Filed February 28, 2012 **Data Center** Missouri Public **Service Commission**

Exhibit No.: 122 3

Continued Participation Issue(s): Witness: Ajay K. Arora

Sponsoring Party: Type of Exhibit:

Union Electric Company Direct Testimony

Case No.:

EO-2011-0128

Date Testimony Prepared: February 6, 2012

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION CASE NO. EO-2011-0128

SUPPLEMENTAL SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

AJAY K. ARORA

ON

BEHALF OF

UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a AMEREN MISSOURI

> St. Louis, Missouri February, 2012

1		SUPPLEMENTAL SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY	
2		OF AJAY K. ARORA	
3		CASE NO. EO-2011-0128	
4	Q.	Please state your name.	
5	A.	My name is Ajay K. Arora.	
6	Q.	Are you the same Ajay K. Arora who filed direct and surrebuttal testimony	
7	in this docket?		
8	A.	Yes, I am.	
9	Q.	What is the purpose of your Supplemental Surrebuttal Testimony?	
10	A.	The purpose of my Supplemental Surrebuttal Testimony is to respond to the	
11	"Supplemental Rebuttal Testimony" of Office of the Public Counsel ("OPC") witness Ryan P		
12	Kind.		
13	Q.	Mr. Kind appears to take the Company and the other signatories to the Non-	
14	Unanimous Stipulation and Agreement ("Stipulation and Agreement") to task for stating		
15	in the Stip	ulation and Agreement that the "Stakeholders", which includes OPC, have no	
16	"material	disagreements regarding the appropriateness of extending the interim and	
17	conditional permission for Ameren Missouri to participate in the Midwest ISO." Can you		
18	explain, fro	om the Company's perspective, why that statement appears in the Stipulation	
19	and Agreement?		
20	A.	Yes, I can. A review of all of the testimony filed by all of the other parties in this	
21	case, includ	ing testimony by the Staff and including specifically Mr. Kind's "Supplemental	
22	Surrebuttal Testimony," reveals that no party has actually suggested that Ameren Missour		
23	should (a) w	rithdraw from the Midwest ISO to operate as a stand-alone Independent Coordinator	

- of Transmission ("ICT") or (b) withdraw from the Midwest ISO and transfer functional control of its transmission system to another regional transmission organization ("RTO"). A review of all of the other parties' testimonies reveals that none of them dispute in any material way the approximately \$105 of net benefits over the next three years (2012 - 2014) from continued participation. A review of all of their testimonies further indicates that to the extent any of them (essentially OPC) have remaining concerns all of their concerns relate to conditions they advocate that if imposed, from their perspective, might make Midwest ISO participation even more beneficial than it already is.
 - Q. Please relate your prior answer to the statement Mr. Kind refers to in the Stipulation and Agreement.
 - A. My answer which I believe reflects the only objective and reasonable reading of the other parties' testimonies demonstrates that the only remaining issue in this case is *not* whether permission to continue Midwest ISO participation should be extended all agree it should be but rather, they contend that issues remain regarding whether certain conditions should be imposed on that continued permission, if they lawfully can be. Consequently, the Stipulation and Agreement reflects a completely accurate description of the lack of material disagreements regarding whether Midwest ISO participation should continue and even about the term of the extended permission that I testified about in my Surrebuttal Testimony and that is reflected in the Stipulation and Agreement.

¹ MJMEUC continues to make a peripheral argument about whether its municipalities *might* be harmed somehow if a *different* kind of capacity market than that which is proposed in the Midwest ISO is later adopted. It's hard for me to imagine this Commission telling Ameren Missouri to forego \$100 million of benefits for customers based on what might or could happen regarding MJMEUC in the future, particularly given that the Stipulation and Agreement reflects Ameren Missouri's agreement that MJMEUC can petition the Commission essentially anytime it wants between now and when Ameren Missouri must file another study and initiate another docket (November 15, 2015) if MJMEUC contends that something material has occurred that creates a substantial risk that Ameren Missouri's participation has become detrimental to the public interest.

