Exhibit No.: Issue:

Witness: Type of Exhibit: Sponsoring Parties: Case No.: Date Testimony Prepared: Class Cost of Study, Revenue Allocation, Rate Design Kavita Maini Surrebuttal Testimony MECG ER-2024-0319 February 14, 2025

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

In the Matter of Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri's Tariffs to Adjust its Revenues for Electric Service

File No. ER-2024-0319

Surrebuttal Testimony and Schedules of

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) )

Kavita Maini

On behalf of

MIDWEST ENERGY CONSUMERS GROUP

February 14, 2025



KM ENERGY CONSULTING, LLC

Kavita Maini MECG Surrebuttal Testimony

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Case No. ER-2024-0319

STATE OF WISCONSIN

COUNTY OF WAUKESHA

SS

#### **AFFIDAVIT OF KAVITA MAINI**

Kavita Maini, being first duly sworn, on her oath states:

- 1. My name is Kavita Maini. I am a consultant with KM Energy Consulting, LLC. having its principal place of business at 961 North Lost Woods Road, Oconomowoc, WI 53066. I have been retained by the Midwest Energy Consumers Group ("MECG") in this proceeding on its behalf.
- 2. Attached hereto and made a part hereof for all purposes are my surrebuttal testimony and schedules which were prepared in written form for introduction into evidence in Missouri Public Service Commission Case No. ER-2024-0319.
- 3. I hereby swear and affirm that the testimony and schedules are true and correct and that they show the matters and things that they purport to show.

anta Kavita Maini MICHELLE FASSBENDER **Notary Public** State of Wisconsin

Page

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#### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

I.	INTRODUCTION	2
II.	CORRECTIONS TO REBUTTAL TESTIMONY	3
III.	RESPONSES REGARDING CLASS COST OF STUDY ISSUES	4
IV.	<b>RESPONSES REGARDING REVENUE ALLOCATION</b>	9
V.	RESPONSES REGARDING RATE DESIGN	10

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Case No. ER-2024-0319

#### Surrebuttal Testimony of Kavita Maini

#### 1 I. INTRODUCTION

- 2 Q. Please state your name and occupation.
- 3 A. My name is Kavita Maini. I am the principal and sole owner of KM Energy Consulting,
- 4 LLC.
- 5 Q. Please state your business address.
- 6 A. My office is located at 961 North Lost Woods Road, Oconomowoc, WI 53066.

Q. Are you the same Kavita Maini that previously filed Direct Testimony and
Rebuttal testimony in this case?

9 A. Yes, I had filed direct testimony and rebuttal testimony on behalf of the Midwest Energy

10 Consumers Group ("MECG"). I provided recommendations regarding Union Electric

- 11 d/b/a Ameren Missouri's ("Ameren Missouri" or "Company") class cost of service
- 12 study ("COSS"), revenue allocation to classes and rate design for the Large General
- 13 Service ("LGS"), Small Primary Service ("SPS") and Large Primary Service ("LPS")
- 14 rate schedules.

#### 15 Q. What is the purpose of your surrebuttal testimony?

A. The purpose of my surrebuttal testimony is to respond to Company and Commission
Staff witnesses regarding COSS methodology, revenue allocation, and rate design
related matters. The fact that I do not address any particular issue should not be

interpreted as my implicit approval of any position taken by Staff or any other party on
 that issue.

3	II	. CORRECTIONS TO REBUTTAL TESTIMONY
4	Q.	Have you become aware of errors in your rebuttal testimony?
5 6	A.	Yes. Two tables included in my rebuttal testimony had incorrect calculations. Tables 3
7		and 5 in my rebuttal testimony should be replaced with the corrected Table 3R and
8		Table 5R below. I understand that MECG's legal counsel alerted the parties regarding
9		these corrections prior to the submittal of this testimony.
10	Q.	Please describe the corrections.
11 12	A.	I inadvertently utilized an older version of a spreadsheet which resulted in calculations
13		in two tables not getting updated properly. Table 3R shows the corrected class
14		impacts of reallocating generator revenues based on Staff's load weighted day ahead
15		energy allocator. In comparison with Table 3 on page 7 of rebuttal testimony, the
16		magnitude of the over and under allocation is slightly higher for each class in the
17		corrected table below.
18 19 20	J	Cable 3R (Corrected): Class Impacts of Reallocating Generator Revenues Based         on Load Weighted Day Ahead Energy Allocator

