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

#### SUMMARY OF MEETING

COMES NOW Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri (Ameren Missouri or

Company) and for its Summary of Meeting states as follows:

## **Event: Ameren's launch of Ameren Accelerator**

Location: The Cortex Innovation Community@4240 Building 4240 Duncan Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63110 The Havana Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Date: Friday, March 31, 2017

Time: 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Missouri Public Service Commission Attending: Commissioner Scott Rupp

Ameren Personnel Attending: Chairman, President and CEO Warner Baxter, Ameren

Missouri President Michael Moehn, VP and Deputy General Counsel Chonda Nwamu, VP

Corporate Communications Geralynn Lord, President Ameren Transmission Maureen

Borkowski, Senior VP Transmission Operations Shawn Schukar, Ameren Missouri Legislative

Representative Rick Eastman, Ameren Missouri Manager Regulatory Affairs Gaye Suggett, and

various other Ameren personnel.

### Office of Public Counsel Attending: Hampton Williams

Ameren Corporation announced the launch of Ameren Accelerator, an innovate public-private partnership with the University of Missouri System, UMSL Accelerate and Capital Innovators, that will assess, mentor and invest in energy technology startup companies. Warner Baxter said the program is a key component of Ameren's focus on innovative technologies to make the energy grid smarter, more reliable, resilient, and secure while also transforming how customers manage and use energy to power their lives in the future. Dr. Mun Choi, University of Missouri

System President, said the Ameren Accelerator will be a transformative public-private

partnership to create new technologies and workforce training for the future.

A copy of the press release is attached.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Is/ Wendy K. Tatro* **Wendy K. Tatro**, #60261 Director and Assistant General Counsel 1901 Chouteau Avenue, MC 1310 P.O. Box 66149 St. Louis, MO 63166-6149 (314) 554-3484 (phone) (314) 554-4014 (facsimile) amerenmoservice@ameren.com

# ATTORNEYS FOR UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a AMEREN MISSOURI

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was sent by electronic transmission, facsimile, U.S. Mail or e-mail to all parties of record in all of its contested cases pending before the Missouri Public Service Commission on this  $4^{th}$  day of <u>April</u>, 2017.

<u>Isl Wendy K. Tatro</u> Wendy K. Tatro



# Media Contacts

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Ameren launches initiative to spark energy innovation and attract job-creating tech startups to St. Louis

Collaborative program starts today at Cortex, St. Louis' innovation and technology district

ST. LOUIS (March 31, 2017) – Ameren Corporation (NYSE: AEE) announced today the launch of Ameren Accelerator, an innovative public-private partnership with the University of Missouri System, UMSL Accelerate and Capital Innovators, that will assess, mentor and invest in energy technology startup companies.

The unique partnership, one of the first of its kind in the United States, is also the St. Louis region's first to focus on energy technologies.

Leveraging the expertise of all of the partners, the goals of this program are to better position Ameren to meet its customers' future energy needs and expectations, create new jobs through these start-up companies and provide university students opportunities to be more engaged in the energy business.

Five to seven startup companies are expected to be chosen, and each will receive \$100,000 in seed

capital to participate in the Ameren Accelerator program, which will be located in Cortex, St. Louis' innovation and technology district.

**Warner Baxter**, chairman, president and CEO of Ameren Corporation, said the program is a key component of Ameren's focus on innovative technologies to make the energy grid smarter, more reliable, resilient, and secure while also transforming



how customers manage and use energy to power their lives in the future.

"As new energy technologies rapidly advance, it is critical that we take bold steps today to better position Ameren to meet our customers' future energy needs and expectations," Baxter said. "This forwardthinking initiative is expected to draw innovators, entrepreneurs and business startups from around the world to St. Louis and to provide us with important insights and technologies to deliver long-term value to our customers and the communities we serve. At the same time, this initiative will enhance St. Louis' already robust innovation and entrepreneurship community, attract top-level talent, educate university students and create jobs. This is a tremendous opportunity for the St. Louis region."

As part of the program, the selected startup companies will each receive intensive mentoring, technical assistance, facilities and networking connections from the Ameren Accelerator partners.

