$25.74	\$29.92	\$0.30	\$1.20	4.14%	\$20.91	\$30.57
21	PG&E CORPORATION	PCG	\$39.97	\$41.06	\$41.35	\$40.00	\$41.29	\$42.45	\$41.69	\$40.89	\$41.36	\$41.93	\$42.10	\$42.14	\$41.35	\$41.73	\$41.69	\$38.41	\$42.85	\$0.42	\$1.68	4.03%	\$33.61	\$43.21
22	PEPCO HOLDINGS, INC.	POM	\$13.89	\$15.19	\$14.93	\$14.34	\$15.08	\$15.28	\$14.75	\$14.93	\$15.26	\$15.49	\$15.54	\$16.02	\$15.06	\$15.29	\$15.31	\$14.39	\$16.53	\$0.27	\$1.08	7.04%	\$10.07	\$18.71
23	PINACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION	PNW	\$32.44	\$33.03	\$32.51	\$31.68	\$33.34	\$33.99	\$33.48	\$31.32	\$32.84	\$33.23	\$34.03	\$34.90	\$33.07	\$33.33	\$33.30	\$29.49	\$36.33	\$0.53	\$2.10	6.31%	\$22.32	\$36.65
24	PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY	POR	\$20.06	\$20.80	\$20.02	\$19.28	\$20.15	\$20.21	\$19.94	\$18.59	\$19.01	\$19.24	\$19.39	\$19.36	\$19.67	\$19.48	\$19.26	\$17.20	\$19.75	\$0.26	\$1.02	5.30%	\$13.45	\$20.95
25	PROGRESS ENERGY	PGN	\$38.69	\$39.11	\$39.38	\$38.17	\$37.45	\$38.20	\$37.68	\$37.53	\$37.62	\$38.10	\$38.51	\$38.80	\$38.29	\$38.01	\$38.04	\$36.10	\$39.33	\$0.62	\$2.48	6.52%	\$31.35	\$40.85
26	PUBLIC SERVICE ENTERPRISE GROUP INC	PEG	\$30.88	\$31.99	\$31.29	\$30.35	\$31.35	\$31.14	\$30.31	\$29.80	\$30.58	\$31.37	\$31.05	\$30.90	\$30.92	\$30.81	\$30.67	\$28.84	\$31.63	\$0.33	\$1.33	4.34%	\$23.65	\$34.02
27	SOUTHERN COMPANY	SO	\$31.03	\$32.03	\$31.90	\$31.73	\$31.84	\$32.50	\$32.67	\$31.19	\$31.59	\$31.58	\$31.40	\$31.61	\$31.76	\$31.80	\$31.67	\$32.05	\$32.36	\$0.44	\$1.75	5.53%	\$26.48	\$37.62
28	TECO ENERGY, INC.	TE	\$32.20	\$34.07	\$34.07	\$33.59	\$34.32	\$34.40	\$34.24	\$34.34	\$34.64	\$34.65	\$34.54	\$34.53	\$35.80	\$34.46	\$34.49	\$31.79	\$34.34	\$0.20	\$0.80	5.52%	\$8.41	\$15.17
29	WESTAR ENERGY, INC.	WR	\$20.36	\$20.80	\$19.51	\$19.20	\$19.60	\$20.28	\$19.69	\$19.15	\$19.57	\$19.94	\$20.16	\$20.45	\$19.89	\$19.86	\$19.83	\$18.21	\$20.80	\$0.30	\$1.20	6.05%	\$14.86	\$21.56
30	WISCONSIN ENERGY CORPORATION	WEC	\$44.63	\$45.26	\$44.49	\$44.28	\$44.47	\$45.03	\$44.45	\$43.67	\$44.61	\$44.50	\$45.10	\$45.02	\$44.83	\$44.61	\$44.56	\$41.41	\$45.57	\$0.34	\$1.35	3.03%	\$36.31	\$46.50
31	XCEL ENERGY INC	XEL	\$19.47	\$20.02	\$19.51	\$19.20	\$19.32	\$19.65	\$19.45	\$18.86	\$19.01	\$19.91	\$20.02	\$20.19	\$19.55	\$19.55	\$19.57	\$18.31	\$20.49	\$0.25	\$0.98	5.01%	\$16.01	\$20.61
32	AVERAGE													\$30.69	\$30.64	\$30.53	\$28.85	\$31.57		\$1.48	5.01%			
33	MEDIAN													\$28.82	\$28.99	\$28.97	\$28.15	\$29.92		\$1.33	5.27%			

SOURCES:

