## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Missouri Public Service Commission Official Case File

Case No. ET-2013-0197 / File No. YE-2013-0208 – Union Electric Company d/b/a

Ameren Missouri

FROM: Thomas M. Imhoff, Tariffs/Rate Design - Energy

/s/ Thomas M. Imhoff 11/15/12 /s/ Jennifer Hernandez 11/15/12
Project Coordinator / Date Staff Counsel's Office / Date

SUBJECT: Staff Recommendation of Non-Opposition to Application of Union Electric Company

d/b/a Ameren Missouri's Request For Approval of Tariff and for Variance Relating to

The Net Metering Service

DATE: November 15, 2012

On October 29, 2012, Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri ("Ameren Missouri" or "Company"), filed its "REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF TARIFF AND FOR VARIANCE" ("Application") in order to implement revisions to its net metering tariff with the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission").

The Commission's Rule 4 CSR 240-20.065 Net Metering Rule ("Rule") was implemented to coincide with State Statute 386.890 ("Statute"), known as the "Net Metering and Easy Connection Act". The Statute was enacted to make it easier for customers to obtain net metering service from their respective electric utility service provider such as Ameren Missouri. The Easy Connection Act is designed for systems of 100 kilowatts (kW) or less, and requires a simple application process that includes an all-in-one document with a simple interconnection request, simple procedures, and a brief set of terms and conditions for systems of ten (10) kW or less. <sup>1</sup> Ameren Missouri has proposed compliance tariff sheets relating to this Rule and Statute.

The Commission updated the Rule, effective August 30, 2012, to be consistent with its Renewable Energy Standard Rule 4 CSR 240-20.100 Electric Utility Renewable Energy Standard Requirements. Ameren Missouri actively worked with the Staff in revising the Rule and proposed changes, of which were mostly adopted, that would make the contract more suitable for its use. Ameren Missouri participated in the Commission's rulemaking hearing in Case No. EX-2012-0193 regarding revisions to the Rule. In its comments in the rulemaking, Ameren Missouri only proposed two substantive changes and two minor wording changes.

Prior to its current filing in this case, Case No. ET-2013-0197, Ameren Missouri had filed net metering tariff sheets on September 28, 2012<sup>2</sup> with sixteen (16) variance requests in Case No. ET-2013-0120. Staff recommended rejection of that tariff filing due to three of the requested

<sup>2</sup> Tariff filing YE-2013-0208

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> While the statute states a simple contract should be developed for systems of less than 10 kW, the Commission rule applies to all applications of 100 kW or less.

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variances. Subsequent to Staff's filing, Ameren Missouri and Staff had discussions relating to the net metering tariff which prompted Ameren Missouri to withdraw that filing, and file new tariff sheets based on those discussions.

Ameren Missouri filed the tariff sheets in this case, Case No. ET-2013-0197, to be in compliance with the Rule with a number of exceptions. In this proposed filing, Ameren Missouri seeks eleven (11) variances from the Rule. All eleven (11) requests are unnecessary but do not change the purpose of the rule or statute. Staff does not oppose these requests summarized below because they do not change the purpose of the rule or statute. However, should the Commission approve these variance requests, different net metering contracts and tariff language will exist for Ameren Missouri than for the other regulated electric utilities in the state. This runs contrary to the Commission's goal for the rule to provide a consistent and simple contract for all customers of investor-owned electric utilities in Missouri. A short description of the eleven (11) variance requests follow.

- 1. The first waiver request asks to use the word "Company" instead of "Ameren Missouri" after the first time that the utility company name is used in the contract.
- 2. The second, sixth and eleventh waiver requests define the applicable local authority in approving local codes pertaining to net metering issues. The sixth waiver request removes language no longer needed if the second waiver is granted. The eleventh request is language that Ameren Missouri proposes to be added if waiver two and six are approved.
- 3. The third variance request provides an additional sentence alerting customers to additional details and requirements for a separate tariff rider pertaining to solar rebates.
- 4. The fourth waiver request asks for an additional line in the contract that would identify the electric account holder contact person.
- 5. The fifth waiver request requires, if the disconnect switch is not within 10 feet of the meter, the customer to provide an explanation of why the disconnect switch is more than 10 feet away from electric service.
- 6. The seventh waiver request covers the possibility of a unique situation where the disconnect device is not located within the vicinity of the customer's meter, but in an alternate location to reflect operational realities.
- 7. The eighth waiver request adds a signature line for the installer to print its name on the contract.
- 8. The ninth waiver request adds language to the application form regarding Company liability that is already in the rule.
- 9. The tenth waiver requests changing the term "customer charge" to "minimum bill" due to the possibility of a non-residential net metering customer that is on a rate that includes a demand charge along with a customer charge.

Based upon this analysis, Staff does not oppose the following tariff sheets as filed on October 29, 2012.

#### P.S.C. MO. No. 5

<sup>3&</sup>lt;sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 8, CANCELLING 2<sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 8 4<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 9, CANCELLING 3<sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 9

<sup>3&</sup>lt;sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 13, CANCELLING 2<sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 13

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- 3<sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 14, CANCELLING 2<sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 14 4<sup>th</sup> Revised Sheet No. 15, CANCELLING 3<sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 15 3<sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 16, CANCELLING 2<sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 16

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 17, CANCELLING 2<sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 17 3<sup>rd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 18, CANCELLING 2<sup>nd</sup> Revised Sheet No. 18
- 1<sup>st</sup> Revised Sheet No. 19, CANCELLING Original Sheet No. 19

Original Sheet No. 20

The Staff has verified that the Company has filed its annual report and is not delinquent on any assessment. The Staff is not aware of any other matter before the Commission that affects or is affected by this filing.

#### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

### OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Union Electric	)	
Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri's	)	File No. ET-2013-0197
Request for Variance from Portions of	)	File No. E1-2013-0197
4 CSR 240-20.065	)	

#### AFFIDAVIT OF THOMAS M. IMHOFF

STATE OF MISSOURI	)
COUNTY OF COLE	) ss )

Thomas M. Imhoff, of lawful age, on oath states: that he participated in the preparation of the foregoing Staff Recommendation in memorandum form, to be presented in the above case; that the information in the Staff Recommendation was provided to him; that he has knowledge of the matters set forth in such Staff Recommendation; and that such matters are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Thomas M. Amhoff
Thomas M. Imhoff

SUSAN L. SUNDERMEYER
Notary Public - Notary Seal
State of Missouri
Commissioned for Callaway County
My Commission Expires: October 03, 2014
Commission Number: 10942086

Jotary Public