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**MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**FILE NO.**

**EA-2026-0018**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY**

**OF**

**JEANA WOODARD**

**ON**

**BEHALF OF**

**UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a AMEREN MISSOURI**

**St. Louis, Missouri  
January 15, 2026**

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**DIRECT TESTIMONY**

**OF**

**JEANA WOODARD**

**FILE NO. EA-2026-0018**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1  
2 **Q. Please state your name, business address, and current position.**

3 A. My name is Jeana Woodard. My business address is 1901 Chouteau Avenue, St.  
4 Louis, MO 63103. I work for Ameren Services Company (“Ameren Services”) as a Project  
5 Manager in the Transmission Department. Ameren Services is a subsidiary of Ameren Corporation  
6 (“Ameren”) and an affiliate of Union Electric Company d/b/a/ Ameren Missouri ("Ameren  
7 Missouri"), the Applicant in this proceeding.

8 **Q. What are the duties and responsibilities of your position?**

9 A. As a Project Manager, I am responsible for the planning, execution, completion,  
10 and operational integration of certain transmission construction projects. I am the project manager  
11 for the Vanduser Switching Station (the “Project”) being proposed by Ameren Missouri.

12 **Q. Please describe your educational background and employment experience.**

13 A. I graduated from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana in 1987, with a  
14 Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. I graduated from Keller Graduate School  
15 of Management in 1995 with a Master of Business Administration, specializing in Project  
16 Management. In 1988 I started working for Amoco Oil Company, as a Project Engineer, where I  
17 designed and managed projects with varying degrees of cost and complexity. In 2001, I began  
18 working for Missouri American Water, St. Louis, as a Project Engineer, where I designed and  
19 managed infrastructure projects. In 2016, I began working with Ameren Services, as a Project  
20 Manager in the Transmission Department, where I have worked since.

1           **Q.     Have you previously provided testimony before the Missouri Public Service**  
2 **Commission (“Commission”)?**

3           A.     No.

4                           **II.                   PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY**

5  
6           **Q.     Are you familiar with the Project for which Ameren Missouri is seeking a**  
7 **Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("CCN") in this proceeding?**

8           A.     Yes, Ameren Missouri requests a CCN authorizing it to construct, own, operate and  
9 maintain a new, 161 kV switching station – the Vanduser Switching Station — and the associated  
10 facilities, all of which will be located in Stoddard County. The station will be constructed on land  
11 that will be owned by Ameren Missouri, located adjacent to and west of its Morley-Stoddard  
12 transmission line. The switching station will be constructed pursuant to an amended and restated  
13 Generator Interconnection Agreement ("GIA") with Ringer Solar Energy, LLC ("Ringer Solar" or  
14 "Interconnection Customer") and will serve as the point-of-interconnection for Ringer Solar's 225  
15 [net] megawatt (“MW”) solar generation project. That project is designated in the Midcontinent  
16 Independent System Operator's ("MISO") Generation Interconnection Queue as project J1034. A  
17 copy of the GIA is attached to my testimony as Schedule JW-D1 (Confidential).

18           **Q.     What is the purpose of your direct testimony in this proceeding?**

19           A.     The purpose of my testimony is to provide an overview of the Project including  
20 how Ameren Missouri will construct, finance, and operate the Project facilities.

21           **Q.     Are you sponsoring any schedules with your testimony?**

22           A.     Yes, I am sponsoring the following:

- 1           • Schedule JW-D1 (**CONFIDENTIAL**) – Amended and Restated Generation  
2           Interconnection Agreement<sup>1</sup>
- 3           • Schedule JW-D2 (**CONFIDENTIAL**) – Vanduser Switching Station Equipment  
4           Arrangement Plan
- 5           • Schedule JW-D3 – Ringer Solar Amended Milestone Schedule

