## STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

At a session of the Public Service Commission held by telephone and internet audio conference on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021.

n the Matter of Union Electric Company	)	
d/b/a Ameren Missouri's Tariffs to Increase	)	File No. GR-2019-0077
ts Revenues for Natural Gas Service	)	

## ORDER AUTHORIZING AMEREN MISSOURI TO TEMPORARILY INCREASE ITS BUDGET FOR NATURAL GAS ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS AND GRANTING MOTION FOR EXPEDITED TREATMENT

Issue Date: April 14, 2021 Effective Date: April 24, 2021

On March 22, 2021, Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri filed its *Motion* for Expedited Treatment and Request for Budget Increase for Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Programs. The Commission's August 21, 2019, Order Approving Stipulations and Agreements, and Compliance Tariffs approved a Stipulation and Agreement that included \$700,000 in annual funding for energy efficiency programs. That Stipulation and Agreement allowed Ameren Missouri to spend up to a 20 percent buffer above that amount without Commission approval. Ameren Missouri now requests to temporarily increase the budget amount for the programs because at the current spending pace the funds, including the 20 percent buffer, will be exhausted by the end of April 2021. The current program year ends in August 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.

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 issued an order directing its Staff (Staff) to file an expedited recommendation concerning Ameren Missouri's request, and setting a time for any other recommendations or responses concerning the request. Staff timely filed a recommendation, and the Commission received no other recommendations or responses. Staff recommends that the Commission approve the budget increase of \$150,000 for the current program year, and expressed no objection to the motion for expedited treatment.

The Commission has reviewed Ameren Missouri's request and Staff's recommendation. The Commission finds the request to temporarily increase the budget for natural gas energy efficiency programs to prevent their expiration prior to the end of the program year reasonable and will grant it. Accordingly, because funds for the current program year will expire at the end of April, the Commission will make this order effective in less than thirty days.

## THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

- 1. Ameren Missouri's request for expedited treatment is granted.
- 2. Ameren Missouri is authorized to increase the budget for its natural gas energy efficiency programs by an additional \$150,000 for the current program year.
  - 3. This order shall be effective on April 24, 2021.

4. This file shall be closed on April 26, 2021.



BY THE COMMISSION

Morris L. Woodruff

Secretary

Silvey, Chm., Kenney, Rupp, Coleman, and Holsman CC., concur.

Clark, Senior Regulatory Law Judge.