BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Ameren Transmission Company of Illinois for a) Certificate of Convenience and Necessity) File No. EA-2025-0087 under Section 393.170.1, RSMo. relating to Transmission Investments in North) Central Missouri

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Staff"), by and through the undersigned counsel, and respectfully states as follows:

1. On September 9, 2024, pursuant to the 60-day notice requirement under Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017, Ameren Transmission Company of Illinois ("ATXI") filed a Notice of Case Filing with the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission"), providing the Commission with notice of ATXI's intention to file an application for a certificate of convenience and necessity ("CCN").

2. On December 11, 2024, ATXI filed said application and supporting testimony from ATXI representatives.

3. On December 13, 2024, the Commission issued an order, setting deadlines for intervention and responses to Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.'s ("MISO") December 12, 2024, motion in which it asked the Commission to allow it to submit direct testimony from Mr. Jeremiah Doner (a MISO employee) in support of ATXI's application.

4. On January 23, 2025, the Commission granted intervention applications for MISO, the Missouri Joint Municipal Electric Utility Commission ("MJMEUC"), Renew Missouri Advocates d/b/a Renew Missouri, Clean Grid Alliance, and the Sierra Club.

5. On January 28, 2025, the Commission granted MISO's motion to submit Mr. Doner's testimony in support of ATXI's application. In this order, the Commission also directed Staff to file a recommendation – or request additional time in which to file a recommendation – by April 2, 2025. This order also directed that Staff, if the parties determined an evidentiary hearing was appropriate, collaborate with the other parties and file a joint proposed procedural schedule in lieu of a Staff recommendation by April 2, 2025. At the time of this filing, the parties have not yet determined that an evidentiary hearing is necessary.

6. On April 2, 2025, the Commission granted Staff's *Motion for Extension of Time to File its Recommendation*, and directed Staff to file its recommendation by June 2, 2025.

7. The Commission held an in-person local public hearing in Milan, Missouri, on April 22, 2025, and held a virtual local public hearing on April 23, 2025.

8. Staff reviewed ATXI's application. Based upon that review, Staff has determined that ATXI has met the applicable filing requirements.

- 9. ATXI's application asks for the following relief from the Commission:
 - a. That the Commission grant it a CCN to construct, install, own, operate, control, manage, and maintain the Denny-Zachary-Thomas Hill-Maywood ("DZTM")
 Project, pursuant to Section 393.170.1 RSMo;
 - Approve either the DZ Double Circuit Option or the DZ Single Circuit Option for the design and route of the DZ Segment;
 - c. Grant it permission and authority to transfer an undivided 49% interest in and to the DZTM Project assets to MJMEUC under Section 393.190.1 RSMo; and
 - d. Grant it waivers from the rate schedule filing requirements of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-20.105, the annual reporting requirement of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4040-10.145, the depreciation study requirement of 20 CSR 4240-3.175, and the reporting requirements of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-3.190, for good cause.

10. Staff's memorandum, attached hereto and incorporated by reference, addresses ATXI's application for a certificate using the Commission's Tartan criteria, and recommends the Commission issue an order authorizing ATXI's request for a CCN to construct, install, own, operate, control, manage, and maintain the DZTM Project. Staff also recommends that the Commission: (1) grant ATXI permission and authority to transfer an undivided 49% interest in the DZTM Project assets to MJMEUC; (2) approve the Double Circuit Option for the design and route of the DZ Segment; and (3) waive the abovementioned filing and reporting requirements. These recommendations are subject to the Staff's recommended conditions, found in Staff's memorandum, attached hereto and incorporated by reference. Staff respectfully requests the Commission to adopt said conditions by Commission order.

11. **WHEREFORE,** Staff respectfully requests the Commission accepts its recommendations, subject to the conditions recommended by Staff and for any other relief deemed necessary and appropriate by the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Andrea B. Hansen

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been transmitted by electronic mail to counsel of record this 2nd day of June, 2025.

<u>/s/ Andrea B. Hansen</u>