SPOT FIELD, ANNUAL RANGE AND WEEKLY PRICE DATA FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 2009 - NOVEMBER 2009 FROM YAHOO FINANCE

DIVIDEND DATA FROM

VALUE LINE INVESTMENT SURVEY; (1) EAST NOVEMBER 27, 2009; (2) CENTRAL SEPTEMBER 25, 2009 and

(3) WEST NOVEMBER 4 2009 AND YAHOO FINANCE

AmerenUE
CASE NO. ER-2010-0036
COMPARABLE GROUP
GROWTH RATE ESTIMATES

LINE NO.	COMPANY	SYMBOL	HISTORICAL EPS GROWTH		FORECASTED EPS GROWTH			
			EPS 10 YEAR	EPS 5 YEAR	VALUE LINE EPS EST.	ZACKS EPS ESTIMATE	IBES EPS ESTIMATE	AVERAGE EPS ESTIMATE
1	ALLETE, INC.	ALE				4.00%	7.50%	5.75%
2	ALLEGHENY ENERGY	AYE	0.50%		7.00%	16.00%	14.00%	12.33%
3	ALLIANT ENERGY CORO.	LNT	3.00%	7.00%	4.50%	4.50%	4.45%	4.48%
4	AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY INC.	AEP	0.50%		3.00%	3.30%	3.00%	3.10%
5	AMEREN	AEE	0.50%		1.00%	4.00%	3.00%	2.67%
6	CMS ENERGY CORPORATION	CMS			10.00%	7.00%	6.33%	7.78%
7	CLECO CORPORATION	CNL	3.00%	0.50%	9.50%	9.00%	12.50%	10.33%
8	CONSOLIDATED EDISON, INC.	ED	1.00%	1.50%	3.00%	3.30%	3.00%	3.10%
9	DPL INC	DPL	3.50%	7.00%	8.50%	6.20%	9.43%	8.04%
10	DTE ENERGY COMPANY	DTE	1.00%	2.50%	7.50%	4.00%	1.00%	4.17%
11	DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION	DUK			5.00%	4.50%	3.50%	4.33%
12	EDISON INTERNATIONAL	EIX	7.00%	13.50%	4.50%	5.00%	3.00%	4.17%
13	EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY	EDE		3.50%	6.00%		6.00%	6.00%
14	ENTERGY CORPORATION	ETR	9.50%	10.50%	6.00%	6.00%	8.37%	6.79%
15	EXELON CORPORATION	EXC		10.50%	4.50%	2.00%	4.33%	3.61%
16	FPL GROUP, INC	FPL	7.00%	9.50%	8.00%	8.40%	8.46%	8.29%
17	FIRSTENERGY CORP	FE	7.50%	12.50%	3.00%	7.00%	4.50%	4.83%
18	GREAT PLAINS ENERGY INCORPORATED	GXP			0.50%	2.00%	2.00%	1.50%
19	HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES, INC	HE			7.00%	3.00%	3.00%	4.33%
20	IDACORP, INC.	IDA		1.50%	4.50%	5.00%	5.00%	4.83%
21	PG&E CORPORATION	PCG	4.50%		6.50%	7.50%	7.25%	7.08%
22	PEPCO HOLDINGS, INC	POM				5.00%	5.50%	5.25%
23	PINACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION	PNW			3.00%	8.00%	8.00%	6.33%
24	PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY	POR			3.50%	6.70%	6.75%	5.65%
25	PROGRESS ENERGY	PGN			6.00%	4.30%	4.40%	4.90%
26	PUBLIC SERVICE ENTERPRISE GROUP INC	PEG	6.50%	5.50%	7.50%	3.50%	5.33%	5.44%
27	SOUTHERN COMPANY	SO	3.00%	4.00%	4.50%	8.50%	4.56%	5.85%
28	TECO ENERGY, INC.	TE			4.50%	11.00%	9.78%	8.43%
29	WESTAR ENERGY, INC.	WR	1.50%	21.50%	4.50%	4.50%	2.50%	3.83%
30	WISCONSIN ENERGY CORPORATION	WEC	7.50%	6.00%	8.00%	8.50%	9.65%	8.72%
31	XCEL ENERGY INC	XEL		1.00%	6.50%	5.50%	7.42%	6.47%
32	AVERAGE		3.94%	6.94%	5.43%	5.91%	5.92%	5.75%
33	MEDIAN		3.00%	6.00%	5.00%	5.00%	5.33%	5.44%

SOURCES:

