



705 Olive Street, Suite 614, St. Louis, MO 63101-2208  
Telephone (314) 231-4181, facsimile (314) 231-4184  
[www.greatriverslaw.org](http://www.greatriverslaw.org)

**For More Information Contact:**

Henry Robertson  
Great Rivers Environmental Law Center  
705 Olive Street, Ste. 614  
St. Louis, MO 63101  
(314) 231-4181  
[hrobertson@greatriverslaw.org](mailto:hrobertson@greatriverslaw.org)

November 29, 2011

**ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS OPPOSE AMEREN MISSOURI'S  
TWENTY-YEAR PLAN SLASHING FUNDS FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

Ameren, Missouri's largest investor-owned utility, filed a "Notification of Change in Ameren Missouri's Preferred Resource Plan" on October 25, drastically cutting its planned expenditures on energy efficiency to \$5 million in 2012 and **\$0.00** in subsequent years, from the \$18-43 million per year it had said it would spend.

A coalition of five environmental organizations yesterday filed motions to intervene in the Public Service Commission's ("PSC") case on this change to Ameren's twenty-year plan. The groups, represented by Great Rivers Environmental Law Center, oppose the plan because it slashes spending for energy efficiency programs that can reduce customers' bills and eliminate the need to build expensive and polluting new power plants.

The five groups are: Renew Missouri, Sierra Club, Missouri Coalition for the Environment, Natural Resources Defense Council and Mid-Missouri Peaceworks. They are national and state organizations dedicated to protecting the environment and human health.

Ameren, a regulated monopoly that receives a guaranteed profit, maintains that the PSC's rules on what utilities can charge for efficiency programs amount to a "financial penalty" for its shareholders.

Great Rivers and its clients believe the rules are reasonable. "Ameren is overreaching," said Henry Robertson, attorney at Great Rivers Environmental Law Center. "They want to charge ratepayers as if they used electricity Ameren never delivered, and get an incentive on top of that for doing efficiency programs. Customers have no incentive to save energy if they're not going to save money. Ameren is holding the public interest to ransom for the sake of its investors.

"Ameren admitted in its original plan filed back in February that efficiency was the lowest-cost way to serve their customers, and that if they pursued efficiency more aggressively they wouldn't need to build a new power plant. But they think they can make more money building a nuclear plant, so they're throwing their customers under the bus."