Exhibit No.:

Issues:

Red Tag Repair Program

Witness:

Jordan R. Elliott

Sponsoring Party: Missouri Department of Economic Development –

Division of Energy

Type of Exhibit:

Rebuttal Testimony

Case No.:

GR-2019-0077

FILED
September 5, 2019
Data Center
Missouri Public
Service Commission

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a AMEREN MISSOURI

CASE NO. GR-2019-0077

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

JORDAN R. ELLIOTT

ON

BEHALF OF

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

DIVISION OF ENERGY

Jefferson City, Missouri June 7, 2019

Date 8-15-19 Reporter CDT File No. GR - 2019 - 0077



BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

d/Ł	the Matter of Union Electric Company o/a Ameren Missouri's Tariffs to Increase Revenues for Natural Gas Service) File No. GR-2019-0077)
	AFFIDAVIT OF JORDAN R. ELLIOTT
ST	TATE OF MISSOURI)
CÇ	OUNTY OF COLE)
	Jordan R. Elliott, of lawful age, being duly sworn on his oath, deposes and states:
1.	My name is Jordan R. Elliott. I work in the City of Jefferson, Missouri, and I am
	employed by the Missouri Department of Economic Development as an Energy
	Policy Analyst, Planner II, Division of Energy.
2.	Attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes is my Rebuttal Testimony
	on behalf of the Missouri Department of Economic Development, Division of Energy.
3.	I hereby swear and affirm that my answers contained in the attached testimony to
	the questions therein propounded are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
	July Holl
	Jordan R. Elliott
Sui	bscribed and sworn to before me this 7 th day of June, 2019.
	LAURIE ANN ARNOLD Notary Public - Notary Seal State of Missouri Commissioned for Callaway County My Commission Expires: April 26, 2020 Commission Number: 16808714
Му	commission expires: 4/26/20

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I. INTRODUCTION

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- 2 Q. Please state your name and business address.
- A. My name is Jordan R. Elliott. My business address is 301 West High Street, Suite
 720, PO Box 1766, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.
- 5 Q. By whom and in what capacity are you employed?
- A. I am employed by the Missouri Department of Economic Development Division
 of Energy ("DE") as an Energy Policy Analyst, Planner II.
 - Q. Please describe your educational background and employment experience.
 - A. I was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration in 2017 and a Master of Business Administration degree in 2018, both from William Woods University in Fulton, Missouri. I began work with DE in 2018. Currently, I am a supporting project manager for the development of a resilience plan for a Missouri city, a project coordinator for four grants administered by DE, and participate in electric and natural gas utility low-income collaborative groups. I have also been involved in DE's exploration of a Missouri Green Bank or Energy Investment Partnership as the result of a federal grant. Areas I address as part of my duties include energy financing options for businesses and individuals (such as Property Assessed Clean Energy), legislative activity relating to energy financing, and low-income weatherization policy.
 - Q. Have you previously testified before the Missouri Public Service Commission ("PSC" or "Commission") on behalf of DE or any other party?
 - A. No.

Α.

II. PURPOSE AND SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

Q. What is the purpose of your Rebuttal Testimony in this proceeding?

The purpose of my testimony is to respond to the testimony of Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri ("Ameren Missouri" or "Company") witness Laureen M. Welikson in this case regarding a Red Tag Repair Program. DE supports the availability of Red Tag Repair Programs. Such programs can supplement the weatherization efforts of homes and promote health and safety by ensuring customers are using their primary heat source appropriately. DE recommends that furnace replacements under the Red Tag Repair Program be at least 90 percent energy-efficient if: (1) they are installed in conjunction with the federal Low-Income Weatherization Assistance Program ("LIWAP") under its health and safety provisions and (2) are without cost to the income-eligible customers. In other situations where those customers would incur expenses related to the equipment replacement, DE would be satisfied with the funding of at least 85 percent energy-efficient furnaces. Such an outcome would be consistent with other Red Tag Repair programs currently offered by other gas utilities in Missouri.

Q. What information did you review in preparation of this testimony?

A. I reviewed the Direct Testimony filed by the Company's witnesses in this case, relevant portions of case-related filings in this and previous natural gas rate cases (Case Nos: GR-2018-0013, GR-2017-0215, GR-2017-0216), materials pertaining to energy efficiency, and past tariffs.

A.

