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MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

File No. EO-2015-0055

SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

S. HANDE BERK

ON

BEHALF OF

UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a Ameren Missouri

St. Louis, Missouri April 2015

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1	SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY
2	OF
3	S. HANDE BERK
4	FILE NO. EO-2015-0055
5	I. INTRODUCTION
6	Q. Please state your name and business address.
7	A. S. Hande Berk, One Ameren Plaza, 1901 Chouteau Avenue, St. Louis
8	Missouri 63103.
9	Q. By whom and in what capacity are you employed?
10	A. I am employed by Ameren Services Company ("Ameren Services") as Senio
11	Corporate Planning Analyst.
12	Q. Please describe your educational and professional background.
13	A. I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics from Orta Doğu Teknil
14	Üniversitesi in Ankara, Turkey in June of 2000 and a Master of Science degree in Economic
15	and Finance from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville in August of 2002. I joined
16	Ameren Services Corporate Planning Department as a Forecasting and Load Research
17	Specialist in July of 2003. I was responsible for electricity and gas sales and peak demand
18	forecasts, weather normalization, load research data management and analysis to support cos
19	of service studies and electric rate design, and monthly economic outlook reports for senio
20	management. In September of 2008, I became a Corporate Planning Analyst. My
21	responsibilities included fuel budgeting for Ameren Missouri's generating fleet
22	benchmarking and calibrating the MIDAS tool used for long-term resource planning analysi
23	to the Company's official fuel budget, and modeling and analyzing the alternative resource

plans in the Company's 2011 Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP") filing. I was promoted to 1 Senior Corporate Planning Analyst in October of 2011, and I led the efforts for the 2 Company's 2012 IRP Annual Update in that capacity. I became a Senior Corporate Model 3 4 Specialist in December of 2011. My duties included financial forecasting, monthly margin 5 analysis, analysis support for the divestiture of Ameren Energy Resources and project 6 evaluation. I was transferred back to the Corporate Analysis group in June of 2013 as a 7 Senior Corporate Planning Analyst. I was the project lead on Ameren Missouri's 2014 IRP 8 filing. I developed the revenue requirements model that replaced MIDAS in addition to 9 overseeing all of the assumptions and analyses used in the filing. I am currently working in 10 that same capacity and am responsible for long-term resource planning related analyses.

11

II. PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY

12

Q.

What is the purpose of your surrebuttal testimony?

13 A. The purpose of my testimony is to 1) respond to the rebuttal testimony of the 14 Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") Staff's ("Staff") witness John Rogers 15 regarding his concerns on whether Ameren Missouri's ("Company") proposed energy efficiency plan benefits all customers, and 2) respond to the rebuttal testimony of Sierra 16 17 Club's witness Tim Woolf regarding Ameren Missouri's decision to choose the Realistic 18 Achievable Potential ("RAP") demand-side management ("DSM") portfolio over the 19 Maximum Achievable Potential ("MAP") DSM portfolio and the Company's treatment of 20 greenhouse gas ("GHG") regulations in its 2014 Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP") filing.

Q. Please summarize the rebuttal testimony of Mr. Rogers regarding benefits of DSM programs as it relates to the IRP and your conclusions.

1 A. In his rebuttal testimony, Mr. Rogers uses three comparable plans from the 2 IRP, with no additional DSM after MEEIA Cycle 1, RAP DSM or MAP DSM. He adjusts 3 the average annual rate increases of these three plans to include performance incentive 4 awards similar to those requested by the Company in this case. He estimates the average 5 increase in average rates over the 2016-2035 period for the plan with RAP DSM to be 0.3% 6 higher than average increase for the plan with no further DSM and concludes that, "the RAP 7 DSM strategy contained in the 2014 IRP and proposed in MEEIA Cycle 2 application is expected to result in no overall long-term benefits for all customers of Ameren Missouri."¹ 8

9 My conclusion is that the RAP portfolio benefits all customers whether or not they 10 participate in the programs. I suggest two changes for the evaluation of rate impacts: 11 1) Levelized average rates should be used to account for time value of money as opposed to 12 average increase in average rates; and 2) Comparisons should be made over the entire span of 13 the IRP analysis period and not just 2016-2035, since the latter would lead to biased 14 conclusions by disregarding the benefits of programs assumed to be implemented in the later 15 years of the planning horizon.

In addition to reduced levelized rates relative to the no DSM plan, the RAP portfolio also provides flexibility in long-term planning and helps mitigate risks, and therefore provides other benefits to all customers. For these reasons, Mr. Rogers' assertion that not all customers benefit from the programs should be rejected.

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21

22

Q. Please summarize the rebuttal testimony of Mr. Woolf regarding the Company's decision to choose RAP over MAP and its treatment of GHG regulations in its 2014 IRP filing.

¹ John Rogers Rebuttal, p. 30, l. 15-17.

A. Mr. Woolf criticizes Ameren Missouri's decision to choose RAP instead of MAP DSM in its preferred resource plan because he alleges that MAP would reduce electricity costs and average bills by significantly more than the RAP portfolio. He also alleges that by assuming very low probabilities, there will be any federal GHG emission regulations and by assuming relatively low estimates for carbon dioxide ("CO₂") allowance prices, the Company significantly understates additional cost that could be avoided by energy efficiency programs.

I explain in detail why Mr. Woolf's allegations have no basis. As part of the IRP analysis, we have concluded that the RAP portfolio most appropriately balances the achievement of cost-effective energy efficiency savings with the risks and rate impacts to all customers. The MAP portfolio does not because it 1) results in higher levelized rates over the IRP study period, which means it does not reduce average bills 2) requires much higher incremental spending for each additional kWh saved, and 3) does not result in net savings to all customers until 2034.

