# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of Staff's Investigation of Matters	)	
Concerning the Rush Island Energy Center	)	File No. EO-2022-0215
Belonging to Union Electric Company d/b/a	)	
Ameren Missouri		

#### AMEREN MISSOURI MONTHLY REPORT

**COMES NOW** Union Electric Company, d/b/a Ameren Missouri ("Ameren Missouri" or the "Company") and provides its monthly report on the Rush Island Energy Center ("Rush Island"), below.

1. On February 15, 2022, the Missouri Public Service Commission ("MPSC") issued an order in this docket requiring Ameren Missouri to file monthly reports on the status of the proceedings at the federal court as well as the status of its planning for the retirement of Rush Island. These reports are due on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

## **United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri Update**

2. On September 30, 2023, the District Court entered its order establishing a retirement date for the Rush Island Energy Center of October 15, 2024. The Department of Justice is seeking additional mitigation relief beyond the retirement of Rush Island, which Ameren Missouri has opposed. The District Court has required both parties to submit, by May 1, 2024, proposals for mitigation relief in the form of a proposed order. The Court has indicated that it will hold an evidentiary hearing to evaluate the filed proposals. A date for the hearing has not been scheduled.

# **Proceedings at Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and at the Midcontinent Independent System Operator**

3. On July 31, 2023, the Midcontinent Independent System Operator ("MISO") submitted for Commission approval a second System Support Resources ("SSR") agreement by and between MISO and Union Electric d/b/a Ameren Missouri ("Second SSR Agreement"). The Second SSR Agreement is similar to an initial SSR agreement approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") on October 24, 2022, and made effective September 1, 2022. As with the initial SSR agreement, a MISO operating guide details the specific triggers and conditions that will be and have been used for Rush Island's operations.

As MISO explains in its July 31, 2023, filing, none of the needed transmission upgrades will be in place before the end of the initial SSR agreement and the last will likely not be completed until sometime in 2025. MISO further explains that completion of the transmission projects will address the reliability issues that would result from unplanned outages (i.e. contingencies) and will maintain acceptable system performance within the applicable NERC and Transmission Owner planning criteria. FERC approved the Second SSR Agreement on September 29, 2023.

4. In March of 2024, Rush Island unit 1 did not operate. Rush Island unit 2 operated for 37 hours, producing 14,391 MWhs of net generation.

#### Rush Island Energy Center Retirement Planning Update

- 5. **Transmission Planning** As previously reported, the projects that must be completed before Rush Island can be retired are as follows:
  - Replacement of an existing transformer with a larger transformer at Ameren Missouri's Wildwood substation,
  - Installation of a capacitor bank at Ameren Missouri's Overton Substation,
  - Upgrade of the substation bus at Rush Island's switchyard, and
  - Installation of four Static Compensators (STATCOM) in and around the St. Louis region.

- 6. Also as reported previously, there are certain other projects to be completed to meet Ameren Missouri's local transmission planning criteria with the retirement of Rush Island, but the Rush Island retirement will be independent of these projects going into service:
  - Reconductoring 50 miles of conductor on the 345 kV Coffeen to Roxford transmission line,
  - Retap of the current transformers as well as installation of new metering equipment at the 138kV Hannibal West substation,
  - Raising two structures on the 138kV Neoga-Effingham Northwest transmission line and installing new shunts on the entire line, and
  - Constructing a new 138kV transmission line from Beehive to Dupo Ferry and expanding the capacity of the existing Ameren Illinois Dupo Ferry and to Beehive substations to accommodate the new line.
  - 7. Progress on the required projects (listed in paragraph 5 above) is described below.
    - Installation of a larger transformer at Ameren Missouri's Wildwood substation Detailed design work is complete. Construction contractors have been selected for civil and electrical work. Civil construction began in September with the construction of the transformer foundation and oil containment pit to make the site ready for the transformer delivery. The 345/138kV 700MVA transformer that was originally ordered for a project at our Diaz substation has been repurposed and will be installed at the Wildwood Substation to accommodate an expedited delivery schedule. Construction for the Wildwood transformer is ongoing and is on track to be completed by the end of May this year.
    - Installation of a capacitor bank at Ameren Missouri's Overton Substation This project was completed in March 2024.
    - Upgrade bus conductor at Rush Island switchyard –This project was completed in December 2023.
    - Installation of four STATCOMS in and around the St. Louis region The current schedule calls for three of the STATCOMs to be in-service by December of 2024. Construction is underway. The final STATCOM is planned to be in-service by June of 2025. Design is complete. Civil and electrical contractors have been selected. Construction began in April 2024. Ameren Missouri has secured accelerated STATCOM procurement, but the actual construction and delivery of the STATCOM devices is performed by Ameren Missouri's vendors.

- The required projects have all been approved by MISO. Ameren Missouri asked for some additional projects to be approved under MISO's expedited project review process. These additional projects have also been approved and will be incorporated into MTEP23 later this year.
- 8. **Operational Planning** Ameren Missouri started operating under the MISO SSR agreement and associated Operating Guide on September 1, 2022. Since the agreement began, the Rush Island SSR reliability commitments have been as expected, with the units only running during times of MISO need, mostly anticipated to be during summer or winter conditions. We have reduced our O&M and capital budgets for 2023-2025 to reflect that change. We have reached an agreement with the union that will govern how individuals are transferred to other energy centers. The transfers to other facilities will begin in June of this year, with the remainder occurring throughout the year. The plan is to retain approximately 30 employees at Rush Island for safe closure activities.
- 9. As Ameren Missouri has reported previously, the Company continues to work on multiple operational issues that will have to be addressed both during the transition and after retirement of the plant, including creating staffing plans, appropriately adjusting operations and maintenance expenditures and capital investment to reflect retirement of the plant, inspecting remaining inventory to see what is usable elsewhere, and making plans to leave equipment at the plant in safe condition (draining oil, water, etc.), to name a few. Ameren Missouri started with the shutdown plans it developed for the Meramec Energy Center and is modifying them for Rush Island.

**WHEREFORE**, Ameren Missouri requests the Missouri Public Service Commission accept this filing as compliant with the order to file monthly status reports.

(Signatures on next page)

# Respectfully submitted,

### /s/ Wendy K. Tatro

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# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing was served on the Missouri Public Service Commission Staff and the Office of the Public Counsel via electronic mail (e-mail) on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2024.

<u>/s/ Wendy K. Tatro</u> Wendy K. Tatro