

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service Commission held at its office in Jefferson City on the 24th day of June, 2019.

In the Matter of Union Electric Company d/b/a)	
Ameren Missouri's Request for a Variance from)	<u>File No. GE-2019-0386</u>
4 CSR 240-13.020(6))	Tariff No. YG-2019-0218

ORDER GRANTING VARIANCE AND REJECTING TARIFF

Issue Date: June 24, 2019

Effective Date: July 5, 2019

On June 5, 2019, Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri filed a request for variance from Commission rule 4 CSR 240-13.020(6) to allow it to implement tariff changes to permit its natural gas customers to choose a due date that would alter their billing cycles. Ameren Missouri filed a tariff along with its variance request to implement its plan.¹ That tariff carries a July 5 effective date. Ameren Missouri also seeks a waiver of the Commission's 60-day notice requirement² to allow its request for variance to be filed immediately, verifying that it has had no communication with the office of the commission regarding any substantive issue likely to be in this case during the preceding 150 days. The Commission directed its Staff to file a recommendation by June 20, and ordered that any other party wishing to respond do so by that same date. Staff filed its recommendation on June 20, and no other recommendations or comments were filed.

Staff explains that Ameren Missouri is seeking to implement a voluntary opt-in "Pick Your Due Date" program to allow its customers to choose the due date of their bill, which

¹ Tariff No. YG-2019-0218.

² Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-4.017(1)(D).

will also change the customer's billing cycle. Ameren Missouri requests a variance from a Commission rule – 4 CSR 240-13.020(6) - that requires the utility to provide fifteen-days notice to affected customers before billing cycles are changed. Staff advises the Commission to approve the requested variance, but also recommends Ameren Missouri be given a variance from Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-13.015(1)(C), which defines “Billing Period” in a manner that may be inconsistent with the proposed Pick Your Due Date program. Because Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-13.065(3) requires that all granted variances must be reflected in the company's tariff, Staff recommends the Commission reject the filed tariff and direct Ameren Missouri to file a new tariff to reflect all waivers.

Upon receiving Staff's recommendation, the Commission ordered Ameren Missouri to respond, which it did on June 21. Ameren Missouri accepts Staff's recommendations, including the recommendation that the filed tariff be rejected. Ameren Missouri indicates it will file a revised tariff shortly after the issuance of this order.

Based on the application, the unopposed recommendation of its Staff, and its own finding of good cause to do so, the Commission will grant the requested waivers and reject the filed tariff as recommended by Staff.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri's request for variance from the 60-day notice requirement of Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-4.017(1)(D) is granted.
2. Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri's request for variance from Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-13.020(6) is granted to the extent necessary to permit it to implement its “Pick Your Due Date” program.

3. Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri is also granted a waiver from the definition of “Billing Period” in Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-13.015(1)(C) to the extent necessary to permit it to implement its “Pick Your Due Date” program.

4. The tariff filed by Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri on June 5, 2019, denominated as Tariff File No. YG-2019-0218, is rejected.

5. Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri may file a new tariff consistent with this order.

6. This order shall become effective on July 5, 2019.

BY THE COMMISSION



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Silvey, Chm., Kenney, Hall, Rupp, and
Coleman, CC., concur.

Woodruff, Chief Regulatory Law Judge