	Day Ahead Gen					
	Revenues for Type 1	Residential	SGS	LGS & SPS	LPS	Lighting
Staff Method: Type 1 Resource						
Allocator (based on seasonal						
peaks)	\$1,004,665,227	\$531,636,874	\$103,407,932	\$294,397,727	\$73,859,016	\$1,363,677
Load Weighted Day Ahead						
Energy Allocaor	\$1,004,665,227	\$447,955,758	\$107,267,525	\$340,171,538	\$105,914,592	\$3,355,813
	Over/(Under) allocation					
	of revenues	\$83,681,116	(\$3,859,593)	(\$45,773,811)	(\$32,055,575)	(\$1,992,136)

22 Table 5R below shows the corrected class impacts associated with Staff's

21

23 recommended Administrative and Overhead expenses. Compared to Table 5 on page

- 1 13 of my rebuttal testimony, the magnitude of the over and under allocation of the
- 2 expenses to classes varies. Note that the second half of the table related to net ratebase
- 3 is not impacted and remains the same.
- 4 5
- 6

7

## Table 5R (Corrected): Class Impact Associated with Staff's Recommended Administrative and Overhead Costs and Expenses

	Total	Residential	SGS	LGS & SPS	LPS	Lighting
Staff Recommended Energy Allocation	\$488,269,339	\$210,501,563	\$51,566,616	\$168,767,381	\$56,845,253	\$588,526
Staff Allocation on Other Net Expense	\$488,269,339	\$243,643,080	\$52,339,666	\$147,619,449	\$39,311,472	\$5,355,672
Over (Under) Allocation	\$0	(\$33,141,517)	(\$773,050)	\$21,147,932	\$17,533,781	(\$4,767,146)
Staff Recommended Energy Allocation	\$1,849,155,217	\$797,203,577	\$195,291,142	\$639,149,458	\$215,282,196	\$2,228,843
Staff Allocation on Other Net Ratebase	\$1,849,155,217	\$966,905,484	\$195,956,940	\$536,329,338	\$125,256,773	\$24,706,681
Over (Under) Allocation	\$0	(\$169,701,907)	(\$665,798)	\$102,820,120	\$90,025,423	(\$22,477,838)

## 8 Q. Do these corrections change the conclusions contained in your rebuttal regarding 9 Table 3?

10 A. No, my underlying conclusions remain the same.

## 11 Q. Do these corrections change the conclusions contained in your rebuttal regarding 12 Table 5?

- 13 A. Only for the SGS class. The corrected Table 5 shows that under Staff's recommended
- 14 energy allocation, the SGS class is also under allocated administration and overhead
- 15 expense.

#### Q. Do these corrections cause you to change recommendations in your rebuttal testimony?

18 A. No.

#### 19 III.COST OF SERVICE

- 20 A. Staff's Position on Company's average and excess 4NCP (or "A&E4NCP")
- 21 *Production Cost Allocator*
- 22 Q. Does Staff support the Company's A&E4NCP Allocator?

A. No. Staff's reasons for finding the Company's (or MECG's) A&E4NCP allocator to be
 unreasonable include: (a) inconsistent allocation of renewable generation, (b) failure to
 recognize that Ameren Missouri participates in an integrated marketplace and (c)
 inconsistency of the peaks selected in the Ameren Missouri study and derivative with
 the Company's capacity requirements in the MISO market.

#### 6 **O**.

7

## Please comment on Staff's concern regarding the A&E approach resulting in inconsistent allocation of renewable generation.

8 A. With regards to renewable generation, Staff's position is that such generation should be 9 allocated on the basis of the energy allocator because it was built or acquired to fulfill 10 renewable power standard related needs. Staff fails to recognize that the A&E4NCP 11 allocator is not just based on system demands but also incorporates average energy 12 consumption in its calculation. As noted in Company witness Mr. Tom Hickman on 13 page 20 and 21 of his direct testimony, the utility chose the average and excess 14 methodology because this approach weighs system demands and energy consumption, both of which determine the amount of capacity and type of capacity to procure. 15 16 Consequently, it makes sense for the allocation of all production plant to be predicated 17 on load characteristics on the Company's system, not the operating characteristics of 18 any one or more generation resources. The method already recognizes that capacity 19 resources must meet firm service related capacity obligations while at the same time the 20 type of resources to be built also considers the load profile and energy needs. 21 Consequently, the A&E allocator is reasonable, allocates based on cost causation and 22 compatible with regards to allocating fixed production plant related costs for all 23 generation.

#### 1 Q. Please comment on Staff's concern regarding the A&E approach failing to 2 incorporate the Company's participation in an integrated marketplace or MISO.