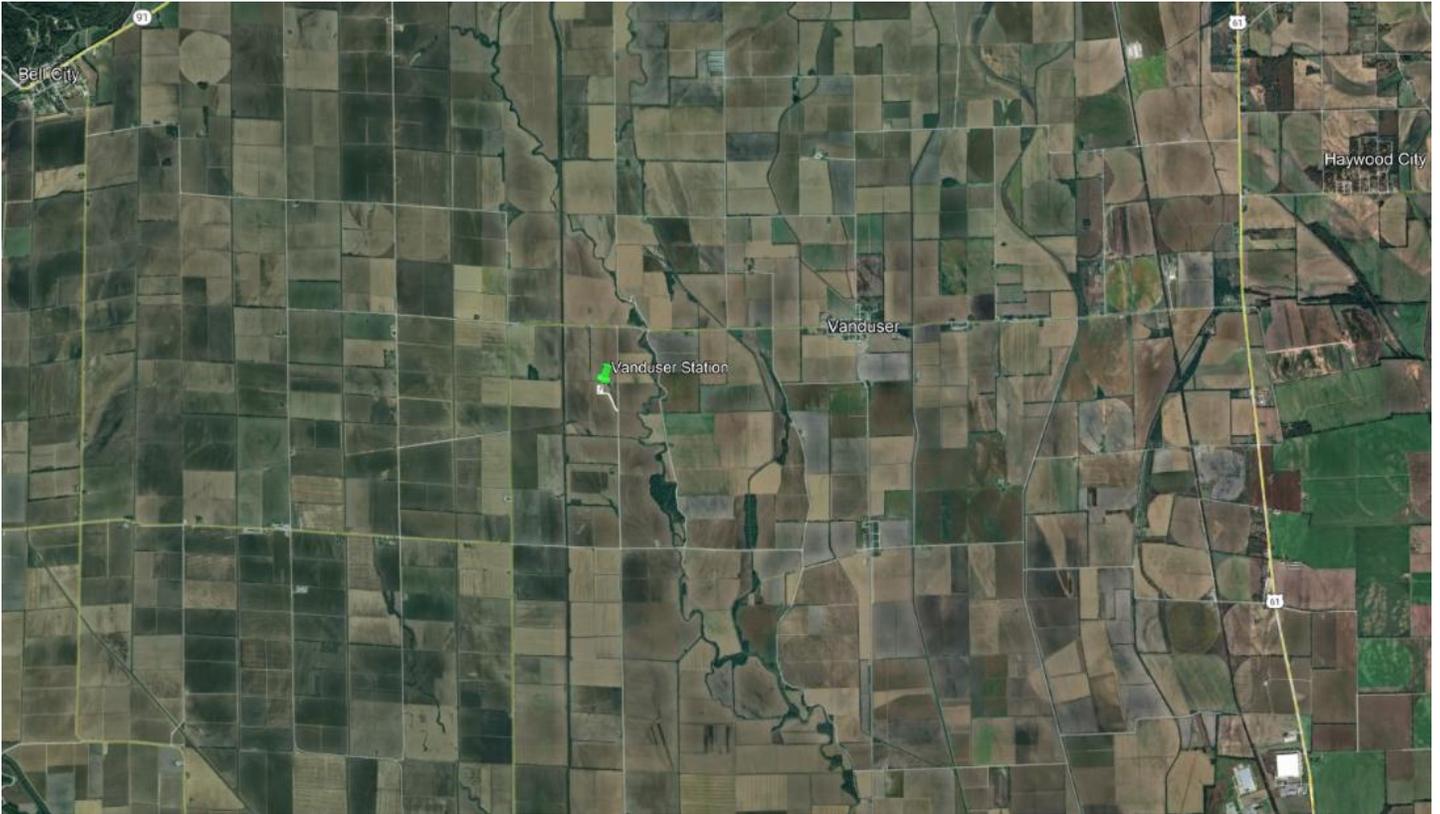
6                           **I.                   BACKGROUND ON THE PROJECT**

7           **Q.       Can you provide some additional background information about the Project**  
8           **and the associated renewable development?**

9           A.       Yes. Ringer Solar is developing a utility-scale solar project in southeast Missouri  
10          (the "Generating Facility"). Once complete, that facility will generate up to 225 MW of energy to  
11          be injected into the grid. As described in the GIA, the generating facility will be composed of  
12          eighty-one (81) PE FS3000 MU Inverters, rated at 3.00 MVA each. Ringer Solar will be required  
13          to install a collection system and a collection substation, with one (1) 34.5/161 kV generator step-  
14          up transformer and one (1) 161 kV 1200A circuit breaker. Ringer Solar will also be required to  
15          construct a generator lead line to deliver the energy to the point-of-interconnection, the Vanduser  
16          Switching Station. The map below, labeled as Figure 1, shows the approximate location of the  
17          Vanduser Switching Station.

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<sup>1</sup> Second revised GIA, superseding the first revised GIA executed December 18, 2023.

