

**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 Authorization to Enter into a Contract)	<u>File No. EM-2025-0243</u>
With a Third-Party for Utilization of Fiber)	
Optic Capacity Not Currently Utilized for)	
Electric Operations.)	

RESPONSE TO STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri ("Ameren Missouri"), and for its *Response to Staff Recommendation* respectfully states as follows:

1. On April 24, 2025, Staff filed its *Staff Recommendation* and *Memorandum* in this matter. Staff recommended the Commission authorize Ameren Missouri to enter into a lease agreement as sought in its March 4, 2025 *Verified Application to Lease Fiber Capacity and Motion for Waiver* and grant Ameren Missouri a waiver of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-4.017 for good cause shown.¹ Additionally, Staff recommended the Commission include in its order a requirement that Ameren Missouri notify the Commission if it intends to terminate, suspend, or modify the lease, as well as the order note that the Commission is making no ratemaking determinations regarding the lease as part of this case.²

2. Ameren Missouri has reviewed the *Staff Recommendation* and *Memorandum* and does not object to the Staff's recommendations for the Commission's order as noted in paragraph 1 above.

WHEREFORE, Ameren Missouri prays that the Commission make and enter its order authorizing the lease of the fiber optic strands pursuant to the terms of the *Fiber License Agreement*

¹ *Memorandum*, pp. 5-6.

² *Id.* at p. 6.

and grant a waiver of 20 CSR 4240-4.017 for good cause shown.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Jennifer L. Hernandez

Jennifer L. Hernandez, Mo Bar #59814

Corporate Counsel

Wendy K. Tatro, Mo Bar #60261

Director and Assistant General Counsel

Ameren Missouri

1901 Chouteau Avenue

P.O. Box 66149, MC 1310

St. Louis, MO 63166-6149

Telephone: (314) 978-8418

Facsimile: (314) 554-4014

E-Mail: AmerenMOService@ameren.com

jhernandez2@ameren.com

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

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that true and correct copies of the foregoing were served by electronic mail to all counsel of record this 5th day of May 2025.

/s/ Jennifer L. Hernandez