

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
STATE OF MISSOURI

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS  
PROCEDURAL CONFERENCE

In the Matter of the Application of Union )  
Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri )  
Company for a Certificate of Convenience )  
and Necessity to Construct, Own, Operate )  
and Maintain Upgrades to the Transmission )  
System in Montgomery and Callaway )  
Counties, Missouri. )

Case No. EA-2026-0058

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2025  
10:00 a.m.

Jefferson City, MO  
via WebEx

VOLUME 1

JOHN CLARK, Presiding  
SENIOR REGULATORY LAW JUDGE  
KAYLA HAHN, Chair,  
MAIDA J. COLEMAN,  
GLEN KOLKMEYER,  
JOHN MITCHELL,  
COMMISSIONERS

Transcribed By:

Joe Herman

1 MR. CLARK: Let's go on the record.

2 Today's date is December 2nd, 2025, and  
3 the current time is 10:02 a.m. The Commission has set  
4 aside this time today for a procedural conference in the  
5 matter of the application of Union Electric Company  
6 doing business as Ameren Missouri, for a certificate of  
7 convenience and necessity to construct, own, operate and  
8 maintain upgrades to a transmission system in Montgomery  
9 and Callaway County, Missouri.

10 And that is file number EA-2026-0058. My  
11 name is John Clark. I'm the regulatory law judge  
12 overseeing this matter. I'm going to begin by asking  
13 the attorneys for the parties to enter their appearance  
14 for the record. And I will start with Ameren, Missouri.

15 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you, Your Honor. I'm  
16 Paula M. Johnson on behalf of Ameren, Missouri, and I  
17 will let my co-counsel enter her appearance.

18 MR. CLARK: Ms. Fields Johnson. You're  
19 still muted.

20 MS. FIELDS: I apologize. Carla Fields  
21 Johnson, also on behalf of Ameren.

22 MR. CLARK: Okay. Thank you. On behalf  
23 of staff?

24 MS. TRACY: Thanks, Judge. This is Tracy  
25 Johnson.

1 MR. HENNON: And Douglas Hennon.

2 MR. CLARK: Go ahead. Mr. Hennon.

3 MR. HENNON: And Douglas Hennon, on  
4 behalf of staff.

5 MR. CLARK: Okay. On behalf of the  
6 office of Public Counsel?

7 MR. WILLIAMS: Nathan Williams, Chief  
8 Deputy Public Counsel. Our address is p.o. box 2230,  
9 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

10 MR. CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Williams. And  
11 I believe we have an intervener present, though  
12 intervention hasn't been granted yet. I think it's  
13 appropriate to have them here since they have applied to  
14 intervene and if they would enter their appearance for  
15 the record.

16 MS. WHIPPLE: Good morning, Judge Clark.  
17 Thank you. Peggy Whipple, on behalf of the Missouri  
18 Joint Municipal Electric Utility Commission.

19 MR. CLARK: Okay. Thank you, Ms.  
20 Whipple. Let me see. Bear with me just a moment. All  
21 right. This is an unusual situation in that this  
22 procedural conference was requested by Ameren in their  
23 application. And so I'm relying on Ameren to explain to  
24 me what it is we need to address in this procedural  
25 conference. And I'm assuming that this has to do with

1 the fact that Ameren is requesting an order by June of  
2 '26. Is that correct?

3 MS. JOHNSON: Actually, I do have a  
4 correction to make. We reflected it correctly in Sam  
5 Gardner's testimony. The order is requested by June  
6 2027. June '26 was a typo in the application. My  
7 apologies for that. We're requesting the procedural  
8 schedule, largely to adjust the fact that we know this  
9 is going to be a potentially complicated case with the  
10 grain belt. A lot of the shifting.

11 MR. CLARK: Transmission cases tend to  
12 take a little longer because there's a lot more interest  
13 in them.

14 MS. JOHNSON: Exactly. So we know with  
15 all the potential easements, the funding, a lot of  
16 landowner interests. We want to make sure we have  
17 plenty of time to work through all the potential issues  
18 that are going to be out there. So that was the  
19 intention to make sure we have plenty of time to make  
20 sure we geared towards that June 2027 order.

21 MR. CLARK: Okay. And so what are you  
22 contemplating as a hearing date for this?

23 MS. JOHNSON: I had gone through to make  
24 a rough run at a hearing. Given that we might -- I  
25 don't know if staff or the commission had contemplated

1 any additional in person or virtual public hearings if  
2 we were going to accommodate that at any point. And try  
3 to get any of that in. I was thinking maybe March '27  
4 for a hearing. But I can be flexible on that. I didn't  
5 know if staff had had --

6 MR. CLARK: That might be a little short  
7 for multiple rounds of testimony.

8 MS. JOHNSON: Okay.

9 MR. CLARK: But usually what I do in  
10 terms of a procedural schedule is I ask the parties to  
11 work together to come up with and submit a proposed  
12 procedural schedule. I just want to get an idea of what  
13 you were thinking about in terms.

