

In the Matter of:

UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY, d/b/a AMEREN MISSOURI

EE-2019-0382 , VOL 1

June 15, 2020



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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

STATE OF MISSOURI

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Prehearing Conference

June 15, 2020

Via WebEx Conference

Volume 1

In the Matter of Union Electric)
Company, d/b/a Ameren Missouri's)
Request for a Waiver of Various) File No. ER-2019-0382
Tariffs and Regulations to Enable)
The Deployment of Automated)
Metering Infrastructure)
Beginning in 2020.)

Ron Pridgin, Presiding
REGULATORY LAW JUDGE

REPORTED BY:
Lori D. Mothersbaugh, CCR
TIGER COURT REPORTING, LLC

A P P E A R A N C E S

ALL PARTIES ATTENDED VIA WEBEX CONFERENCE

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FOR: Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: We are on the record. Good
2 morning. This is the prehearing conference in
3 File No. EE-2019-0382. I am Ron Pridgin. I am
4 the Regulatory Law Judge assigned to preside
5 over this prehearing conference that's being
6 held via WebEx on June 15th, 2020, and the time
7 is roughly 10:03 in the morning.

8 If I could get oral entries of appearance
9 from counsel, please. And let me start with
10 Ameren Missouri.

11 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you, your Honor. This
12 is Paula Johnson, appearing on behalf of Ameren
13 Missouri. My usual address would be
14 191 Chouteau Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri, 63166.
15 I believe my co-counsel is on the line, Eric
16 Banks. I don't know if you want to enter your
17 appearance.

18 MR. BANKS: Yes, I do. Madam Court
19 Reporter, my name is Eric Banks. I'm with Banks
20 Law, LLC. We're located at 308 North 23rd
21 Street, Suite 401, St. Louis, Missouri, 63103,
22 appearing on behalf of Ameren.

23 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Ms. Johnson and Mr. Banks,
24 thank you. Any entry on behalf of the Staff of
25 the Commission?

1 MR. KEEVIL: Yes, Judge. Jeffrey A.
2 Keevil, appearing on behalf of the Staff of the
3 Missouri Public Service Commission. My address
4 would be 200 Madison Street, Suite 800,
5 Jefferson City, Missouri, 65101.

6 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Keevil, thank you. Any
7 entry on behalf of the Office of Public Counsel?

8 MR. WILLIAMS: Nathan Williams, 200 Madison
9 Street, Suite 650, P.O. Box 2230, Jefferson
10 City, Missouri, 65102.

11 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Williams, thank you.
12 Any entry on behalf of AARP or Consumers Counsel
13 of Missouri?

14 (No response.)

15 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Hearing none, I
16 really don't think I have anything for counsel
17 today, especially in light of, I believe, Ameren
18 Missouri filed an Amended Application just this
19 past Friday, so it would seem very premature, to
20 me, to order a proposed procedural schedule. My
21 initial thoughts would be to see how counsel
22 feels about perhaps filing status reports every
23 30 days or so just to kind of keep the
24 Commission apprised on, you know, whether you're
25 negotiating or whether you're wanting to go to

1 hearing. I don't want to push you. I just
2 don't want to also let this languish.

3 So could I get anyone's comments or
4 objections on that suggestion?

5 MS. JOHNSON: Your Honor, this is Paula
6 Johnson. I'd still be amenable to working on a
7 procedural schedule with the parties. I can
8 work on that offline with folks. We also are
9 very interested in working towards an amenable
10 resolution to this case, so I think we can work
11 on a procedural schedule together, and we'd like
12 to continue working towards a potential
13 settlement of the issues, also.

14 MR. WILLIAMS: Judge, Nathan Williams, for
15 public counsel. Judge, we're amenable to status
16 reports to keep things from languishing, and
17 we're also willing to work with the other
18 parties towards a schedule.

