

ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

DOCKET Nos. 11-0354, 11-0355, 11-0356

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

DOMINIC S. PERNICIARO

Submitted On Behalf

Of

**AMEREN ILLINOIS COMPANY
d/b/a Ameren Illinois**

February 8, 2012

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8 **I. INTRODUCTION**

9 **A. Witness Identification**

10 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

11 A. My name is Dominic Perniciaro. My business address is 1901 Chouteau Avenue,
12 St. Louis, Missouri 63103.

13 **Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?**

14 A. I am employed by Ameren Services Company, a service company affiliate of
15 Ameren Illinois Company d/b/a Ameren Illinois (“AIC” or the “Company”), as the
16 Supervisor of Power Accounting. My duties include direct supervision of the accounting
17 for calculations necessary to implement the Rider Purchased Electricity Recovery (“Rider
18 PER”) and Rider Hourly Supply Service (“Rider HSS”) for each rate zone of AIC.

19 **Q. Please describe your educational background and relevant work experience.**

20 A. See my Statement of Qualifications, attached as an Appendix to this testimony.

21 **B. Purpose, Scope and Identification of Exhibits**

22 **Q. What is the purpose of your direct testimony in this proceeding?**

23 A. In its Order initiating these dockets, the Illinois Commerce Commission
24 (“Commission”) calls for a reconciliation of the revenues associated with the various
25 procurement tariffs in effect during the period of June 1, 2009 through May 31, 2010. In
26 my testimony I explain the manner by which the revenues for each AIC rate zone were
27 collected, how they were accounted for, any accounting adjustments made during the
28 course of the reconciliation period, and the costs attributable to the relevant procurement
29 activities.

30 **Q. Will you be sponsoring any exhibits with your direct testimony?**

31 A. Yes. I am sponsoring the following exhibits:

- 32 • Ameren Exhibit 3.01 - Rate Zone I Rider PER reconciliation of costs
33 and revenues for the period ending May 31, 2010
- 34 • Ameren Exhibit 3.02 - Rate Zone II Rider PER reconciliation of costs
35 and revenues for the period ending May 31, 2010
- 36 • Ameren Exhibit 3.03 - Rate Zone III Rider PER reconciliation of costs
37 and revenues for the period ending May 31, 2010
- 38 • Ameren Exhibit 3.04 - Rate Zone I Rider HSS reconciliation of costs
39 and revenues for the period ending May 31, 2010
- 40 • Ameren Exhibit 3.05 - Rate Zone II Rider HSS reconciliation of costs
41 and revenues for the period ending May 31, 2010
- 42 • Ameren Exhibit 3.06 - Rate Zone III Rider HSS reconciliation of costs
43 and revenues for the period ending May 31, 2010
- 44 • Ameren Exhibit 3.07 - Rate Zone I Summary reconciliation of costs
45 and revenues for the period ending May 31, 2010
- 46 • Ameren Exhibit 3.08 - Rate Zone II Summary reconciliation of costs
47 and revenues for the period ending May 31, 2010
- 48 • Ameren Exhibit 3.09 - Rate Zone III Summary reconciliation of costs
49 and revenues for the period ending May 31, 2010

- 50 • Ameren Exhibit 3.10 - Automatic Balancing Adjustment
- 51 • Ameren Exhibit 3.11 - Internal Administrative and Operational Costs
- 52 Associated with Procurement

53 **Q. Please describe the exhibits you are sponsoring.**

54 A. Ameren Exhibits 3.01, 3.02 and 3.03, as they are labeled, show the recovery of
55 the Company's total allowable costs over the 12-month reconciliation period ending May
56 31, 2010 for the BGS-FP fixed price and hourly price for small customer products
57 ("RTP") under Rider PER. Ameren Exhibits 3.04, 3.05 and 3.06 show the recovery of
58 the Company's total allowable costs over the twelve-month reconciliation period ending
59 May 31, 2010 for the hourly price product for large customers under Rider HSS.
60 Ameren Exhibits 3.07, 3.08 and 3.09 summarizes the Company's total allowable costs
61 over the twelve-month reconciliation period ending May 31, 2010 under Riders PER and
62 HSS and the Factor O requested by Ameren based upon the proposed adjustments.
63 Ameren Exhibit 3.10 shows the amounts filed for each recovery period since January
64 2007 compared to how they should have been reported and the resulting variance.
65 Ameren Exhibit 3.11 is a schedule of the internal administrative and operational costs
66 associated with procuring electric power and energy for retail customers over the twelve-
67 month reconciliation period ending May 31, 2010.