"The Ameren Accelerator will be a transformative public-private partnership to create new technologies and workforce training for the future," said **Dr. Mun Choi**, University of Missouri System president. "Collaborating with innovative partners such as Ameren and Capital Innovators will enable the faculty, students and staff of the University of Missouri System to directly contribute to economic development in the state. I am proud that UMSL spearheaded this project because these activities are strongly aligned with our mission as a top public research university."

Beginning today through May 12, applications will be accepted from interested entrepreneurs and energy technology companies. Information and requirements may be found at <u>amerenaccelerator.com</u>.

In July, the selected startup companies will receive seed funding and hands-on support throughout the 12-week program. Senior-level executives from a variety of companies will provide mentorship. Subject matter experts in the areas of energy, sales, marketing, pricing, technical development, operations, talent development and finance will also provide guidance. Based out of the CIC@4240 Building in Cortex, participants will be able to network with like-minded individuals focused on innovative thinking and collaboration. CIC is one of the most cutting-edge high-tech facilities in the country and a prime destination for business creativity.

At the conclusion of the program, participants will be invited to showcase their efforts to both the mentoring teams and potential third-party investors during Accelerator Demo Day this October. Ameren may select the most promising projects for ongoing mentoring and engagement beyond the Accelerator program.

"The Ameren Accelerator is our first corporate initiative through UMSL Accelerate – which is designed to foster entrepreneurism and innovation in and outside the classroom," said **Dr. Tom George**, chancellor of the University of Missouri–St. Louis. "We look forward to tapping into our strong contingent of faculty, student and alumni connections to make this program a success for all involved."

"Capital Innovators is excited to lead the movement through this partnership for the next level of accelerator programs to focus on the world's most pressing issues, such as energy," said **Judy Sindecuse**, CEO of Capital Innovators. "We look forward to engaging a new group of fresh thinkers on a variety of energy-related challenges and cultivate necessary innovations that can provide extreme value to the energy sector."

"We are excited about the prospects of this unique public-private partnership," Baxter said. "Ameren Accelerator is one way we are demonstrating our vision of 'Leading the Way to a Secure Energy Future' and our mission 'To Power the Quality of Life."

To apply or to learn more about Ameren Accelerator, visit amerenaccelerator.com.

#### **About Ameren Corporation**

St. Louis-based Ameren Corporation powers the quality of life for 2.4 million electric customers and more than 900,000 natural gas customers in a 64,000-square-mile area through its Ameren Missouri and Ameren Illinois rate-regulated utility subsidiaries. Ameren Illinois provides electric distribution and transmission service, as well as natural gas distribution service, while Ameren Missouri provides vertically integrated electric service, with generating capacity of over 10,200 megawatts, and natural gas distribution service. Ameren Transmission Company of Illinois develops regional electric transmission projects. Follow the company on Twitter @AmerenCorp. For more information, visit <u>Ameren.com</u>.

#### About the University of Missouri System

The University of Missouri System is the State of Missouri's largest public university, with four campuses serving more than 76,000 students, a health care system, an extension program, and more than 500,000 alumni worldwide. The UM System was created in 1963 when the University of Missouri (founded in 1839 in Columbia) and the Missouri School of Mines (now the Missouri University of Science and Technology, founded in 1870 in Rolla), were combined with the formerly private University of Kansas City (now University of Missouri–Kansas City, founded in 1933), and a newly created campus in suburban St. Louis (University of Missouri–St. Louis).

### About the University of Missouri-St. Louis and UMSL Accelerate

The University of Missouri–St. Louis is the largest public research university in eastern Missouri with the greatest concentration of alumni in the region. Their UMSL Accelerate initiative fosters entrepreneurism and innovative thinking in and outside the classroom and helps bring concepts from mind to market. For more information, visit <u>http://umsl.edu/accelerate/</u>.

#### **About Capital Innovators**

Capital Innovators is an innovation engine that creates practical solutions across industries that can shape the future of organizations. Capital Innovators provides innovation consulting, entrepreneurialbased programs, acts as a liaison between Corporations, Universities and Startups and investment into attractive early-stage businesses. Capital Innovators has in-depth knowledge into the most cutting-edge solutions through the Accelerator division of its business, which has been ranked as a Top 10 Accelerator in the country for three years in a row and has invested in and guided 70 companies to date. Capital Innovators model is simple and effective: Innovation, Iteration, and Implementation.

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