

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

In the Matter of Ameren Missouri's Request)	
for a Variance from Certain Provisions)	
of 4 CSR 240 Chapter 22 Regarding)	File No. EE-2020-0007
Electric Utility Resource Planning.)	

**REQUEST FOR VARIANCE PURSUANT TO
CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF 4 CSR 240 CHAPTER 22**

COMES NOW, Union Electric Company, d/b/a Ameren Missouri (Ameren Missouri or Company), and for its *Request for Variance from Pursuant to Certain Provisions of 4 CSR 240 Chapter 22 (Request)*,¹ states as follows:

1. Pursuant to the Missouri Public Service Commission's (Commission) Electric Utility Resource Planning rules found in 20 CSR 4240 Chapter 22, electric utilities are required to triennially submit Integrated Resource Plans (IRPs) incorporating, generally, minimum standards and in a consistent format. Ameren Missouri is required to file its next triennial compliance filing on October 1, 2020.² When a request is made in writing at least 12 months prior to the compliance filing date, notice is provided, and there is an opportunity for hearing. 20 CSR 4240-22.080(13) allows for the waiver or variance from certain rules within 20 CSR 4240 Chapter 22. For the reasons explained below, Ameren Missouri requests the Commission grant the Company variances from certain provisions of 20 CSR 4240 Chapter 22, allowing it to incorporate certain clarifications and alternatives.

2. Ameren Missouri requests a variance from or clarification of several provisions within 20 CSR 4240 Chapter 22 for a variety of reasons. Please see Attachment A to this pleading

¹ Since the 60-day notice was submitted in this proceeding on July 15, 2019 this rule citation has changed to 20 CSR 4240 Chapter 22. All rule citations have been updated in this pleading and its attachment accordingly.

² See Order Granting Variance issued November 28, 2018, in File No. EE-2019-0104.

for a complete description of the variances requested and the rationale for each. In summary, the requested variances, and the location in Attachment A where they are discussed, are:

Rule	Section/Attachment A Discussion
20 CSR 4240-22.040 Supply-Side Resource Analysis	20 CSR 4240-22.040(3)(A) Attachment A, p. 2
20 CSR 4240-22.045 Transmission and Distribution Analysis	20 CSR 4240-22.045(1)(B) Attachment A, p. 3 20 CSR 4240-22.045(3)(C) Attachment A, p. 4
20 CSR 4240-22.060 Integrated Resource Plan and Risk Analysis	20 CSR 4240-22.060(5)(E) Attachment A, p. 5
	20 CSR 4240-22.060(5)(F) Attachment A, p. 5
	20 CSR 4240-22.060(5)(K) Attachment A, p. 6
	20 CSR 4240-22.060(5)(L) Attachment A, p. 6
	20 CSR 4240-22.060(7) Attachment A, p. 6
20 CSR 4240-22.080 Filing Schedule, Filing Requirements and Stakeholder Process	20 CSR 4240-22.080(2)(C)2 Attachment A, p. 8

WHEREFORE, Ameren Missouri asks the Missouri Public Service Commission to grant the variances requested to allow for a more clarified, effective, and relevant triennial compliance filing.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ *Paula N. Johnson*

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been hand-delivered, transmitted by e-mail or mailed, First Class, postage prepaid, this 19th day of September, 2019, to all parties in the Company's previous Triennial Compliance Filing docket, File No. EO-2018-0038.

/s/ *Paula N. Johnson*

ATTACHMENT A

Ameren Missouri 2020 Integrated Resource Plan Variance Requests

Table of Contents

20 CSR 4240-22.010 – Policy Objectives	2
20 CSR 4240-22.020 – Definitions.....	2
20 CSR 4240-22.030 – Load Analysis and Load Forecasting.....	2
20 CSR 4240-22.040 – Supply-Side Resource Analysis	2
(1) 20 CSR 4240-22.040 (3)(A).....	2
20 CSR 4240-22.045 – Transmission and Distribution Analysis	3
(1) 20 CSR 4240-22.045 (1)(B).....	3
(2) 20 CSR 4240-22.045 (3)(C)	4
20 CSR 4240-22.050 – Demand-Side Resource Analysis.....	4
20 CSR 4240-22.060 – Integrated Resource Plan and Risk Analysis	4
(1) 20 CSR 4240-22.060 (5)(E).....	5
(2) 20 CSR 4240-22.060 (5)(F).....	5
(3) 20 CSR 4240-22.060 (5)(K)	6
(4) 20 CSR 4240-22.060 (5)(L).....	6
(5) 20 CSR 4240-22.060 (7).....	6
20 CSR 4240-22.070 – Resource Acquisition Strategy Selection	8
20 CSR 4240-22.080 – Filing Schedule, Filing Requirements and Stakeholder Process...	8
(1) 20 CSR 4240-22.080 (2)(C)2	8

20 CSR 4240-22.010 – Policy Objectives

Ameren Missouri is not requesting any variances at this time from 20 CSR 4240-22.010.