68 **Q. Is AIC providing a schedule with this filing that presents the cumulative**
69 **totals of incremental costs and cumulative totals of recoveries, by customer class, to**
70 **the extent such information is reasonably available?**

71 A. No. Ameren Exhibits 3.01 through 3.09 reflect the costs and revenues by supply
72 product. Any detail beyond supply product (*i.e.*, fixed price load and hourly load) is not

73 available because there is no further granularity associated with these costs. Cost data is
74 only collected on a total “supply product” basis. This was the intended rate design for the
75 Supply Fixed Charges, where suppliers were paid for each summer or non-summer kWh
76 at the stated contract amount, regardless of whether the kWh was provided to a BGS-1,
77 BGS-2, BGS-3, or BGS-5 customer. This is also the reason why all BGS customers pay
78 the same over/under value for each of the respective rate zones. To provide any further
79 cost data would be extremely burdensome as the data sets simply do not exist in a format
80 that would be conducive to any further data analysis.

81 **II. DISCUSSION REGARDING MONTHLY RECONCILIATIONS**

82 **Q. Before you discuss monthly reconciliations, please generally describe the**
83 **tariffs that provide service to customer groups and how they relate to the various**
84 **purchased power and energy products.**

85 A. There are three different products procured for customers that choose to take
86 power from Ameren Illinois: fixed price, small hourly price, and large hourly price. The
87 fixed price product, Basis Generation Service – Fixed Price (“BGS-FP”) is procured
88 under Rider PER. During the reconciliation period, BGS-FP was available to customers
89 with demands under 400 kW, although customers with demands between 400 kW and
90 1,000 kW had been declared competitive and were in a transition period whereby they
91 could stay on BGS-FP so long as they did not take supply from Alternative Retail
92 Suppliers (“ARES”) or Rider HSS. RTP is the real-time hourly pricing product for small
93 customers, with approximately one-third of supply coming from Supplier Fixed Contracts
94 (“SFCs”) associated with the 2006 Illinois Auction and approximately two-thirds of
95 supply coming from the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator (“MISO”)

96 market. In both cases, customers under RTP were charged MISO Locational Marginal
97 Prices (“LMPs”) for energy and both BGS-FP and RTP were recovered under Rider PER.
98 The HSS product is the “Hourly Supply Service” to allow customers with demands equal
99 to or greater than 400 kW to elect real-time hourly pricing under Rider HSS.

100 **Q. Please describe the procedures your department follows in producing and**
101 **filing the monthly reconciliations.**

102 A. The monthly Riders PER and HSS revenues are calculated using AIC’s reports for
103 sales and estimated billed output. The “actual” revenues reported in the filings are
104 estimated based on actual rates for billed and estimated unbilled volumes. Revenues are
105 tracked for each category of service (*i.e.*, BGS-FP and HSS).

106 The cost components are provided by different groups. The cost of power from
107 auction suppliers is provided by Ameren’s Transmission Services Business Center
108 (“TSBC”) group based on the supplier bills. The cost of power and market settlement
109 costs from MISO are provided by the Power Accounting group based on the MISO
110 settlement statements. The cost of power provided by Qualified Facilities (“QF”) is
111 calculated from the output provided by the TSBC, priced at the average locational
112 marginal price (“LMP”) for the month. The ancillary services expenses for Schedules 1,
113 2, 3, 5, 6, 25 and 26 are based on MISO tariff pricing for the HSS- category. Capacity
114 costs are primarily from suppliers bills. However, for HSS, some excess capacity from
115 BGS-FP was allocated at cost during the reconciliation period so as to reduce overall
116 customer cost and in addition, some incremental capacity was purchased from MISO’s
117 Voluntary Capacity Auction (“VCA”) from February 2010 through May 2010 as a result
118 of increasing loads. The free service load (power supply provided to municipalities

119 pursuant to franchise agreements) is provided by the Energy Delivery Customer Service
 120 group and the company use load is set in the rate case: these volumes are priced at the
 121 monthly average cost. The calculations for company use and free service include an
 122 adjustment for line losses.