1	Q. Is it possible that OPC actually contends that unless they get their way the		
2	Commission should deny the Company's request to continue its Midwest ISC		
3	participation?		
4	A. I suppose anything could be possible, and Mr. Kind does state in his		
5	Supplemental Surrebuttal Testimony that OPC has "material disagreements" regarding extending		
6	Ameren Missouri's permission. But when I read all of his testimonies, his deposition transcrip		
7	and OPC's Position Statements, it is clear to me that OPC is not seriously contending the		
8	Ameren Missouri should get out of the Midwest ISO and forego the documented (and essentially		
9	undisputed) net benefits associated with Ameren Missouri's MISO participation (almost all o		
10	which flow directly to customers).		
11	Q. Please explain what in Mr. Kind's deposition testimony causes you to believe		
12	that OPC does not want Ameren Missouri to stop participating in the Midwest ISO.		
13	A. In his deposition, Mr. Kind confirmed that the "only major concern [he has] with		
14	[my cost-benefit analysis results] showing \$105 net present value benefit over the next three		
15	years is the inclusion of a reduction of Ameren Missouri's share of MISO administrative cost.		
16	associated with Entergy's entering the MISO."2 If we ignore that "concern" the net benefits are		
17	still approximately \$104 million ³ . It's obvious then that OPC agrees participation has ver		
18	substantial benefits for Ameren Missouri and its customers.		
19	Q. What else leads you to the conclusion that OPC surely doesn't want the		
20	Company to stop participating in the Midwest ISO?		
21	A. In his deposition Mr. Kind also testified:		
22 23	"Q. And while you request for on behalf of the Office of the Public Counsel — these conditions that are summarized here, I		

² Kind Deposition, Nov. 8, 2011, p. 8, 1. 14-22. ³ Ameren Missouri response to MPSC data request 0027.

1 2		didn't see anything in your testimony to suggest that you did not recommend that Ameren Missouri continue participation in MISO.
3		Is that fair?
4		
5		A. Well, we recommend that the Commission authorize
6		continued participation so long as it imposes OPC's recommended
7		conditions in order to ensure that continued participation is not
8 9		detrimental to public interest.
10		Q. Any one of those conditions, if not imposed then, is your
11		testimony that OPC would recommend that MISO participation
12		end?
13		
14		A. I wouldn't necessarily say that. I mean, there could be
15		another way to accomplish the same thing other than the
16		conditions I have in there.
17		Description of the second seco
18		Q. But it is fair to state, isn't it, Mr. Kind, that either in your rebuttal testimony or your surrebuttal testimony, you do not testify
19 20		that Ameren's participation – Ameren Missouri's participation in
20 21		MISO should cease or end. You just say that there should be
22		conditions imposed on its continued participation. Fair enough?
23		outside the position of the contract of the co
24		A. That's right. Yeah,"4
25	Q.	What about the specific participation terms that Ameren Missouri is
26	proposing as	outlined at page 3, line 9 to page 4, line 13 of your Surrebuttal Testimony.
27	Does Mr. Kir	d object to any of those?
28	Α.	Not as far as 1 can tell, based upon his testimonies and his deposition. For
29	example, Mr.	Kind agrees that the May 31, 2016 extended permission date reflected in the
30	Stipulation is	appropriate: "Q. So do you have any opinion as to whether or not the May 31,
31	2016, date the	at's been proposed by Mr. Aurora [sic] is appropriate or inappropriate? A. It's
32	appropriate."	So that means he doesn't disagree with the first term of the participation terms I
33	have outlined.	It's also absolutely clear that Mr. Kind does agree that Ameren Missouri should

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make another filing in advance of that date - which is the second term of the participation terms I

⁴ Id. p. 13, l. 15 to p. 14, l. 12. ⁵ Id. p. 21, l. 24 to p. 22, l. 2.

