## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri's Filing to Change Criteria for Assessment of New Customer Deposits

<u>File No. GE-2014-0180</u> Tariff No. YG-2014-0246

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## ORDER GRANTING APPLICATIONS TO INTERVENE AND SCHEDULING A CONFERENCE

Issue Date: January 13, 2014

Effective Date: January 13, 2014

On December 9, 2013, Union Electric Company, d/b/a Ameren Missouri submitted a tariff revision along with a motion seeking a variance from Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-13.030, which governs the conditions under which Ameren Missouri may require a deposit from a new applicant for natural gas service. Ameren Missouri seeks to utilize the prospective customer's credit score to determine whether a deposit should be required. The submitted tariff carries an effective date of February 7, 2014.

The Commission directed that notice of Ameren Missouri's filing be given to potentially interested parties and established December 31, 2013 as the deadline for submission of applications to intervene. Laclede Gas Company and the Consumers Council of Missouri filed timely applications to intervene.

Laclede is a public utility and gas corporation providing service in Missouri. Consumers Council is a non-governmental, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to educating and empowering consumers. Both express an interest in Ameren Missouri's proposal, although neither has yet indicated they will oppose that proposal, nor have they asked the Commission to suspend or reject Ameren Missouri's implementing tariff. More than ten days have passed since Laclede and Consumers Council applied to intervene and no party has objected to either application.

The Commission finds that Laclede's and Consumers Council's interests in this case are different from that of the general public, and may be adversely affected by a final order arising from this case. Furthermore, the Commission finds that allowing Laclede and Consumers Council to intervene will serve the public interest. Therefore, in accordance with Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.075(4), the Commission will grant the applications to intervene.

To facilitate further discussion about Ameren Missouri's proposal and tariff, the Commission will schedule a conference. The participants in that conference should be prepared to discuss whether Ameren Missouri's tariff should be suspended. If the tariff is to be suspended, then the parties will need to discuss a procedural schedule for the consideration of Ameren Missouri's proposal and tariff. The conference will be held in conjunction with the conference to consider Ameren Missouri similar proposal and tariff for electric service pending in ET-2014-0076.

## THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Application to Intervene of Laclede Gas Company is granted.

2. The Application to Intervene of the Consumers Council of Missouri is granted.

3. A conference to discuss Ameren Missouri's proposal and tariff is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on January 24, 2014, at the Commission's office at the Governor Office Building, Room 305, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri. This building meets accessibility standards required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need additional accommodations to participate in this proceeding, please call the Public Service

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Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 before the proceeding.

4. This order shall become effective upon issuance.



## BY THE COMMISSION

Morris I Woodruf

Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Morris L. Woodruff, Chief Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2014.