

## **Add Networx to list of failed ventures**

Your June 13 editorial about the failure of the Memphis Networx venture and loss of millions in taxpayer dollars reminded me of the early 1970s when I was working on a graduate degree at the old Memphis State University.

The subject of my master's thesis was the purchase of the old Memphis Power and Light by the city. I chose the title "Let There Be Light" to suggest that all people would benefit from public ownership of an important part of daily life.

• Now the title seems all the more appropriate to bring light to the utility's many failed ventures. These should include the purchase of nearly empty gas fields, who received the nearly \$30 million lost on the Networx project, the use of some customers as political assets, and the efforts to sell a well-run public utility to private interests.

Not one of these ventures has produced savings for the customers of Memphis Light, Gas and Water Division.

*W. J. Williams*  
10/27/2007

**BOBBY J. WILLIAMS**  
Somerville, Tenn.