VALUE LINE INVESTMENT SURVEY; (1) EAST NOVEMBER 27, 2009, (2) CENTRAL SEPTEMBER 25, 2009 and (3) WEST NOVEMBER 6 2009

NOTE: NEGATIVE GROWTH ESTIMATES EXCLUDED

AmerenUE
CASE NO. ER-2010-0036
COMPARABLE GROUP
CONSTANT GROWTH DCF ESTIMATES

LINE NO.	COMPANY	SYMBOL	A PRICE	B DIVIDEND	C DIVIDEND		D GROWTH	E ADJUSTED DIVIDEND YIELD	F EQUITY RETURN
					YIELD	GROWTH			
1	ALLETE, INC.	ALE	\$33.38	\$1.76	5.27%	5.75%	5.42%	11.17%	
2	ALLEGHENY ENERGY	AYE	\$23.04	\$0.60	2.60%	12.33%	2.76%	15.10%	
3	ALLIANT ENERGY CORO.	LNT	\$27.27	\$1.50	5.50%	4.48%	5.62%	10.11%	
4	AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY INC.	AEP	\$31.08	\$1.64	5.28%	3.10%	5.36%	8.46%	
5	AMEREN CORP.	AEE	\$25.13	\$1.54	6.13%	2.67%	6.21%	8.88%	
6	CMS ENERGY CORPORATION	CMS	\$13.83	\$0.50	3.62%	7.78%	3.76%	11.53%	
7	CLECO CORPORATION	CNL	\$25.06	\$0.90	3.59%	10.33%	3.78%	14.11%	
8	CONSOLIDATED EDISON, INC.	ED	\$41.73	\$2.36	5.65%	3.10%	5.74%	8.84%	
9	DPL INC	DPL	\$26.57	\$1.14	4.29%	8.04%	4.46%	12.51%	
10	DTE ENERGY COMPANY	DTE	\$38.73	\$2.12	5.47%	4.17%	5.59%	9.75%	
11	DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION	DUK	\$16.15	\$0.96	5.94%	4.33%	6.07%	10.41%	
12	EDISON INTERNATIONAL	EIX	\$32.97	\$1.24	3.76%	4.17%	3.84%	8.01%	
13	EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY	EDE	\$18.21	\$1.28	7.03%	6.00%	7.24%	13.24%	
14	ENTERGY CORPORATION	ETR	\$77.99	\$3.00	3.85%	6.79%	3.98%	10.77%	
15	EXELON CORPORATION	EXC	\$47.44	\$2.10	4.43%	3.61%	4.51%	8.12%	
16	FPL GROUP, INC	FPL	\$50.89	\$1.89	3.72%	8.29%	3.87%	12.16%	
17	FIRSTENERGY CORP	FE	\$43.04	\$2.20	5.11%	4.83%	5.24%	10.07%	
18	GREAT PLAINS ENERGY INCORPORATED	GXP	\$17.68	\$0.83	4.71%	1.50%	4.74%	6.24%	
19	HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES, INC	HE	\$18.88	\$1.24	6.57%	4.33%	6.71%	11.04%	
20	IDACORP, INC.	IDA	\$28.97	\$1.20	4.14%	4.83%	4.24%	9.08%	
21	PG&E CORPORATION	PCG	\$41.69	\$1.68	4.03%	7.08%	4.17%	11.26%	
22	PEPCO HOLDINGS, INC	POM	\$15.33	\$1.08	7.04%	5.25%	7.23%	12.48%	
23	PINACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION	PNW	\$33.30	\$2.10	6.31%	6.33%	6.51%	12.84%	
24	PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY	POR	\$19.26	\$1.02	5.30%	5.65%	5.45%	11.10%	
25	PROGRESS ENERGY	PGN	\$38.04	\$2.48	6.52%	4.90%	6.68%	11.58%	
26	PUBLIC SERVICE ENTERPRISE GROUP INC	PEG	\$30.67	\$1.33	4.34%	5.44%	4.45%	9.90%	
27	SOUTHERN COMPANY	SO	\$31.67	\$1.75	5.53%	5.85%	5.69%	11.55%	
28	TECO ENERGY, INC.	TE	\$14.49	\$0.80	5.52%	8.43%	5.75%	14.18%	
29	WESTAR ENERGY, INC.	WR	\$19.83	\$1.20	6.05%	3.83%	6.17%	10.00%	
30	WISCONSIN ENERGY CORPORATION	WEC	\$44.56	\$1.35	3.03%	8.72%	3.17%	11.88%	
31	XCEL ENERGY INC	XEL	\$19.57	\$0.98	5.01%	6.47%	5.17%	11.64%	
32	AVERAGE		\$30.53	\$1.48	5.01%	5.75%	5.15%	10.90%	
33	MEDIAN		\$28.97	\$1.33	5.27%	5.44%	5.36%	11.10%	

