

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

In the Matter of Union Electric Company)
d/b/a Ameren Missouri's Tariff to Adjust Its)
Revenues for Electric Service)

Case No. ER-2026-0291

MOTION FOR ADDITIONAL LOCAL PUBLIC HEARING

Comes now the Office of the Public Counsel (the “OPC”) and respectfully requests that the Commission hold an additional in-person local public hearing in or near Festus, MO, at 6:00 p.m. on January 25, 2027. In support, the OPC respectfully states:

1. On June 26, 2026, Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri (“Ameren”) filed this case, seeking an increase of approximately \$342.8 million, or approximately 10.4% in its overall revenue requirement. (Minimum Filing Requirements 4, Doc. 2).
2. Ameren estimates that the proposed increase for the average residential customer will be approximately \$12.88 per month. (Meyer Direct Test., Schedule AMM-D1 1, Doc. 13).
3. On October 9, 2026, the Staff of the Public Service Commission of the State of Missouri (“Staff” and “Commission,” respectively), Ameren, and the OPC filed the Jointly Proposed Local Public Hearing Schedule requesting that the Commission schedule five (5) in-person local public hearings and two (2) virtual local public hearings. (Doc. 55).
4. The locations for the jointly proposed in-person local public hearings are: (1) Cape Girardeau; (2) St. Charles, (3) St. Louis, (4) Jefferson City, and (5) Sunset Hills. (Jt. Proposed Local Pub. Hearing Schedule 1). Staff, Ameren, and the OPC suggested that the Commission hold the St. Charles and St. Louis local public hearings on the

same day and the Sunset Hills local public hearing on a different day (January 25, 2027) at 12:00 p.m. (*Id.*).

5. The Jointly Proposed Local Public Hearing Schedule also recognized that the OPC would be requesting an additional in-person local public hearing by separate motion.
6. By this motion, the OPC requests that the Commission hold an additional in-person local public hearing in or near Festus, MO, at 6:00 p.m. on January 25, 2027.
7. Generally, holding this additional local public hearing will allow members of the public an even greater opportunity to appear in-person before the Commission to state their opinions on Ameren's rate increase request. This is Ameren's fourth (4th) request for a rate increase in the last five (5) calendar years. (*See* ER-2024-0319, ER-2022-0337, ER-2021-0240). Members of the public have already submitted three hundred and ten (310) written comments¹ to the Commission's case file for this case. The Commission's recent local public hearings held in other Ameren cases have also been well-attended. In fact, the Commission *sua sponte* scheduled an additional in-person local public hearing in a recent Ameren case. (*See generally* Order Setting Additional Local Pub. Hearing, Case No. EA-2026-0183, Doc. 34).
8. The OPC specifically requests that the Commission hold the additional local public hearing in Festus, as this is the first general rate case following the Commission's consideration of the Big Hollow simple cycle natural gas electric generation facility and battery energy storage system (collectively, the "Big Hollow Project"), which Ameren is constructing in Jefferson County, near Festus. (*See* Appl. 3, Case No. EA-2025-0238, Doc. 2). Likely due to timing considerations regarding the public notice,

¹ As of 4:15 p.m. on October 13, 2026.

the Commission did not hold an in-person local public hearing in the case in which it considered Ameren's request for Certificates of Convenience and Necessity for the Big Hollow Project. Concern regarding the lack of an in-person local public hearing was noted during the virtual local public hearing held in that case. Similarly, Festus provides those Ameren customers living in the area south of the St. Louis metro area an opportunity to attend an in-person local public hearing within a reasonable driving distance of their home.

9. Finally, holding the additional local public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on the same day as the Sunset Hills in-person local public hearing will promote travel logistics for those who attend the local public hearing for the Commission, Staff, Ameren, and the OPC.

WHEREFORE, the Office of the Public Counsel submits this Motion for Additional Local Public Hearing and requests that the Commission hold an in-person local public hearing in or near Festus, MO, at 6:00 p.m. on January 25, 2027, in addition to those requested in the Jointly Proposed Local Public Hearing Schedule.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Lindsay VanGerpen
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the forgoing have been mailed, emailed, or hand-delivered to all counsel of record this 13th day of October 2026.

/s/ Lindsay VanGerpen