15 Ameren Missouri has appropriately considered GHG regulations as part of its IRP 16 analysis and has properly evaluated the potential impacts of the Environmental Protection 17 Agency's ("EPA") proposed Clean Power Plan ("CPP"). All of the scenarios in the IRP 18 analysis do, in fact, include federal GHG regulation assumptions in either direct or indirect form. The direct CO₂ emissions price scenarios have a combined probability of 15%. The 19 20 high probability (85%) assigned by Ameren Missouri's subject matter experts to regulations 21 that impose indirect costs on CO₂ emissions is appropriate in light of the EPA's proposed 22 CPP, which does not impose an explicit price on CO_2 emissions. The retirement of existing 23 coal-fired plants, including some owned by Ameren Missouri, and replacement of these

1 plants with resources that produce lower (or no) CO₂ emissions fully account for the indirect 2 costs of such regulations. As a result, there is no need to also impose an explicit price for CO₂ emissions. The CO₂ prices assumed by the Company are exactly equal to those 3 4 produced by Synapse in its last study prior to the filing of the Company's IRP and are similar 5 to those produced by Synapse in its updated study released last month. For these reasons, 6 Mr. Woolf's assertions regarding Ameren Missouri's selection of the RAP portfolio and the 7 Company's treatment of GHG regulations in arriving at its decision should be rejected.

8

III. THE COMPANY'S RAP PORTFOLIO BENEFITS ALL CUSTOMERS

9 Q. Please explain Mr. Rogers' analysis regarding the DSM plans evaluated in the Company's 2014 IRP. 10

11 A. Mr. Rogers analyzed three alternative resource plans that were evaluated in 12 the Company's 2014 IRP: "RAP-Plan I" (includes RAP DSM), also the Company's 13 preferred resource plan, "MAP-Plan R" (includes MAP DSM) and "No DSM Plan K" 14 (includes no further DSM after MEEIA Cycle 1, the current 2013-2015 three-year DSM 15 plan). He compared the average annual rate increases, after adjusting for the requested 16 performance incentive in this case, and found that average annual rate impacts for MAP-Plan 17 R and RAP-Plan I were 1.10% and 0.3% higher, respectively, than the No DSM Plan K rate 18 impacts for the 2016-2035 time frame. He concluded that the "RAP DSM strategy contained 19 in the 2014 IRP and proposed in MEEIA Cycle 2 application is expected to result in no 20 overall long-term benefits for all customers of Ameren Missouri" since RAP-Plan I shows a 21 0.3% higher "average annual average rate impact" than No DSM-Plan K for the 2016-2035 22 planning horizon.

1

Q. Do you agree with Mr. Rogers' conclusion?

- 2 A. No, I do not.
- **3 Q. Why not?**

4 I disagree for three reasons, in addition to the flaws in Mr. Rogers' analyses A. 5 addressed in Company witness Steve Wills' surrebuttal testimony: 1) the time frame 6 Mr. Rogers is using should not end in 2035, but should be expanded to include results 7 through 2044 to capture end effects of decisions made during the 20-year period; 2) instead 8 of using the average percent increase in average rates over that time period, levelized rates 9 should be used in evaluating whether or not all customers benefit from the programs; and 10 3) including energy efficiency provides flexibility in planning for the future and helps 11 Ameren Missouri in adapting to changing conditions, resulting in continued risk mitigation 12 benefits to customers.

13

14

Q. Please explain your first reason. Why should results be evaluated through 2044 instead of 2035?

A. While Ameren Missouri develops its resource plans looking at a 20-year period, it is important to include ten additional years in the analysis to capture longer-term financial and operational "end-effects" resulting from decisions reflected in the 20-year planning horizon.

19

Q.

Why is it important to capture end-effects?

A. Simply put, leaving out the end-effects will cause biased comparisons between different resource plans because you may underestimate the costs and benefits of a resource decision. For example, assume the Company adds a new supply-side resource in the last year of the planning horizon. If the analysis ends there, the costs of adding this new

1 resource will be vastly underestimated as the analysis will include only one year of return on 2 equity, depreciation expense, etc. This will lead to erroneous conclusions about the relative 3 cost of that resource. The opposite is true in the case of energy efficiency. As is evident 4 from the Company's proposed DSM plan, the expenditure must be made first and most of the 5 benefits are realized in the subsequent years. If the assumption is that there will be 6 continuous energy efficiency expenditures throughout the 20-year planning horizon, the 7 analysis will fail to reflect benefits resulting from the last few years of those expenditures 8 because the study period does not extend beyond the planning horizon. While shorter-term 9 impacts are also important and are of course considered, it is important to include all costs 10 and benefits. Extending the evaluation through 2044, beyond the 20-year planning horizon, 11 paints a much more complete and accurate picture of the costs of resource decisions for our 12 decision makers. In fact, Synapse Energy Economics' report – Best Practices in Electric 13 Utility Integrated Resource Planning – was prepared for the Regulatory Assistance Project 14 and recommends the use of end-effects to avoid bias:

15 The study period for IRP analysis should be sufficiently long to incorporate much of the operating lives of any new resource options that may be added to 16 17 a utility's portfolio— typically at least 20 years—and should consider an "end effects" period to avoid a bias against adding generating units late in the 18 planning period.² [*Emphasis added*]. 19

20

Have any parties raised any concerns with Ameren Missouri's use of Q. 21 2015-2044 as the full analysis time frame?

22 No. In fact, Ameren Missouri has been using the same rationale since at least A. the 2008 IRP and, to my knowledge, no stakeholder has ever raised an issue with this 23 24 approach.

² Wilson, R. and Biewald, B, June 2013, Best Practices in Electric Utility Integrated Resource Planning, p. 31.

1 Q. Is an additional ten years beyond the planning horizon long enough to 2 capture the benefits of all the DSM program expenditures?

A. It is for two reasons. First, the average life of the measures is approximately ten years; therefore, most, if not all, of the benefits are captured. Second, present value impacts of any costs and benefits would likely be negligible if you extend the analysis beyond thirty years.

7

8

Q. Moving on to your second observation; why should the levelized rates be used instead of an average increase in average rates to evaluate customer rate impacts?

9 A. Simply because the time value of money has to be accounted for when 10 evaluating the rates, as we do when we use present value of revenue requirements ("PVRR") 11 in evaluating long-term customer costs reflected in an IRP. We don't use average revenue 12 requirements for that purpose, and we should not take the same kind of approach in 13 evaluating rate impacts here. This same reasoning might be why the Commission's resource 14 planning rule specifies levelized average rates as one of the specified performance measures 15 to be used in the evaluation of alternative resource plans. 4 CSR 240-22.060(2)(A)4 states in 16 part:

17 (2) Specification of Performance Measures. The utility shall specify, describe, and
 18 document a set of quantitative measures for assessing the performance of alternative
 19 resource plans with respect to resource planning objectives.