AmerenUE
CASE NO. ER-2010-0036
COMPARABLE GROUP
TWO STAGE GROWTH DCF ESTIMATES

LINE NO.	COMPANY	SYMBOL	NEXT YEAR'S DIVIDEND	2013 DIVIDEND	ANNUAL CHANGE TO 2013	PRICE	YEAR 1 DIV.	YEAR 2 DIV.	YEAR 3 DIV.	YEAR 4 DIV.	YEAR 5 DIV.	YEAR 5-150 DIV. GROWTH	ROE TWO STAGE INTERNAL RATE OF RETURN
1	ALLETE, INC.	ALE	\$1.80	\$1.92	\$0.04	-\$33.38	\$1.80	\$1.84	\$1.88	\$1.92	\$2.02	5.11%	10.10%
2	ALLEGHENY ENERGY	AYE	\$0.80	\$1.20	\$0.13	-\$23.04	\$0.80	\$0.93	\$1.07	\$1.20	\$1.26	5.11%	9.51%
3	ALLIANT ENERGY CORO.	LNT	\$1.60	\$1.92	\$0.11	-\$27.27	\$1.60	\$1.71	\$1.81	\$1.92	\$2.02	5.11%	11.15%
4	AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY INC.	AEP	\$1.66	\$1.90	\$0.08	-\$31.08	\$1.66	\$1.74	\$1.82	\$1.90	\$2.00	5.11%	10.38%
5	AMEREN CORP.	AEE	\$1.54	\$1.70	\$0.05	-\$25.13	\$1.54	\$1.59	\$1.65	\$1.70	\$1.79	5.11%	10.96%
6	CMS ENERGY CORPORATION	CMS	\$0.60	\$0.80	\$0.07	-\$13.83	\$0.60	\$0.67	\$0.73	\$0.80	\$0.84	5.11%	10.03%
7	CLECO CORPORATION	CNL	\$1.00	\$1.60	\$0.20	-\$25.06	\$1.00	\$1.20	\$1.40	\$1.60	\$1.68	5.11%	10.47%
8	CONSOLIDATED EDISON, INC.	ED	\$2.38	\$2.44	\$0.02	-\$41.73	\$2.38	\$2.40	\$2.42	\$2.44	\$2.56	5.11%	10.20%
9	DPL INC	DPL	\$1.18	\$1.30	\$0.04	-\$26.57	\$1.18	\$1.22	\$1.26	\$1.30	\$1.37	5.11%	9.33%
10	DTE ENERGY COMPANY	DTE	\$2.12	\$2.50	\$0.13	-\$38.73	\$2.12	\$2.25	\$2.37	\$2.50	\$2.63	5.11%	10.66%
11	DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION	DUK	\$0.98	\$1.10	\$0.04	-\$16.15	\$0.98	\$1.02	\$1.06	\$1.10	\$1.16	5.11%	10.99%
12	EDISON INTERNATIONAL	EIX	\$1.28	\$1.50	\$0.07	-\$32.97	\$1.28	\$1.35	\$1.43	\$1.50	\$1.58	5.11%	9.01%
13	EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY	EDE	\$1.28	\$1.35	\$0.02	-\$18.21	\$1.28	\$1.30	\$1.33	\$1.35	\$1.42	5.11%	11.57%
14	ENTERGY CORPORATION	ETR	\$3.00	\$3.60	\$0.20	-\$77.99	\$3.00	\$3.20	\$3.40	\$3.60	\$3.78	5.11%	9.06%
15	EXELON CORPORATION	EXC	\$2.10	\$2.40	\$0.10	-\$47.44	\$2.10	\$2.20	\$2.30	\$2.40	\$2.52	5.11%	9.46%
16	FPL GROUP, INC	FPL	\$2.00	\$2.30	\$0.10	-\$50.89	\$2.00	\$2.10	\$2.20	\$2.30	\$2.42	5.11%	8.99%
17	FIRSTENERGY CORP	FE	\$2.20	\$2.60	\$0.13	-\$43.04	\$2.20	\$2.33	\$2.47	\$2.60	\$2.73	5.11%	10.30%
18	GREAT PLAINS ENERGY INCORPORATED	GXP	\$0.83	\$1.10	\$0.09	-\$17.68	\$0.83	\$0.92	\$1.01	\$1.10	\$1.16	5.11%	10.41%
19	HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES, INC	HE	\$1.24	\$1.24	\$0.00	-\$18.88	\$1.24	\$1.24	\$1.24	\$1.24	\$1.30	5.11%	10.85%
20	IDACORP, INC.	IDA	\$1.20	\$1.40	\$0.07	-\$28.97	\$1.20	\$1.27	\$1.33	\$1.40	\$1.47	5.11%	9.26%
21	PG&E CORPORATION	PCG	\$1.80	\$2.20	\$0.13	-\$41.69	\$1.80	\$1.93	\$2.07	\$2.20	\$2.31	5.11%	9.63%
22	PEPCO HOLDINGS, INC	POM	\$1.08	\$1.08	\$0.00	-\$15.33	\$1.08	\$1.08	\$1.08	\$1.08	\$1.14	5.11%	11.28%
23	PINACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION	PNW	\$2.10	\$2.20	\$0.03	-\$33.30	\$2.10	\$2.12	\$2.17	\$2.20	\$2.31	5.11%	10.86%
24	PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY	POR	\$1.05	\$1.20	\$0.05	-\$19.26	\$1.05	\$1.10	\$1.15	\$1.20	\$1.26	5.11%	10.48%
25	PROGRESS ENERGY	PGN	\$2.50	\$2.56	\$0.02	-\$38.04	\$2.50	\$2.52	\$2.54	\$2.56	\$2.69	5.11%	10.98%
26	PUBLIC SERVICE ENTERPRISE GROUP INC	PEG	\$1.40	\$1.70	\$0.10	-\$30.67	\$1.40	\$1.50	\$1.60	\$1.70	\$1.79	5.11%	9.86%
27	SOUTHERN COMPANY	SO	\$1.80	\$2.00	\$0.07	-\$31.67	\$1.80	\$1.87	\$1.93	\$2.00	\$2.10	5.11%	10.57%
28	TECO ENERGY, INC.	TE	\$0.80	\$0.90	\$0.03	-\$14.49	\$0.80	\$0.83	\$0.87	\$0.90	\$0.95	5.11%	10.47%
29	WESTAR ENERGY, INC.	WR	\$1.24	\$1.40	\$0.05	-\$19.83	\$1.24	\$1.29	\$1.35	\$1.40	\$1.47	5.11%	11.21%
30	WISCONSIN ENERGY CORPORATION	WEC	\$1.55	\$2.15	\$0.20	-\$44.56	\$1.55	\$1.75	\$1.95	\$2.15	\$2.26	5.11%	9.20%
31	XCEL ENERGY INC	XEL	\$1.00	\$1.10	\$0.03	-\$19.57	\$1.00	\$1.03	\$1.07	\$1.10	\$1.16	5.11%	9.97%
32	AVERAGE					-\$30.53	\$1.52	\$1.60	\$1.68	\$1.75	\$1.84		10.23%
33	MEDIAN					-\$28.97	\$1.40	\$1.50	\$1.60	\$1.70	\$1.79		10.38%

