

## Comparison of Residential Electricity Rates and Monthly Costs in Phelps County

<u>(RMU)**</u>	<u>St. James Municipal*</u>	<u>Intercounty Cooperative</u>	<u>Rolla Municipal</u>
<b>rates</b> \$.093/kwh  \$.083/kwh	First 10 kwh, \$3.77  11-300 kwh, \$.087/kwh  over 300 kwh, \$.061	\$.0685/kwh	1-1000 kwh,  over 1000 kwh,
<b>service availability</b>	0	\$21.31/avg. mo.	\$10.00/mo
<b>tax/pilot</b>	0	0	5%
<b>cost 500 kwh/mo</b>	\$41.20	\$55.56	\$59.33
<b>cost 1000 kwh/mo</b>	\$71.70	\$89.81	\$108.15
<b>cost 2000 kwh/mo</b>	\$132.70	\$158.31	\$195.30

\* St James envisages a rate increase of 2% which would still leave them 32% cheaper than Rolla for 1000 kwh/mo.

\*\* A 1997 Petition Audit found \$1.3 million in questionable or illegal expenditures with little relation to the operation of the City's utilities. RMU thumbed its nose at the auditors and refused to mend its ways.

\*\* Rolla Municipal Utilities claims to run their operations as a business, but any business that conducted itself as RMU does would soon be bankrupt. If RMU and the City of Rolla were businesses their CEOs (RMU General Manager and Rolla City Administrator) would be summarily fired.

### What You Can Do

**Get involved in local politics. Elect people who will work for you to keep costs down.** Elect people who will not squander tax dollars on projects like the expensive unnecessary \$2.5 million City Hall renovation or give away \$200,000 annually in tax revenues to the Chamber of Commerce to "promote tourism." **Run for City Council yourself.** For example, in the 2006 mayoral election, Bill Jenks who was serving on the RMU Board and said he would raise Rolla's already excessive utility rates was elected mayor in a landslide. Third ward councilor Gary Hicks who said that RMU was doing a good job controlling utility costs finished second. Tom Sager who said he would make "*Restructuring and reducing the rates which RMU charges its customers*" a priority, finished last. This election result gave RMU and the City of Rolla carte blanche to continue to raise your utility rates.

**The State Legislature has the power to pass legislation to regulate utilities and curb abuses** like the ones we experience in Rolla. **State Senator Frank Barnitz will listen to**

**your concerns at the Phelps County Court House on Tuesday, June 5 at 6:30 PM.** Come and ask Senator Barnitz to introduce legislation for effective State oversight and control of Municipal Utilities.

The Federal government has to date spent over **\$425 billion on the Iraq War**. The cost of this war to the U.S. economy has been estimates at **over \$2 trillion**. This monumental waste cannot help but contribute to the skyrocketing costs of energy. **Contact your U.S. Senators (Claire McCaskill and Kit Bond) and Congresswoman Jo Ann Emerson and request an end to this terrible tragedy and that our troops be brought back home quickly and safely.**

Respectively submitted by Tom Sager, [tomsager@yahoo.com](mailto:tomsager@yahoo.com)