*Figure 1<sup>2</sup>*

3           The approximate outline of the solar field and Vanduser Switching Station (orange  
4 and black dot) along the 161 kV Morley-Stoddard transmission line (purple line) is also depicted  
5 in the GIA.<sup>3</sup> Ameren Missouri is engaged in the Project as a Transmission Owner operating under  
6 the generator interconnection processes outlined in MISO's FERC-approved tariffs. Those  
7 processes led to the execution of the GIA.

## 8                           **II.           COST DETAILS OF THE PROJECT**

9           **Q.       What is the anticipated cost of the Project?**

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<sup>2</sup> See Application Appendix D.

<sup>3</sup> See GIA Original Sheet No. 93 in Schedule JW-D1 (CONFIDENTIAL).

1           A.     In order to answer that question, it is important to understand the different  
2 components necessary to interconnect the solar facility. Those components include:

- 3           1. Vanduser Switching Station (Standalone Network Upgrade);
- 4           2. Line work to cut the existing Morley-Stoddard 161 kV transmission line and  
5           terminate the ends at the Vanduser Switching Station (Network Upgrade); and
- 6           3. The 161 kV terminal equipment within the Vanduser Switching Station necessary  
7           to connect the Generating Facility to Vanduser (Transmission Owner  
8           Interconnection Facilities or TOIF).

9           These components constitute the Project for which Ameren Missouri is seeking a CCN in  
10 this case. Per the GIA estimate, the cost of these three components is \$6,468,000. The  
11 interconnection will also trigger a fourth component, to upgrade relay equipment at Ameren  
12 Missouri's existing Stoddard Substation (Network Upgrade). The estimated cost of this fourth  
13 component is \$262,000, bringing the total cost of the work Ameren Missouri will perform to  
14 \$6,730,000, as originally estimated in the GIA. Figure 2 below is a table from the GIA with a  
15 breakdown of all components and their cost:

Figure 2<sup>4</sup>

<b>Exhibit A5. Cost of Facilities to be Constructed by Transmission Owner</b>		
<b>Type</b>	<b>Facilities to be Constructed by the Transmission Owner</b>	<b>Cost Estimate **</b>
<b>Interconnection Facilities ***</b>	Construct Transmission Owner's Interconnection Facilities at the Vanduser substation	\$621,000
<b>Stand Alone Network Upgrade ****</b>	Construct the new Vanduser substation	\$5,514,000
<b>Network Upgrade ****</b>	Cut the Morley-Stoddard 161 kV transmission line to connect the Vanduser substation	\$333,000
<b>Network Upgrade ****</b>	Upgrade Relaying at Stoddard substation	\$262,000
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$6,730,000</b>

\*\* Estimated costs are in 2020 dollars, do not include tax gross-up or escalation, and are accurate to ±20%.

\*\*\* Project J1034 may be required to document that it satisfies the 'safe harbor' requirements for gross-up for income taxes under IRS Notice 2016-36.

\*\*\*\* To be funded by Transmission Owner and subject to a Facilities Service Agreement between Transmission Owner and Interconnection Customer under which Transmission Owner will collect its Revenue Requirement for the actual cost of the Network Upgrades from the Interconnection Customer.

2

3 **Q. Can you please describe the cost treatment of the various elements?**

4 A. Yes. Generator interconnections bear different types of responsibility for different  
5 types of upgrades. As applied to this Project, Ringer Solar will be responsible for all costs  
6 associated with the Project. Ringer Solar will pay 100% of the TOIF costs up front, and 100% of  
7 Network Upgrades and Standalone Network Upgrade costs will be paid by Ringer Solar through  
8 a 20-year facilities services agreement ("FSA").

9 **Q. How was the Project cost determined?**

<sup>4</sup> See GIA Original Sheet No. 97 in Schedule JW-D1.

1           A.     Pursuant to MISO's Generator Interconnection processes, design information and a  
2 detailed cost estimate were developed. The cost estimate parameters were quantified in part by  
3 assessing how inflationary demand has affected services, material, and equipment pricing.  
4 Material cost estimates were based on recent proposals from like-kind projects. This includes  
5 proposals for 161 kV breakers, disconnect switches, steel poles, control enclosures and relays, etc.  
6 Similarly, construction cost estimates were based on the total number and general type of each  
7 asset in conjunction with historical values for labor using data from projects of comparable size.