AmerenUE
CASE NO. ER-2010-0036
RISK PREMIUM ANALYSIS

BASED ON UTILITY AUTHORIZED ROE VERSUS BOND YIELDS

LINE NO.	YEAR	A	B	C
		MOODY'S AVERAGE PUBLIC UTILITY BOND YIELD	AUTHORIZED ELECTRIC RETURNS	INDICATED RISK PREMIUM
1	1980	13.15%	14.23%	1.08%
2	1981	15.62%	15.22%	-0.40%
3	1982	15.33%	15.78%	0.45%
4	1983	13.31%	15.36%	2.05%
5	1984	14.03%	15.32%	1.29%
6	1985	12.29%	15.20%	2.91%
7	1986	9.46%	13.93%	4.47%
8	1987	9.98%	12.99%	3.01%
9	1988	10.45%	12.79%	2.34%
10	1989	9.66%	12.97%	3.31%
11	1990	9.76%	12.70%	2.94%
12	1991	9.21%	12.55%	3.34%
13	1992	8.57%	12.09%	3.52%
14	1993	7.56%	11.41%	3.85%
15	1994	8.30%	11.34%	3.04%
16	1995	7.91%	11.55%	3.64%
17	1996	7.74%	11.39%	3.65%
18	1997	7.63%	11.40%	3.77%
19	1998	7.00%	11.66%	4.66%
20	1999	7.55%	10.77%	3.22%
21	2000	8.14%	11.43%	3.29%
22	2001	7.72%	11.09%	3.37%
23	2002	7.53%	11.16%	3.63%
24	2003	6.61%	10.97%	4.36%
25	2004	6.20%	10.75%	4.55%
26	2005	5.67%	10.54%	4.87%
27	2006	6.08%	10.36%	4.28%
28	2007	6.11%	10.36%	4.25%
29	2008	6.65%	10.46%	3.81%
30	AVERAGE	9.15%	12.34%	3.19%
31				
32	BASIC RISK PREMIUM			3.19%
33	INDICATED BBB BOND RATE			6.10%
34	RISK PREMIUM ROE			9.29%
35				
36	ESTIMATED BBB UTILITY BOND YIELD			6.10%
37	ANNUAL BOND YIELD IN STUDY PERIOD			9.15%
38	INTEREST RATE DIFFERENCE			-3.05%
39				
40	INTEREST RATE CHANGE COEFFICIENT			-0.413428393
41	ADJUSTMENT TO RISK PREMIUM			1.26%
42				
43	BASIC RISK PREMIUM			3.19%
44	INTEREST RATE ADJUSTMENT			1.26%
45	ADJUSTED EQUITY RISK PREMIUM			4.45%
46				
47	ESTIMATED BBB UTILITY YIELD			6.10%
48	INDICATED EQUITY RETURN			10.55%

