

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF MISSOURI

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING

In the Matter of the)
Application of Union Electric)
Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri)
for Permission and Approval)
and Certificate of Public) Case No EA-2026-0183
Convenience and Necessity)
Authorizing it to Construct)
Renewable Generation)
Facilities and Battery)
Energy Storage Systems)

THURSDAY, JULY 30, 2026

6:00 p.m.

FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES
19095 HIGHWAY C
ADVANCE, MO 63730

VOLUME 4

KEN SEYER, Presiding
SENIOR REGULATORY LAW JUDGE

KAYLA HAHN, Chair,
MAIDA J. COLEMAN,
GLEN KOLKMEYER,
JOHN MITCHELL,
COMMISSIONERS

REPORTED BY:

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* * * * *

(Starting time of the hearing: 7:16 p.m.)

JUDGE SEYER: All right, let's go on the record. Today is July 30th, 2026. The time is 7:15 p.m. My name is Ken Seyer. I am the regulatory law judge with the Missouri Public Service Commission. And I will preside over this hearing this evening. We are here in advance because the Commission has set this time for a local public hearing to give members of the public a chance to comment about the application of Union Electric Company, doing business as Ameren Missouri, for certificates of convenience and necessity relating to three battery energy storage system projects, two solar generation facilities and related transmission facilities.

The Commission case number is EA-2026-1083. The Commission regulates the rates charged by public utilities -- public utility companies in Missouri to ensure that those rates are just and reasonable. The Commission also regulates the quality of service and the safety of operations of public utilities. The Commission currently has four

1 commissioners. They are appointed by the
2 governor and confirmed by the Senate. The
3 Commission employs a staff of engineers,
4 accountants, attorneys, financial analysts and
5 other specialists in the field of utility
6 regulation.

7 With me here tonight is Commissioner Maida
8 Coleman. Also participating online is
9 Commissioner -- or chair of the Commission
10 Kayla Hahn, and Commissioner Kolkmeier, and I'm
11 not sure if Commissioner Mitchell is on
12 tonight. Okay. All right. The commissioners
13 have not made any decisions in this case and
14 cannot answer any questions today because they
15 have to remain impartial until after all the
16 evidence is presented at the evidentiary
17 hearing in this matter scheduled to begin on
18 September 29th.

19 Commissioner Coleman, would you like to
20 make opening remarks?

21 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: Thank you, Judge.
22 The Judge is giving you a little bit of
23 background about the reason for this hearing
24 tonight. But I want to personally thank you on
25 behalf of our chairperson, Kayla Hahn, and

1 Commissioners Kolkmeier and Mitchell for being
2 here. We take it very seriously when the
3 people affected by the rulings that we make and
4 the services they receive from the company show
5 up to tell us about their experiences and also
6 to give us insight on the issue at hand. These
7 evidentiary -- these public hearings are for us
8 to get that info, and we can only take into
9 consideration the information that you provide
10 on the record. That's why we couldn't be here
11 in attendance for the question-and-answering
12 phase of this. But we're here to listen to
13 your comments and concerns that you bring
14 before us. They will be a part of the official
15 record. We are happy that you're supplying us
16 with your information. Thank you.

17 JUDGE SEYER: All right. There -- I
18 suspect you already met the attorneys
19 representing the parties; but, for the sake of
20 the record, could each of you identify
21 yourselves and state which party you're
22 representing, beginning with counsel for Ameren
23 Missouri.

24 MS. GRUBBS: Good evening, I'm Jermaine
25 Grubbs, spelled G-r-u-b-b-s, and I am here on

1 behalf of Ameren Missouri. And my contact
2 information is on file with the Commission.
3 Thank you.

4 JUDGE SEYER: And from the Commission's
5 staff?

6 MS. JOHNSON: Good evening. Thank you,
7 Judge. My name is Tracy Johnson. I'm deputy
8 staff counsel for the staff of the Commission.

9 JUDGE SEYER: Then for the Office of the
10 Public Counsel?

11 MS. VANGERPEN: Good evening, Lindsey
12 VanGerpen on behalf of the Office of the Public
13 Counsel.

14 JUDGE SEYER: Thank you. The way we'll
15 proceed tonight will be to call up those listed
16 on the sign-up sheet of people that signed up
17 to testify in the order that you signed up.
18 So, when I call your name, please step up to
19 the microphone. I will place you under oath
20 and ask you to state and spell your name, and
21 then you can offer your comments to the
22 Commission. And we try to limit the comments
23 to five minutes per person, and then once
24 you're finished with your comments, if you
25 could just stick around for a second in case

1 there are any questions from the commissioners
2 or the attorneys.

3 So, having said that, and I hope I don't
4 butcher names tonight, but the first name I see
5 on the list is Oren Hanner. All right, is it
6 Hanner with N-N?

7 MR. HANNER: Yes, that is correct.

8 JUDGE SEYER: Okay. Could you go ahead
9 and state your name, please.

10 MR. HANNER: Yes, my name is Oren Hanner.
11 It's spelled O-r-e-n, H-a-n-n-e-r.

12 JUDGE SEYER: Okay, and then if you could
13 raise your right hand, please?

14 (Oren Hanner sworn.)

15 MR. HANNER: I wanted to ensure that the
16 responsibility of this land, even though Ameren
17 does lease it, slash, purchase it, the
18 environmental impact of this -- if this does
19 not go through, or even if it does go through,
20 there's a viable option later, and they
21 abandoned this land, it has to be returned to
22 100 percent where it was. My concern is, when
23 they put the gravel, the concrete, the stands,
24 all the solar equipment, you've displaced a lot
25 of that dirt. So if that ever has to be

1 removed, now you're well below a flood level of
2 that plain anyway.