20 CSR 4240-22.020 – Definitions

Ameren Missouri is not requesting any variances at this time from 20 CSR 4240-22.020

20 CSR 4240-22.030 – Load Analysis and Load Forecasting

Ameren Missouri is not requesting any variances at this time from 20 CSR 4240-22.030.

20 CSR 4240-22.040 – Supply-Side Resource Analysis

Ameren Missouri is requesting the following variance from 20 CSR 4240-22.040:

(1) 20 CSR 4240-22.040 (3)(A)

Current Requirement:

The analysis shall include the identification of transmission constraints, as estimated pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-22.045(3), whether within the Regional Transmission Organization's (RTO's) footprint, on an interconnected RTO, or a transmission system that is not part of an RTO. The purpose of this analysis shall be to ensure that the transmission network is capable of reliably supporting the preliminary supply-side candidate resource options under consideration, that the costs of the transmission system investments associated with preliminary supply-side candidate resource options, as estimated pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-22.045(3), are properly considered and to provide an adequate foundation of basic information for decisions to include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Joint participation in generation construction projects;
2. Construction of wholly-owned generation or transmission facilities; and
3. Participation in major refurbishment, upgrading or retrofitting of existing generation or transmission resources;
4. Improvements on its transmission and distribution system to increase efficiency and reduce power losses;
5. Acquisition of existing generating facilities; and
6. Opportunities for new long-term power purchases and sales, and short-term power purchases that may be required for bridging the gap between other supply options, both firm and nonfirm, that are likely to be available over all or part of the planning horizon.

Proposed Alternative:

Ameren Missouri shall provide generic transmission interconnection costs or, for more site-specific resources, transmission interconnection cost estimates from its Transmission Planning group to provide an adequate foundation of basic information for decisions to include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Joint participation in generation construction projects;
2. Construction of wholly-owned generation or transmission facilities; and

3. Participation in major refurbishment, upgrading or retrofitting of existing generation or transmission resources;
4. Improvements on its transmission and distribution system to increase efficiency and reduce power losses;
5. Acquisition of existing generating facilities; and
6. Opportunities for new long-term power purchases and sales, and short-term power purchases that may be required for bridging the gap between other supply options, both firm and nonfirm, that are likely to be available over all or part of the planning horizon

Rationale:

The Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc. (“MISO”) process for providing transmission interconnection costs does not provide a final cost until a utility commits to a project. Furthermore, such detail is unwarranted considering data developed pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-22.040(1) is *generic*. The owner’s cost estimates for new supply-side resources include generic transmission cost assumptions. Ameren Missouri will replace these generic transmission costs with estimates from its Transmission Planning group for supply-side options that are site-specific.

For clarity, this waiver request relates only to the development of transmission interconnection costs for supply-side resources as contemplated in the rule specified here. Ameren Missouri is not seeking waivers related to consideration of transmission costs or avoided transmission cost benefits associated with demand side resources. Ameren Missouri has included and will continue to include avoided transmission and distribution costs in its evaluation of demand side programs and in its integrated modeling and risk analysis. Ameren Missouri also explicitly considers the potential for transmission system projects through the annual MISO Transmission Expansion Plan process and relies on this process as the basis for its analysis required by 20 CSR 4240-22.045(3)(A) as provided for in 22.045(3)(B).

