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Certificate of Convenience And Necessity Daniel I. Beck MO PSC Staff Surrebuttal Testimony EA-2015-0146 November 16, 2015

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSION STAFF DIVISION

SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

DANIEL I. BECK

AMEREN TRANSMISSION COMPANY OF ILLINOIS

CASE NO. EA-2015-0146

Jefferson City, Missouri November 2015

Staff Exhibit No. 26 Date 125/14 Reporter ~ File No. EA - 2015 - 014

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Ameren) Transmission Company of Illinois for Other Relief or, in the Alternative, a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Authorizing it to Construct, Install, Own, Operate, Maintain and Otherwise Control and Manage 345,000-volt а Electric Transmission Line from Palmyra, Missouri to the Iowa Border and an Associated Substation Near Kirksville, Missouri)

Case No. EA-2015-0146

AFFIDAVIT OF DANIEL I. BECK

STATE OF MISSOURI)) ss **COUNTY OF COLE**)

COMES NOW Daniel I. Beck and on his oath declares that he is of sound mind and lawful age; that he contributed to the attached Surrebuttal Testimony; and that the same is true and correct according to his best knowledge and belief.

Further the Affiant sayeth not.

Daniel Beck

Subscribed and sworn to before me this $1/e^{\frac{t}{h}}$ day of November, 2015.



<u>A Hundermeye</u> Notary Public

1	SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY
2 3 4	OF
4 5 6	DANIEL I. BECK
7 8	AMEREN TRANSMISSION COMPANY OF ILLINOIS
9 10	CASE NO. EA-2015-0146
10 11 12	
13	A. My name is Daniel I. Beck and my business address is Missouri Public Service
14	Commission, P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, MO 65102.
15	Q. Are you the same Daniel I. Beck that filed rebuttal testimony in this
16	proceeding?
17	A. Yes, I am.
18	Q. What is the purpose of your surrebuttal testimony?
19	A. I will discuss several issues that were brought up by Neighbors United witness
20	Mr. William E. Powers.
21	Q. Neighbors United witness William E. Powers states: "The average 2014-2015
22	cost of RECs in the Western U.S. was \$16.55 per megawatt-hour (\$/MWh)." [Powers
23	Rebuttal, Page 6, Lines 17-18]. Do you agree with this statement?
24	A. No. This is not a reasonable estimate for the cost of a renewable energy credit
25	("REC"). Instead, it is simply the average price western states utilities charged their
26	customers for green pricing programs.
27	Q. What is a green pricing program and what is the basis for your claim that the
28	\$16.55/MWh is related to green pricing programs and not the cost of RECs?

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1 A. I believe the following definition of a green pricing program is reasonable: A green pricing program is an optional utility service that allows customers an opportunity to support a greater level of utility company investment in renewable energy technologies. Participating customers pay a premium on their electric bills to cover the incremental cost of the additional renewable energy. I would point out that the cost of a REC is not included in this definition.

7 My assertion about the \$16.55/MWh amount is based on my review of the document 8 that is referenced in footnote 4 in Mr. Powers' rebuttal testimony. That footnote immediately 9 followed the quote above. The footnote refers to Exhibit PE-04 and appears to identify the 10 title to Exhibit PE-04 as "2014-2015 DOE survey of REC prices in Western U.S." However, 11 based on my review of Exhibit PE-04, I determined that this is a filing made by Pacific Gas 12 and Electric Company with the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California and that filing included an Appendix A, Western States Utility Green Pricing Programs. Appendix A 13 14 is the source of the \$16.55/MWh average and is the average price western state utilities 15 charged their customers for green pricing programs. In Missouri, Ameren Missouri also 16 offers a green pricing program called "Pure Power." Pure Power has a charge of 17 \$10.00/MWh (1 cent/kWh). This charge was set in File No. ET-2013-0546 and not only 18 included the cost of RECs but it also included other costs like administrative costs.

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Q. Starting on Page 32, Line 21 of Neighbors United witness Powers Rebuttal, the 20 following question and answer is given:

Q. Can a focused effort to locate customer-owned solar on homes, businesses, and farms in the Kirksville area contribute to reducing load on the Adair Substation at summer peak conditions?