3 So, there's going to be a tremendous
4 expense and a tremendous effort to try to
5 revitalize that back into farmland, and I want
6 to make sure, when this is written in, that
7 there has to be a time constraint on this, and
8 there has to be a financial obligation of
9 Ameren to completely restore that land to 100
10 percent viability. And this would have to
11 include the EPA studies, the impacts, the
12 viability for farming, and to make sure that it
13 was what it was before. And that's my biggest
14 concern is the responsibility for that to be
15 done.

16 I think there would be other comments for
17 that, but I would like to see that contracted
18 and legally binding that -- that it is a
19 responsibility sheltered by Ameren, in a timely
20 manner, at no expense to anyone other than
21 Ameren, and that's all.

22 JUDGE SEYER: Okay, thank you. All right,
23 next on the list is Arvin Jordan. All right,
24 is there a Mr. Jordan? How about Daniel
25 Phelps?

1 MR. PHELPS: Daniel Phelps. Phelps is
2 P-h-e-l-p-s.

3 (Daniel Phelps sworn.)

4 MR. PHELPS: I think I just want to speak,
5 probably for the community as a whole; we just
6 want our community protected. We just want to
7 see that our lands are not destroyed; that our
8 area and its property values aren't decreased.
9 Overall, I believe Ameren UE to be a fair
10 employer. I know quite a few people that
11 worked there and are pleased with their
12 employer overall. They provide reliable
13 electricity, and if somebody is to own this
14 solar field project, I believe Ameren would be
15 a great manager.

16 On the negative side, I believe the Public
17 Service Commission and their red tape causes
18 the average individual that would want to
19 provide good services to the community not be
20 able to come through. You have to be a big
21 person to be able to provide services, and
22 because of the Public Service Commission and
23 the red tape and all of the procedures, I
24 believe you all help drive the cost up. I had
25 other dealings with the Public Service

1 Commission with water and other utilities and
2 have found it's absolutely not helped protect
3 us. So, I would go on record for saying go
4 Ameren; Public Service Commission, I don't
5 know. I would probably say, call me. I would
6 like to talk more. Being up there at Jeff City
7 with Wayne Wallingford. And I was really
8 disappointed to see some of the things going
9 on. Thank you.

10 JUDGE SEYER: Okay. The final name I have
11 on the list is Dan Seger.

12 (Dan Seger sworn.)

13 JUDGE SEYER: Could you state and spell
14 your name, please?

15 MR. SEGER: It's Dan Seger, S-e-g-e-r. I
16 wanted to start out to say that I am personally
17 not a huge fan of solar, primarily due to the
18 aesthetics of it. That being said, I
19 appreciate the location that this one is in.
20 Not placed on a main thoroughfare. I
21 appreciate that the company that's attempting
22 to do this project is a company that's been
23 around longer than I've been alive and longer
24 than most people have been alive. If it's
25 something that's going to be approved, I would

1 just as soon see a company with ties to
2 Missouri do it as ties outside of the area. So
3 any benefit that could stay here is better had.
4 Thank you, sir.

5 JUDGE SEYER: Okay, thank you. All right,
6 as I said, that -- that is the extent of the
7 people that have signed up, and now that you've
8 seen what it's like, is there anyone else that
9 would like to come up and testify? All right.
10 Okay, I will say this: if you have comments
11 after the hearing or if you would like -- if
12 you prefer to submit your comments as written
13 comments, you can go to the Public Service
14 Commission's website. It is psc.mo.gov. You
15 can go to that home page. There is a link that
16 says Submit Comments. It's on the right side
17 of the screen.

18 And once you click on that, you can add
19 your comments, and all I would ask you is that
20 you include this case number, which, again, is
21 EA-2026-0183. Before we end the hearing
22 tonight, Commissioner Coleman, would you like
23 to make some closing remarks?

24 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: Thank you.
25 Mr. Hanner, Mr. Phelps, and Mr. Thayer? Seer?

1 Seger? He's your mayor? Boy, he doesn't say a
2 lot to be a mayor, does he? I want to thank
3 you all for your comments, but I would also
4 like to thank you, those of you who came for
5 support, for information and just for being
6 here spending your evening with us. Thank you,
7 because we do take your comments seriously. We
8 always learn a lot about the concerns and get
9 the general idea of where the community is
10 coming from. And when there's a project in
11 your area, it's as important to us as it is to
12 you. So, again, thank you for your time
13 tonight. We appreciate it. And just to make
14 you like me, I'm born and raised in Sikeston,
15 okay?

16 JUDGE SEYER: All right, thank you,
17 Commissioner Coleman. Again, thank you all for
18 coming out tonight, and the hearing is now
19 adjourned. And we are off the record.

20 (Ending time of the hearing: 7:29 p.m.)
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1 I, Colin Wallis, in and for the State of
2 Missouri do hereby certify that the witness
3 whose testimony appears in the foregoing
4 Examination Under Oath was duly sworn by me;
5 that the testimony of the said witness was
6 taken by me to the best of my ability and
7 thereafter reduced to typewriting under my
8 direction; that I am neither counsel for,
9 related to, nor employed by any of the parties
10 to the action in which this examination was
11 taken, and further that I am not relative or
12 employee of any attorney or counsel employed by
13 the parties thereto, nor financially or
14 otherwise interested in the outcome of the
15 action.

16 Colin Wallis

17 within and for the State of Missouri
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