- 20 (A) These performance measures shall include at least the following:
- 21 4. Levelized annual average rates;

Average increase in average rates is not included in the measures the resource planning rule requires the utilities to include as one of the performance measures.

24 Q. Has Ameren Missouri used levelized rates as a performance measure in 25 its 2014 IRP?

1 A. Yes. On page 29 of Chapter 9 in the Company's 2014 IRP, a chart that shows the levelized rates results without utility performance incentives is provided; this chart shows 2 RAP-Plan I has the lowest levelized average rates, and No DSM Plan K has the highest 3 4 levelized average rates. On page 40 of Chapter 9-Appendix A, a chart that shows the levelized rates results with utility performance incentives is provided.³ It is important to note 5 6 that we included a higher performance incentive assumption in the IRP solely based on the 7 earnings opportunities from the two avoided natural gas combined cycle plants. With the 8 higher performance incentives, the levelized average rates from the RAP-Plan I are only one-9 thousandth of a cent (0.001) higher than the No DSM Plan K. When I recalculate the 10 levelized rates with the incentive levels requested in this case, then the levelized average 11 rates for the RAP plan are lower than those for the No DSM plan. The levelized rates are 12 shown in Table 1 below:

13

 Table 1: Levelized Rates with and without Performance Incentives⁴

	No Utility	With Utility	With Utility
Levelized Rates	Performance	Performance Incentive	es Performance Incentives
(Cents/kWh)	Incentives	IRP Assumption	Requested in This Case
	2015-2044	2015-2044	2015-2044
No DSM-Plan K	12.062	12.062	12.062
RAP-Plan I	12.008	12.064	12.027
MAP-Plan R	12.054	12.121	12.073
Difference from No DSN	1 Plan		
RAP-Plan I	(0.054)	0.001	(0.035)
MAP-Plan R	(0.008)	0.059	0.011

14

15 As the table shows, the MAP plan results in higher levelized average rates for customers, but

16 the RAP plan reduces the levelized average rates by 0.035cents/kWh; therefore, from a long-

³ PVRR and rate impact results in risk analysis have been provided in the IRP filing work papers: 22.060 Integrated Resource Plan-Risk\3-Risk\Results\ PVRR 08-25-14_HC.xlsx.

⁴ MAP-Plan R includes the same incentive level as RAP-Plan I for the comparison reflecting the incentive level requested by the Company in this case.

term levelized rate perspective, the Company's RAP DSM programs do benefit all customers
 whether or not they participate in the programs.

3 Q. Disregarding for a moment that using average rates to measure customer 4 benefit is inappropriate, has Mr. Rogers made any errors in his analysis of average 5 rates?

6 Yes. As stated in Mr. Rogers' testimony on page 27 in footnote 26, Staff A. 7 assumed a performance incentive award annual rate impact of 0.45% in several years, seven 8 of which were in the 2035-2044 timeframe. This period represents the end-effects years 9 during which we do not assume implementation of additional DSM programs. Since there 10 are no additional programs implemented, performance incentive rate impacts should not be 11 included in those years after accounting for the performance incentive for the last year of 12 additional energy efficiency programs in 2034. When that is corrected, the average annual 13 average rate impacts over the 2016-2044 analysis period for RAP-Plan I and MAP-Plan R are 14 -.03% and .29%, respectively. By Mr. Rogers' definition of customer benefits, the negative 15 rate impact for RAP-Plan I would mean there are overall long-term benefits for all Ameren 16 Missouri customers.

Q. Are there other considerations in deciding whether or not energy efficiency benefits all customers?

A. Yes. Levelized cost of energy ("LCOE") is a very useful tool in assessing how a resource may stack up against other options even though it does not tell the whole story for a resource's performance as part of an integrated plan. RAP level energy efficiency is the lowest cost resource available to Ameren Missouri to serve its customers as evident from Figure 1 below, which is similar to the figures included in Chapters 1 and 9 of Ameren

- Missouri's 2014 IRP⁵, except performance incentives requested by the Company in this case 1
- have been added to both RAP and MAP level energy efficiency costs in Figure 1: 2

Figure 1: Levelized Cost of Energy



4

5 Absent RAP level energy efficiency programs, the Company would have to invest in two 600 MW natural gas fired combined cycle ("CC") generation plants to serve its customers 6 7 much earlier than it otherwise would with RAP level DSM programs. These two additional 8 CC plants are included in the No DSM Plan -- the first CC would be needed in 2023 after 9 Meramec Energy Center is retired, and the second CC would be needed in 2031 to meet 10 reserve margin requirements.

11

But the impacts of these additional CCs are included in the analysis **Q**. results, aren't they? 12

Yes, they are included, hence the higher present value of revenue 13 А. requirements and levelized average rates for the No DSM Plan as compared to the RAP DSM 14

³

⁵ Ameren Missouri 2014 IRP Ch. 1, p. 7 and Ch. 9, p. 9.

Plan. Again, it is necessary to include the end-effects to more accurately capture the costs of these assets, one of which is assumed to go in-service in 2031, only three years before the end of the 20-year planning horizon. What is not included in the numbers is the benefit RAP energy efficiency adds by the flexibility it provides for planning for the future and the risks it helps the Company and all of its customers to continue to avoid. This brings me to my third observation regarding the benefits of our DSM programs for all customers.

7

Q. Please explain what you mean by flexibility in planning.

8 If there is one thing we know today, it is that the future is uncertain. We do A. 9 not know how conditions that characterize the planning environment will evolve. Investing 10 in energy efficiency helps delay investment in costly generation assets and lets us see how 11 environmental regulations will evolve, what happens with fuel prices, or what technological 12 advancements are taking place for a longer period of time. On the other hand, once you 13 make the decision to build a CC, or any other generating resource, you have eliminated the 14 ability to defer it and have given up some of that flexibility you had going forward. You are 15 committed. Ameren Missouri does not have an unlimited amount of capital to invest. If that 16 capital is used to build two CCs in eight years, there will be less low-cost capital available for 17 other projects. This is another form of lost flexibility.

Thanks to the energy efficiency savings due to the already implemented programs and the assumed future programs, Ameren Missouri is able to retire its oldest and least efficient energy center, Meramec, in 2022 without the need to add costly new generating resources to serve its customers. Continuing to offer energy efficiency programs will help us identify more cost effective energy efficiency savings, and preserve flexibility for future resource

decisions, including the potential for additional retirements if conditions warrant 1 2 consideration of such actions.

