STATE OF MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Procedural Conference
September 2, 2015

Jefferson City, Missouri
Volume 1

In the Matter of:
The Application of Union
Electric Company d/b/a Ameren)
Missouri for Permission and
Approval and a Certificate of) File No. EA-2015-0273
Public Convenience and
Necessity Authorizing it to
Construct, Install, Own,
Operate, Maintain and
Otherwise Control and Manage
Solar Generation Facilities
Montgomery County, Missouri

KIM S. BURTON, Presiding CHIEF REGULATORY LAW JUDGE

REPORTED BY: Shelley L. Mayer, CCR TIGER COURT REPORTING, LLC

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PROCFEDI NGS

JUDGE BURTON: Let's go ahead and go on the record. I'm showing it's ten o'clock a.m. on September 2nd, 2015. This is the Missouri Public Service Commission; we're having a procedural conference in the matter of the Application of Union Electric Company doing business as Ameren Missouri for Permission and Approval and a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Authorizing it to Construct, Install, Own, Operate, Maintain and Otherwise Control and Manage Solar Generation Facilities in Montgomery County, Missouri. This is File No. EA-2015-0273.

I am Kim Burton; I am the regulatory law judge assigned to this matter, and at this time I'm going to ask the parties to enter their appearance for the record. And we're going to begin with Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri.

MR. LOWERY: Thank you, your Honor.

James B. Lowery, Smith Lewis, LLP, P.O. Box 918,

Columbia, Missouri 65205, appearing on behalf of

Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri.

JUDGE BURTON: Thank you. And then the Missouri Public Service Commission Staff?

MS. MUETH: Yes, your Honor. For the

1	Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission,
2	Marcie Mueth and Nathan Williams, P.O. Box 360,
3	Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.
4	JUDGE BURTON: Thank you. And for the
5	Office of the Public Counsel?
6	MR. OPITZ: For the Office of Public
7	Counsel, I'm Tim Opitz, P.O. Box 2230, Jefferson
8	City, Missouri 65102.
9	JUDGE BURTON: Thank you. For the
10	Missouri Division of Energy?
11	MR. ANTAL: Yes, Alex Antal, Missouri
12	Department of Economic Development, appearing on
13	behalf of the Missouri Division of Energy.
14	JUDGE BURTON: Missouri Industrial Energy
15	Consumers?
16	MR. DOWNEY: Good morning, Judge. Ed
17	Downey on behalf of the MIEC. My address is 221
18	Bolivar Street, Suite 101, Jefferson City,
19	Missouri 65101.
20	JUDGE BURTON: Thank you. For the
21	Missouri Solar Energy Industry Association?
22	All right. We'll hold off on that for
23	now; we'll see if they make an appearance in a little
24	bit.
25	United for Missouri?

1 MR. LINTON: Good morning. Davi d 2 Linton, 314 Romaine Spring View, Fenton, 3 Missouri 63026 on behalf of United for Missouri. 4 JUDGE BURTON: All right. Is there any 5 other party that I've missed? 6 And we do have a phone connection bridge 7 set up. Is there anyone on the line? Okay. I don't 8 hear anything. 9 At this time I would like to just check 10 with Staff on a status report for their 11 recommendation or their report. 12 MS. MUETH: Your Honor, Staff were hoping 13 to hear what the other parties had to say about this 14 application before determining whether a 15 recommendation would be appropriate at this time. We 16 have some outstanding data requests that we're still 17 waiting on before we can recommend an informed 18 recommendation. So we were kind of hoping to have 19 some discussion today. 20 Now, the Office of JUDGE BURTON: Okay. 21 Public Counsel and MIEC had requested this procedural 22 conference, and I believe MIEC had indicated that 23 there was a request for additional testimony from 24 Ameren Missouri on their financial analysis. 25 believe that no one as of yet has actually requested

a hearing in this matter.

Now, are the parties looking to actually set up a procedural schedule with the intention of having a hearing date reserved on the calendar? And I'm going to ask OPC and MIEC first if that was your intention.

MR. OPITZ: I think that we are going to need to see testimony and perhaps an additional round of testimony. And if that requires setting a date for a hearing, then I'm happy to request one.

JUDGE BURTON: All right. Were you just specifically seeking us to set a procedural schedule then for the filing of testimony, of direct testimony today? And anyone can speak up. I'm just confused as far as what exactly the parties are wanting to have occur today.

MR. WILLIAMS: I think the parties want to discuss and decide whether there's going to be a need for a hearing and procedural schedule at this point. I don't -- at least from Staff's perspective, I don't know that that's been determined.

 $$\operatorname{MR}.$$ DOWNEY: That was my understanding from MIEC's perspective as well.

JUDGE BURTON: Okay. Just an opportunity for the parties to get together and discuss this?