8           **Q.     The GIA indicates that all of these costs were estimated in 2020 dollars. Is there**  
9 **an updated cost estimate for the Project?**

10          A.     Yes. Using the methodology described above, the costs described herein and  
11 included in the GIA have been formally updated by the Ameren Cost Engineering team. Given the  
12 time that has passed since the original cost estimate in the GIA, inflationary pressures, and the  
13 generally rising cost environment, it is estimated that the Project costs will be approximately \$9.5  
14 million versus the initial \$6.7 million estimated in the GIA. However, the Interconnection  
15 Customer will still be responsible for the actual cost of the facilities involved.

16           **III.            ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE SWITCHING STATION**

17          **Q.     Can you please provide some additional information about the switching**  
18 **station?**

19          A.     Yes. The Vanduser Switching Station will be constructed on an approximately 11-  
20 acre site. Ringer Solar has acquired the necessary property rights for the site, and it will be  
21 transferred, in fee, to Ameren Missouri. The Vanduser Switching Station will be constructed in a  
22 ring bus configuration with three-line terminal positions and room for one additional future  
23 connection. GIA Original Sheet Nos. 85-90 in Schedule JW-D1) lists the major materials

1 associated with the station and outlines the general roles and responsibilities of the parties with  
2 respect to the site itself. A detailed diagram depicting the equipment arrangement plan and  
3 specifications for Vanduser is attached to this testimony as Schedule JW-D2 (Confidential). This  
4 represents approximately 30% design completion, however the site location and fencing limits are  
5 not expected to change. The design will continue to be developed as the Project progresses,  
6 pursuant to the milestone schedule in the GIA.

7 **IV. OVERVIEW OF PROJECT SCHEDULE**

8 **Q. What is the planned in-service date for the Project?**

9 A. The goal is for the station to be complete and providing backfeed by December 1,  
10 2027. This date is known as the Transmission Owner Ready Date and is the main objective in  
11 terms of Ameren Missouri's performance. In order to meet the Transmission Owner Ready date,  
12 Ameren Missouri anticipates starting construction by February 2027. The Commercial Operation  
13 Date ("COD") for the generating facility itself is scheduled to be May 29, 2028.

14 **Q. By when does Ameren Missouri request that the Commission approve its**  
15 **application for a CCN?**

16 A. July 1, 2026.

17 **Q. Why is that date significant?**

18 A. Assuming a 30-day effective date associated with the Commission's order, that is  
19 the date by which an order would need to be issued to facilitate Ameren Missouri's October 10,  
20 2026, engineering completion date. As most of the activities in the schedule are interrelated, it is  
21 important that the Project stays on schedule in order to help facilitate the generator's target COD.

22 **Q. Please provide an overview of the anticipated schedule for the Project.**

1           A.     First, it is important to note that the Interconnection Customer has submitted a  
2 schedule amendment to MISO, modifying certain milestone dates in the executed GIA. The  
3 amended milestone schedule is attached as Schedule JW-D3.<sup>5</sup> The schedule discussed below is  
4 from the updated/amended milestone schedule. Below is a list of some significant remaining  
5 milestones:

- 6           • Ringer Solar to begin site preparation – September 2026
- 7           • Site turnover – December 4, 2026
- 8           • Ameren Missouri start of construction – February 4, 2027
- 9           • Ringer Solar connects lead line to station arbor – November 1, 2027
- 10          • Ameren Missouri ties-in station to Morley-Stoddard – November 15, 2027
- 11          • Backfeed/TO Ready Date for synchronization and trial operation – December 1, 2027
- 12          • COD – May 29, 2028

13          **Q.     Are there any other schedule-related points to raise?**

14          A.     Just that the schedule is subject to the customary set of qualifiers contained in the  
15 GIA. Those qualifiers note, among other items, that the schedule is dependent on factors including  
16 weather, outage availability, and material procurement.

17          **Q.     Please describe the regulatory approvals required for this Project.**

18          A.     Outside of the CCN, this Project may require federal, state, and local permitting,  
19 which generally includes items like environmental permits and road-related approvals.  
20 Environmental surveys and studies will also be necessary to comply with various environmental  
21 laws (Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, etc.). Some of those permits may be obtained

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<sup>5</sup> See GIA Appendix B, Original Sheet Nos. 110-122 in Schedule JW-D1 for the original milestone schedule contemplated in the GIA. This table lists the significant activities and dates associated with the Project (some of which will be modified by the Interconnection Customer's milestone change request attached as Schedule JW-D3).

