BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri's Tariffs to Increase Its Revenues for Electric Service.

) File No. ER-2016-0179

MOTION FOR EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF <u>TARIFF SHEETS FILED IN COMPLIANCE WITH</u> <u>COMMISSION ORDER ON LESS THAN THIRTY DAYS' NOTICE</u>

COMES NOW Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri ("Ameren Missouri" or "Company"), and pursuant to the Commission's *Order Approving Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement* in the above-captioned case issued March 8, 2017 (the "*Order*") and 4 CSR 240-2.080(16), hereby files its Motion for Expedited Consideration and Approval of Tariff Sheets Filed in Compliance with Commission Order on Less Than Thirty Days' Notice. In support of its Motion, Ameren Missouri states as follows:

1. On March 8, 2017, the Commission issued its *Order* in this proceeding, to be effective on March 18, 2017. Among other things, the *Order* authorizes Ameren Missouri to file

tariffs complying with the *Order*. Ordered \P 3.

2. Earlier today, Ameren Missouri caused to be filed with the Commission revised tariff sheets as authorized by the *Order* to effectuate the terms of the unanimous stipulation¹ approved by the *Order*. Those revised tariff sheets bear an issue date of March 8, 2017, with an effective date thirty days later to comply with 4 CSR 240-3.160.²

¹ Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement dated February 23, 2017 among all parties to this case.

² Ameren Missouri has complied with this Commission rule by filing the compliance tariffs with a thirty-day effective date, despite Ameren Missouri's belief that thirty days' notice is unnecessary under these circumstances, particularly given the specific provisions of Section 393.140(11) RSMo. (2000), discussed below. Ameren Missouri notes that Sheet No. 91.7, which contains the net margin values used to calculate the throughput disincentive for the Company's MEEIA Cycle two programs, contains slightly different margin values per the Company's discussions with the Staff than the margin values contained in the exemplar tariff sheet filed on March 1, 2017.

3. Section 393.140(11) specifies that, unless the Commission orders otherwise, a change shall not be made to any rate filed by an electrical corporation except after thirty days' notice to the Commission and publication for thirty days as required by order of the Commission. However, Section 393.140(11) expressly provides that, for good cause shown, the Commission may allow tariff changes without requiring thirty days' notice. Good cause exists to make the Company's compliance tariffs effective on April 1, 2017, because approval of the unanimous stipulation which calls for a \$92 million increase in Ameren Missouri's retail revenue requirement indicates that the Commission has already found that Ameren Missouri is presently in a revenue deficiency position. Moreover, the Commission has already authorized the Company to file the tariffs that are filed concurrently with the filing of this Motion. Finally, the effect of the *Order* is that the Commission has now found that just and reasonable rates are the rates reflected in the pending compliance tariffs, rather than the rates reflected in the current rate schedules to be superseded by those compliance tariffs.

4. As provided for in 4 CSR 240-2.080(16), the Company requests that the Commission approve the compliance tariffs no later than March 22, 2017, and that the Commission's approval order specify that the tariffs shall take effect on April 1, 2017.³ As noted earlier, the Commission has good cause to do so. Furthermore, the Company states that by doing so, the Commission will avoid the harm that would be caused by failing to timely allow rates determined to have been just and reasonable to take effect as soon as possible. Moreover, there can be no negative effect on anyone – ratepayers or the Company – if the compliance tariffs are approved to be effective April 1, 2017, because this will allow the rates determined by

³ This will allow the Commission to provide 10 days or more for anyone wishing to seek rehearing of the Commission's compliance tariff approval order. *See Office of the Pub. Counsel v. Pub. Serv. Comm'n*, 409 S.W.3d 522 (Mo. App. W.D. 2013) (Recognizing the time to seek rehearing can be shortened, as was the case when the Commission issued its Report and Order in this case, and that so long as 10 or more days is provided the presumption of unreasonableness provided for in the opinion does not arise).

this Commission to be just and reasonable rates to in fact be charged for the electric service provided by the Company and will allow the new rates to take effect as close as possible to the date agreed upon by the signatories to the unanimous stipulation.⁴

5. This Motion was filed as soon as it could have been under the circumstances.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons and for good cause shown, Ameren Missouri respectfully requests that the Commission grant this Motion for Expedited Consideration and Approval of Tariff Sheets Filed in Compliance with Commission Order On Less Than Thirty Days' Notice, approve the tariff sheets Ameren Missouri has filed to be effective for service rendered on and after April 1, 2017, and for such other and further relief as the Commission deems appropriate under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

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⁴ The signatories agreed to use their best efforts to see to it that the new rates take effect by March 20, 2017. Because of the timing of filing the stipulation and to provide a 10-day effective date on the *Order* and an order approving the compliance tariffs, April 1 is the first day on which the compliance tariffs can take effect.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that true and correct copies of the foregoing have been e-mailed or mailed, via first-class United States Mail, postage pre-paid, to the service list of record of this case on this 8th day of March, 2017.

James B. Lowery

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