

**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-2013-0089**
Operate, Maintain and Otherwise Control and Manage)
A 345,000-volt electric transmission line in Cape)
Girardeau County, Missouri)

STAFF STATUS REPORT

COMES NOW the Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Staff”), by and through the Staff Counsel’s Office and files this Staff Status Report.

1. In a December 10, 2012 Order Directing Notice, Setting Intervention Deadline, Directing Filing And Scheduling A Conference (“Order”), the Missouri Public Service Commission (“Commission”) scheduled a procedural conference for January 14, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. at the Commission’s office in Jefferson City, Missouri regarding an Application of Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri (“Ameren Missouri”) for permission and approval and a certificate of public convenience and necessity (“CCN”) authorizing it to construct, install, own, operate, maintain and otherwise control and manage a 345,000-volt electric transmission line in Cape Girardeau County, Missouri. The Commission also directed that the Staff shall investigate and file a report and recommendation regarding the Ameren Missouri Application no later than April 5, 2013. Ameren Missouri requests that the Commission approve its Application at the Commission’s earliest convenience but in no event later than May 1, 2013.

2 In subsequent Orders the Commission moved the prehearing conference to January 15, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

3. At the prehearing conference, Presiding Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge Harold Stearley asked if the parties in attendance had any inkling whether this matter is or is not

likely to go to hearing. Thomas M. Byrne, counsel for Ameren Missouri, related that he had spoken with intervenors International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and International Union of Operating Engineers Unions (“Unions”) and had heard nothing from the Unions indicating the necessity of a hearing. Undersigned counsel for the Staff stated that the Staff wanted to have some discussion that morning with Ameren Missouri but it appeared to the Staff that this matter was not likely to go to hearing. Judge Stearley asked the Staff to report back whether there has been any change regarding the likelihood of the matter going to hearing.

4. Based on the discussions that occurred among Ameren Missouri, the Office of the Public Counsel (“Public Counsel”), and the Staff at the prehearing conference, it is the Staff’s evaluation that there will not be a need for a hearing. Also nothing to the Staff’s knowledge has occurred since then to change the Staff’s evaluation of the situation. The Staff e-mailed a draft copy of this pleading to counsel for all parties on Monday morning, February 11, 2013 as a courtesy. The Staff is planning to file its recommendation by April 5, 2013, and at this time sees no need for a procedural schedule for Ameren Missouri’s Application for a CCN.

WHEREFORE the Staff files the instant Status Report.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Steven Dottheim

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing *Staff Status Report* have been transmitted electronically to all counsel of record this 13th day of February, 2013.

/s/ Steven Dottheim