SOURCES

COLUMN A LINES 1-30: MERCHANTS BOND RECORD

COLUMN B LINES 1-30: REGULATORY RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

LINE 33: CURRENT BBB CORPORATE BOND YIELD REDUCED BY 20 BASIS POINTS

LINE 40: EXCEL LINE ESTIME FUNCTION OF RISK PREMIUM TO BOND YIELD

AmerenUE
CASE NO. ER-2010-0036
FINANCIAL METRICS

COMPANY REQUESTED CAPITAL COST						
LINE NO.	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (000'S)	RATIO	COST RATE	WEIGHTED COST	(FIT) TAX IMPACT
1	LONG TERM DEBT	\$ 3,651,044,928	51.008%	5.967%	3.044%	3.044%
2	PREFERRED STOCK	\$ 114,502,040	1.600%	5.189%	0.083%	0.128%
3	COMMON EQUITY	\$ 3,392,179,086	47.392%	11.500%	5.450%	8.385%
4	TOTAL CAPITAL	\$ 7,157,726,054	100.000%		8.577%	11.556%
5	INTEREST COVERAGE				2.82	3.80

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE CAPITAL COST						
LINE NO.	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (000'S)	RATIO	COST RATE	WEIGHTED COST	(FIT) TAX IMPACT
9						
11	LONG TERM DEBT	\$ 3,651,044,928	51.008%	5.967%	3.044%	3.044%
12	PREFERRED STOCK	\$ 114,502,040	1.600%	5.189%	0.083%	0.128%
13	COMMON EQUITY	\$ 3,392,179,086	47.392%	10.200%	4.834%	7.437%
14	TOTAL CAPITAL	\$ 7,157,726,054	100.000%		7.961%	10.608%
15	INTEREST COVERAGE				2.62	3.49

LINE NO.	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (000'S)	AMOUNT (000'S)	CASH FLOW IMPACT
17				
18	RATE BASE	\$ 6,001,444	\$ 6,001,444	
19	RATE OF RETURN	8.58%	7.96%	
20	RETURN	\$ 514,744	\$ 477,754	\$ (36,990)
21	RETURN & FIT	\$ 693,532	\$ 636,648	\$ (56,884)
22	DEPRECIATION/ AMORTIZATION	\$ 376,408	\$ 376,408	
23	FEDERAL INCOME TAX	\$ 178,789	\$ 158,894	
24	DEFERRED TAXES & ITC's	\$ 6,581	\$ 6,581	
25	TOTAL CASH FLOW PRE-TAX (EBITDA)	\$ 1,069,940	\$ 1,013,056	\$ (56,884)
26	CASH FLOW AFTER TAX	\$ 891,152	\$ 854,162	\$ (36,990)
27	FUNDS FROM OPERATIONS	\$ 897,733	\$ 860,743	
28	TOTAL DEBT	\$ 3,651,045	\$ 3,651,045	
29	TOTAL INTEREST	\$ 182,664	\$ 182,664	
30	TOTAL DEBT PERCENTAGE	51.008%	51.008%	