A. Yes. There would be no additional cost to Ameren MO ratepayers, as customer-owned generation is a net-metering program open to all Ameren MO customers.

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Do you agree with this statement?

2 A. No. While I agree that customer-owned solar could contribute to reducing 3 load on the Adair Substation at summer peak conditions, I do not agree that this would be at 4 no additional cost to Ameren MO ratepayers. Although the specifics of the "focused effort" is 5 not provided, net-metering is not revenue neutral for all other customers. Instead, net-6 metering pricing is defined by Missouri statutes. I would characterize the credit that a 7 customer receives as being based on the rates that he/she pays per kWh and the amount of 8 energy that he/she generates for the billing month compared to the amount that he/she actually 9 used. Since most of Ameren MO rate schedules have blocked rates, the credit for a given 10 customer will likely be the combination of rates from more than one blocked rate and the 11 average value per kWh for customers in a given rate class which will vary. In addition, the 12 question refers to "homes, businesses, and farms" which would mean that this diverse mix of 13 customers would be served by multiple rate schedules. Finally, since net-metering is based on 14 the "net" of the monthly generation versus monthly usage for that customer-generator, the 15 credit that a customer-generator could receive for his/her excess generation, that is the 16 monthly generation less the monthly usage, would be based on the avoided cost that is in 17 AmerenMO's tariffs. Given the varying credits per kWh for different customers in the same rate class and varying credits for different rate classes, one cannot accurately estimate the 18 19 effect on other rate payers or claim that there will be no additional cost to Ameren MO 20 ratepayers.

21 22 If the "focused effort" also includes the rebates, these costs would also be recoverable from all of Ameren MO's customers.

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Q. Neighbors United witness Powers states: "Missouri utilities have shown no
 interest in developing wind projects in the Adair Wind Zone." [Powers Rebuttal, Page 34,
 Lines 20-21]. Have Missouri utilities shown interest in developing wind projects in other
 wind zones?

A. No. Almost all of the wind projects that supply energy to Missouri utilities have not been developed by Missouri electric utilities. Instead, wind developers have typically developed the projects and Missouri electric utilities have entered into purchase power agreements to receive electricity from those wind projects.

Q. Neighbors United witness Powers states: "Ameren MO is also in the process of
constructing a 15 MW solar array along I-70 in Montgomery County on 70 acres." [Powers
Rebuttal, Page 41, Lines 8-9]. Do you agree with this statement?

A. No. The footnote for this quote references Exhibit PE-37, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, July 1, 2015. However, Ameren MO has not received a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("CCN") for the project discussed in this article. Ameren MO did file a request for a CCN in File No. EA-2015-0273 but also filed a Notice of Dismissal on October 2, 2015. Based on Ameren MO withdrawing its request for a CCN, it appears it is not going forward with building that facility at this time. Ameren MO could build the facility as a nonregulated power plant without a CCN but I am not aware of any plans to do so at this time.

Q. Neighbors United witness Powers Rebuttal, Page 42, Lines 1-13 discusses
solar rebates and the \$91.9 million allocated for solar rebates. Do you have any observations
regarding this discussion?

A. Yes. First, the \$91.9 million allocated for solar rebates is specific to Ameren
MO for rebates paid subsequent to July 31, 2012. Ameren MO began offering solar rebates in

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1 2010 and the rebates paid prior to July 31, 2012 are not included in the \$91.9 million value. Second, Kansas City Power & Light Company and KCP&L-Greater Missouri Operations 2 3 Company also allocated funds for solar rebates at levels of \$36.5 million and \$50 million, 4 respectively, for solar rebates paid after August 31, 2012. Third, The Empire District Electric 5 Company began offering solar rebates earlier this year. Fourth, several municipal utilities in 6 Missouri have also started offering rebates. Fifth, based on my experience with Ameren 7 MO's solar rebate program, most of the rebates were paid at the \$2.00 per watt level and the 8 systems were operational before June 30, 2014. Therefore, I believe the \$1.50 per watt rebate 9 estimate that Powers relied on was too low.

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- Does this conclude your rebuttal testimony?
- A. Yes.

Q.