

Exhibit No.:
Issues: Fuel Adjustment Clause - True-
Up of Thirty-Second Recovery
Period
Witness: J. Neil Graser
Type of Exhibit: Direct Testimony
Sponsoring Party: Union Electric Co.
Case No.: ER-2021-_____
Date Testimony Prepared: December 3, 2020

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

J. NEIL GRASER

**St. Louis, Missouri
December, 2020**

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

J. Neil Graser

Case No. ER-2021-_____

1 **Q: Please state your name and business address.**

2 A: My name is J. Neil Graser. My business address is One Ameren Plaza, 1901 Chouteau
3 Ave., St. Louis, Missouri.

4 **Q: By whom and in what capacity are you employed?**

5 A: I am employed by Ameren Services Company (“Ameren Services”) as Manager, Power
6 and Fuels Accounting. Ameren Services provides various corporate support services to
7 Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri (“Company” or “Ameren Missouri”),
8 including settlement and accounting related to fuel, purchased power, and off-system
9 sales.

10 **Q: What is the purpose of your testimony?**

11 A: My testimony supports the thirty-second true-up filing being made by Ameren Missouri
12 under 20 CSR 4240-20.090(9) and the Company’s approved fuel adjustment clause
13 (“FAC”). The terms of the FAC are reflected in the FAC tariff -- Rider FAC -- on file
14 with the Commission.

15 **Q: What is the purpose of this true-up filing in the context of Ameren Missouri’s FAC?**

1 A: The purpose of this true-up filing is to identify the calculated difference between Actual
2 Net Energy Costs (Factor “ANEC” in Rider FAC)¹ and Net Base Energy Costs (Factor
3 “B” in Rider FAC), Interest (Factor “I” in Rider FAC), prudence disallowance amounts
4 (Factor “P” in Rider FAC), and true-up amounts (Factor “TUP” in Rider FAC) that were
5 over- or under-recovered from customers during the thirty-second Recovery Period²
6 prescribed by the FAC.

7 **Q: Please briefly explain the FAC process, including the accumulation periods, filing**
8 **dates, recovery and true-up periods.**

9 A: The FAC process is outlined in the Company’s FAC tariff. It begins with an
10 Accumulation Period which covers a four-month period in which the Company’s ANEC
11 are accumulated and compared to the B calculated in accordance with the FAC tariff. The
12 difference between B and ANEC, plus or minus factors I, P, and TUP total the amount
13 recovered from or refunded to customers for the Recovery Period at issue, based upon an
14 estimate or projection of the kilowatt-hour (“kWh”) sales that are expected during the
15 Recovery Period. This recovery, over the eight-month Recovery Period at issue in this
16 docket, occurs via application to customer bills of Fuel Adjustment Rates (“FAR”)
17 (which are differentiated by voltage, as provided for in the FAC tariff). New FAR rates
18 take effect every four months. After a Recovery Period, a true-up is filed which finalizes
19 two things. First, B is recalculated for the accumulation period months based upon S105
20 Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (“MISO”) settlement statements.³ The
21 MISO settlement statements provide the kWh data for the amount of energy Ameren

¹ Capitalized terms not otherwise defined in this testimony have the meaning given them in the Company’s FAC tariff, Rider FAC.

² This sum has been included in the new FAR rates filed in the 35th Accumulation Period docket filed concurrently with this filing, as described in my direct testimony filed in that docket.

³ “S105” stands for 105 days after the end of the period covered by the settlement statement.

1 Missouri purchased to serve its load and is multiplied by B to determine the dollars of net
2 base energy costs. Second, actual kWh sales data from the Recovery Period at issue are
3 applied to the balance to be recovered from or refunded to customers for the Recovery
4 Period at issue. Taking into account the newly calculated difference between ANEC and
5 B and the sales data based upon actual kWh, an under- or over-recovery amount will
6 remain to be collected from or refunded to customers. That amount is then included in the
7 next FAR rate adjustment filing.

8 **Q: What was the timing of the accumulation and recovery relating to this true-up?**

9 A: The Accumulation Period was June 1, 2019 through September 30, 2019. The Recovery
10 Period for that Accumulation Period was the billing months of February 2020 through
11 September 2020.

12 **Q: Why would there be a difference between the accumulated over- or under-recovery
13 and the amount collected during the Recovery Period?**

14 A: As noted earlier, B needs to be recalculated with MISO S105 settlement statements, as
15 those amounts are not available when the FAR rate adjustment filing for the Recovery
16 Period at issue is originally filed.⁴ The FAR rates are calculated based upon estimated
17 kWh sales for the Recovery Period. Since the FAR rates are based upon an estimated
18 number, once actual sales are recorded, a difference will always exist between the
19 estimate and the actual kWh billed.

20

⁴ Because of the timing of the issuance of MISO settlement statements and the required timing of FAR filings under Rider FAC, when the FAR filings are made MISO S14 settlement statement data must be used. The S14 settlement data is preliminary; the S105 data reflects the actual kilowatt-hour data.

1 **Q: What was the over- or under-recovery for the Recovery Period at issue in this**
2 **filing?**

3 A: There was an under-recovery of \$336,760 from customers for the 32nd Recovery Period
4 due to the difference between actual and estimated kWh sales and recalculations using
5 the S105 data. After applying the interest to be refunded for the subject Accumulation
6 Period of \$843,645, which was calculated using the Company's short-term borrowing
7 rate as provided for in the FAC tariff and the Commission's FAC rules, there was a total
8 over-recovery from customers for the 32nd Recovery Period of \$506,885. Schedule JG-
9 TU to this testimony contains the details of the calculation that produce the net amount to
10 be refunded to customers.

11 **Q: How will that sum be reflected in customer rates?**

12 A: As earlier noted, it has been included as part of the adjustment to the FAR rates being
13 filed concurrently with the initiation of this docket.

14 **Q: Does this conclude your direct testimony?**

15 A: Yes, it does.