19 MR. KEEVIL: Yeah, we would be, too, Judge.
20 This is Keevil. One question: I don't remember
21 if there is any further procedural schedule
22 ordered after this prehearing conference. Do
23 you have anything that's already been, you know,
24 ordered by you or the Commission?

25 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Not that I recall,

1 Mr. Keevil. I will double check, but I don't
2 recall anything else.

3 MR. KEEVIL: Okay.

4 JUDGE PRIDGIN: So what I'm hearing is some
5 sort of, I guess, agreement, if you will, that
6 the parties are going to talk both about a
7 proposed procedural schedule and just continue
8 to talk about the substance of the case. My
9 thought would be just to order some sort of
10 pleading or, you know, whatever the parties deem
11 would be appropriate in roughly 30 days.

12 Does anybody have any objections or
13 comments on that?

14 MS. JOHNSON: I think that's certainly
15 reasonable. And if we happen to get a
16 procedural schedule or something else filed
17 beforehand, then I'll be -- obviously I think we
18 wouldn't necessarily need the status report, but
19 I think that sounds reasonable.

20 MR. WILLIAMS: Judge, this is Nathan
21 Williams. I think I'm echoing that, which is
22 that there would be some sort of filing about
23 our status in 30 days in the event there's not
24 something else filed.

25 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Yeah. That's what I'm

1 looking for. Mr. Keevil, will that work for
2 you?

3 MR. KEEVIL: Yeah, I agree, Judge. I mean,
4 there's nothing stopping us from filing either a
5 procedural schedule or a settlement proposal
6 before 30 days, but if we don't have one or the
7 other of them filed, something in 30 days sounds
8 reasonable to me.

9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: That's exactly what I was
10 shooting for. So I'll get an order out, likely
11 later today, that will show some sort of
12 pleading in 30 days.

13 I think that's all I have. Does counsel
14 have anything else for me before we go off the
15 record?

16 MR. KEEVIL: One thing, Judge, I'd just
17 like to -- this is not -- I mean, it's
18 connected, but it's not directly connected.
19 Part of this case is already settled, and Ameren
20 was ordered to file compliance tariffs, which
21 they have done, and Staff was ordered to file a
22 recommendation on those compliance charges, and
23 I believe the recommendation on the compliance
24 charge is due this Friday, which we're still
25 planning to file, just so you and everyone is

1 aware of that.

2 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Yes. Thank you. I do
3 recall the Company filing compliance tariffs. I
4 appreciate the reminder on that, Mr. Keevil.

5 Anything further before we go off the
6 record?

7 (No response.)

8 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Hearing nothing
9 further from counsel, that will conclude the
10 prehearing conference in File No. EE-2019-0382.
11 Thank you very much. We're off the record.

12 (Hearing adjourned.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Lori D. Mothersbaugh, a Certified Court Reporter, CCR No. 0423, within and for the State of Missouri, do hereby certify that the foregoing prehearing conference was taken by me to the best of my ability via WebEx and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction; that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this deposition was taken, and further, that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties thereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.