3 **Q**. Are there any benefits related to the proposed GHG emissions 4 regulations?

5 Yes, energy efficiency is very likely to be part of our plan for compliance with A. 6 the final version of the CPP, currently in proposed form and under consideration by the EPA. 7 This regulation is expected to require utility generator CO₂ emission rates to be reduced, in 8 part through the implementation of energy efficiency programs. The EPA released its 9 proposed CPP to reduce GHG emissions on June 2, 2014. At this point, we do not know 10 what the final rule will look like, but what we can be sure of is that energy efficiency will 11 almost certainly be part of that compliance plan. Whatever shape or form the final rule takes, 12 if we do not include cost effective energy efficiency programs as part of our plan, it is quite 13 probable that the cost of compliance to our customers will be higher.

14

Q. Please summarize your conclusion with respect to Mr. Rogers' 15 contentions that RAP portfolio does not benefit all customers.

16 A. RAP portfolio benefits all customers because it 1) reduces levelized average rates relative to the levelized rates that would otherwise be realized in the absence of further 17 18 DSM programs at RAP level, and 2) provides flexibility in long-term planning and helps 19 mitigate risks.

AMEREN MISSOURI'S DECISION TO INCLUDE THE RAP PORTFOLIO 20 IV. 21 IN ITS PREFERRED PLAN IS APPROPRIATE

22 **Q**. What are the issues you will address in Mr. Woolf's rebuttal testimony related to Ameren Missouri's decision to choose RAP instead of MAP level energy 23 24 efficiency in its 2014 IRP?

- 1 A. I will address Mr. Woolf's allegations that 1) 'IRPs should not define energy 2 efficiency so narrowly, with only two possible future efficiency portfolios⁶, and 2) Ameren 3 Missouri chose RAP even though MAP would reduce costs and average bills significantly.
- 4
- Q. Please describe Mr. Woolf's criticism regarding Ameren Missouri's focus 5 on the RAP and MAP energy efficiency portfolios.
- 6

Mr. Woolf claims that the IRP defined energy efficiency so narrowly, with A. 7 only two possible future efficiency portfolios (RAP and MAP) that the Company did not 8 fully investigate the amount of cost effective energy efficiency savings available.

9

Q. Would analyzing more than RAP and MAP portfolios be beneficial?

10 Perhaps in an academic sense, but not as a practical matter. A. Making the 11 decision today on what is the best energy efficiency plan for the next twenty years is not 12 practical. Avoided costs, technology and customer behavior are subject to periodic changes, 13 all of which can result in changes to the potential for energy efficiency. RAP and MAP 14 establish the range of reasonable possibilities over time. However, because of and in light of 15 changing conditions, we will be re-evaluating the potential frequently. That is why the 16 Commission's MEEIA rules require utilities to perform a potential study at least every four 17 years, and the Commission's resource planning rules require utilities to file an IRP every 18 three years. Ameren Missouri prefers to also perform the potential study every three years in 19 order to match the MEEIA and IRP filings. We will continue to implement, assess and 20 evaluate energy efficiency programs and to identify the most cost effective savings as we 21 gain more experience. In turn, that will inform our planning and manifest itself in the 22 specifics of future portfolios.

⁶ Tim Woolf Rebuttal, p. 33, l. 13-14.

1 Q. Mr. Woolf states that the Company should at least investigate a portfolio 2 of efficiency programs consistent with the assumptions used by the EPA in the proposed **CPP**;⁷ how do you respond to that? 3 4 A. In his surrebuttal testimony, Ameren Missouri's witness Richard Voytas 5 explains all the issues related to the EPA's energy efficiency savings potential in the 6 proposed CPP and why such a level of savings is not appropriate to assume for Ameren 7 Missouri. 8 Q. You mentioned levelized costs in your earlier response to Mr. Rogers' 9 contentions. How do the levelized costs for MAP DSM compare to the levelized costs 10 for RAP DSM? Figure 2 below, which presents only the RAP and MAP energy efficiency 11 A. 12 levelized costs from the figure provided in the IRP filing Chapter 1, page 7, shows that 13 levelized cost of energy efficiency savings for RAP is 4cents/kWh, whereas the levelized 14 cost of achieving incremental savings up to the MAP level is 10.6cents/kWh.

⁷ *Id.*, 1. 20-21 and p. 34, 1. 1.



Figure 2: LCOE for RAP vs MAP

3 LCOE is not a metric that can definitively assess the performance of a resource relative to others as part of an integrated resource plan, but it is a very good indicator of costs 4 5 over the lifetime of a specific resource in isolation. Incremental costs that would be incurred to achieve additional savings to reach MAP level savings are more than double the cost of 6 7 RAP level savings. RAP and MAP levels of energy efficiency savings and the costs of 8 achieving them are explained in detail by Mr. Voytas in his surrebuttal testimony.

9

2

Q. How do you respond to Mr. Woolf's claim that the MAP portfolio would 10 reduce costs and average bills by significantly more than the RAP portfolio?

11 This claim is only half correct. As shown in Table 2 below, while the total A. 12 cost (PVRR) is lower for the MAP-Plan R, this plan results in higher levelized average rates 13 than the RAP-Plan I, even without the inclusion of utility incentives. The levelized average 14 rates for MAP-Plan R are 0.046cents/kWh higher than the levelized average rates for RAP-Plan I, without the inclusion of performance incentives or with the performance incentives 15 16 requested in this case. When performance incentives using the IRP assumptions are added,

16

- 1 which are higher for MAP than RAP and makes the rate impact for MAP-Plan R even
- 2 greater, it is 0.057cents/kWh higher than the RAP Plan.

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Table 2:	RAP vs MAP	Plan PVRR	and Levelize	ed Rates
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	PVRR without Utility Performance Incentives 2015-2044 \$Million	No Utility Performance Incentives 2015-2044 Cents/kWh	With Utility Performance Incentives IRP Assumption 2015-2044 Cents/kWh	With Utility Performance Incentives Requested in This Case 2015-2044 Cents/kWh
RAP-Plan I	61,352	12.008	12.064	12.027
MAP-Plan R	61,081	12.054	12.121	12.073
Difference MAP - RAP	(271)	0.046	0.057	0.046

4

5

Q. What is the significance of higher levelized average rates for the MAP

6 Plan rather than the RAP Plan?

7 A. It means that, compared to the RAP Plan, implementing the MAP Plan would not reduce average bills for non-participants, but would cause an increase in the non-8 9 participants' average bills, contrary to what Mr. Woolf is claiming. Also shown in Table 1, 10 the MAP Plan results in an increase in levelized rates compared to the No DSM Plan, while 11 the RAP Plan results in a reduction in levelized rates. This is the same issue Mr. Rogers has 12 raised -- 'do the programs benefit all customers whether or not they participate in the programs?' The answer for the MAP Plan is that it definitely does not reduce average rate 13 14 impacts for non-participating customers like the RAP Plan does.