have outlined. It's not 100 percent clear if Mr. Kind has some issue with the third term I have 1 outlined; that is, that if Ameren Missouri's permission to participate in the Midwest ISO is not 2 extended after the next docket Ameren Missouri's participation would continue beyond May 31, 3 4 2016 for long enough to allow Ameren Missouri to, as a practical matter, reestablish functional control or to transfer to another RTO, but I would think that Mr. Kind has to recognize that the 5 Company can't just "flip a switch" on a given day and suddenly reestablish that control or 6 transfer to another RTO. Moreover, given that Mr. Kind clearly agrees that one of the options 7 we ought to study for the next case is possible participation in SPP, and given that SPP is not 8 9 expected to have a Day 2 Market that we can study until April 2014, it appears clear to me that Mr. Kind should agree that we need to have a year of SPP data on which to base such a study. 10 To have a year of SPP data on which to base such a study means we can't practically conduct the 11 study, and file another case, until late 2015, as we propose. This assumes that the SPP Day 2 12 market goes live by June 2014 as currently proposed. 13

Q. What makes you believe Mr. Kind agrees that you should examine SPP as a future option in the next study and account for its planned Day 2 Market?

A. As noted, he agrees that the May 31, 2016 extended permission date is appropriate, and he also recognized that we proposed that date so that we could account for a full year of operation of SPP's Day 2 Market: "Q. And in terms of the 2016 date, you understood that the reason that Mr. Aurora [sic] proposed that . . . was that his belief this would allow the analysis that he proposed to include actual date regarding the operation of the SPP date [sic] "A. Uh-huh. Q. Yes? A. Yes. I'm sorry about that." And he goes on to agree that as an economist, analysis of the actual historical data is "generally a good idea."

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⁶ Id. p. 20, l. 24 to p. 21, l. 9.

⁷ Id. p. 21, l. 10 to l. 15.

Q. What about the last two participation terms you have proposed; where does Mr. Kind stand on those?

A. His rebuttal testimony indicates that he recommended "requiring UE to perform a cost benefit analysis in consultation with stakeholders prior to the end of the limited period of interim approval." That's precisely what we are proposing, and it is precisely what is called for by the Stipulation and Agreement. Lastly, we have addressed the concerns Mr. Kind expressed regarding the possibility that a development could occur between now and when our extended permission would end by agreeing to a provision that provides the affirmative right of any stakeholder, including OPC, to ask the Commission to open a docket early to re-examine the extension of permission we are asking for in this case. Mr. Kind admits that this condition, which is embodied in Section 10.a of the Stipulation and Agreement, "could be helpful in addressing some of the concerns of the parties to this case." Then he goes on to state that it doesn't address one concern, that is, OPC's contention that Ameren Missouri should have a separate representative(s) at the Midwest ISO, which Ameren Missouri witnesses Haro and Borkowski have already addressed.

Q. Please summarize the "material disagreement" in this case.

A. Despite Mr. Kind's apparent attempt to confuse the issue in his Supplemental Rebuttal Testimony, the bottom line is that there is no credible material disagreement about whether Ameren Missouri should continue to participate in the Midwest ISO through May 31, 2016 (or for awhile thereafter to the extent necessary to practically reestablish functional control or transfer control to another RTO); there is no credible material disagreement about when the next case should be filed; and there is no credible disagreement about how we should go about

⁸ Kind Rebuttal, p. 17, ll. 1-21.

⁹ Supplemental Kind Rebuttal, p. 23, l. 1-2.

developing the next cost-benefit study. The "disagreement" relates solely to (1) OPC's desire to dictate that Ameren Missouri build all transmission, (2) to Mr. Kind's argument that Ameren Missouri's representation at the Midwest ISO should be different, and (3) that some day, years from now, it is possible that the Midwest ISO could have a capacity market (also referred to as the resource adequacy construct) that, according to Mr. Kind, might not be in the interests of Ameren Missouri's customers. I am not in a position to address the first two of those issues - I leave to Ms. Borkowski issues (1) and (2) and to Mr. Haro issue (2), but I can address the third one in the context of the specific terms for continued permission we are proposing in this case.

