BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Kevin J. Ballenger,)
Complainant,))) File No. EC-2019-0131
V.) <u></u>
Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri,)))
Respondent)

ORDER GIVING NOTICE OF CONTESTED CASE AND DIRECTING ANSWER

Issue Date: November 7, 2018 Effective Date: November 7, 2018

On November 6, 2018, Kevin Ballenger ("Complainant") filed a complaint with the Missouri Public Service Commission against Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri ("Ameren Missouri"). A copy of the complaint accompanies this notice. This is a contested case¹ authorized by Section 386.390, RSMo 2016. Because this complaint involves less than \$3,000, it shall proceed under the Commission's small complaint procedure.² If any party believes this matter should not proceed under the small complaint procedure, that party may file a motion consistent with the Commission's rule.

As required by Section 536.067(2)(f), RSMo 2016, the Commission informs the parties that the Commission's provisions governing procedures before the Commission, including provisions relating to discovery, are found at Commission Rule 4 CSR 240-2.090.

¹ A "[c]ontested case' means a proceeding before an agency in which legal rights, duties or privileges of specific parties are required by law to be determined after hearing." Section 536.010.4, RSMo 2016. ² 4 CSR 240-2.070(15).

Under Commission rule 4 CSR 240-2.070(15), Ameren Missouri shall have 30 days

from the date of this notice to file a response to the complaint. A copy shall be served upon

the Complainant at his address. The Commission will also direct the Staff of the

Commission to investigate this complaint and file a report.

As an alternative to the formal evidentiary hearing procedure, the Commission offers

mediation. Mediation is a voluntary process in which a neutral person assists the parties in

exploring opportunities for settlement. Upon a written request for mediation, the

Commission may suspend the schedule set forth in this order.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri shall file a response to this

complaint no later than December 7, 2018.

2. The Staff of the Commission shall investigate and file a report on this

complaint no later than December 21, 2018.

3. The Commission's Data Center shall send, by certified mail, a copy of this

notice and order and a copy of the complaint to:

ATTN: Legal Department

P.O. Box 66149. Mail Code 1310

1901 Chouteau Avenue

St. Louis MO 63166-6149

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4. This order shall be effective when issued.

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BY THE COMMISSION

Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

John T. Clark, Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 7th day of November, 2018.



Commissioners

RYAN A. SILVEY Chairman

WILLIAM P. KENNEY

DANIEL Y. HALL

SCOTT T. RUPP

MAIDA J. COLEMAN

Missouri Public Service Commission

POST OFFICE BOX 360 JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65102 573-751-3234 573-751-1847 (Fax Number) http://psc.mo.gov SHELLEY BRUEGGEMANN General Counsel

MORRIS WOODRUFF Secretary

LOYD WILSON Director of Administration

NATELLE DIETRICH Staff Director

<u>Information Sheet Regarding Mediation of Commission Formal Complaint Cases</u>

Mediation is a process where the parties work together to try to resolve their dispute with the aid of a neutral party, the mediator. The mediator's role is help the parties talk to each other. The mediator may offer suggested solutions, but the mediator has no authority to tell the parties what they must do or to determine who "wins." Instead, the mediator simply works with both parties to help them reach an agreement.

Typically, at a mediation session the parties meet for an off-the-record discussion. The mediation session is not a formal proceeding like a hearing and no attorney is required to participate. The Regulatory Law Judges at the Public Service Commission are trained mediators and this service is offered to parties who have formal complaints pending before the Public Service Commission at no charge. If mediation is agreed to by the parties, the Commission will send notice of who the mediator will be and that person will set up the first meeting.

There cannot be a mediation unless both parties to the complaint agree to try in good faith to resolve the dispute. If both parties agree to mediate the complaint, the only information about the mediation that will be disclosed to the Commission is (a) whether the case has been settled and (b) whether the mediation effort was considered to be helpful. The Commission will not ask what was discussed during the mediation.

If the dispute is settled at the mediation, the Commission will require a signed release from the party filing the complaint before the formal complaint case can be dismissed. If the dispute is not resolved through the mediation process, neither party will be penalized for having taken part in the mediation and the formal complaint case will simply pick up where it left off.

Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Morris L Woodry

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 7th day of November 2018.

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Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION November 7, 2018

File/Case No. EC-2019-0131

Missouri Public Service Commission

Staff Counsel Department 200 Madison Street, Suite 800 P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102 staffcounselservice@psc.mo.gov Office of the Public Counsel

Marc Poston 200 Madison Street, Suite 650 P.O. Box 2230 Jefferson City, MO 65102 opcservice@ded.mo.gov Kevin J. Ballenger

Kevin J Ballenger 236 Orchard Ave. Winchester, MO 63021 nitearrow5@hotmail.com

Union Electric Company

Legal Department 1901 Chouteau Avenue P.O. Box 66149, Mail Code 1310 St. Louis, MO 63166-6149 AmerenMOService@ameren.com

Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,

Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

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Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.