15

16

Q. Did consideration of these expected rate impacts cause Ameren Missouri to choose the RAP Plan in the IRP?

A. It certainly was an important consideration, because the rate impacts for nonparticipants are clearly unfavorable in the MAP Plan. In addition to that, we looked at total

- 1 costs with utility performance incentives and/or participant out-of-pocket costs, which
- 2 showed a de minimis cost advantage for MAP over the 30-year study period.

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 Table 3: Comparison of Total Cost to Customers for RAP and MAP⁸

\$ Million	PVRR	PVRR w/ Incentives	PVRR w/ DSM Participant Costs	PVRR w/ Incentives & DSM Participant Costs
R - CC-MAP-Balanced I - CC-RAP-Balanced	61,081 61,352	61,420 61,635	61,834 61,928	62,172 62,211
MAP Cost Advantage	271	215	94	38

4

5 We also looked at the year-by-year PVRR differences between RAP and MAP energy 6 efficiency, which is shown in Figure 3 below and can also be found on page 9 in Chapter 10 7 of Ameren Missouri's 2014 IRP filing.







⁸ This table was provided in the IRP filing (EO-2015-0084) Ch. 10, p. 8.

⁹ *Id.*, p. 9.

1

Q. What is the significance of this chart?

2 In short, it shows that any net benefit for the MAP portfolio is not realized A. until 2034 – the last year of the 20-year planning horizon. The chart shows the annual and 3 4 cumulative PVRR differences between the RAP and MAP portfolios. It is noteworthy that 5 the RAP energy efficiency Plan costs customers less than the MAP Plan through 2025 6 annually, and the cumulative cost advantage of RAP energy efficiency continues until 2034. 7 All of the analysis results suggested that it would be a much better approach to start with 8 RAP level energy efficiency programs instead of starting out with MAP energy efficiency 9 and subjecting customers to higher rate and cost impacts with a great deal of uncertainty as to 10 the benefit. As I stated earlier, it is not possible to decide what the best portfolio for the next 11 twenty years would be right now, which is why the potential studies and IRPs are conducted 12 periodically. The Commission's IRP and MEEIA rules recognize the ever-changing nature 13 of the resource planning environment by requiring frequent updates to potential studies and 14 resource planning analyses and by allowing for changes to our plans when circumstances 15 warrant changes. Our approach provides us with the flexibility to identify and offer the most 16 cost effective savings to our customers as we gain more experience through continued market 17 research, program implementation and EM&V, and shields our customers from unnecessary 18 cost and rate increase risks.

Q. Please summarize your conclusions with respect to Mr. Woolf's
contentions regarding the Company's selection of the RAP portfolio over the MAP
portfolio.

A. Based on our extensive analysis, Ameren Missouri has concluded that the
 RAP portfolio most appropriately balances the achievement of cost effective energy

efficiency savings with the risks and rate impacts to all customers. The MAP portfolio does
not because it 1) results in higher levelized rates over the IRP study period, 2) requires much
higher incremental spending for each kWh saved, and 3) does not result in net savings to
customers until 2034.

5 V. AMEREN MISSOURI'S TREATMENT OF CO₂ PRICES AND EVALUATION 6 OF EPA'S PROPOSED GHG EMISSIONS REGULATIONS ARE APPROPRIATE

7

Q. Please explain Mr. Woolf's criticisms of Ameren Missouri's CO₂

8

emissions regulation assumptions and CPP compliance analysis.

A. Mr. Woolf claims, "by assuming very low probabilities that there will be *any* [*emphasis added*] federal greenhouse gas emission requirements, and by assuming relatively low estimates for CO₂ allowance prices, the Company significantly understates the additional costs that could be avoided by efficiency programs."¹⁰ Mr. Woolf also claims that the Company does not intend to use energy efficiency resources to comply with the eventual final form of the EPA's proposed CPP.¹¹

15

Q. How would you briefly respond to these criticisms?

A. Ameren Missouri's estimate of costs that could be avoided by energy efficiency programs is appropriate because the Company has properly considered and included costs of complying with environmental regulations, including federal GHG regulations. In its IRP, the Company assumed some type of GHG regulations through indirect mechanisms that do not include an explicit price on CO_2 emissions with an 85% probability, and through mechanisms that include an explicit CO_2 price with a 15% probability. Mr. Woolf's assertion that the Company does not intend to use energy efficiency

¹⁰ Tim Woolf Rebuttal, p. 38, l. 20-22.

¹¹ Id., p. 39, l. 7-8.

1 to comply with the CPP is not correct at all, as it is fully expected to be part of our plan for 2 compliance with the final form of the EPA's currently proposed CPP and was reflected in our 3 IRP analysis of compliance with these regulations.

4

0. Please describe how Ameren Missouri considered and included costs of 5 complying with GHG regulations.

6 Ameren Missouri identified three key drivers for wholesale market prices of A. electricity: load growth, natural gas prices and environmental regulations. 7 Various 8 combinations of these key driver variables provided us with the fifteen distinct power price 9 scenarios under which we evaluated the performance of the alternative resource plans and the 10 illustrative plan we evaluated for compliance with the proposed CPP. For the environmental 11 regulations scenarios, our internal experts considered existing, proposed and future 12 regulations, including but not limited to National Ambient Air Quality Standards 13 ("NAAQS"), Mercury and Air Toxics Standards ("MATS"), Coal Combustion Residuals 14 ("CCR"), Clean Water Act regulations, and federal GHG emissions regulations. Compliance 15 with these current/proposed/future regulations would manifest themselves through existing 16 coal generation retirements and replacement generation additions. Our experts then 17 developed the assumptions for the amount of retirements and the timing, and the likelihood 18 of these retirements. The highest level of retirement scenarios also included explicit CO_2 19 prices.

