BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Propriety of the Rate Schedules for Electric Service of Union Electric Company, Doing Business as Ameren Missouri

File No. ER-2018-0226

ORDER OPENING RATE CASE, DIRECTING NOTICE, ESTABLISHING TIME TO INTERVENE, AND REQUIRING COMPANY TO SHOW CAUSE WHY ITS RATES SHOULD NOT BE ADJUSTED

Issue Date: February 21, 2018 Effective Date: February 21, 2018

The Commission's Staff filed a motion on February 16, 2018, asking the Commission to open a rate case to consider the rates charged by Union Electric Company, d/b/a Ameren Missouri for electric service. Staff's motion explains that Ameren Missouri's existing rate schedules may no longer be just and reasonable in light of the recently enacted Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, which reduced the federal corporate income tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent.

Staff asks the Commission to order Ameren Missouri to show cause why the Commission should not order it to promptly file tariffs to reduce its rates for every class and category of service to reflect the percentage reduction in its federal-state effective income tax rate. In addition, Staff asks the Commission to direct Ameren Missouri to quantify and track all electric rate impacts resulting from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. Staff also asks the Commission to order Ameren Missouri to quantify and track its excess protected and unprotected Accumulated Deferred Income Tax (ADIT) for possible future flow-back to ratepayers, and to advise the Commission how such flow-back may best be accomplished. Finally, Staff asks the Commission to direct Ameren Missouri to state its position on

whether the court decisions in *State ex rel. Midwest Gas Users' Association v. Public Service Commission*¹ and *State ex rel. Hotel Continental v. Burton*² would allow the Commission to order a reduction in utility rates without considering all relevant factors in an extended general rate case.

The Commission will open this file and direct Ameren Missouri to respond as requested by Staff.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. No later than March 19, 2018, Ameren Missouri shall show cause, if any, why the Commission should not order it to promptly file tariffs reducing its rates for every class and category of electric service to reflect the percentage reduction in its federal-state effective income tax rate.

2. Ameren Missouri shall quantify and track all impacts of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 potentially affecting electric service rates from January 1, 2018, going forward.

3. Ameren Missouri shall quantify and track its excess protected and unprotected ADIT for future possible flow back to ratepayers, and shall advise the Commission how best such flow-back may be accomplished.

4. Ameren Missouri shall, as part of its response to this order to show cause, advise the Commission as to its position on whether the impact of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 is like the gross receipts tax analyzed in *Hotel Continental* and the natural gas commodity costs considered in *Midwest Gas Users' Association*, such that the Commission may order a reduction in utility rates without considering all relevant factors in an extended general rate case.

¹ 976 S.W.2d 470 (Mo. App. W.D. 1998).

5. Ameren Missouri shall, as part of its response to this order to show cause, identify and quantify all other impacts of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 on its electric rates not otherwise addressed in this order.

6. The Commission's Data Center shall send a copy of this notice and order to each party to Ameren Missouri's most recent general rate case – ER-2016-0179 - and to the county commission of each county within Ameren Missouri's service area. The Commission's Public Policy and Outreach Department shall make notice of this order available to the members of the General Assembly representing Ameren Missouri's service area and the news media serving Ameren Missouri's service area.

7. Any party wishing to apply to intervene shall file an appropriate motion no later than March 5, 2018, by transmitting it to:

Morris L. Woodruff, Secretary Missouri Public Service Commission Post Office Box 360 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0360

or by using the Commission's Electronic Filing and Information System.

8. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

Morris Z L

Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

² 334 S.W.2d 75 (Mo. 1960).

Morris L. Woodruff, Chief Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 21st day of February, 2018.

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 21st day of February 2018.



Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

February 21, 2018

File/Case No. ER-2018-0226

Missouri Public Service Commission

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Natural Resources Defense Council Sierra Club Legal Department 20 North Wacker Drive, Suite 1600 Chicago, IL 60606

Legal Department 2101 Webster St., Ste. 1300 Oakland, CA 94612

Union Electric Company

Legal Department 1901 Chouteau Avenue P.O. Box 66149, Mail Code 1310 St. Louis, MO 63166-6149 AmerenMOService@ameren.com

Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,

Noodu

Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.