

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

In the Matter of the Application of Union Electric)	
Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri for an)	
Order Authorizing the Issue and Sale of Up to)	<u>File No. EF-2017-0265</u>
\$425,000,000 Aggregate Principal Amount)	
of Additional Long-term Indebtedness)	

STAFF STATUS REPORT TO COMMISSION ORDER DIRECTING FILING

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, through Staff Counsel's Office, in response to the Commission's April 10, 2017, Order Directing Filing respecting the April 7, 2017, filing of a financing Application by Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri ("Ameren Missouri") for authority to issue and sell up to \$425,000,000 aggregate principal amount of additional long-term indebtedness. In its April 10, 2017, Order Directing Filing, the Commission directed the Staff to file no later than May 8, 2017, a recommendation, or a statement of when it can reasonably file a recommendation on the Application. In response thereto, the Staff submits the following Status Report that it can reasonably file its recommendation with the Commission no later than Friday, May 12, 2017:

1. Ameren Missouri states in its Application that it proposes to issue and sell from time to time, \$425,000,000 aggregate principal amount of additional long-term indebtedness in one or a combination of the following forms, with such terms and provisions as are described in its Application: first mortgage bonds or other forms of secured indebtedness (including senior secured debt securities secured by a corresponding series of first mortgage bonds).

2. Ameren Missouri proposes to use the proceeds from the issuance and sale of the additional long-term indebtedness, after deduction of commissions or discounts paid to the underwriters in connection with the additional long-term indebtedness: (1) to pay at maturity, \$425,000,000 principal amount of the Ameren Missouri's 6.40% Senior Secured Notes due June 15, 2017, or (2) to pay shortly after maturity, short-term debt incurred as a result of paying at maturity, Ameren Missouri's 6.40% Senior Secured Notes due June 15, 2017.

3. The Staff submitted five (5) Data Requests to Ameren Missouri on April 14, 2017. The Staff appreciates Ameren Missouri providing responses in less than the twenty (20) days permitted by the Commission's rule on discovery.

4. Ameren Missouri has requested an order approving its Application with an effective date no later than Monday, June 5, 2017, so that it may secure financing on a timely basis.

5. Staff has contacted Ameren Missouri and has advised Ameren Missouri that the Staff will file a Status Report this date and that it can reasonably file its recommendation in this proceeding no later than Friday, May 12, 2017.

WHEREFORE the Staff states that it that it can reasonably file its recommendation with the Commission by no later than May 12, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Steven Dottheim

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was served via e-mail on counsel for the parties of record to this case, on this 5th day of May, 2017.

/s/ Steven Dottheim