20 CSR 4240-22.045 – Transmission and Distribution Analysis

Ameren Missouri is requesting the following variances for 20 CSR 4240-22.045:

(1) 20 CSR 4240-22.045 (1)(B)

Current Requirement:

Interconnect new generation facilities. The utility shall assess the need to construct transmission facilities to interconnect any new generation pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-22.040(3) and shall reflect those transmission facilities in the cost benefit analyses of the resource options;

Proposed Alternative:

Interconnect new generation facilities. Ameren Missouri shall provide generic transmission interconnection costs or, for more site-specific resources, transmission interconnection cost estimates from its Transmission Planning group and shall reflect those transmission facilities in the cost benefit analyses of the resource options;

Rationale:

MISO's process for providing transmission interconnection costs does not provide a final cost until a utility commits to a project. Furthermore, such detail is unwarranted considering data developed pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-22.040(1) is *generic*. The owner's cost estimates for new supply-side resources include generic transmission cost assumptions. Ameren Missouri will replace these generic transmission costs with estimates from its Transmission Planning group for supply-side options that are site-specific.

For clarity, this waiver request relates only to the development of transmission interconnection costs for supply-side resources as contemplated in the rule specified here. Ameren Missouri is not seeking waivers related to consideration of transmission costs or avoided transmission cost benefits associated with demand side resources. Ameren Missouri has included and will continue to include avoided transmission and distribution costs in its evaluation of demand side programs and in its integrated modeling and risk analysis. Ameren Missouri also explicitly considers the potential for transmission system projects through the annual MISO Transmission Expansion Plan process and relies on this process as the basis for its analysis required by 20 CSR 4240-22.045(3)(A) as provided for in 22.045(3)(B).

(2) 20 CSR 4240-22.045 (3)(C)**Current Requirement:**

The utility shall provide copies of the RTO expansion plans, its assessment of the plans, and any supplemental information developed by the utility to fulfill the requirements in subsection (3)(B) of this rule.

Proposed Alternative:

The utility shall provide a web link to the RTO expansion plans, its assessment of the plans, and any supplemental information developed by the utility to fulfill the requirements in subsection (3)(B) of this rule.

Rationale:

The expansion plans are publicly available on the MISO website, are very voluminous and can be accessed by anyone at any time (see link below).

<https://www.misoenergy.org/planning/planning/>

20 CSR 4240-22.050 – Demand-Side Resource Analysis

Ameren Missouri is not requesting any variances at this time from 20 CSR 4240-22.050.

20 CSR 4240-22.060 – Integrated Resource Plan and Risk Analysis

Ameren Missouri is requesting the following variances for 20 CSR 4240-22.060:

(1) 20 CSR 4240-22.060 (5)(E)

Current Requirement:

Siting and permitting costs and schedules for new generation and generation-related transmission facilities for the utility, for a regional transmission organization, and/or other transmission systems;

Proposed Alternative:

Total project cost (including siting, permitting and construction costs) for new generation and generation-related transmission facilities;

Rationale:

A total project includes siting, permitting, and construction activities. Thus, it is more practical to evaluate an uncertain factor like schedule across the entire span of a project, or to evaluate the separate uncertain factor of cost across the entire span of a project. This variance captures the uncertain factor of cost for the entire span of a project while variance (2) captures the uncertain factor of scheduling referenced in the original rule. Additionally, any uncertainty of project costs or schedules for a regional transmission organization would be common across all alternative resource plans, therefore, would not change the outcome of the analysis.

(2) 20 CSR 4240-22.060 (5)(F)

Current Requirement:

Construction costs and schedules for new generation and generation-related transmission facilities for the utility, for a regional transmission organization, and/or other transmission systems;

Proposed Alternative:

Total project schedules (including siting, permitting and construction schedules) for new generation and generation-related transmission facilities;

Rationale:

A total project includes siting, permitting, and construction activities. Thus, it is more practical to evaluate an uncertain factor like schedule across the entire span of a project, or to evaluate the separate uncertain factor of cost across the entire span of a project. This variance captures the uncertain factor of scheduling for the entire span of a project while variance (1) captures the uncertain factor of cost referenced in the original rule. Additionally, any uncertainty of project costs or schedules for a regional transmission organization would be common across all alternative resource plans, therefore, would not change the outcome of the analysis.

(3) 20 CSR 4240-22.060 (5)(K)

Current Requirement:

Future load impacts of demand-side programs and demand-side rates;

Proposed Alternative:

Future load impacts and marketing and delivery costs of demand-side programs and demand-side rates if the costs and impacts are determined to be highly correlated. Future load impacts of demand-side programs and demand-side rates if the costs and impacts are determined to not be highly correlated;

Rationale:

20 CSR 4240-22.060(5)(L) requires consideration of utility marketing and delivery costs for demand side programs. Including the possible interactions of high/base/low for DSM load impacts and costs could geometrically increase the analysis while some combinations would be less meaningful and less probable. The expectation is that these factors are highly correlated, and therefore, the simplifying assumption would be to combine the individual probability nodes into a combined probability node containing the high value for both, base value for both, and low value for both without explicitly considering the joint probabilities. However, if they are determined to not be correlated, Ameren Missouri would do the analysis as the rule requires.

