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

In the Matter of a Working Case Regarding Utility Actions Related to Securing Funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 and the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022

Case No. AW-2023-0156

#### STAFF RESPONSE TO MOTION TO OPEN A WORKING CASE

**COMES NOW** the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (Staff), by and through counsel, and for its response to the Motion to Open a Working Case filed by the Office of the Public Counsel (OPC), states as follows:

1. Staff supports the motion by OPC to open a working case to investigate and consider utility actions related to securing funding from the federal government authorized by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 and the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.

2. It would be useful to track, as OPC requests, the many federal and private-public programs authorized under these acts, examples of which are provided in part below. Staff agrees it would also be useful to gather comments and suggestions on actions the Commission might take to facilitate Missouri's investor-owned utilities in taking advantage of any funding or assistance opportunities. Doing so in a single docket would be more administratively efficient than attempting to track these efforts and communications across multiple dockets.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-58,
135 Stat. 429 (2021), modifies over 500 individual sections of the United States Code.
Included among the many sections affected are major revisions to the Federal Power Act,

1

such as updates to 16 U.S.C. § 824p governing the siting of interstate electric transmission facilities, 16 U.S.C. § 824s-1, providing incentives for cybersecurity investments, and the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA) at 16 U.S.C. §§ 2621, 2622, and 2634. The Infrastructure and Investment and Jobs Act also updates Title 42, Chapters 149 (National Energy Policy and Programs), 152 (Energy Independence and Security), and 162 (Energy Infrastructure), to provide for, among other things, incentives for hydroelectric production and efficiency improvements, research and development of hydrogen and other sources of energy, grid infrastructure resilience and reliability, supply chains for energy technology, data gathering and sharing by the Energy Information Administration, residential and commercial energy efficiency, and provisions to leverage existing agency programs to assist small and medium manufacturers.

4. Likewise, the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, Pub. L. No. 117-169, 136 Stat. 1818 (2022), updates over 100 individual sections of the United States Code. Among many other statutory provisions, the Inflation Reduction Act updates the Internal Revenue Code to provide for more than a dozen tax credits for energy efficiency, alternative motor vehicles, research and development, renewable energy, and clean electricity production.

5. Should the Commission open a docket as requested by OPC, Staff asks the Commission to encourage parties, to the extent possible, to include in their respective filings all source citations, including hyperlinks to any relevant government program or public-private partnership, as well as relevant citations to the specific provisions of the

2

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act<sup>1</sup> and Inflation Reduction Act,<sup>2</sup> and if applicable any parallel citations to the United States Code.

WHEREFORE, Staff respectfully files this Response in Support of the Motion to Open Working Docket filed by the Office of Public Counsel.

Respectfully submitted,

### /s/ Curt Stokes

Curt Stokes Chief Deputy Counsel Mo. Bar No. 59836 P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102 (573) 751-4227 (Telephone) (573) 751-9285 (Facsimile) <u>Curtis.Stokes@psc.mo.gov</u>

#### Counsel for Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by electronic mail, or First Class United States Postal Mail, postage prepaid, on this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of November, 2022, to all parties and/or counsels of records.

/s/ Curt Stokes Curt Stokes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A portable document format (PDF) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act with citations to the relevant United States Statutes at Large is available at <u>https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-117publ58/pdf/PLAW-117publ58.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> A PDF of the Inflation Reduction Act with citations to the relevant United States Statutes at large is available at <u>https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-117publ169/pdf/PLAW-117publ169.pdf</u>.