

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

Noranda Aluminum, Inc., et al.,)	
)	
Complainants,)	File No. EC-2014-0223
)	
v.)	
)	
Union Electric Company, d/b/a)	
Ameren Missouri)	File No. EC-2014-0224
)	
Respondent.)	

NOTICE OF COMMUNICATION

Issue Date: April 23, 2015

Attached is a letter from Missouri State Senators Jeanie Riddle, Ron Richard, Mike Kehoe, Brian Munzlinger, Ed Emery and Bob Dixon, regarding the above-captioned Complaints, which was received by all of the Commissioners at the Missouri Public Service Commission.

The Missouri Public Service Commission has promulgated rules regarding Ex Parte and Extra-Record Communication at 4 CSR 240-4.020. This notice is filed in conformance with that rule.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert S. Kenney, Chairman



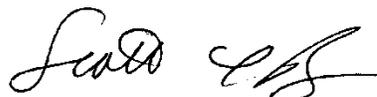
Stephen M. Stoll, Commissioner



William P. Kenney, Commissioner



Daniel Y. Hall, Commissioner



Scott T. Rupp, Commissioner

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri
On this 23rd day of April, 2015



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JEANIE RIDDLE
10TH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, ENERGY AND
THE ENVIRONMENT - MEMBER
FINANCIAL AND GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS AND
ELECTIONS - MEMBER
GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND FISCAL
OVERSIGHT - MEMBER
SENIORS, FAMILIES AND CHILDREN - VICE-CHAIR

The Missouri Public Service Commission recently announced its intention to reconsider its decision wherein it denied an electric rate decrease to Noranda Aluminum. This announcement came almost simultaneously with a press release from Governor Nixon supporting the subsidy for Noranda. The rate decrease being considered by the Public Service Commission would lower Noranda's electric bill by more than \$25 million per year. That decrease would be transferred to all other customers of Ameren Missouri who would pay more so that Noranda could pay less.

This proposed rate decrease is unlike other rate settings by the Public Service Commission, in that the decrease is not based upon the traditional factors: the cost of generating and transmitting electricity. It is based upon Noranda's assertion that in order to remain in Missouri, Noranda requires a subsidy. This is essentially an economic development subsidy based upon social and economic considerations rather than an electric rate based upon the cost of electricity.

We oppose this rate shift for the following reasons:

1. It is unfair that the vast majority of Ameren Missouri electric customers should be forced to pay higher electricity rates to subsidize Noranda. Many thousands of businesses, senior citizens and people with fixed incomes should not be asked to bear this burden.
2. The Public Service Commission is an unelected board in the executive branch. A decision regarding a new multi-million dollar economic development program should be made by the elected members of the General Assembly. A decision by the Commission to provide a below cost-of-service subsidy of this nature represents a large expansion of governmental power and a significant transfer of power from the elected legislative branch to an unelected executive body.
3. Unlike a bill passed by the legislature, which would contain various safeguards, a rate shift of this type can contain no ratepayer or taxpayer protections. Noranda is controlled by a huge hedge fund in New York. There is nothing to prevent it from simply taking the money out of Missouri.
4. The Governor issued a press statement simultaneously with the announcement of reconsideration by the Public Service Commission. These two events happening so closely in time is an eloquent articulation of how simple it would be for a Governor to orchestrate other similar subsidies by the Public Service Commission.
5. If the Commission chooses to engage in this type of social engineering it will be hard pressed to resist future requests to other deserving electric rate paying groups, businesses and organizations. For example, if it's permissible to take money from other rate payers to give to Noranda, how can it be wrong to do the same for churches, veterans, senior citizens and others?

We, the undersigned, hope the Public Service Commission will rethink its announcement and stick with its original, well-reasoned decision on the issue.



Senator Jeanie Riddle



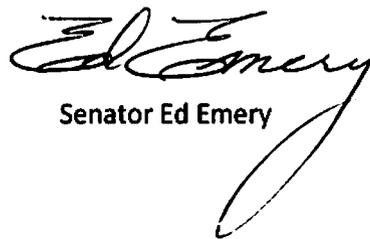
Senator Ron Richard



Senator Mike Kehoe



Senator Brian Munzlinger



Senator Ed Emery



Senator Bob Dixon

CC: Governor Jay Nixon

Public Service Commission

Office of Public Counsel

General Assembly

Capitol Press Corps