BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of ValueMax Agri-Pro, LLC for Change of Electric Supplier

File No. EO-2021-0141

ORDER DIRECTING APPLICANT TO SHOW CAUSE WHY APPLICATION SHOULD NOT BE REJECTED

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Issue Date: December 16, 2020 Effective Date: December 16, 2020 On November 12, 2020, ValueMax Agri-Pro, LLC filed an application with the Missouri Public Service Commission (Commission) requesting that its electric supplier be changed from Barry Electric Cooperative to Ozark Electric Cooperative, Inc. The application of ValueMax Agri-Pro, LLC was signed by Benjamin Hubbard. There is no indication in the application that Mr. Hubbard is an attorney.

The rules of practice before the Commission prohibit a non-attorney from representing a company. Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.080, requires pleadings filed with the Commission to be signed by an attorney authorized to practice law in Missouri. Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.040(5) states that while a natural person may represent himself or herself, "such practice is strictly limited to the appearance of a natural person on his or her own behalf and shall not be made for any other person or entity".

On November 13, 2020, the Commission issued a notice of deficiency regarding Mr. Hubbard's signature on the application, which allowed ValueMax Agri-Pro, LLC thirty days to obtain legal representation. No response was received.

Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.080(5) states that a pleading not signed by an attorney may be rejected. The Commission will not reject the application without giving

ValueMax Agri-Pro, LLC an opportunity to show cause as to why its application should not be rejected.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. No later than December 29, 2020, ValueMax Agri-Pro, LLC shall file a pleading showing cause why its application should not be rejected.

2. This order shall become effective upon issuance.



BY THE COMMISSION

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Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Charles Hatcher, Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo (2016).

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 16th day of December, 2020.