

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office in
Jefferson City on the 26th day of
August, 2015.

In the Matter of a Working Case to)
Consider Mechanisms to Encourage)
Infrastructure Efficiency)

File No. EW-2016-0041

**ORDER DIRECTING STAFF TO INVESTIGATE AND OPENING
A REPOSITORY FILE**

Issue Date: August 26, 2015

Effective Date: August 26, 2015

During Ameren Missouri's recent rate case, ER-2015-0258, the Commission issued an order soliciting input from the parties on whether rate design mechanisms should be established to promote stability or growth of customer levels in geographic locations where there is underutilization of existing infrastructure. Having received significant input from the parties to that case through testimony and argument, the Commission remains interested in exploring whether existing electric utility infrastructure is detrimentally underutilized, whether that underutilization can be identified geographically and quantified, whether there are rate design mechanisms or other tariff provisions that may incentivize more efficient use of existing infrastructure to the benefit of both customers and companies, and whether there are public policy considerations the Commission should consider in weighing the value of any such mechanisms or provisions.¹ To assist it in examining these issues, the Commission will direct its Staff to investigate and report on its findings.

¹ The Commission notes it does not intend that any such mechanisms or provisions be implemented in any rate cases pending during the duration of this docket.

The Commission will direct its Staff to investigate these issues, in cooperation with Missouri's regulated electric utilities. The Commission will also offer interested stakeholders an opportunity to submit comments in this file. If Staff believes an order from the Commission scheduling a workshop or otherwise assisting Staff in its investigation is necessary, it may file a motion requesting such action. Upon completion of its investigation, Staff shall offer its analysis and recommendations regarding these issues, including recommendations on how to proceed with further investigation if necessary.

This file shall serve as a repository for documents and comments. Using this file, any person with an interest in this matter may view documents and may submit any pertinent responsive comments or documents. As this is not a contested case, any person may file a comment without counsel and without *ex parte* constraints (arising from this matter). Intervention requests are not necessary to submit comments or view documents.

The public is welcome to submit comments by forwarding electronic communications through the electronic filing and information system (EFIS) at the Commission's website, <http://www.psc.mo.gov>. (Click on the EFIS/Case filings link on the left side of the page. Scroll down and click on the public comment link. Please refer to File No. EW-2016-0041.) Written comments in hard copy may be mailed to the Commission at P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 and should also reference File No. EW-2016-0041. The public can view the contents of the file by following the link at <http://www.psc.mo.gov>.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. This case is established as a repository for documents and comments regarding the Commission's consideration of mechanisms and tariff provisions to encourage electric utility infrastructure efficiency.
2. The Commission's Data Center shall provide a copy of this order to all Commissioner-certificated electric utilities in the State of Missouri.
3. The Commission's Staff shall investigate as described in the body of this order and shall file its results and recommendations by October 26, 2015.
4. Responses to Staff's recommendations shall be filed no later than November 25, 2015.
5. Interested stakeholders may file comments on the issues described in the body of this order, on Staff's recommendations, or on responses to Staff's recommendations at any time.
6. This order shall become effective immediately upon issuance.

BY THE COMMISSION



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Hall, Chm., Stoll, Kenney,
and Rupp, CC., concur;
Coleman, C., absent.

Woodruff, Regulatory Law Judge