

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

Charles A. Harter,)	
)	
Complainant,)	
)	<u>File No. EC-2023-0281</u>
v.)	
)	
Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren)	
Missouri,)	
)	
Respondent)	

ORDER DENYING MOTION

Issue Date: July 11, 2023

Effective Date: July 11, 2023

On July 10, 2023, The Staff of the Commission (Staff) filed its motion for leave to appear virtually or by telephone at the upcoming evidentiary hearing in this matter. In support of its motion, Staff argues that travelling to the hearing will require two hours each way, that Staff’s involvement in this case is limited, that the drive time to the hearing site will impact Staff’s preparation in other cases, and that some of Staff’s personnel have family and other obligations that will be impeded by travel to and from the hearing.

On March 9, 2023, the Commission issued notice that this matter was to proceed as a small formal complaint, stating that procedures before the Commission are found at Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2. Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.070(15)(E) requires any hearing in a small formal complaint case to be held in the county, or a city not within a county, where the subject utility service was rendered or within thirty miles of where the service was rendered, unless otherwise agreed to by the parties. Staff did not notify the Commission whether such an agreement was made.

Additionally, on May 23, 2023, the parties filed their proposed procedural schedule, which states in paragraph 3: “Mr. Harter requests that the hearing be held in St. Louis.” Staff did not respond to Mr. Harter’s request.

The Commission finds that Staff had sufficient notice of the location of the evidentiary hearing to make preparations, and has not described any extraordinary hardship it would have to endure in order to attend it in person. Accordingly, the Commission will deny Staff’s motion.

The Commission takes notice of Staff’s request for expedited treatment, and renders this decision in accordance with that request.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Staff’s motion for leave to appear virtually or by telephone and request for expedited treatment is denied.
2. This order shall be effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Dippell".

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

Ross Keeling, Regulatory Law Judge,
by delegation of authority
under Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 11th day of July, 2023.

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 11th day of July, 2023.



Nancy Dippell

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

July 11, 2023

File/Case No. EC-2023-0281

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

Sincerely,



**Nancy Dippell
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.