

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

In the Matter of the Application of Ameren)
Transmission Company of Illinois for a)
Certificate of Convenience and Necessity)
Under Section 393.170.1, RSMo. Relating to)
Transmission Investments in Northeast)
Missouri)

File No. EA-2024-0147

STAFF’S RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Staff”), by and through the undersigned counsel, and respectfully states as follows:

1. In its *Order Directing Notice, Setting Intervention Deadline, and Directing Staff Recommendation* issued on February 5, 2024, the Commission ordered Staff to file a recommendation in this case no later than March 19, 2024.

2. On February 2, 2024, the Ameren Transmission Company of Illinois (“ATXI,” “Company,” or “Applicant”) filed an application with the Commission. The Applicant requested a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) to operate and maintain the Fabius Switchyard located in Knox County, Missouri.

3. The Applicant is currently within compliance of Section 393.170.1, RSMo.¹ The statute requires utilities to seek permission and obtain approval from the Commission before the utility begins construction of an electric plant unless the plant has an energy generation unit with a capacity of one megawatt (MW) or less.

ATXI is seeking permission to construct a switchyard, also referred to as a switching station. Switchyards route energy either from different sources or to different customers. The purpose of this new switching station is to interconnect a 290 MW wind

¹ Statutes are current through the end of the 2023 First Regular Session of the 102nd General Assembly.

project in northeast Missouri currently in development by ATXI's interconnecting customer, Northeast Missouri Wind, LLC ("NEMO Wind").

4. The Applicant met the applicable filing requirements for CCN applications for the authority to construct an asset are contained in Commission rule 20 CSR 4240-20.045(6).²

5. Staff's memorandum, attached hereto and incorporated by reference, addresses ATXI's application for a certificate using the Commission's Tartan criteria, and recommends the Commission to issue an order authorizing ATXI's request for a CCN to operate and maintain the Fabius Switchyard located in Knox County, Missouri.

WHEREFORE, Staff respectfully requests the Commission accepts this *Recommendation*, and issue an order authorizing ATXI's request for a CCN to operate and maintain the Fabius Switchyard located in Knox County, Missouri.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Eric Vandergriff

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² The Company complied with 20 CSR 4240-20.045(6) with the exception the sections that were not applicable to this case. The sections not applicable to this case are 20 CSR4240-20.045(6)(E), (G), and (K)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or electronically mailed to all parties and/or counsel of record on this 19th day of March, 2024.

/s/ Eric Vandergriff