



## UTILITY CONSUMERS COUNCIL OF MISSOURI, INC.

7710 Carondelet Avenue  
Clayton, Missouri 63105

March 18, 1976

ALBERTA SLAVIN  
PRESIDENT

*another*

### Electric Rates To Go Up <sup>1</sup>50% In The Next Six Years?

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That's the projection of the increases Union Electric will demand if the Public Service Commission persists in allowing the power bigwigs to force you, the consumer, to ante up the investment for the construction of a perhaps-unneeded, perhaps-unsafe, nuclear power plant.

In the waning days of '75, the PSC gave nearly \$52-million in higher rates to UE. UCCM attorney Sam Liberman immediately filed a motion for a rehearing, then a lawsuit in Cole County Circuit Court, asserting that the PSC-ordered rate increase is unlawful.

Here's the heart of our argument: The UE customers are being forced to become involuntary investors in the nuclear plant... although UE customers won't receive any of the benefits usually given to investors. UCCM believes that if customers are going to invest, they should receive stocks and bonds for their investments.

In the Missouri Senate, a bill is now pending (SB 899) which would make it illegal to charge customers for the costs of construction. This legislation should be supported.

If SB 899 doesn't survive, UCCM is cooperating with the Coalition for the Environment on an initiative petition drive to make it illegal to charge the costs of construction to utility customers. Petitions are available by calling Dee Aylward at 432-8467.