14 MR. CLARK: Would you say March 27th, not  
15 March of '27?

16 MS. JOHNSON: March of '27.

17 MR. CLARK: Oh, well, I think that that  
18 gives us plenty of time.

19 MS. JOHNSON: Yeah.

20 MR. CLARK: I'm sorry I missed both  
21 there. I misunderstood. Well, let me ask this. I have  
22 an intervener. A party requesting to intervene. I know  
23 there's about two or three days left on the 10 days that  
24 usually are given for responses. Are any of the parties  
25 objecting to the Missouri Municipal League intervention?

1 MR. WILLIAMS: Public counsel does not.

2 MS. JOHNSON: We are not planning to  
3 object.

4 MS. TRACY: Nor is staff Judge.

5 MR. CLARK: Okay. Well, then I am going  
6 to go ahead and grant the application to intervene of  
7 the Missouri Joint Municipal Electric Utility  
8 Commission, and I will codify that in an order either  
9 today or tomorrow. Well, then let's go on to -- because  
10 I do like the idea of getting. And especially because  
11 this is a transmission case, I do like the idea of  
12 getting a procedural schedule set as quickly as possible  
13 so we all know what we're doing.

14 Now, if I remember off and I may be wrong  
15 on this. You had mentioned a local public hearing, and  
16 I assume this involves two counties. Isn't there a  
17 requirement that the company hold an open house for  
18 transmission cases, or am I wrong on that?

19 MS. JOHNSON: There is, and we have  
20 already held several open houses leading up to the  
21 application. We described that process in the direct  
22 testimony on file.

23 MR. CLARK: Staff, are you contemplating  
24 a local public hearing for this case.

25 MS. TRACY: At this time, staff doesn't

1 see the need for one, but we are still going to be  
2 looking for responses to data requests that could change  
3 things. And certainly if there are additional contacts  
4 to the Office of Public Counsel, they typically share  
5 that information with us. And then it does sometimes  
6 prompt the need for a local public hearing if there are  
7 multiple affected individuals in the area who have the  
8 interest. So at this time, no, but we wouldn't want to  
9 waive that.

10 MR. CLARK: And nobody's asking anybody  
11 to waive anything. Mr. Williams, is public counsel  
12 going -- to the best your knowledge at this time. Is  
13 public counsel going to want a local public hearing?

14 MR. WILLIAMS: Yeah.

15 MR. CLARK: Okay. Thank you for letting  
16 me know that. All right. I'm going to order the  
17 parties to work together. And staff, would you submit a  
18 proposed procedural schedule on behalf of the parties,  
19 including a date or dates for local public hearings?

20 MS. TRACY: Yes, Judge. We can do that.

21 MR. CLARK: Okay. What is a reasonable  
22 date by which to have the parties file a proposed  
23 procedural schedule for the commission?

24 MS. TRACY: Well, so based on our last go  
25 around with procedural schedules, it took us multiple

1 rounds because of some conflicts. So I think that it  
2 would be good to give us at least 45 days, given the  
3 holiday and coordination, especially if we want to start  
4 things a little sooner than a March of 2027 hearing  
5 would necessarily allow. I guess we'll just have to  
6 work with the parties and figure it out.

7 But coordinating around the holidays has  
8 been certainly a challenge. And then finding some  
9 locations for public hearings was also a challenge in  
10 the Reform Solar and Big Hollow CCN case. So I would  
11 appreciate 45 to 60 days to coordinate and get that on  
12 file.

13 MR. CLARK: Okay. Why don't we do  
14 January 22nd, which is a Thursday, for a submission of a  
15 proposed procedural schedule or status report.

16 MS. TRACY: Understood.

17 MR. CLARK: Are there any objections to  
18 that?

19 MR. WILLIAMS: Judge, I don't have an  
20 objection to that, but I would like to inform the  
21 parties, I guess, that we will want to have at least one  
22 live local public hearing.

23 MR. CLARK: And I will say, given the  
24 size of the case, it's very highly likely that the  
25 commission will accommodate that request. Does January



1 22nd present a problem for any of the other parties? I  
2 heard no objections.

3 MS. JOHNSON: No objection.

4 MR. CLARK: Okay. As I said, Ameren had  
5 requested this procedural conference. I don't have  
6 anything else that is on my agenda outside of a  
7 procedural schedule. Is there anything else that Ameren  
8 or any of the other parties wanted to discuss while I'm  
9 here?

10 MS. JOHNSON: No. This was the main  
11 thing we wanted to address, and I appreciate you  
12 accommodating that. Thank you.

13 MR. CLARK: Absolutely. Well, it's nice  
14 to meet you all. And I look forward to seeing your  
15 proposed procedural schedule. And if there is a reason,  
16 whatever that we need to meet before then, if somebody  
17 would let me know. Just file a motion and I will  
18 address that.

19 MS. JOHNSON: All right. Thank you.

20 MR. CLARK: With that in mind, if there  
21 are no more other matters to be brought before the  
22 commission, I'm going to adjourn this hearing.

23 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you all.

24 MR. CLARK: This hearing is adjourned.

25 MS. JOHNSON: Thank you.

1 MR. CLARK: Thank you.

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3 (End of audio recording.)

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IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set  
my hand this 5th day of December, 2025.

Joe Herman

Joe Herman

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