LINE NO.	FINANCIAL METRIC MEASURES	S&P FINANCIAL METRIC		
		COMPANY FILED CASE 11.5% ROE	FINANCIAL METRICS AT 10.2% ROE	BENCHMARKS "A" "BBB"
33				
34	FFO/DEBT (%)	24.59%	23.58%	20% to 45%
35	FFO/INTEREST (x)	4.91	4.71	2.5x to 5.0x
36	DEBT/ EBITDA (x)	3.41	3.60	2.0(x) 4.0(x)
37	DEBT/ CAPITAL (%)	51.008%	51.008%	35% to 50%

AmerenUE
CASE NO. ER-2010-0036
WORKPAPER INPUTS
COMPARABLE GROUP
INTEGRATED ELECTRIC UTILITIES

LINE NO.	COMPANY	SYMBOL	BETA	DPS 2012		EPS 2012		FORECAST EPS	EQUITY	EQUITY	EQUITY
				DPS 2010	2014	EPS 2010	2014		RATIO 2009	RATIO 2010	RATIO 2012-14
1	ALLETE, INC.	ALE	0.70	\$1.80	\$1.92	\$2.30	\$2.75		55.50%	53.50%	51.50%
2	ALLEGHENY ENERGY	AYE	0.95	\$0.80	\$1.20	\$2.35	\$3.35	7.00%	42.00%	44.00%	49.00%
3	ALLIANT ENERGY CORO.	LNT	0.70	\$1.60	\$1.92	\$2.30	\$3.20	4.50%	60.00%	59.00%	60.50%
4	AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY INC.	AEP	0.70	\$1.66	\$1.90	\$3.00	\$3.50	3.00%	46.50%	45.50%	48.00%
5	AMEREN	AEE	0.80	\$1.54	\$1.70	\$2.55	\$3.00	1.00%	51.00%	52.00%	54.00%
6	CMS ENERGY CORPORATION	CMS	0.80	\$0.60	\$0.80	\$1.35	\$1.50	10.00%	28.50%	29.50%	31.50%
7	CLECO CORPORATION	CNL	0.65	\$1.00	\$1.60	\$2.00	\$2.50	9.50%	47.00%	48.50%	52.50%
8	CONSOLIDATED EDISON, INC.	ED	0.65	\$2.38	\$2.44	\$3.30	\$3.85	3.00%	51.00%	51.50%	51.50%
9	DPL INC	DPL	0.60	\$1.18	\$1.30	\$2.45	\$2.70	8.50%	43.50%	47.00%	47.00%
10	DTE ENERGY COMPANY	DTE	0.75	\$2.12	\$2.50	\$3.25	\$4.00	7.50%	44.00%	44.00%	44.50%
11	DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION	DUK	0.65	\$0.98	\$1.10	\$1.20	\$1.40	5.00%	59.00%	57.00%	51.50%
12	EDISON INTERNATIONAL	EIX	0.80	\$1.28	\$1.50	\$3.25	\$4.50	4.50%	44.50%	44.00%	46.00%
13	EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY	EDE	0.75	\$1.28	\$1.35	\$1.55	\$1.75	6.00%	46.00%	46.50%	49.00%
14	ENTERGY CORPORATION	ETR	0.70	\$3.00	\$3.60	\$7.00	\$8.00	6.00%	40.50%	41.50%	44.00%
15	EXELON CORPORATION	EXC	0.85	\$2.10	\$2.40	\$3.80	\$5.00	4.50%	52.00%	55.00%	57.00%
16	FPL GROUP, INC	FPL	0.75	\$2.00	\$2.30	\$4.45	\$5.00	8.00%	45.00%	45.00%	44.50%
17	FIRSTENERGY CORP	FE	0.80	\$2.20	\$2.60	\$3.25	\$5.00	3.00%	46.50%	46.50%	47.50%
18	GREAT PLAINS ENERGY INCORPORATED	GXP	0.75	\$0.83	\$1.10	\$1.40	\$1.60	0.50%	46.00%	45.50%	48.00%
19	HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES, INC	HE	0.70	\$1.24	\$1.24	\$1.50	\$1.75	7.00%	50.00%	52.00%	55.50%
20	IDACORP, INC.	IDA	0.70	\$1.20	\$1.40	\$2.50	\$2.75	4.50%	54.00%	53.00%	51.00%
21	PG&E CORPORATION	PCG	0.55	\$1.80	\$2.20	\$3.40	\$4.25	6.50%	48.00%	49.50%	54.00%
22	PEPCO HOLDINGS, INC	POM	0.80	\$1.08	\$1.08	\$1.30	\$1.60		47.00%	47.00%	48.00%
23	PINACLE WEST CAPITAL CORPORATION	PNW	0.75	\$2.10	\$2.20	\$2.80	\$3.25	3.00%	48.50%	49.50%	52.00%
24	PORTLAND GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY	POR	0.70	\$1.05	\$1.20	\$1.65	\$2.00	3.50%	50.00%	47.00%	50.00%
25	PROGRESS ENERGY	PGN	0.65	\$2.50	\$2.56	\$3.15	\$3.60	6.00%	45.00%	45.50%	47.50%
26	PUBLIC SERVICE ENTERPRISE GROUP INC	PEG	0.80	\$1.40	\$1.70	\$3.25	\$3.75	7.50%	48.00%	56.00%	57.00%
27	SOUTHERN COMPANY	SO	0.55	\$1.80	\$2.00	\$2.40	\$3.00	4.50%	42.50%	43.00%	42.50%
28	TECO ENERGY, INC.	TE	0.85	\$0.80	\$0.90	\$1.15	\$1.40	4.50%	39.00%	41.50%	41.50%
29	WESTAR ENERGY, INC.	WR	0.75	\$1.24	\$1.40	\$1.85	\$2.20	4.50%	47.50%	48.50%	52.50%
30	WISCONSIN ENERGY CORPORATION	WEC	0.65	\$1.55	\$2.15	\$3.70	\$4.50	8.00%	46.00%	42.50%	45.50%
31	XCEL ENERGY INC	XEL	0.65	\$1.00	\$1.10	\$1.60	\$2.00	6.50%	47.50%	46.50%	48.50%
32	AVERAGE		0.72	\$1.52	\$1.75	\$2.61	\$3.18	5.43%	47.15%	47.65%	49.13%
33	MEDIAN		0.70	\$1.40	\$1.70	\$2.45	\$3.00	5.00%	47.00%	47.00%	49.00%

