

INFORMATION SHEET

Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri **Request For An Electric Rate Increase**

(Case No. ER-2022-0337)

Introduction: The Missouri Public Service Commission.

The Missouri Public Service Commission regulates investor-owned electric, natural gas, steam, water and sewer companies and has limited authority over telephone providers in the state. The Commission ensures the public has access to safe, reliable and reasonably priced utility service. The Commission must balance the interests of the public – ratepayers – as well as company shareholders. In proceedings before the Commission, rates are set to give the utility company an opportunity – but not a guarantee – to earn a reasonable return on its investment after recovering its prudently incurred expenses.

In addition, the Commission regulates the state’s rural electric cooperatives and municipally-owned natural gas utilities for operational safety. The Commission also oversees service territory issues involving investor-owned electric utilities, rural electric cooperatives and municipally-owned electric utilities as well as those involving privately-owned water utilities, public water supply districts and municipally-owned water districts. Utility services and infrastructure are essential to the economy of Missouri. Virtually every Missouri citizen receives some form of utility service (electric, natural gas, telecommunications, water or sewer) from a company regulated by the Missouri Public Service Commission.

When did Ameren Missouri file its request and what is the company seeking?

Ameren Missouri filed its electric rate increase request with the Missouri Public Service Commission on August 1, 2022, seeking to increase gross annual electric revenues by approximately \$316 million.

According to the local public hearing notice issued by Ameren Missouri, while the amount will vary by residential rate plan and usage pattern, Ameren Missouri is proposing to increase the monthly bill of a residential customer using about 1,017 kilowatt-hours of electricity by approximately \$12.28 a month, or 11.64%.

Who are the parties in this case?

1. Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren Missouri (the applicant)
2. Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission
3. The Office of the Public Counsel
4. Missouri Industrial Energy Consumers (MIEC)

5. Renew Missouri Advocates d/b/a Renew Missouri
6. Midwest Energy Consumers Group (MECG)
7. Consumers Council of Missouri (Consumers Council)
8. Sierra Club
9. The Missouri State Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
10. Metropolitan Congregations United (MCU)

Has the Commission decided this case?

No. The Commission will review all of the information filed in this case and then render a decision based on the evidence.

Hearings are scheduled for **April 3-7, 2023** and **April 10-14, 2023**. These hearings will be held in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building in Jefferson City, 200 Madison Street.

Evidentiary hearings are open to the public, however, public comment is not allowed when evidence is being taken during this portion of the case. Parties in this case have filed testimony and may present additional testimony through cross-examination if no settlement is reached.

Only witnesses who have been subpoenaed, filed testimony in the case, or are otherwise called to appear, will be allowed to testify during the evidentiary hearing.

These hearings will be broadcast over the Internet – psc.mo.gov – click the “Events Now Streaming” link at the top of the page.

What is the format of this local public hearing?

There will be a question-and-answer session followed by the formal local public hearing.

- 1) **Question-and-Answer Session:** Those attending can ask questions of representatives from the company, the PSC Staff and the Office of the Public Counsel. Comments on the case should not be made during this part of the public hearing.
- 2) **Formal Local Public Hearing:** After the question-and-answer session, there will be a formal local public hearing where members of the public can make statements under oath. Those statements will be transcribed by a court reporter and will become part of the case record. **Only the Commissioners or the Regulatory Law Judge may ask questions during the formal local public hearing.**

The questions and answers made during the question-and-answer session WILL NOT be part of the case record or considered by the Commission when it decides whether to grant the request.

What is the purpose of a local public hearing?

The purpose of the local public hearing is to give you the chance to express your opinions, concerns and requests on the record.

May I testify?

Yes. You may testify or you may submit a written statement. A court reporter will transcribe a record of everything that is said. Your comments at today's local public hearing will become part of the case record.

To avoid repetitive testimony and provide opportunity for input from everyone in attendance, a group may choose to identify an individual or two or three people to speak on behalf of the entire group. If you wish to speak on behalf of a group, please notify the judge at the beginning of the hearing. The judge will then allow those speakers an expanded time period in which to speak on behalf of the entire group. At the end, the group can offer a list of names of the members who wish to go on record as joining in the comments of those speakers. That list will also be a part of the permanent record.

Will I be able to ask the Commissioners questions during the local public hearing?

No. You may express your concerns to the Commission, but the Commissioners will not be able to answer your questions. They are prohibited, by law, from expressing an opinion until they have heard all of the evidence.

May I ask questions of the parties?

No. During the actual hearing, questions may be asked by the judge and Commissioners or attorneys -- and they will only ask questions of the witness who is currently testifying. Only one person can testify at a time.

There will be a question and answer session before the hearing. **You should take the opportunity to ask questions** of the parties during the question and answer session. You may be able to continue your conversation with the parties after the local public hearing is over.

Written comments may be mailed to:

Public Service Commission

P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0360
or sent electronically to: pscinfo@psc.mo.gov
or through the Commission's website at psc.mo.gov
(Please reference Case No. ER-2022-0337)

PSC TOLL-FREE HOTLINE: 1-800-392-4211

Office of the Public Counsel

P.O. Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
1-866-922-2959 or 573-751-4857
opcservice@opc.mo.gov
(Please reference Case No. ER-2022-0337)