

**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'S REPLY TO PUBLIC COUNSEL AND STAFF RESPONSES TO
UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY'S REQUEST TO
CEASE MONTHLY REPORTING OBLIGATION**

COMES NOW Union Electric Company, d/b/a Ameren Missouri ("Ameren Missouri" or the "Company"), and under 20 CSR 4240-2.080(13), files the following reply to Public Counsel's and Staff's responses:

1. On January 21, 2025, Ameren Missouri filed its *Motion to Cease Reporting*, which was a request to end the monthly reporting obligation that had been imposed by the Commission in this docket in 2022.

2. On January 27, 2025, and on February 4, 2025, respectively, the Office of the Public Counsel and Staff responded to Ameren Missouri's motion. Public Counsel opposes the request, and the Staff proposes an alternative.

Public Counsel

3. Public Counsel provides two purported justifications for continuing to require the Company to submit monthly reports in a docket opened approximately three years ago regarding a power plant that is no longer in service. First, that one of four transmission upgrades identified by MISO in its Attachment Y study will not be in service for a few more months; and second, that Ameren Missouri has not fulfilled what Public Counsel claims was a primary concern of the Staff when Staff requested this docket be opened. Neither justification withstands scrutiny and the

purported justifications certainly do not warrant the administrative effort associated with continuing to file monthly reports that at this time no longer serve the purposes of the docket.

4. The Commission ordered the filing of the subject monthly reports in its February 15, 2022, *Order Opening an Investigation*, as follows:

Ameren Missouri shall periodically report on [1] the status of proceedings at the federal court, [and 2] as well as the status of its planning for the retirement of Rush Island.

5. As the January 2025 Monthly Report indicates, the proceedings at the federal court are complete and the plant is retired. Consequently, the first purpose of the ordered reporting is thus also complete. As established in File No. EF-2024-0021 (the Rush Island Securitization Docket), the Company's decision to retire Rush Island was a prudent one and that retirement has occurred. Thus, the second purpose of the ordered reporting is also complete.

6. Public Counsel's quote from the Commission's order that directed the Staff to undertake an investigation does not aid Public Counsel's argument. To the contrary, the quoted passage undermines it. In the quoted passage, the Commission noted that the "timing of the retirement must be evaluated to avoid service disruptions," with the Commission going on to discuss the fact that the Company would be updating its Preferred Resource Plan in June 2022 to account for its decision to retire Rush Island once necessary transmission upgrade were completed.

7. The timing of the retirement has been evaluated and indeed the plant is closed. There have been no "service disruptions." The Company filed the updated Preferred Resource Plan nearly three years ago. Indeed, it filed an additional triennial Integrated Resource Plan approximately 18 months ago. And finally, the Commission agrees that the decision to retire Rush Island, as planned, was a prudent decision.

8. Moreover, all transmission upgrades needed to ensure reliable service are complete as evidenced by the fact that MISO did not extend the plant's status as a System Support Resource beyond its October, 2024 retirement. The only remaining transmission system project is to complete installation of one STATCOM unit that will soon be complete in advance of the summer of 2025, ensuring that Rush Island's absence in the Summer of 2025 will not negatively impact the system.¹

9. Ceasing further reporting does not deprive the Commission of any of its powers of regulatory oversight but it is time to bring this investigatory docket to a close as the docket's purpose has been served. The Staff has undertaken an "investigation regarding Ameren Missouri's plans to retire Rush Island," the Staff has filed its report, and, as noted, there is nothing more to report on the topics on which Ameren Missouri was ordered to report in the first place. *See Order Opening an Investigation, supra.*

Staff

10. Staff does not oppose the relief the Company seeks, a fact that also demonstrates the inaccuracy of Public Counsel's claims about Staff's purpose for the docket, but requests additional reporting as to certain enumerated items. While unclear, Staff's language in its response suggests Staff's does not request any this reporting to occur on a monthly basis.

11. The Company has no objection to making filings on a reasonable cadence to update the eight bulleted items about which Staff seeks an update. The Company requests that it be allowed to submit such reports semi-annually, beginning on July 15, 2025, and continuing on six-month intervals thereafter until the last of the eight items are completed and the report on that item has been filed.

¹ The Company has no objection to providing notice when that project is complete and in-service, in addition to the semiannual notices discussed below.

WHEREFORE, Ameren Missouri renews its request that the Missouri Public Service Commission enter and order that ceases the Company's obligation to file monthly status reports and consents to an order to semiannually report on the eight items enumerated in Staff's response starting July 15, 2025, until the last of such items are complete and a report on that item has been filed.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ **Wendy 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 10th of February, 2025.

/s/ James B. Lowery
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