

**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 Adjust        )  
its Revenues for Electric Service                )        **File No. ER-2021-0240**

In the Matter of Union Electric Company            )  
d/b/a Ameren Missouri’s Tariffs to Adjust        )  
its Revenues for Natural Gas Service             )        **File No. GR-2021-0241**

**RESPONSE REGARDING LOCAL PUBLIC HEARINGS**

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Staff”) and for its response to the Commission’s June 11, 2021 *Order Directing Responses Regarding Local Public Hearings*, states as follows:

1. Staff has reviewed the local public hearing attendance and participation numbers for Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri’s (“Ameren Missouri”) most recent prior gas and electric rate cases:

**Case No. GR-2019-0177**

6/10/2019	Cape Girardeau	5 attended	0 testified
6/11/2019	Rolla	0 attended	0 testified
6/12/2019	Wentzville	0 attended	0 testified
6/12/2019	Columbia	1 attended	1 testified

**Case No. ER-2019-0335**

1/6/2020	Arnold	10 attended	1 testified
1/7/2020	Ferguson	30 attended	3 testified
1/13/2020	Kirksville	10 attended	1 testified
1/14/202	O’Fallon	4 attended	0 testified

1/15/2020	Cape Girardeau	1 attended	0 testified
1/16/2020	Sunset Hills	30 attended	12 testified
1/16/2020	St. Louis	14 attended	5 testified
1/20/2020	Jefferson City	2 attended	1 testified

2. Staff also has considered the benefits and risks of conducting public hearings in person and virtually in these pending cases. After consideration, Staff recommends the Commission conduct these public hearings virtually.<sup>1</sup>

3. Based on the attendance and participation numbers listed in paragraph 1, Staff recommends the Commission order 2 (two) virtual public hearings for the pending Ameren Missouri gas rate case (No. GR-2021-0241) and 5 (five) virtual public hearings for the pending Ameren Missouri electric rate case (No. ER-2021-0240). Staff suggests the Commission order a virtual public hearing schedule as follows:

Case No. GR-2021-0241

10/4/2021 6pm All Gas Customers

10/8/2021 Noon All Gas Customers

Case No. ER-2021-0240

10/5/2021 Noon Kirksville/O'Fallon/Cape Girardeau

10/6/2021 6pm City of St Louis/St Louis County

10/7/2021 Noon St. Louis County/Jefferson County

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<sup>1</sup> Public hearings were conducted virtually for the most recent Missouri-American Water Company rate case, Case No. WR-2020-0344, while public hearings were conducted in person for the rate case Missouri-American Water Company filed in 2017, Case No. WR-2017-0285. Staff confirmed that public hearing attendance and participation numbers did not significantly change from the in person public hearings held in Case No. WR-2017-0285 and the virtual public hearings held in WR-2020-0344. Additionally, Staff notes there is an ongoing concern regarding public gatherings and the COVID-19 pandemic. See the following article appearing on the St. Louis Post Dispatch's website, [Missouri leads nation in COVID cases per 100,000 residents | Coronavirus | stltoday.com](#)

10/7/2021 6pm All Electric Customers

10/8/2021 6pm All Electric Customers

4. Ameren Missouri has stated to Staff that it supports the suggestions Staff makes herein, and further stated that Staff may state as such in this filing.

WHEREFORE, Staff submits this *Response Regarding Local Public Hearings* for the Commission's information and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

**/s/ Jamie S. Myers**

Jamie S. Myers

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served by electronic mail, or First Class United States Postal Mail, postage prepaid, on this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2021, to all counsel of record.

**/s/ Jamie S. Myers**