3 A. Staff is concerned that the Company's or MECG's approach does not incorporate 4 various elements associated with participation in the MISO market including but not 5 netting out generator revenues from the capital investment cost of the owned or acquired generation. I discussed the flaws and relevance in implementing such an approach in 6 7 detail on pages 5 through 11 of my rebuttal testimony. I concluded that Staff's 8 preference to incorporate the Company's participation in MISO is unnecessary because 9 it results in high complexity without commensurate benefit of cost causation. Instead, 10 as demonstrated in my rebuttal testimony, Staff's preferred methodology in lieu of the 11 A&E approach uses inconsistent approaches to allocating costs and deviates away from 12 cost causation. Consequently, I believe that the A&E methodology utilized by the 13 Company and MECG remains appropriate for allocating fixed production plant related 14 costs.

15 It is also worth noting that Company witness Mr. Nicholas Phillips has similar 16 concerns about Staff's preferred approach to allocate fixed production plant related 17 costs. I generally agree with his detailed and critical assessment regarding this matter 18 and specifically support the following perspective on page 8 of his rebuttal testimony, 19 which further reinforces the support for the A&E methodology:

20 ... Nor do I believe that Ameren's planning and operations have 21 shifted in a material way that would necessitate deviating from well-22 established and industry accepted practices within this proceeding. In order to achieve a level of predictability in rates and fairness 23 24 among customer classes deference should be given to precedent when there is a lack of compelling evidence demonstrating that cost 25 causative factors have fundamentally changed this necessitating a 26 27 commensurate change in cost allocation.

 Q. Please comment on Staff's concern regarding the Company's or MECG's use of non-coincident peaks in the A&E methodology which fail to consider Company's capacity requirements in the MISO market.

- Staff's position is that the Company's or MECG's use of four non-coincident peaks or 4 A. 5 NCPs fails to consider the fact that MISO's capacity requirements are based on 6 coincident peaks and selecting one peak per season. As a practical matter, the data 7 shows that for the Test Year, the coincident peak method (where all fixed production 8 plant related costs are allocated on contribution to certain highest system peaks) would result in slightly lower allocators associated with the LGS/SPS classes and substantially 9 10 similar for the LPS class. Therefore, this finding further reinforces the reasonableness 11 of MECG's A&E4NCP allocator. Table 1 shows a comparison of three allocators: 12 MECG's A&E 4NCP allocator which utilizes class average NCP data for the months 13 with four highest system demands (June, July, August and January).<sup>1</sup>
- Average of the four class coincident peaks for the months with four highest system
  demands (June, July, August and January).
  - Average of the four class coincident peaks for each season (Staff's preference)
- 17 18

16

#### Table 1: MECG A&E 4NCP vs. Coincident Peak Allocators

	A&E 4NCP - MECG	4CP (Class Contribution to Highest 4 System Peak Demands)	4CP (Class Contribution to 4 Seasonal Peak Demands - Staff)
Residential (RES)	51.55%	52.60%	52.59%
Small General Service (SGS)	11.36%	10.95%	10.47%
Large General Service (LGS) /			
Small Power Service (SPS)	29.16%	28.90%	29.13%
Large Power Service (LPS)	7.63%	7.44%	7.68%
Lighting	0.29%	0.12%	0.13%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

19 20

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See the discussion in my direct testimony with regards to the NCP selection.

As can be observed from the Table, the allocators based on coincident peaks are
 similar to or consistent with MECG's A&E4NCP allocator, which utilizes non coincident peaks.

As it relates to seasonal versus the highest peaks, aside from the fact that the 4 5 allocators are similar, it makes sense to utilize contribution to the highest demands 6 because if the Company acquires enough capacity to meet the highest demands plus a 7 planning reserve margin requirement, it will have sufficient capacity for the remaining months with lower demands. The cost causative drivers are, therefore, the months with 8 9 the highest demands that result in building infrastructure. For instance, the Company's 10 highest system peak is 6365 MW in June. The seasonal peak month in Spring is May 11 at 5035 MW. If the Company acquires enough capacity to address the system peak in 12 June plus a planning reserve margin requirement, it will have more than sufficient capacity to fulfill the load requirements in the spring seasonal peak at demands that are 13 1330 MW lower than the system peak (6365 MW-5035 MW=1330 MW). 14

Thus, MECG's (or the Company's)<sup>2</sup> selection of the peaks to calculate the A&E
 allocator are reasonable and the resulting allocator reasonably follows cost causation.

