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

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In the Matter of Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri's Tariffs to Increase ) Its Revenues for Natural Gas Service

File No. GR-2019-0077

## **ORDER DIRECTING STAFF TO FILE AN EXPEDITED RECOMMENDATION AND SETTING TIME FOR RESPONSES**

Issue Date: March 24, 2021

Effective Date: March 24, 2021

On August 21, 2019, the Commission issued its Order Approving Stipulations and Agreements, and Compliance Tariffs in this file. The Stipulation and Agreement (Agreement) approved by the Commission included \$700,000 in annual funding for energy efficiency programs. Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri agreed to spend the full amount annually. The Agreement allows Ameren Missouri to spend up to a 20 percent buffer above that amount without Commission approval.

On March 22, 2021, Ameren Missouri filed its Motion for Expedited Treatment and Request for Budget Increase for Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Programs. Ameren Missouri requests to temporarily increase the budget amount for the programs because under the current spending pace the funds, including the 20 percent buffer, will be exhausted by the end of April 2021. Ameren Missouri asks that the Commission allow it to increase the budget an additional \$150,000, or 41.4 percent above the \$700,000, allotted for the energy efficiency programs. It states that allowing this budget increase on a temporary basis for the existing program year will prevent the programs from shutting down until the next program year.

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Ameren Missouri's motion for expedited treatment asks for a decision from the Commission by April 20, 2021, so it can allocate additional funds for the program.

. The Commission will order its Staff to file an expedited recommendation and set a time for any other responses to Ameren Missouri's request.

## THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Staff of the Commission shall file a recommendation regarding Ameren Missouri's request no later than April 7, 2021.

2. Any other recommendations or responses about Ameren Missouri's request shall be filed no later than April 7, 2021

3. This order is effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

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Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

John T. Clark, Senior Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021.