# 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 Permission and	)
Approval and a Certificate of Public Convenience and	)
Necessity Authorizing it to Construct, Install, Own,	) File No. EA-2014-0136
Operate, Maintain and Otherwise Control and Manage	)
Solar Generation Facilities in O'Fallon, Missouri.	)

# APPLICATION OF UNION ELECTRIC COMPANY d/b/a AMEREN MISSOURI FOR CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

COMES NOW Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri ("Ameren Missouri" or "Applicant"), pursuant to 4 CSR 240-2.060, 4 CSR 240-3.105, and Section 393.170, RSMo., and hereby submits to the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") its Application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity ("CCN") authorizing it to construct, install, own, operate, maintain and otherwise control and manage solar generation facilities in O'Fallon, Missouri. In support of its request, Applicant states as follows:

#### I. APPLICANT

1. Union Electric Company is a Missouri corporation doing business under the fictitious name of Ameren Missouri, in good standing in all respects, with its principal office and place of business located at One Ameren Plaza, 1901 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Missouri 63103. Applicant is engaged in providing electric and gas utility services in portions of Missouri as a public utility under the jurisdiction of the Commission. There is already on file with the Commission a certified copy of Applicant's Articles of Incorporation (See Case No. EA-87-105), and Applicant's Fictitious Name Registrations as filed with the Missouri Secretary of State's Office (See Case Nos. GO-98-486 and EO-2011-0069). Said documents are incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof for all purposes. A Certificate of Corporate Good Standing for Applicant is attached as Schedule A.

2. Pleadings, notices, orders and other correspondence and communications concerning this Application should be addressed to:

Wendy K. Tatro
Corporate Counsel
Thomas M. Byrne
Director and Assistant General Counsel
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and

James B. Lowery Smith Lewis, LLP 111 S. Ninth Street, Ste. 200 P.O. Box 918 Columbia, MO 65205 lowery@smithlewis.com

- 3. Applicant has no pending action or final unsatisfied judgment or decision against it from any state or federal agency or court which involve customer service or rates, which action, judgment, or decision has occurred within three years of the date of this Application, except a pending application for transfer to Supreme Court of File No. ER-2012-0166.
  - 4. Applicant has no overdue annual report or assessment fees.

#### II. REQUEST FOR CCN

5. Applicant requests a CCN in order to construct, own, operate and maintain a solar generation facility at 1621 Highway 79 in O'Fallon, Missouri. This location is adjacent to an existing substation and is on land already owned by Ameren Missouri. It is also within Ameren Missouri certificated service territory.

- 6. Applicant is constructing a solar generation facility in furtherance of its commitment to renewable energy generation in the state of Missouri, and as part of its strategy to comply with Missouri's Renewable Energy Standard ("RES"), specifically that a portion of the required renewable energy come from solar generation. (Section 393.1030.1 RSMo (Cum. Supp. 2011)). The facility is the next step in Ameren Missouri's investment in solar generation in the state of Missouri. Applicant currently supports Missouri solar development through solar rebate payments. Ameren Missouri reached a settlement in File No. ET-2014-0085, which allows it to pay out over \$90 million in rebates to its customers. This pool of rebate dollars was created in order to provide customers and solar installers more transparency around solar rebate payments. In addition, Ameren Missouri has established a solar learning center in its offices where it has tested various types of solar power generation.
- 7. The facility that is the subject of this application will initially consist of a 5.7 MW-DC photovoltaic ground mount fixed axis solar facility that will produce approximately 7,700 megawatt-hours ("MWh") of solar generated energy per year, on average. It will be the largest single site solar facility in the state of Missouri. Construction is anticipated to begin in May of 2014 and is to be completed by the end of the year. Once constructed, Ameren Missouri anticipates that this facility will generate enough energy to provide approximately 9,600 solar renewable energy credits ("SRECs") annually.
- 8. Applicant has requested or soon will request all of the permits and approvals required for the construction of this facility. Applicant expects to have all permits granted in a timely manner as necessary for construction of this project. Schedule B contains a list of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Utilities are allowed to comply with this requirement by purchasing renewable energy or Renewable Energy Credits derived from renewable generation.

government permits required for construction of this facility. Ameren Missouri will file certified copies of all permits received in this case, as they are granted.

- 9. The estimated cost of the initial construction is approximately \*\*
  which Ameren Missouri intends to finance through the use of existing funds and indebtedness.

  The project specifications are attached as Schedule C. Drawings for the project are attached as Schedule D.
- 10. The entrance road for this project will cross an AT&T telecommunications line but otherwise this project will not cross any regulated or non-regulated utilities, railroad tracks or underground facilities.
- 11. The foregoing facts demonstrate that issuance of a CCN authorizing Ameren Missouri to construct, own, operate and maintain this facility is required by the public convenience and necessity. Applicant requests the Missouri Public Service Commission approve this CCN promptly, but in no event later than April 15, 2014, so that all permissions required prior to commencement of construction will have been obtained prior to May of 2014.
- 12. On November 12, 2013, Ameren Missouri filed a 60 day notice for this application, as required by 4 CSR 240-4.020(2) and 60 days have passed since that filing.

WHEREFORE, Ameren Missouri respectfully requests that the Commission, no later than April 15, 2014, enter an Order granting its request for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct, own, operate and maintain a solar generation facility at 1621 Highway 79 in O'Fallon, Missouri.

### Respectfully submitted,

#### /s/ Wendy Tatro

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Corporate Counsel

Thomas M. Byrne #33340

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

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the public version of the foregoing Application has been e-mailed, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2014, to the Missouri Public Service Commission Staff and to the Office of the Public Counsel.

/s/ Wendy Tatro
Wendy Tatro

### **VERIFICATION**

I, Warren Wood, of lawful age, being duly sworn, depose and say that: I am the Vice President of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs for Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri; that I have knowledge of the facts stated in the foregoing Application; that I certify that the requested action is substantially consistent with the preferred resource plan specified in Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri's most recent triennial compliance filing or annual update report; and that said facts are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Warren Wood

Subscribed and sworn to before me this /3#day of January, 2014.

Notary Public

Mark C. Jordan - Notary Public
Notary Seal, State of
Missouri - Cole County
Commission #10546345
My Commission Expires 2/17/2014