1 during the pendency of the CCN case. Other permits may be obtained later in project development.  
2 Ameren Missouri will work with all regulatory authorities to ensure we have all of the necessary  
3 permits and approvals applicable for this Project.

4 **V. MANAGEMENT AND CONSTRUCTION**

5 **Q. How does Ameren Missouri intend to construct the Project?**

6 A. The Project will be constructed using a Design-Bid-Build process managed by  
7 Ameren Services. In this traditional approach to project delivery, the ultimate owner arranges for  
8 the completion of the design. In the bid phase, the owner then coordinates the bidding of the  
9 materials and any labor necessary for the Project based on the design. The owner then selects the  
10 preferred vendors and orders materials. Finally, the build phase requires the owner to coordinate  
11 the receipt of the materials and manage construction, including the activities of any construction  
12 contractors.

13 **Q. Why does Ameren Missouri intend to use contractors to construct the Project?**

14 A. Using contractors is the most efficient and cost-effective way for Ameren Missouri  
15 to construct projects such as this one. It would be cost-prohibitive and inefficient to permanently  
16 employ the internal staff necessary to support the peak manpower requirements associated with all  
17 transmission line and substation projects. Therefore, as it has routinely done in the past, Ameren  
18 Services, on behalf of Ameren Missouri, will utilize contractors to construct the Project.

19 **Q. How will Ameren Missouri select contractors for the Project?**

20 A. Ameren Services, on behalf of Ameren Missouri, will use a formal sourcing process  
21 to secure bids for the labor necessary to construct the Project. Generally, the sourcing process is  
22 comprised of: (i) identification of qualified contractors for bidding and the contractor selection  
23 criteria necessary for bid evaluations; (ii) evaluation and acceptance of the statements of

1 qualifications and bids received from those interested in the work as scoped; and (iii) negotiation  
2 of the terms and conditions most favorable to Ameren Missouri. This rigorous sourcing process  
3 assures Ameren Services secures the best bid for efficient and effective construction.

4 **Q. Please explain how Ameren Missouri will ensure adequate and efficient**  
5 **construction of the Project.**

6 A. Ameren Services, on behalf of Ameren Missouri, has strong project management  
7 emphasis and experience. Ameren Services has documented corporate project oversight policies  
8 and procedures that govern all phases of transmission substation and line projects, including this  
9 Project. These policies and procedures are consistent with the Project Management Institute's  
10 Project Management Book of Knowledge ("PMBOK"), which is an ANSI standard. Ameren  
11 Services' policies describe key steps in ensuring adequate and efficient construction, such as  
12 constructability reviews, project risk registers with defined risk mitigation plans, and fully  
13 integrated logic-driven schedules. Further, monthly status reports with key project health metrics  
14 are reviewed with management. The monthly status reports identify issues affecting project  
15 execution, potential high impact risks, and cost and schedule performance.

16 **Q. Please explain how Ameren Missouri will supervise construction of the**  
17 **Project.**

18 A. Ameren Services' Transmission Construction Services group will have primary  
19 responsibility for job site supervision during construction of the Project. In addition to this  
20 supervision, employees engaged in design engineering, project controls, and safety will also  
21 oversee construction. Finally, construction contractors will be continuously managed through field  
22 inspections, testing (as required), and construction review.

1           **Q. Will Ameren Missouri ensure that the Project is designed and constructed in**  
2 **accordance with all applicable laws and regulations?**

3           A. Yes. The Ameren Services personnel involved in the design and construction of  
4 the Project are regularly involved in the design and construction of transmission lines and  
5 substations in Missouri. As such, they are aware of the laws and regulations applicable to such  
6 design and construction. When changes are made to these laws and regulations, Ameren Services  
7 employees involved in regulatory issues advise those affected by the changes to implement any  
8 modifications in process or procedure necessary to stay compliant. Through its experience and the  
9 process to address changes, Ameren Services and Ameren Missouri will ensure that they comply  
10 with all applicable federal and state regulations and orders of the Commission, including the  
11 National Electrical Safety Code (“NESC”).

12           **Q. What is Ameren Missouri’s capability to efficiently manage and supervise**  
13 **construction of the Project?**

14           A. As described above, Ameren Missouri utilizes services provided by Ameren  
15 Services and thus is capable of efficiently managing and supervising construction of the Project.  
16 Ameren Services and its personnel, on behalf of its transmission-owning affiliates, has  
17 successfully built many transmission line and substation projects. Ameren Missouri will leverage  
18 this experience to help ensure that the Project is designed and constructed in accordance with all  
19 applicable federal, state, and local regulations and the NESC.

