

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

In the Matter of the Application of Union)	
Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri)	
For a Certificate of Convenience and)	<u>File No. EA-2023-0226</u>
Necessity to Construct, Own, Operate and)	
Maintain a Transmission Switchyard in)	
Callaway County, Missouri)	

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission and in response to the Commission’s January 13, 2023, *Order Directing Notice, Setting Intervention Deadline, and Directing Staff Recommendation* (“Order”) and its March 2, 2023, *Order Extending Time to File Staff’s Recommendation* submits its *Staff Recommendation* to the Commission as set forth in detail in the attached appendices, and in support thereof states as follows:

1. On January 13, 2023, Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri (“Ameren Missouri”) filed an application for a certificate of convenience and necessity (“CCN”) to construct, install, own, operate, maintain, and otherwise control a new 345 kV switchyard and associated facilities in Callaway County, Missouri. Ameren Missouri also requested a waiver of the 60-day notice requirement of 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1).
2. On January 13, 2023, the Commission further ordered that any person wishing to intervene in this matter, must do so by February 14, 2023, and Staff to file a recommendation about Ameren Missouri’s request or a status report indicating when it will file its recommendation by March 1, 2023.
3. As of February 14, 2023, no parties have objected or moved to intervene in this matter.

4. On February 28, 2023, Staff filed its Status Report with the Commission and Staff proposed to submit its recommendation by May 1, 2023.

5. On March 2, 2023, the Commission granted Staff's request and Ordered Staff to file its recommendation by May 1, 2023.

6. Staff's recommendation is attached hereto as Appendix A. As discussed in Staff's Memorandum, attached hereto as Appendix A, Staff examined the Application, its appendices, prior discussions with Ameren Missouri and current discovery responses.

7. As discussed in detail in the accompanying Staff Report, Staff supports the issuance by the Commission of a CCN to construct, install, own, operate, maintain, and otherwise control a new 345 kV switchyard and associated facilities ("Burns Switchyard") in Callaway County, Missouri, subject to the following conditions:

A. Provide copies of final engineering drawings of the Burns Switchyard project and all connections when available.

B. Provide copies of all county and city permits or approvals necessary to complete the proposed project when available.

C. As a condition of granting the requested CCN, Staff recommends that the Commission require Ameren Missouri implement landowner and land management policies consistent with what was ordered in the Mark Twain Project, Case No. EA-2017-0345 as Schedule DJB-02, Exhibit C of the Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement (attached hereto as Appendix A), to be developed in cooperation with Staff.¹

¹ Staff would note that conditions regarding landowners and land management have been granted in the past. In EA-2015-0145, ATXI agreed to follow certain construction, clearing, maintenance, repair, and right-of-way practices regarding landowners and land management proposed by Staff. In Case No. EA-2015-0146, the Commission ordered ATXI to follow the construction, clearing, maintenance, repair, and right-of-way practices set out in Schedule DB-R-2. In EO-2002-351, the Commission ordered that AmerenUE follow certain construction, clearing, maintenance, repair, and right-of-way practices regarding landowners and land management for Union Electric Co.'s proposed Callaway-Franks Transmission Line.

D. Staff's recommendation to grant the requested CCN, as described above, is limited to the description of the size, operation, and uses of the CCN described in this docket. Staff recommends the Commission Order Ameren Missouri to provide notice prior to any additional investment and/or expansion of the Burns Switchyard. Ameren Missouri will provide all signed agreements and/or contracts related to said investment and/or expansion. Any additional investment in or expansion of the Burns Switchyard is subject to applicable law and may require further applications for authority.

E. If applicable, Ameren Missouri will be required to make any adjustment to the regionally allocated costs it is assigned from this project to account for FERC Transmission Rate Incentives as discussed in paragraph 2S of the Commission's May 17, 2012 Order Granting Ameren Missouri's Motion To Clarify Report and Order in File No. EO-2011-0128.

8. Notwithstanding its recommendation to approve this transaction, Staff does not recommend, accept, agree, consent or acquiesce to any ratemaking principle or procedural principle, including, without limitation, any method of cost or revenue determination or cost allocation or revenue related methodology, as it pertains to either general rate case or fuel adjustment clause treatment.

9. Staff also notes that Ameren Missouri has filed its annual report and is not delinquent on any assessments.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons stated above and in Staff's attached Staff Memorandum, incorporated herein as Appendix A, Staff recommends the Commission issue an order approving the application submitted by Ameren Missouri, subject to the conditions set forth above, and waiving the 60-day notice requirement under 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1)(D).

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ J. Scott Stacey

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been transmitted by electronic mail to counsel of record this 1st day of May, 2023.

/s/ J. Scott Stacey