## III.C.

DATE:

January 4, 2012

TO:

Michael G. Herring, CA

FROM:

Brian McGownd, PWD\CE



## **SUBJECT: Ameren Municipal Tree Replacement Program**

We are in receipt of the letter you forwarded from Ameren dated December 7, 2011. In this letter, they discuss their Municipal Tree Replacement Program. This program was established to develop partnerships between Ameren and municipalities to remove city owned trees that are located underneath utility lines.

City Forester Mindy Mohrman has contacted Ameren and has determined that there is no cost to participate in the program. Although we do not have many areas where right of way trees are located underneath utility lines, it appears that this is a program we should participate in.

Therefore, it is Staff's recommendation to participate in Ameren's Municipal Tree Replacement Program. We request that this issue be placed on the next Planning & Public Works Committee agenda for discussion. If you have any questions, or need additional information please advise.

ohd 1/5/12 Bring M

attachment

cc:

Mike Geisel, Director of Planning & Public Works

Mindy Mohrman, City Forester



December 7, 2011

Michael G. Herring City Administrator Chesterfield City Hall 690 Chesterfield Parkway Chesterfield, MO 63017-0670

Dear Mr. Herring:

In Ameren Missouri's continuing effort to deliver safe and reliable power, it is necessary to manage the vegetation along our Transmission lines to prevent trees from contacting the wires. The Transmission system is the very high voltage lines that carry the flow of electricity from power plants to customer load centers and also which carry electricity across the country. As you may be aware, the Northeast Blackout of 2003, the largest blackout in Unites States history, was caused by tree contact on transmission lines. In response to this event, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission implemented standards for Transmission vegetation management. Additionally, the Missouri Public Service Commission enacted new vegetation management rules effective July, 2008.

In the next several months, forestry crews working for Ameren Missouri will begin work on Transmission lines in your area. All property owners along these transmission lines will be receiving notification even though some of them may not be Ameren Missouri customers. It may take several months to complete trimming in your area. We hope this outreach will keep you "in the loop" regarding our efforts in your community.

In addition to the normal activities of cutting, pruning, and trimming trees, I wanted you to be aware of another aspect of our vegetation management. For city owned trees that have been planted under utility wires in the past, Ameren Missouri has established a Municipal Tree Replacement Program. The program involves partnering with municipalities to remove trees, which because of the species, will require constant tree pruning to keep them away from the utility wires. In some cases, these same trees may also interfere with sidewalks and streets. Working together to remove and replace these "high maintenance" trees with lower growing, utility friendly trees will benefit the safety, reliability and the aesthetics of the urban landscape.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your trees, the Municipal Tree Replacement program, or Ameren Missouri's service, please contact us at 1.800.552.7583. You may also visit our Web site at www.ameren.com/poweron. We would like to hear from you.

I want to assure you that the employees of Ameren Missouri are working hard every day to continue to provide safe, reliable, and affordable power to you and your neighbors.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey V. Hackman, Manager Transmission Operations

cc: Mayor/Connel De Hands