20 **O**. Can you please describe in more detail how the GHG regulations were 21 considered in the scenarios?

22 Our assumptions in the scenario development concerning the GHG A. 23 regulations were framed in our 2014 IRP filing as follows:

1 In addition to the existing and future regulations outlined above, we must also 2 consider potential actions with respect to climate policy and regulation of 3 GHG emissions beyond what was recently proposed by EPA in the form of its 4 Clean Power Plan. To help frame the ongoing possibilities for carbon policy 5 and regulation of GHG emissions, we examined reports from several research 6 and consulting companies, such as Wood Mackenzie, IHS Cera, and Synapse 7 Energy Economics, Inc. We also reviewed US government reports on the so-8 called "social cost of carbon." Through this process we considered the 9 structures [by which] a future GHG policy could be implemented which 10 included the following;

11 12

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- Legislative
- Regulatory
- International Treaty
- We identified three general mechanisms by which GHG policy could be implemented through any of the above structures. Each implementation path could seek to achieve GHG reductions through any, or a combination of, three mechanisms:
- 20
- 21

22 23

24

• Policies to mandate and/or promote low/no carbon resources

- •Specified limits on GHG emissions (emission rates or mass emission)
- Implementation of an explicit price on GHG emissions

This framework provided a vehicle for discussion with our internal experts to identify the probable ranges of coal retirements and carbon prices that define our scenarios. Through this process an updated set of assumptions was developed to reflect environmental policy effects on coal retirement expectations, as well as the timing, magnitude and probability of an explicit price on carbon dioxide emissions.¹²

- 31 It is important to note that two of these mechanisms policies to mandate and/or
- 32 promote low/no carbon resources and specified limits on GHG emissions are the 'indirect'
- 33 mechanisms that I mentioned earlier, represented by scenarios that carry a combined 85%
- 34 probability. These "indirect" mechanisms are the same mechanisms that were mentioned in
- 35 the study by Synapse Energy Economics 2013 Carbon Dioxide Price Forecast that the

¹² Ameren Missouri 2014 IRP (File No. EO-2015-0084) Ch. 2, p. 19.

1 Company relied on for CO₂ price assumptions, and was also referenced by Mr. Woolf in his 2 rebuttal testimony.¹³ This study is attached to my surrebuttal testimony as Schedule SHB-1. 3 Q. What does the 2013 Synapse study say regarding what you refer to as 4 methods of imposing "indirect" costs on CO₂ emissions? 5 A. On page 6 of this study, it reads: 6 However, many other types of climate policies work not by making polluting 7 more expensive per se, but instead by requiring firms to use one technology 8 instead of another, or to maintain particular emission limitations in order to 9 avoid legal repercussions. 10 Moreover, Dr. Ezra Hausman, who is one of the co-authors of the study mentioned 11 above, referred to the same kinds of indirect regulations used in Ameren Missouri's 12 assumptions as part of his testimony in Ameren Missouri's most recent rate case: 13 A more likely impact of CO₂ regulation would be to directly or indirectly 14 increase the cost of generation from carbon-intensive resources such as coal plants. "Directly" would mean by imposing a carbon tax or a tradable allowance 15 16 system, neither of which is currently part of EPA's proposal; "indirectly" would be any other mechanism that effectively imposes a preference for low-carbon 17 18 resources, leading to curtailed operations or shutdown of existing coal plants.¹⁴ 19 These indirect mechanisms are exactly the kind that were assumed when the timing 20 and amount of coal retirements were determined for the environmental regulation scenarios 21 that did not include explicit CO₂ prices, as determined by our subject matter experts. 22 Therefore, all scenarios included some type of GHG emission regulation assumption, 23 contrary to Mr. Woolf's allegation that the Company assumed very low probabilities that there will be any federal GHG emission requirements. 24

¹³ Tim Woolf Rebuttal, p. 36, footnote 10.

¹⁴ Ezra D. Hausman Direct in File No. ER-2014-0258, p.7, l. 6-9.

1	Q. What you have referenced in Dr. Hausman's testimony above states that
2	a carbon tax or tradable allowance system are not part of EPA's proposal. Is this the
3	same proposed CPP you have discussed previously in your testimony?
4	A. Yes, exactly. EPA's proposed CPP to reduce GHG emissions does not
5	impose an explicit price on CO ₂ emissions but instead makes use of the indirect mechanisms
6	described by Dr. Hausman, and further affirms the appropriateness of Ameren Missouri's
7	scenario assumptions.
8	Q. What are the resulting coal plant retirement assumptions in these
9	scenarios?
10	A. Figure 4 below, which is reproduced from Ameren Missouri's IRP filing, ¹⁵
11	illustrates the timing and magnitude of the retirement assumptions. The least stringent
12	environmental scenario assumptions result in 80 gigawatts ("GW") of coal retirements by
13	2030, the base level environmental regulations include 100 GW of retirements by 2030 and
14	the high level retirement scenario with varying explicit carbon prices assume 120 GW of
15	retirements by 2030.

¹⁵ Ameren Missouri 2014 IRP (File No. EO-2015-0084), Ch. 2, p. 20.

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Q. Do you know how IRP retirement assumptions in the scenarios compare

4 to other estimates?

5 A. Yes. They are consistent with what we are seeing from other sources. For 6 example, the EPA's own analysis estimates that the CPP will result in approximately 100 GW of coal plant retirements.¹⁶ Another study by the Bipartisan Policy Center assumes 50 7 8 GW of coal retirements by 2030 in its reference case, which does not include any GHG 9 emission regulations, and an additional ~40 GW of retirements as a result of the proposed CPP that bring the total retirement estimate to just above 90 GW.¹⁷ Another study by NERA 10 11 Economic Consulting also shows 51 GW of retirements due to environmental regulations other than GHG emission regulations, and estimates a total of 97 GW of coal retirements by 12 2031 with the inclusion of the proposed CPP.¹⁸ Again, our retirement assumptions that range 13 14 from 80 to 120 GW with the highest probability given to 100 GW of retirements are entirely consistent with estimates from other sources, including the EPA. 15

¹⁶ <u>http://www.epa.gov/airmarkets/powersectormodeling/docs/Option%201%20State.zip.</u>

¹⁷ Modeling Proposed Clean Power Plan: Preliminary Results, September 22, 2014.