Q. Please do.

A. Mr. Kind himself admits that whatever concerns he has about the impact of the Midwest ISO's capacity market on Ameren Missouri's retail customers are long-term concerns only, and he admits that in his view long-term is 10 to 20 years: "A. No. Long-term, to me, is you know, the next 10 to 20 years. These – once you get this type of resource adequacy construct in place, it's – it's not likely to go away. And so it's going to be something that can create significant risks long-term for Ameren ratepayers, you know." And Mr. Kind goes on to agree that the Commission should not wait to see the terms of any capacity market in the Midwest ISO might actually turn out to be before authorizing Ameren Missouri to continue its Midwest ISO participation: "Q. So are you saying, then, Mr. Kind, that we should just wait and see as to what capacity actually – capacity market gets ordered by FERC before even Ameren Missouri is authorized to continue participation in MISO at this point. A. No. "II Consequently, Mr. Kind's "concerns" about the capacity market issues, even if one assumed they were valid, have nothing to do with the question of whether Ameren Missouri should continue to participate in the

¹⁰ Kind. Deposition, p. 116, l. 23 to p. 117, l. 3.

¹¹ Id. p. 120, 1. 6-11.

Supplemental Surrebuttal Testimony of Ajay Arora

- 1 Midwest ISO through the 2016-2017 timeframe we are proposing. Moreover, whatever
- 2 developments may take place in the Midwest ISO capacity market arena over the short-term will
- 3 be taken into account in the cost-benefit study we will be filing by November 15, 2015. And
- 4 finally, if something material happens in this or another area impacting whether Ameren
- 5 Missouri's participation in the Midwest ISO is detrimental to the public interest before
- 6 November 15, 2015 others, including OPC, are free to ask the Commission to take action sooner
- 7 than then.

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- 8 Q. Do you have other comments on the capacity market construct the Midwest
 - ISO has proposed?
- 10 A. Yes. As I have previously indicated, Ameren Missouri is long capacity and its
- 11 expected to remain so well beyond the period of time for which permission to continue
- participation in the Midwest ISO is being requested in this case. At worst, the Midwest ISO's
- capacity market would be neutral as far as Ameren Missouri and its customers are concerned,
- and it may very well benefit them. The self-schedule and opt-out provisions proposed by the
- 15 Midwest ISO would provide protection even if Ameren Missouri were short capacity, but as
- noted, this is not an issue during the period of extended permission at issue in this case.
- 17 Q. Does this conclude your supplemental surrebuttal testimony?
- 18 A. Yes, it does.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri for Authority to Continue the Transfer of Functional Control of Its Transmission System to the Midwest Independent Transmission system Operator, Inc.)) Case No. EO-2011-0128)
AFFIDAVIT OF AJAY	K. ARORA
STATE OF MISSOURI)) ss CITY OF ST. LOUIS)	
Ajay K. Arora, being first duly sworn on his oath, st	ates:
I. My name is Ajay K. Arora. I work in	the City of St. Louis, Missouri, and
I am employed by Ameren Services as Director of C	orporate Planning.
2. Attached hereto and made a part here	of for all purposes is my
Supplemental Surrebuttal Testimony on behalf of Un	nion Electric Company d/b/a Ameren
Missouri consisting of 2 pages, all of which has	been prepared in written form for
introduction into evidence in the above-referenced d	ocket.
3. I hereby swear and affirm that my ans	swers contained in the attached
testimony to the questions therein propounded are tra	and correct. Jeffy Mumal Ajay K. Arora
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of F	V V
	Mary Hoyt
My commission expires: $4-11-2014$	Mary Hoyt - Notary Public Notary Seal, State of Missouri - Jefferson County Commission #10397820 y Commission Expires 4/11/2014