

Hello:

After an 11-month review process, the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) issued a final order in our rate case today. In a 3-2 vote, the ICC granted Ameren Illinois a revenue increase around \$5 million, a shockingly small fraction of the amount requested and needed. I am troubled by this ruling, which is unprecedented in my 36 years of experience. The amount approved by the Commission may hinder our ability to provide the service our customers expect.

The facts and the logic applied in our rate case were solid, supportable and rational; we stand by them. We seek only to recover the prudent costs incurred to provide a safe and reliable gas and electric delivery system.

Within the next 30 days, we will seek a rehearing of the rate case to pursue a fair outcome. There is no guarantee a rehearing will be granted or that its outcome is certain. I also plan to meet with union leadership to discuss our next steps, as the IBEW has been supportive of our request throughout the entire 11 months.

In light of the uncertainty of a rehearing, we must take immediate action to address the financial pressures created by the ICC's decision. It will take a few days to fully review and evaluate the impact of the rate order. At a minimum, we will need to take the following actions:

- Significantly reduce budgets;
- Institute a hiring freeze;
- Substantially reduce the use of contractors;
- Delay or cancel certain projects and planned activities;
- Reduce expenditures for capital projects designed to enhance reliability of our delivery systems.

These actions are regrettable, but necessary. We will exhaust every avenue in search of an equitable solution that allows us to meet our obligations to customers, co-workers and shareholders.

We don't have all the answers now; however, I am committed to keeping you informed as the situation evolves. Throughout this process, Ameren Illinois has been open and proactive. That's not going to change.

I am proud of the Ameren Illinois team and the quality, safety and service we deliver to more than a million homes and businesses every day. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the entire Ameren team for your ongoing support throughout this process.

As we move forward, the most important thing you can do right now is continue to work safely, in spite of these distractions. Nothing is more important than your safety.

SAC