- Q. What is the primary statutory guidance that informs DE's interest in energy efficiency in the context of the proposed Red Tag Repair Program?
 - A. Under Section 620.035.1, RSMo., DE is tasked with, among other duties:
 - ... (4) Analyzing the potential for increased utilization of coal, nuclear, solar, resource recovery and reuse, landfill gas, projects to reduce and capture methane and other greenhouse gas emissions from landfills, energy efficient technologies and other energy alternatives, and making recommendations for the expanded use of alternate energy sources and technologies;

III. PROPOSED RED TAG REPAIR PROGRAM

Q. Please describe the proposed Red Tag Repair Program

"Red Tagging" a furnace or other piece of equipment means shutting the furnace or other equipment down because it is dangerous to operate unless repaired or replaced. The Red Tag Repair Program proposed by the Company has two parts: (1) "Heating Only for Lower Income" and (2) "Avoid Red Tags." "Heating Only for Lower Income" would assist income-qualifying customers in paying for the repair or replacement of Red Tagged appliances and/or piping that must be functioning in order to maintain natural gas service. This would help customers afford the upfront capital expenditure associated with the repair or replacement of such inoperable appliances and/or piping. "Avoid Red Tags" would allow for customers to receive minor repairs to their gas appliances and piping to obtain or retain natural gas service while a field service representative ("FSR") is already on site.

Q. What are the proposed terms and conditions of the Company's proposed Red Tag Repair Program?

A. The Company suggests allocating up to \$25,000 annually to provide repairs or assistance with the replacement of furnaces that have been "Red Tagged." Under "Heating Only for Lower Income", reimbursements would be provided to either the customer, qualified social service agencies, or any licensed repair service provider that is willing to accept payment according to the terms of the program. No customer would be able to receive more than \$1,000 from the program. For each customer, assistance from funds under this program would be limited to \$700 for permanent space heating equipment ("PSHE") and assistance for each other gas appliance or piping would be limited to \$450. Administrative costs are not to exceed 10 percent of the funds provided. Under "Avoid Red Tags", the FSR would be able to complete repairs to customer gas appliances and piping to obtain or retain natural gas service that take no more than 15 minutes and cost less than \$20 in parts.¹

Q. Does DE support Red Tag Repair Programs?

A. Yes. In addition to assuring heating services, the availability of Red Tag programs allow for more homes to be weatherized by supplementing funds already set aside for that purpose. DE witness Sharlet E. Kroll addresses the customer and company

¹ Missouri Public Service Commission Case No. GR-2019-0077, *In the Matter of Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri's Tariffs to Increase Its Revenues for Natural Gas Service*, Direct Testimony of Laureen M. Welikson on Behalf of Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri, Schedule LMW-D8, pages 1-2.

benefits of weatherization and reducing energy burden through energy efficiency in her direct testimony in this case.

IV. RED TAG REPAIR PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

- Q. Do you have any recommendations regarding the Company's proposed Red

 Tag Repair program?
- A. Yes. DE recommends that the Company modify its proposed Red Tag Repair Program to require a 90 percent minimum energy efficiency level in situations when (1) a furnace is installed under the program in conjunction with funds from the Weatherization program, where (2) the customer does not incur out-of-pocket expense in the unit's replacement. In situations where the customer is paying the remainder after utilizing Red Tag funds, DE suggests the requirement of installing a furnace with at least 85 percent energy efficiency. DE's preference would be the incorporation of language found in Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp.'s approved tariff under the program's Terms and Conditions:

Energy efficiency being preferred, where a furnace qualifies for replacement under the health and safety provisions of the federal Low-Income Weatherization Assistance Program, the furnace will be replaced with a 90% or higher energy efficient furnace, where feasible. In cases where the PSHE is being replaced at cost to the customer, prior to installation the customer shall be offered an opportunity to use red tag funding towards the purchase and installation of a 85% or higher energy efficient furnace. If the customer declines, then the customer shall be informed that they

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may use any licensed or qualified repair service provider or appliance seller that is willing to accept payment according to the terms of the program. ²

V. CONCLUSIONS

- Q. Please summarize your conclusions and recommendations.
- A. DE generally supports the Company's proposed Red Tag Repair Program, and recommends the replacement of furnaces with at least 90 percent energy-efficient equipment when installing in conjunction with the health and safety provisions of LIWAP at no customer cost and 85 percent when installing otherwise. This would be consistent with guidelines approved for other utilities' current Red Tag programs in Missouri.
- Q. Does this conclude your Rebuttal Testimony?
- A. Yes.

² Missouri Public Service Commission Tariff No. YG-2014-0157, Liberty Utilities (Midstates Natural Gas) Corp. d/b/a Liberty Utilities, Rules and Regulations, Red Tag Repair Program, October 17, 2018, Sheet No. R-69