¹⁸ Potential Energy Impacts of the EPA Proposed Clean Power Plan, October 2014.

1 2

Q. Are the retirements of Ameren Missouri coal units in the Company's IRP preferred resource plan also in line with these retirement estimates?

- 3 A. All of the estimates from the external sources I cited point to about 100 GW 4 of coal retirements out of approximately 316 GW of available coal capacity, which is slightly 5 less than one-third of all coal generation capacity in the U.S. In the IRP, with the retirement 6 of Meramec and Sioux Energy Centers within the next twenty years, we are reflecting 7 retirement of about one-third of our existing coal generation. I do not know how anyone can 8 claim this is not consistent.
- 9 How do you respond to Mr. Woolf's allegation that "Ameren's Q. assumptions about the probability of CPP are clearly too low"?¹⁹ 10
- 11 Mr. Woolf is confusing Ameren Missouri's scenario assumptions for GHG A. 12 regulation with our analysis of a specific regulation that is currently only in proposed form. 13 After the EPA released the details of its proposed CPP, we performed an analysis of a 14 potential compliance plan based on the proposed regulations. Separately, and as explained 15 earlier, we did include GHG emission regulation assumptions in all scenarios through either 16 direct or indirect means, the latter of which are consistent with the kinds of mechanisms 17 reflected in the proposed CPP and for which a probability of 85% was assigned by our 18 subject matter experts. Ameren Missouri did not explicitly assign a probability to the 19 proposed CPP.
- 20
- Given what you just stated, is Mr. Woolf's assertion that "Ameren **O**. 21 applied a forecast of CO_2 allowance costs to represent the costs of complying with the
 - ¹⁹ Tim Woolf Rebuttal, p. 37, l. 6-7.

CPP"²⁰ correct? 1

2 No, it is not. The explicit CO_2 prices that Ameren Missouri assumed in its A. 3 scenarios do not represent the costs of complying with the CPP but only the costs imposed on 4 CO_2 emitting resources per ton of CO_2 emitted under those scenarios in which an explicit 5 CO_2 price is included.

- 6 Q. Does Mr. Woolf agree with the timing and the probabilities the Company 7 assigned to the CO₂ price scenarios?
- 8

No. We assumed there would not be any explicit CO_2 price through 2024, but A. 9 assumed explicit prices equal to those presented in the Synapse 2013 Carbon Dioxide Price 10 Forecast starting in 2025. Since the Synapse report has CO₂ price estimates in 2020-2024, 11 Mr. Woolf does not agree with our timing assumption. A total of 15% probability was 12 assigned to these scenarios, which, as I understand, Mr. Woolf claims to be low. But as I 13 have demonstrated, this does not represent the entire range of GHG regulation based on 14 imposing indirect costs, which carry a combined 85% probability.

15

Q. Mr. Woolf takes issue with the absence of a CO₂ price prior to 2025 in the 16 scenarios in which a CO₂ price is assumed. Why did Ameren Missouri assume a 2025 17 starting point for CO₂ prices?

18 A. This assumption was based on our internal subject matter experts' assessments 19 as part of the process described earlier in my testimony. On the environmental regulation 20 scenario development, we worked with members of executive management who have direct 21 relationships with policymakers, lobbyists, legislators, and regulators including EPA staff. 22 The first issue regarding CO_2 prices that our experts deliberated on was whether the

²⁰ *Id.*, p. 36, 1. 7-8.

1 imposition of a CO₂ price was likely under the existing regulations; the consensus was that it 2 was not. This meant that new legislation would have to be passed by Congress and signed into law by the President to make imposition of CO₂ prices possible by regulations. Our 3 4 internal experts did not see a favorable political climate for such a scenario in the near future 5 and therefore determined that 2025 would likely be the first year in which an explicit CO₂ 6 price would take effect. These same considerations were also the reason for the 15% 7 probability assigned to the explicit CO₂ price scenarios.

8

Does Mr. Woolf agree with the magnitude of CO₂ prices Ameren **Q**. 9 Missouri used in the scenarios?

10 A. No, surprisingly, he does not seem to agree with the magnitude of CO_2 prices used by Ameren Missouri,²¹ even though the prices we used were taken from the 2013 11 Carbon Price Forecast by Synapse Energy Economics, by whom Mr. Woolf is employed. He 12 13 does state that a recent update to the Synapse CO₂ price forecast provides a much more reasonable range of future CO₂ prices.²² 14

15

What does the more recent Synapse study show?

16 The following figure is taken from Page 37 of this updated report, which I A. have attached to my surrebuttal testimony as Schedule SHB-2.²³ 17

Q.

²¹ *Id.*, p. 38, l. 21. ²² *Id.*, p. 37, l. 8-10.

²³ Carbon Dioxide Price Forecast, Synapse Energy Economics, March 3, 2015.









3 As can be seen from the figure, between 2025 and 2040, most of the data points for 4 the 2013 forecasts, used as the basis for Ameren Missouri's IRP assumptions, are higher than 5 those in the 2015 Synapse update. Mr. Woolf's characterization that the CO₂ price assumptions used by Ameren Missouri are too low clearly cannot be based on a comparison 6 7 to the more recent Synapse study.

8

Q. What is Mr. Woolf's basis then for claiming the CO₂ prices used in the 9 **IRP** scenarios are too low?

10 11

A. I am really having a hard time understanding his basis. Maybe it is a misunderstanding on Mr. Woolf's part about the \$53/ton cost we estimated for complying with the CPP that Mr. Woolf references in this testimony²⁴ followed by his assertion that "the 12 13 Company does not explain why its modeling assumptions differ so dramatically from its

²⁴ Tim Woolf Rebuttal, p. 37, l. 14-18.

Q.

1 position that compliance costs are likely to be higher than the costs assumed in the High CO_2

Case."25 2

3 Did the Company's modeling assumptions differ dramatically from its Q. 4 position that compliance costs are likely to be higher than the costs assumed in the High 5 CO₂ case?

- 6 We explained all the assumptions and the results of our analyses, A. No. 7 including a plan for compliance with the proposed CPP, and there is no inconsistency 8 between the assumptions and the results and our position.
- 9

What causes Mr. Woolf to make such a claim?