17 18

## **B.** Company's Response to Staff's Distribution Plant Related Classification and Allocation

# Q. In your rebuttal testimony, you opted to review the Company's response regarding Staff's assumptions pertaining to classifying and allocating distribution plant related costs for FERC accounts 364-368 before weighing in. What is your position after reviewing the Company's rebuttal response?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> MECG and the Company's A&E4NCP allocators are substantially similar as evidenced by the similarity in COSS results shown on page 20 of my direct testimony.

1 A. The Company identified a number of limitations and errors in Staff's assumptions as discussed in Mr. Hickman's rebuttal testimony. In particular, Mr. Hickman's testimony 2 pointed out a major flaw in Staff's analysis pertaining to Staff's inclination to direct 3 assign costs to larger classes. The example on pages 6-8 of Mr. Hickman's rebuttal 4 5 testimony related to Staff's direct assignment of a substation without accordingly 6 adjusting the demand allocator (to prevent double allocation) shows that Staff's analysis 7 was incomplete and resulted in over allocating costs to the larger classes. Further, Mr. 8 Hickman's observations regarding the Poles related allocations identified several errors 9 in Staff's calculations. In addition, it appears that Staff utilized an erroneous assumption 10 regarding the data used for the zero-intercept calculation for wires. Once the Company 11 corrected for the erroneous assumption, the results actually showed that the higher costs 12 needed to be classified as customer related compared to Staff's results. The Company's rebuttal response demonstrates that there are many flaws regarding Staff's methodology 13 that need to be addressed. Therefore, Staff's methodology should not be adopted. I 14 15 continue to believe that the Company's methodology is reasonable and should be 16 adopted.

17

#### **IV. REVENUE ALLOCATION TO CLASSES**

#### 18 Q. What is Staff's view of MECG's recommended revenue allocation to classes?

## A. Staff indicates that I did not incorporate MECG's witness Mr. Greg Meyer's recommended revenue requirement adjustment regarding wind generation.

#### 21 Q. Please comments on Staff's rebuttal response.

A. It was not necessary to adjust my calculations to account for Mr. Greg Meyer's
 recommendations because my revenue allocation recommendations are based on

1		revenue neutral shifts needed at present rates for class revenue responsibility to be
2		aligned with class cost responsibility and prior to any revenue requirement increases. In
3		this manner, the method is focused on revenue neutral shifts without the impacts of the
4		revenue requirement increases. Table 5 in my direct testimony show the rates of return
5		at present rates and revenue neutral adjustments needed for equal rates of return at
6		present rates.
7 8	Q.	What is the Company's view of MECG's recommended revenue allocation to classes?
9	A.	Company witness Mr. Nicholas Bowden appears to agree that MECG's recommended
10		revenue allocation is reasonable, especially when one considers that customer classes
11		with revenue requirement allocations above their cost of service have been paying bills
12		that are too high and will continue to do so as long as rates do not move towards the
13		cost of service. <sup>3</sup>
14	Q.	Please comment on the Company's response.
15	A.	I appreciate that the Company is mindful of the cost impacts to certain customer classes
16		that continue to subsidize other classes and would not be opposed to moving classes
17		closer to cost.
18	V.	RATE DESIGN FOR LGS AND SPS CLASSES
19 20	Q.	What is the Company's response to your rate design recommendations for the LGS and SPS classes?
21	A.	Company witness Mr. Nicholas Bowden indicates that he is confused by my
22		recommendations because MECG should have been providing feedback in the non-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See pages 63-64 of Mr. Nicholas Bowden's Rebuttal testimony.

residential rate design docket discussions. He also indicates that regarding the specific
 recommendation to increase the winter and summer demand charges by 150%, he would
 not feel comfortable accommodating this adjustment without reviewing bill impacts.

4 Q. How do you respond to the Company's rebuttal response?

5 While I am not personally involved in participating in the non-residential docket, it is A. 6 my understanding that MECG's legal counsel has provided feedback and participated 7 in the limited number of workshops in the docket. That said, the presence of a rate design docket on non-residential rate design does not foreclose MECG from making 8 9 recommendations regarding rate design charges in the current rate case proceeding 10 particularly when these recommendations are aimed at getting the rates more closely 11 aligned with functional guidance from the class cost of service study. I note that the 12 Company already recognizes the relevance of my recommendations regarding larger increases to demand charges since the LPS rate design appropriately recovers a 13 14 substantive portion of fixed costs from demand charges and is more functionally aligned 15 with the COSS results. As for bill impacts, while the Company is interested in reviewing 16 the impacts of MECG's recommendations, we must also not fail to recognize that there 17 are fairness concerns which are being ignored by continuing to propagate a rate design 18 where no movement is being made to algin with COSS results.

- 19
- **Q.** Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?
- 20 A. Yes.