Lori D. Mothersbaugh, CCR No. 0423

1	agree 7:3	conclude 8:9	Friday 4:19 7:24
10:03 3:7	agreement 6:5	conference 3:2,5 5:22 8:10	G
15th 3:6	amenable 5:6,9,15	connected 7:18	Good 3:1
191 3:14	Amended 4:18	Consumers 4:12	guess 6:5
2	Ameren 3:10,12,22 4:17 7:19	continue 5:12 6:7	H
200 4:4,8	anyone's 5:3	counsel 3:9 4:7,12, 16,21 5:15 7:13 8:9	happen 6:15
2020 3:6	appearance 3:8,17	Court 3:18	hearing 4:15 5:1 6:4 8:8,12
2230 4:9	appearing 3:12,22 4:2	D	held 3:6
23rd 3:20	Application 4:18	days 4:23 6:11,23 7:6, 7,12	Honor 3:11 5:5
3	apprised 4:24	deem 6:10	I
30 4:23 6:11,23 7:6,7, 12	assigned 3:4	directly 7:18	initial 4:21
308 3:20	Avenue 3:14	double 6:1	interested 5:9
4	aware 8:1	due 7:24	issues 5:13
401 3:21	B	E	J
6	Banks 3:16,18,19,23	echoing 6:21	Jefferson 4:5,9
63103 3:21	behalf 3:12,22,24 4:2, 7,12	EE-2019-0382 3:3 8:10	Jeffrey 4:1
63166 3:14	Box 4:9	enter 3:16	Johnson 3:11,12,23 5:5,6 6:14
650 4:9	C	entries 3:8	Judge 3:1,4,23 4:1,6, 11,15 5:14,15,19,25 6:4,20,25 7:3,9,16 8:2, 8
65101 4:5	case 5:10 6:8 7:19	entry 3:24 4:7,12	June 3:6
65102 4:10	charge 7:24	Eric 3:15,19	K
8	charges 7:22	event 6:23	Keevil 4:1,2,6 5:19,20 6:1,3 7:1,3,16 8:4
800 4:4	check 6:1	F	kind 4:23
A	Chouteau 3:14	feels 4:22	L
AARP 4:12	City 4:5,10	file 3:3 7:20,21,25 8:10	languish 5:2
address 3:13 4:3	co-counsel 3:15	filed 4:18 6:16,24 7:7	
adjourned 8:12	comments 5:3 6:13	filing 4:22 6:22 7:4 8:3	
	Commission 3:25 4:3,24 5:24	folks 5:8	
	Company 8:3		
	compliance 7:20,22, 23 8:3		

languishing 5:16	Paula 3:12 5:5	response 4:14 8:7	
Law 3:4,20	planning 7:25	Ron 3:3	U
light 4:17	pleading 6:10 7:12	roughly 3:7 6:11	usual 3:13
LLC 3:20	potential 5:12		W
located 3:20	prehearing 3:2,5 5:22 8:10	S	
Louis 3:14,21	premature 4:19	schedule 4:20 5:7,11, 18,21 6:7,16 7:5	wanting 4:25
M	preside 3:4	Service 4:3	Webex 3:6
Madam 3:18	Pridgin 3:1,3,23 4:6, 11,15 5:25 6:4,25 7:9 8:2,8	settled 7:19	Williams 4:8,11 5:14 6:20,21
Madison 4:4,8	procedural 4:20 5:7, 11,21 6:7,16 7:5	settlement 5:13 7:5	work 5:8,10,17 7:1
Missouri 3:10,13,14, 21 4:3,5,10,13,18	proposal 7:5	shooting 7:10	working 5:6,9,12
morning 3:2,7	proposed 4:20 6:7	show 7:11	
N	public 4:3,7 5:15	sort 6:5,9,22 7:11	
Nathan 4:8 5:14 6:20	push 5:1	sounds 6:19 7:7	
necessarily 6:18	Q	St 3:14,21	
negotiating 4:25	question 5:20	Staff 3:24 4:2 7:21	
North 3:20	R	start 3:9	
O	reasonable 6:15,19 7:8	status 4:22 5:15 6:18, 23	
objections 5:4 6:12	recall 5:25 6:2 8:3	stopping 7:4	
Office 4:7	recommendation 7:22,23	Street 3:21 4:4,9	
offline 5:8	record 3:1 7:15 8:6, 11	substance 6:8	
oral 3:8	Regulatory 3:4	suggestion 5:4	
order 4:20 6:9 7:10	remember 5:20	Suite 3:21 4:4,9	
ordered 5:22,24 7:20, 21	reminder 8:4	T	
P	report 6:18	talk 6:6,8	
P.O. 4:9	Reporter 3:19	tariffs 7:20 8:3	
Part 7:19	reports 4:22 5:16	thing 7:16	
parties 5:7,18 6:6,10	resolution 5:10	things 5:16	
past 4:19		thought 6:9	
		thoughts 4:21	
		time 3:6	
		today 4:17 7:11	