20  
21           **VI. OPERATION, MAINTENANCE AND RESTORATION**

22           **Q. Please provide an overview of Ameren Missouri’s plans for operating the**  
23 **Project.**

1           A.       Ameren Missouri will obtain operations and maintenance services from Ameren  
2 Services once the Project is complete. Ameren Services team, is comprised of North American  
3 Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC”)-certified System Operators with substantial experience  
4 in performing the Transmission Operator and Balancing Authority tasks, is providing these same  
5 services to Ameren Missouri for other transmission sub and switching stations owned by Ameren  
6 Missouri. Ameren Services maintains a primary control center that will conduct all operational  
7 switching and coordination with adjacent and interconnected systems. Once the Project is placed  
8 into service, it will be continuously monitored through Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition  
9 (SCADA) by the control center. The control center is staffed around the clock by System Operators  
10 that are certified by NERC. The System Operators are required to maintain their certification  
11 through a combination of computer-based training and live system simulation drills. Ameren  
12 Services also maintains backup control centers in the unlikely event that the primary control center  
13 must be evacuated to minimize any potential disruption to operating the transmission system.  
14 Operation will be compliant with applicable state and federal law, FERC-approved NERC  
15 Standards and other applicable requirements.

16           **Q.       Please provide an overview of Ameren Missouri’s plans for maintaining the**  
17 **Project.**

18           Specifically with respect to substation maintenance, Ameren subsidiaries currently own  
19 and operate over 300 substations that contain transmission class equipment. Ameren Services and  
20 other Ameren operating subsidiaries maintain in-house substation maintenance expertise as well  
21 as operations and maintenance personnel at locations spread throughout Missouri and Illinois. All  
22 transmission substations are inspected routinely, and the individual equipment contained therein  
23 (breakers, etc.) is subject to an internal substation maintenance strategy setting equipment-specific

1 maintenance expectations. Substation equipment is maintained to meet or exceed requirements  
2 set by NERC, and Ameren Services maintains documentation verifying this compliance, as well  
3 as information documenting the intervals at which maintenance activities are performed and the  
4 scope of work executed on any maintenance projects or visits. Any issues identified during  
5 substation inspections will be given a priority designation as provided by internal maintenance  
6 standards and a remediation action will be scheduled based on that priority.

7 **Q. Please provide an overview of Ameren Missouri’s plans for restoration of safe**  
8 **and adequate service after significant, unplanned/forced outages of the Project.**

9 A. Ameren Services has documented processes governing responses to unplanned  
10 outages. Ameren Services will apply these procedures to the Project by clearly defining roles and  
11 responsibilities across its experienced group of subject matter experts.

12 Ameren Services operators will monitor the status of the Project 24/7. If an unplanned  
13 outage occurs, subject matter experts will be assigned to review the outage data, utilize fault  
14 location information, dispatch field resources for make-safe activities and to assess damage, and  
15 determine material and labor resources necessary for the safest and most efficient restoration.  
16 Ameren Services maintains a close relationship with multiple contract partners and tracks their  
17 staffing levels on Ameren projects on a continual basis. This information is used to determine the  
18 best resources to respond to the situation. Ameren Services also has access to an experienced staff  
19 of internal linemen that can respond to storm damage if necessary.

20 **VII. CONCLUSION**

21 **Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?**

22 A. Yes, it does.

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

In The Matter of the Application of Union )  
Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri )  
for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity )  
to Construct, Own, Operate and Maintain a ) File No. EA-2026-0018  
Transmission Switching Station in )  
Stoddard County, Missouri )  
County, Missouri. )

**AFFIDAVIT**

1. My name is Jeana Woodard. I am a Project Manager for Ameren Services, which is a subsidiary of Ameren Corporation and an affiliate of Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri, the Applicant in the above-captioned proceeding.
2. I have read the above and foregoing Direct Testimony and the statements contained therein are true and correct to the best of my information, knowledge, and belief.
3. I am authorized to make this statement on behalf of Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri.
4. Under penalty of perjury, I declare that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

*/s/ Jeana Woodard*  
Jeana Woodard  
Project Manager  
Ameren Services

Date: January 15, 2026