(4) 20 CSR 4240-22.060 (5)(L)

Current Requirement:

Utility marketing and delivery costs for demand-side programs and demand-side rates; and

Proposed Alternative:

Future load impacts and marketing and delivery costs of demand-side programs and demand-side rates if the costs and impacts are determined to be highly correlated. Utility marketing and delivery costs for demand-side programs and demand-side rates if the costs and impacts are determined to not be highly correlated;

Rationale:

Please see the rationale for variance request for 20 CSR 4240-22.060(5)(K).

(5) 20 CSR 4240-22.060 (7)

Current Requirement:

The utility decision-makers shall assign a probability pursuant to section (5) of this rule to each uncertain factor deemed critical by the utility. The utility shall compute the cumulative probability distribution of the values of each performance measure specified pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-22.060(2). Both the expected performance and the risks of each alternative resource plan

shall be quantified. The utility shall describe and document its risk assessment of each alternative resource plan.

Proposed Alternative:

The utility decision-makers shall assign a probability pursuant to section (5) of this rule to each uncertain factor deemed critical by the utility. The utility shall compute the cumulative probability distribution of the values of “present value revenue requirements” performance measure for each alternative resource plan. For each of the other performance measures specified in 20 CSR 4240-22.060(2)(A)1-6 and for any additional measures chosen by the utility pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-22.060(2)(A)7, Ameren Missouri will compute a cumulative probability distribution of its values if inspection of the summary tabulation required by 20 CSR 4240-22.060(4)A indicates that the rankings of alternative plans by this performance measure substantially differs from the ranking based on present value revenue requirements.

Both the expected performance and the risks of each alternative resource plan shall be quantified. The utility shall describe and document its risk assessment of each alternative resource plan.

Rationale:

The IRP rules in 20 CSR 4240-22.060(7) require Ameren Missouri to compute the cumulative probability distribution of the value of performance measures specified in section 20 CSR 4240-22.060(2).

Another section of the IRP rules, 20 CSR 4240-22.060(4)A, requires a summary tabulation that shows the performance of each alternative resource plan as measured by each of the same measures.

So, one section of the rule requires cumulative probability distributions of the 6 or more performance measures, and another section requires summary tabulations of the same measures, which is simply another form of the same information.

The primary decision criterion is just one of these measures, namely the present value of revenue requirements. The ranking of plans on present value of revenue requirements is typically consistent with the ranking of plans on the remaining measures. Therefore, once the cumulative probability distribution has been provided for the plans for the present value of revenue requirements measure, it is redundant and adds little to no value to additionally provide cumulative probability distributions for the remaining measures. This is particularly true since summary tables for these other measures are provided per another section of the IRP rules as mentioned above.

Ameren Missouri has used the same approach in its 2008, 2011, 2014 and 2017 IRP filings.

20 CSR 4240-22.070 – Resource Acquisition Strategy Selection

Ameren Missouri is not requesting any variances at this time for 20 CSR 4240-22.070.

20 CSR 4240-22.080 – Filing Schedule, Filing Requirements and Stakeholder Process

Ameren Missouri is requesting the following variance for 20 CSR 4240-22.080:

(1) 20 CSR 4240-22.080 (2)(C)2

Current Requirement:

The technical volume(s) shall be organized by chapters corresponding to 20 CSR 4240-22.030-20 CSR 4240-22.070.

Proposed Alternative:

The technical volume(s) shall be organized in a logical manner but not necessarily as the chapters corresponding to 20 CSR 4240-22.030-20 CSR 4240-22.070. Rule references will be provided as footnotes and cross-referenced in a table organized according to the Chapter 22 rules to make it easy for stakeholders to assess compliance.

Rationale:

Even though the chapters will not be organized precisely as 20 CSR 4240-22.030-20 CSR 4240-22.070 mainly due to having multiple chapters for Supply Side Analysis instead of one, it will be easy to find out which section of the rule they correspond to. Ameren Missouri has followed a similar approach in its 2011, 2014 and 2017 IRPs, and IRP Annual Update filings and has received positive feedback from the stakeholders.