10 There seems to be some confusion and a case of comparing apples to oranges A. 11 on Mr. Woolf's part. Within weeks after the proposed CPP was released, we did formulate 12 an illustrative compliance plan that would require several changes to our IRP preferred plan – 13 advancing retirement of Meramec to the end of 2019, advancing CC to 2020 and doubling the size, adding more wind energy, and uneconomically dispatching coal and natural gas 14 15 plants. We estimated these changes could cost an additional \$4 billion between 2020 and 16 2035. We presented this same information in a different way by calculating cost per ton of CO₂ reduction over that same time period, which is the \$53/ton Mr. Woolf cites from the 17 IRP.²⁶ The additional \$4 billion in costs divided by the total CO₂ emission reductions 18 19 estimated in that 15-year period resulted in that number. So, the \$53/ton figure is the result 20 of the analysis and is not an input to the analysis. It is also not analogous to an effective 21 price, explicit or otherwise, on CO₂ emissions.

²⁵ *Id.*, p. 38, l. 1-3. ²⁶ *Id.*, p. 37, l. 16-18.

1	Q. Mr. Woolf also argues that Ameren Missouri did not explain why the
2	High CO ₂ case has a probability of only three percent; what is your response to that?
3	A. The scenario development process described previously, including the
4	assumptions and the resulting probabilities assigned to each price scenario, have been
5	explained in the IRP filing in Chapter 2. The final probability tree for the market price
6	scenarios is provided as an attachment to my surrebuttal testimony as Schedule SHB-3.
7	Q. Does Ameren Missouri consider energy efficiency an option for
8	complying with the CPP plan?
9	A. Yes, it does.
10	Q. Then why does Mr. Woolf claim Ameren Missouri does not intend to use
11	energy efficiency resources to mitigate the cost of complying with the CPP? ²⁷
12	A. I believe it is another misunderstanding on Mr. Woolf's part. He makes the
13	claim, referencing a figure we provided in the IRP filing in Chapter 1, page 17, that "there is
14	no mention of using efficiency to respond to the CPP regulations." ²⁸ The figure referenced
15	by Mr. Woolf is reproduced below as Figure 6.
16	Figure 6: Impacts of GHG Regulations on Preferred Resource Plan



17

²⁷ *Id.*, p. 39, l. 5-8. ²⁸ *Id.*, l. 15.

This figure shows only the changes that would have to be made to the Company's 1 2 IRP preferred plan to be compliant with the proposed CPP. The preferred resource plan already includes RAP level energy efficiency. Therefore, energy efficiency is also part of the 3 4 illustrative CPP compliance plan. Had energy efficiency not been included in the compliance 5 plan, the costs would have been even higher than we estimated. It is important to keep in 6 mind that this is just one approach to compliance with a proposed rule. The CPP rule is 7 expected to be finalized in summer 2015, there is high probability of legal challenges, and 8 state implementation plans are supposed to be finalized in 2016. Given that MEEIA insures 9 the utility incentives will be aligned with helping customers use energy more efficiently, 10 Ameren Missouri expects to utilize opportunities to increase energy efficiency savings as we 11 identify and offer the most cost effective savings to our customers including any such savings 12 that will help Ameren Missouri comply with GHG regulations.

13 Q. Please summarize your conclusions with respect to Mr. Woolf's criticism 14 of the Company's consideration of GHG regulations.

15 A. Ameren Missouri has appropriately considered GHG regulations as part of its 16 IRP analysis and has properly evaluated the potential impacts of the EPA's proposed CPP. 17 The high probability (85%) assigned by Ameren Missouri's subject matter experts to 18 regulations that impose indirect costs on CO₂ emissions is appropriate in light of the EPA's 19 proposed CPP, which does not impose an explicit price on CO₂ emissions. The retirement of 20 existing coal-fired plants, including some owned by Ameren Missouri, and replacement of 21 these plants with resources that produce lower (or no) CO_2 emissions fully account for the 22 indirect costs of such regulations. As a result there is no need to also impose an explicit price 23 for CO_2 emissions. The CO_2 prices assumed by the Company, with an estimated 15%

probability of occurrence, are exactly equal to those produced by Synapse in its last study prior to the filing of the Company's IRP and are similar to those produced by Synapse in its updated study released last month. Only the starting year for these prices, 2025 versus 2020, is different based on Ameren Missouri's own expert assessment of the policy landscape. Mr. Woolf's criticisms therefore have no basis in fact.

6

Q. Please summarize your conclusions.

A. The RAP portfolio benefits all customers whether or not they participate in the programs. In addition to reduced levelized rates relative to the No DSM plan (i.e., reduced average bills), the RAP portfolio also provides flexibility in long-term planning and helps mitigate risks, and therefore provides other benefits to all customers.

11 The Company's decision to include RAP DSM in its preferred plan instead of MAP 12 DSM is appropriate as the Company considered and analyzed costs and benefits extensively. 13 including any federal CO₂ emission regulations. Ameren Missouri has concluded that the 14 RAP portfolio most appropriately balances the achievement of cost effective energy 15 efficiency savings with the risks and rate impacts to all customers. The MAP portfolio does 16 not because it 1) results in higher levelized rates over the IRP study period, 2) requires much higher incremental spending for each kWh saved, and 3) does not result in net savings to all 17 18 customers until 2034.

19

Q. Does this conclude your surrebuttal testimony?

A. Yes, it does.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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In the Matter of Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri's 2nd Filing to Implement Regulatory Changes in Furtherance of Energy Efficiency as Allowed by MEEIA.

File No. EO-2015-0055

AFFIDAVIT OF S. HANDE BERK

STATE OF MISSOURI

) ss CITY OF ST. LOUIS)

S. Hande Berk, being first duly sworn on her oath, states:

)

1. My name is S. Hande Berk. I work in the City of St. Louis, Missouri, and I am employed by Ameren Services Company as Senior Corporate Planning Analyst.

2. Attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes is my Surrebuttal

Testimony on behalf of Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri consisting of

33 pages and Schedule(s) SHB-1 thru SHB-3, all of which have been

prepared in written form for introduction into evidence in the above-referenced docket.

3. I hereby swear and affirm that my answers contained in the attached

testimony to the questions therein propounded are true and correct.

Sebiler Hande Belk______ S. Hande Berk

Subscribed and sworn to before me this $\frac{2}{2}$ day of $\frac{4}{2}$, 2015.

Wer It by

My commission expires:

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