

**STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

At a session of the Public Service
Commission held at its office in
Jefferson City on the 14th day
of May, 2025.

In the Matter of the Application of Union)
Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri)
for Authorization to Enter into a Contract)
with a Third-Party for Utilization of Fiber)
Optic Capacity Not Currently Utilized for)
Electric Operations)

File No. EM-2025-0243

ORDER GRANTING APPLICATION TO LEASE FIBER OPTIC STRANDS

Issue Date: May 14, 2025

Effective Date: May 24, 2025

Background

On March 4, 2025,¹ Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri filed an application requesting authority from the Commission to lease two fiber pairs of optic strands over an approximately 15-mile portion of Ameren Missouri's Clark-Galena transmission line to M & A Electric Power Cooperative (M & A).

The Commission issued notice of the application and set a deadline for the filing of applications to intervene, but no applications to intervene were received. On April 24, the Staff of the Commission (Staff) filed its Recommendation with an attached Memorandum.

Staff explains that the Optical Ground Wire Cable line has excess capacity, signal integrity can be maintained and isolated, and M & A's use of the lines will not interfere with Ameren Missouri's use for utility purposes. Staff recommended approval of the

¹ All dates refer to the year 2025 unless otherwise indicated.

application, but recommended the Commission order Ameren Missouri to notify the Commission if it intends to terminate, suspend, or modify the lease and to note in its order that the Commission is not making any ratemaking determination regarding the lease. Staff's Recommendation also states that the transfer of assets would not be detrimental to the public interest.

On May 5, Ameren Missouri filed its response to Staff's recommendation. Ameren Missouri stated that it had no objection to any of Staff's recommendations.

No other responses or objections to the application or to Staff's Recommendation were received.² No party requested a hearing. The requirement for a hearing is met when the opportunity for a hearing has been provided.³ Thus, the Commission will rule on the unopposed application.

Discussion

Ameren Missouri is an electrical corporation as that term is defined in Section 386.020, RSMo (2016), and is, therefore, subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission. Ameren Missouri provides electric service to customers in Missouri.

Based on the application, Staff's Recommendation, and Ameren Missouri's response, the Commission concludes that it is not detrimental to the public interest for Ameren Missouri to lease two otherwise unused fiber pairs of optic cable to M & A. Thus, the Commission will authorize the lease of assets subject to Staff's recommendations.

² Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-2.080(13).

³ *State ex rel. Rex Deffenderfer Ent., Inc. v. Public Serv. Comm'n*, 776 S.W.2d 494, 496 (Mo. App., W.D. 1989).

Waiver of 60-day notice rule

Ameren Missouri also sought a waiver of the 60-day notice requirement of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1)(D). Applicants verified that they had no communication with the Office of the Commission regarding any substantive issue likely to be in this case during the preceding 150 days. The Commission finds good cause to waive the notice requirement.

So that M & A may begin utilizing the otherwise unused fiber pairs of optic strands as soon as possible, the Commission finds it is reasonable to make this order effective in less than 30 days.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. Ameren Missouri's request for waiver from the 60-day notice requirement of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017(1)(D) is granted.
2. Ameren Missouri is granted authority to lease the fiber pairs of optic strands as described in the application.
3. Ameren Missouri shall notify the Commission if it intends to terminate, suspend, or modify the lease of assets approved in this order.
4. The Commission makes no finding that would preclude the Commission from considering the ratemaking treatment to be afforded any matters herein in any later proceeding.
5. This order shall become effective on May 24, 2025.



BY THE COMMISSION

Nancy Dippell

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

Hahn, Ch., Coleman, Kolkmeier,
and Mitchell CC., concur.

Fewell, Regulatory Law Judge.

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 14th day of May 2025.



Nancy Dippell

Nancy Dippell
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

May 14, 2025

File/Case No. EM-2025-0243

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Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,



**Nancy Dippell
Secretary**

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.