MR. LOWRY: Yeah. Your Honor, from our perspective, we file the verified application, you know, in a lot of these cases, and that's -- that's what your Honor, you know, sort of anticipated initially at least, that Staff would just file a recommendation and often they're resolved without any further testimony or hearing.

And I believe that the Staff had filed a pleading a few weeks ago that suggested rather than us filing a recommendation, perhaps they wanted to do something else. It's not entirely clear to the Company exactly what Staff is thinking.

So we -- it would be our goal today to either come out with an understanding that they're going to go ahead and file a recommendation by a period of time and we may not need a hearing, or if that's not their stance, then we would probably want to get a procedural schedule in place so that we get a mechanism in place to get the case resolved in a timely fashion. But we haven't talked among the parties. So our assumption is that's what we were here to do today.

JUDGE BURTON: Well, how about this, I don't think we need to have this discussion on the record. Would ten minutes be sufficient do you think

1 to sort of have a coming to the meeting of minds of 2 what exactly we want to have the Commission do today? 3 MR. DOWNEY: Judge, I might suggest at 4 least a half hour. 5 JUDGE BURTON: Okay. Then that is 6 perfectly fine. Why don't we go ahead and go off the 7 record. 8 (Off the record at 10:06 a.m.) 9 JUDGE BURTON: It's 10:31; let's go ahead 10 and back on the record in this procedural conference. 11 And do the parties have anything? 12 MR. LOWERY: Your Honor, I think, and 13 maybe I'm the spokesperson for what we accomplished 14 or didn't accomplish; I think the consensus is that 15 we are likely to need to have a procedural schedule 16 and have an evidentiary hearing to get this case 17 It's always possible once testimony's in, 18 we can get it resolved and don't actually get to the 19 hearing, but I -- indications are there's at least a 20 decent chance that's where we're going to end up. 21 And so that we don't lose the time and we 22 get the mechanism in place, we think we should just 23 go ahead and put a procedural schedule in place. 24 JUDGE BURTON: Okay. 25 MR. LOWERY: Having said that, we've

discussed specific dates but we're not a hundred percent together yet, although we're not too far off. And honestly, I need to check with some folks. I had a straw man that I brought with me, but I need to check with some folks, so -- who are not available right now.

JUDGE BURTON: Okay.

MR. LOWERY: So if it would be okay with you, give us maybe a week and the parties will try to work a schedule out and try to get a jointly -- joint schedule filed a week from now for the Commission's consideration. We're looking at hearings in the middle of January. And I did check the Commission's calendar and it appears the Commission's wide open at that time.

JUDGE BURTON: Yeah. I'm not -- looking at the calendar right now, I'm not seeing anything and I don't believe that there's anything as far as any training or MARC NARUC conference that the commissioners are going to be going to. So that should be fine with me.

MR. WILLIAMS: And I think the utilities are wanting to have a decision by the first quarter of next year.

MR. LOWERY: Yeah. The idea is that this

1	schedule would allow briefing to be done by the				
2	third, fourth week of February and then the hope, and				
3	they'll be requesting of the Commission, it's up to				
4	them obviously, but we'd request the Commission to				
5	resolve the case by the end of March.				
6	JUDGE BURTON: I don't see any problems				
7	with that. Okay. Then let's take a look then to				
8	do we want to set a specific deadline for the				
9	proposed schedule to be submitted?				
10	MR. LOWERY: How about you give us until				
11	the end of next week since we have a holiday weekend.				
12	In all likelihood we'll probably get it submitted				
13	sooner than that, but. If that's okay with you.				
14	JUDGE BURTON: That's perfectly fine.				
15	Then let's go ahead and set a deadline of				
16	September 11th for the procedural schedule. And with				
17	this in mind, what is Staff's thought as far as				
18	status report or even filing a recommendation at some				
19	point? Do you believe that's even necessary?				
20	MS. MUETH: Your Honor, I think if we				
21	proceed with this schedule, testimony probably would				
22	cover what we would need it to.				
23	MR. WILLIAMS: Contested matters				
24	typically are done through testimony, and we present				
25	our recommendations there.				

MS. MUETH: At this point I don't think 1 2 that Staff would anticipate, if we proceeded in this 3 manner, we would not anticipate doing a separate 4 recommendation; it would just come out through 5 testi mony. 6 JUDGE BURTON: All right. Are there any 7 other matters that need to be addressed while we're 8 on the record? All right. Well, then thank you very 9 much, everyone. And if I don't see you before then, 10 which I probably won't, I hope you have a very nice Labor Day weekend. We'll go ahead and go off the 11 12 record. 13 (Off the record at 10:34.) 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

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I, Shelley L. Mayer, a Certified Court Reporter, CCR No. 679, the officer before whom the foregoing hearing was taken, do hereby certify that the witness whose testimony appears in the foregoing hearing was duly sworn by me; that the testimony of said witness was taken by me to the best of my ability and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction; that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this hearing was taken, and further, that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties thereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.

Shelley L. Mayer, CCR

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