

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

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

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL**

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, by and through counsel, and for its Staff Recommendation for Approval of Ameren Missouri's *Motion for Expedited Treatment and Request for Budget Increase for Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Programs* (Request) states as follows:

1. On March 22, 2021, Ameren Missouri (Ameren) filed its Request to temporarily increase the budget amount for its natural gas energy efficiency programs because under the current spending pace the funds, including the permitted 20 percent buffer in excess of the budgeted funding, will be exhausted by the end of April 2021. The program years ends in August 2021. On March 24, 2021, the Commission directed Staff to file an expedited recommendation no later than April 7, 2021.

2. Staff has reviewed Ameren's Request to increase the budget for its natural gas energy efficiency programs by an additional \$150,000. The proposed budget increase is 41.4 percent above the \$700,000 amount budgeted for its programs and exceeds the 20 percent buffer previously approved by the Commission in its August 21, 2019, *Order Approving Stipulations and Agreements, and Compliance Tariffs* (Stipulation). As explained in the attached Memorandum, the Stipulation requires Ameren to seek Commission approval when it expects to exceed its allowed 20 percent buffer above its budgeted \$700,000 amount of committed annual funding for natural gas energy efficiency programs.

3. Commission approval of the requested budget increase of \$150,000 is applicable only for the current program year and will make funding available through the remainder of the program year ending August 2021. Approval of this Request will prevent Ameren from having to shut down its gas energy efficiency programs until new funds become available in the next program year beginning September 2021.

4. Staff has no objection to Ameren Missouri’s motion for expedited treatment of its Request.

**WHEREFORE**, for the reasons stated above and in Staff’s Memorandum, Staff prays that the Commission approve Staff’s Recommendation for Approval of Ameren Missouri’s Request to increase its budget for its natural gas energy efficiency programs by an amount of \$150,000 for the current program year ending August 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ Robert S. Berlin**  
Robert S. Berlin  
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Missouri Bar No. 51709  
Attorney for the Staff of the  
Missouri Public Service Commission  
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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed, hand-delivered, or transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail to counsel of record this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021.

**/s/ Robert S. Berlin**

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File  
File No. GR-2019-0077, Tariff Tracking No. JG-2003-0027  
Union Electric Company, d/b/a Ameren Missouri

**FROM:** Kory J. Boustead, Research/Data Analyst

/s/ Brad J. Fortson 4/07/2021  
Regulatory Compliance Manager/Date

/s/ Robert S. Berlin 04/07/2021  
Staff Counsel Division / Date

**SUBJECT:** Staff Recommendation for the **Approval** of the Motion for Expedited Treatment and Request for Budget Increase for Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Programs for a decision by the Commission by April 20, 2021.

**DATE:** April 7, 2021

On March 22, 2021, Union Electric Company, d/b/a Ameren Missouri (“Ameren Missouri”) filed its Motion for Expedited Treatment and Request for Budget Increase for Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Programs. On March 24, 2021, the Commission directed Staff to file an expedited recommendation no later than April 7, 2021. 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.

On August 21, 2019, the Commission issued its Order Approving Stipulations and Agreements, and Compliance Tariffs. The Stipulation, included \$700,000 in annual funding for energy efficiency programs and the Company agreed to spend the full \$700,000 annually. The signatories to the Stipulation also agreed that the “Company may exceed funding levels by up to 20%, but may not exceed the 20% buffer without Commission approval.”

### **Staff Recommendation**

Staff has reviewed the Motion for Expedited Treatment and Request for Budget Increase for Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Programs and recommends the Commission approve Ameren’s request to increase the budget an additional \$150,000, or 41.4 percent above the \$700,000 amount allotted for the energy efficiency programs. The approval of this budget increase on a temporary basis for the current program year will make funding available through the remainder of the program year ending August 2021, and will prevent the programs from having to shut down until funds become available in the next program year, beginning September 2021.

Staff has verified that Ameren Missouri has filed its Annual Report. Staff is not aware of any other matter pending before the Commission that affects or is affected by this tariff filing.

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

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

**AFFIDAVIT OF**  
**KORY J. BOUSTEAD**

STATE OF MISSOURI     )  
  )     ss.  
COUNTY OF COLE     )

**COME NOW KORY J. BOUSTEAD**, and on her oath declares that she is of sound mind and lawful age; that she contributed to the foregoing *Staff Recommendation* in memorandum form; and that the same is true and correct according to her best knowledge and belief, under penalty of perjury.

Further the Affiants sayeth not.

/s/ KORY J. BOUSTEAD  
**KORY J. BOUSTEAD**