123 **Q. Do all customer categories incur the costs described above?**

124 A. No. The list below shows the applicable Cost Item cross referenced to the
 125 category of service to which it applies.

	Cost Item	Category of Service
1	Auction Suppliers	BGS-FP; RTP
2	MISO Energy Costs	BGS-FP; RTP; HSS
3	MISO Market Settlement	BGS-FP; RTP; HSS
4	Rider QF Costs	BGS-FP; RTP
5	Ancillary Services	BGS-FP; RTP; HSS
6	Capacity	BGS-FP; RTP; HSS
7	Company Use & Free Service under Franchises	BGS-FP; RTP

126 **Q. Please describe the procedures your department follows in producing and**
 127 **filing the annual reconciliations.**

128 A. The Cost Item portion of the annual reconciliation are received from the sources
 129 described above. Revenues are calculated from Company reports for sales and estimated
 130 billed output. Adjustments are made for cycle billing (unbilled volumes).

131 **Q. Were any accounting adjustments made, and if so, how were they calculated?**

132 A. Yes, there was an accounting adjustment. Internal analysis conducted in
133 December of 2009 by our load settlement personnel discovered that a tie-line meter
134 between two legacy utilities, Central Illinois Public Service Company d/b/a AmerenCIPS
135 (“AmerenCIPS”) and Illinois Power Company d/b/a AmerenIP (“AmerenIP”), had the
136 sign reversed since June 4, 2009. Once the error was discovered, settlement data
137 provided to MISO had been corrected; however, MISO only accepts corrections up to
138 105 days. Thus, data back to September 10 had been corrected, but settlement data
139 accepted at MISO for the period from June 4 – September 9 still reflects the tie-line meter
140 sign reversal. A “shadow” settlement estimate that we would provide to MISO if
141 resettlement were to be allowed for the mentioned period was created by the load
142 settlement personnel to determine the MWHs in question on an hourly basis. The hourly
143 MWHs were priced at the hourly real-time LMP and aggregated. The result is
144 approximately 183,721 MWH and \$7,187,828 will be taken from AmerenCIPS and given
145 to AmerenIP. In other words, AmerenCIPS costs have been lowered and AmerenIP costs
146 have been increased by an offsetting amount – as if a MISO settlement had been accepted
147 for June 4 – September 9.

148 **Q. Do any further accounting adjustments need to be discussed? If so, please**
149 **discuss how they were calculated.**

150 A. Yes. Internal analysis conducted in October of 2010 found that some AIC
151 revenue was not being included in Rider HSS recoveries because the customer billing
152 system characterized the billings as miscellaneous (rather than Rider) revenue. The issue
153 resulted in Rider HSS under reporting revenues and an over recovery of \$6,619,363.01
154 from June 2008 through June 2010. Of this total, \$585,403.10 of the over-recovered

155 amount related to the reconciliation period from June 2010 through May 2011 and was
156 included as a Factor A in the January 2011 filing. \$2,340,856.16 of the over-recovered
157 amount related to the reconciliation period from June 2008 through May 2010 and will be
158 included as a Factor A upon their order in Docket Nos. 10-0272, 10-0273, and 10-0274.
159 The remaining over-recovered amount of \$3,693,103.75 relates to the reconciliation
160 period from June 2009 through May 2010:

161 AmerenCIPS: \$1,191,872.42 for the period from June 2009 – May 2010

162 AmerenCILCO: \$450,530.27 for the period from June 2009 – May 2010

163 AmerenIP: \$2,050,701.06 for the period from June 2009 – May 2010

164 Once identified, these amounts were determined by summarizing the general ledger for
165 this specific revenue.

166 During the reconciliation process, it was determined that \$9,574.34 in sales were
167 made to City Water, Light, and Power (“CWLP”) according to a boundary line agreement
168 with Central Illinois Light Company d/b/a AmerenCILCO (“AmerenCILCO”) and not
169 included as revenue in Rider PER. These sales are typically the result of emergency
170 situations and/or non-recurring in nature.

