FILED February 24, 2025 Missouri Public Service Commission

Exhibit No. 1

Commission – Exhibit 1 Frank Muegge Statement Local Public Hearing Exhibit-Sunset Hills File No. ER-2024-0319

MEETING NOTES

- I am a widowed 67 year-old male quadriplegic on a fixed income.
- The Missouri Public Service Commission <u>NEEDS TO BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THESE</u>
 <u>INCREASES!!!!</u>
- <u>What about the HYPOCRISY of the Missouri PSC with their MISSION STATEMENT and claim of</u>
 <u>ETHICAL STANDARDS. Bottom line, MO PSC "DO YOUR JOB" for the Missourians you promise</u>
 <u>to protect!!!!!</u>
- Can Ameren and The Missouri Public Service Commission justify this 15.5% increase and all past increases. Can Ameren justify the closing of two <u>VITAL, LOW-COST and RELIABLE</u> coal fired plants, considering the base load generation by coal and nuclear.
- What are the current generating percentages of Coal, Nuclear, Hydroelectric, Wind, Solar, Natural Gas and Oil generation, and the cost of transmission by fuel type. What percentages of each generating source are responsible by the Ameren consumer? What are the percentages of Ameren's total generation for 2021, 2022 and 2023 by fuel type?
- How can Ameren justify the "FUEL ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE", especially when buying supplemental power from the MISO grid, <u>this hypocrisy destroys Ameren's STEADFAST</u> <u>COMMITMENT to keeping CUSTOMER RATES LOW</u>.
- With Ameren's closing and razing of <u>LOW-COST and RELIABLE</u> low sulfur coal fired power generating plants, the future of our power grid is in grave danger and at what cost in many ways to the consumer.
- The closure and razing of the Meramec Plant in December 2022 was just the beginning of our coming energy disaster. Then Ameren recently shut down, soon to be razed, Rush Island Plant, this is insane. What if there is a critical power emergency due to a natural disaster, terrorist attack or even worse, a war, there is no back up plants to compensate. The list of all current power generating sources, Calloway County, Labadie, Portage Des Sioux, and others, and their generating outputs, are listed on the <u>Ameren Missouri Fact Sheet</u> available online. The <u>LOW-COST and RELIABLE</u> coal generation is being destroyed and Ameren wants the customers to pay for <u>HIGH-COST and LESS RELIABLE RENEWABLE</u> generation.
- <u>As soon as Ameren (their decision) shut down Rush Island, Ameren immediately lobbied the</u> <u>Missouri PSC in Jeff City to approve the Securitization Law</u>. On March 25, 2024, Ameren announced the pricing of a Public Offering of \$500 million aggregate principal amount of 5.20% first mortgage Bonds due 2034 at 99.685% of the principal amount. The transaction closed on Apr. 4, 2024 and was subject to the satisfaction of customary closing conditions. <u>These</u> <u>Bonds, FUNDED BY Ameren customers, will be used to raze the Rush Island Power Plant.</u>
- Logical solution, reopen Rush Island, the cost to comply long term with EPA standards would be pennies on the customer's dollar compared to your proposed 15.5% rate hike, and it would guarantee <u>LOW-COST and RELIABLE</u> service for many years to come. Ameren already uses low sulfur coal from western states to lower emissions. Will these coal plant closings force Ameren to buy power from MISO. With the closures of Meramec and especially Rush Island, leaves no reserve capacity. Coal plants, specifically Rush Island, have 60 days of <u>LOW-COST and RELIABLE</u>

<u>1200MW DAILEY POWER</u> in "reserve", you could consider this the "<u>COAL BATTERY STORAGE</u> <u>ADVANTAGE</u>" as opposed to maybe 3 hours of "renewable wind and solar" battery storage.

- On the subject of MISO (Midcontinent Independent System Operator), Ameren trades power with the other members of MISO, but Ameren's closing of <u>LOW-COST and RELIABLE</u> coal plants and focusing on unreliable wind/solar will force Ameren to buy power, if available from other sources, to compensate for less power generation capacity and higher demands at a tremendous cost to the consumer. As other power companies on the MISO grid are forced to close their coal fired plants, the power available to purchase from the grid decreases as well. It's a NO WIN for all involved.
- Looking back to the power outage debacle in Texas in February of 2021 when wind/solar failed and 4.5 million customers were out of power for many frigid days. Texas belongs to the ERCOT (Electric Reliability Council of Texas) power grid and the reason it took so long to restore power was because the ERCOT had no power to sell to them because all other partners were at full capacity due to the frigid temperatures throughout the entire Midwest. This could now happen here since Ameren has so wisely chosen to shut down our most reliable power generating sources, two <u>LOW-COST and RELIABLE</u> coal fired plants and the future of Labadie and Portage Des Sioux.
- Regarding Ameren's wind and solar "farms", you have not built battery storage facilities, they
 are cost or should I say "<u>PROFIT PROHIBITIVE</u>" because of the billions necessary to build them,
 so any residual power generation from wind/solar is lost. Plus, critical farm land, vital for food
 production, is being devoured by these other types of "farms." What about the potential for
 hail and storm damage to these power generating sources.

There are also plans for natural gas (Meramec/Rush Island sites) and propane fired power plants which would not be online for many years. This will also affect the cost and availability of neighboring residential and commercial natural gas customers depending on Ameren's plant demands, which would be disastrous. BTW, since when are natural gas and propane not "fossil fuels", what hypocrisy.

- I suggest that everyone invests in a standby generator, I have one that powers my entire home because IT'S COMING and Ameren could care less because monopolies can write their own checks.
- BOTTOM LINE: Executive and stockholder profits.
- And then there is the matter of the huge CO2 and Net Zero lies.