AmerenUE
CASE NO. ER-2010-0036
COMPARABLE GROUP
GROWTH RATE ESTIMATES

LINE NO.	COMPANY	SYMBOL	HISTORICAL EPS GROWTH		FORECASTED EPS GROWTH			AVERAGE EPS ESTIMATE
			EPS 10 YEAR	EPS 5 YEAR	VALUE LINE EPS EST.	ZACKS EPS ESTIMATE	IBES EPS ESTIMATE	
1	ALLETE, INC.	ALE				4.00%	7.50%	5.75%
2	ALLEGHENY ENERGY	AYE	0.50%		7.00%	16.00%	14.00%	12.33%
3	ALLIANT ENERGY CORO.	LNT	3.00%	7.00%	4.50%	4.50%	4.45%	4.48%
4	AMERICAN ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY INC.	AEP	0.50%		3.00%	3.30%	3.00%	3.10%
5	AMEREN	AEE	0.50%		1.00%	4.00%	3.00%	2.67%
6	CMS ENERGY CORPORATION	CMS			10.00%	7.00%	6.33%	7.78%
7	CLECO CORPORATION	CNL	3.00%	0.50%	9.50%	9.00%	12.50%	10.33%
8	CONSOLIDATED EDISON, INC.	ED	1.00%	1.50%	3.00%	3.30%	3.00%	3.10%
9	DPL INC	DPL	3.50%	7.00%	8.50%	6.20%	9.43%	8.04%
10	DTE ENERGY COMPANY	DTE	1.00%	2.50%	7.50%	4.00%	1.00%	4.17%
11	DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION	DUK			5.00%	4.50%	3.50%	4.33%
12	EDISON INTERNATIONAL	EIX	7.00%	13.50%	4.50%	5.00%	3.00%	4.17%
13	EMPIRE DISTRICT ELECTRIC COMPANY	EDE		3.50%	6.00%		6.00%	6.00%
14	ENTERGY CORPORATION	ETR	9.50%	10.50%	6.00%	6.00%	8.37%	6.79%
15	EXELON CORPORATION	EXC		10.50%	4.50%	2.00%	4.33%	3.61%
16	FPL GROUP, INC	FPL	7.00%	9.50%	8.00%	8.40%	8.46%	8.29%
17	FIRSTENERGY CORP	FE	7.50%	12.50%	3.00%	7.00%	4.50%	4.83%
18	GREAT PLAINS ENERGY INCORPORATED	GXP			0.50%	2.00%	2.00%	1.50%
19	HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES, INC	HE			7.00%	3.00%	3.00%	4.33%
20	IDACORP, INC.	IDA		1.50%	4.50%	5.00%	5.00%	4.83%
21	PG&E CORPORATION	PCG	4.50%		6.50%	7.50%	7.25%	7.08%
22	PEPCO HOLDINGS, INC	POM				5.00%	5.50%	5.25%