171 In addition, internal analysis conducted in January of 2011 determined that the
172 work papers calculating the unamortized balance in the filings had a flaw that resulted in
173 a reduction in said balance at a quicker pace than the general ledger. This resulted in an
174 over-recovered balance, in aggregate, in the general ledger compared to the unamortized
175 balance in the filing. Ameren Exhibit 3.7 indicates the amount per Rate Zone and
176 reconciliation period for the periods from January 2007 through the most current filing.
177 Staff was notified of the issue in February of 2011 and it was corrected in the March

178 2011 filing in order to correct the balances as quickly as possible to reflect the calculation
179 correction in the work papers.

180 **Q. Are there collateral costs included in the recoverable costs for the**
181 **reconciliation period? If so, please provide the amount of collateral at each**
182 **financial institution, the form of collateral, the interest earned on cash collateral**
183 **posted by institution, and the interest paid on loans obtained to post collateral by**
184 **institution. If not, please explain.**

185 A. No collateral costs are included in the 2009-2010 Recoverable Costs. According
186 to the order 07-0527, Ameren is allowed to pass through collateral costs related to energy
187 procurement once Staff and Ameren agreed upon the methodology. The methodology
188 has not been developed yet therefore we cannot include these costs in this reconciliation
189 period, but reserve the right to do so in the future.

190 **III. CONCLUSION**

191 **Q. Please summarize your recommendations.**

192 A. I recommend that the Order in this proceeding:

- 193 1) Approve Ameren Exhibit 3.07 as the reconciliation for Rider PER and
194 Rider HSS for AmerenCIPS with a Factor O refund of \$(1,191,873) for
195 the twelve month reconciliation period ending May 31, 2010;
- 196 2) Approve Ameren Exhibit 3.08 as the reconciliation for Rider PER and
197 Rider HSS for AmerenCILCO with a Factor O refund of \$(460,106) for
198 the twelve month reconciliation period ending May 31, 2010;

- 199 3) Approve Ameren Exhibit 3.09 as the reconciliation for Rider PER and
200 Rider HSS for AmerenIP with a Factor O refund of \$(2,050,705) for the
201 twelve month reconciliation period ending May 31, 2010; and
202 4) Direct AIC to refund \$(1,191,873) for AmerenCIPS customers, \$(460,106)
203 for AmerenCILCO customers, and \$(2,050,705) for AmerenIP customers
204 in the first monthly Rider PER and Rider HSS informational filings after
205 the date of the Order in these dockets.

206 **Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?**

207 **A. Yes, it does.**

APPENDIX

STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
DOMINIC S. PERNICIARO

I received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting from Saint Louis University in August 2001 and a Masters of Business Administration with a Finance emphasis from Webster University in March 2010. As of July 2011, I have passed all four parts of the Uniform Certified Public Accountant Examination.

I began my professional career in 1998 at the Sabreliner Corporation. I began as an Accounts Payable Clerk and was promoted to Payroll Clerk and then Cost Accountant before leaving in 2001. In the fall of 2001, I joined Laclede Gas Company as an Analyst in the Financial Reporting department. I was promoted to Senior Business Analyst in 2004 and then Administrator of their Corporate Performance Management system in 2006.

I began working for Ameren Services Company in October 2008 in the Wholesale Power and Fuel Department as a Settlement Specialist where I was charged with, among other things, reviewing Midwest ISO invoice data for accuracy. In July of 2010, I was promoted to Supervisor, Power Accounting. Shortly thereafter, the responsibility of accounting for transmission cost over and under collection was transitioned to Power Accounting from Fuel Accounting.