

STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

Illinois Commerce Commission	:	
On Its Own Motion	:	
	:	23-NOI-01
Notice of Inquiry Regarding	:	
Ameren Illinois RTO Cost-Benefit	:	
Study	:	

NOTICE OF INQUIRY

I. Background

On July 21, 2022, the Commission issued an order in Docket No. 22-0485 directing Ameren Illinois (“Ameren”) to conduct an analysis and study of its continued membership in Midcontinent Independent System Operator (“MISO”). In particular, the Commission directed Ameren Illinois to perform an analysis of the benefits and costs of participation in MISO, including consideration of the relative net benefits of participation in MISO versus participation in PJM Interconnection, another regional transmission organization. Ameren was further directed to examine the costs and benefits to ratepayers, including, but not limited to, consideration of reliability, resource adequacy, resiliency, affordability, equity, the impact on the environment, and the general health, safety, and welfare of the people of the State of Illinois. The Commission directed Ameren to file its analysis reflecting the results of the aforesaid cost benefit analyses (“Ameren Report”) on a schedule not to exceed 12 months or by July 21, 2023.

On November 10, 2022, the Commission closed Docket No. 22-0485, finding there

was neither need for, nor any reason to conduct, further proceeding regarding its direction to perform the analysis and study. The Commission did, however, determine that upon filing of the Ameren Report, the Commission would initiate a new docket.

In its July 21, 2022 Initiating Order in Docket No. 22-0485, the Commission determined that stakeholders would have a 30-day period to provide comments on the Ameren Report.

While the Commission's July 21, 2022 Order in Docket No. 22-0485 contemplates opening of a docket and a 30-day comment period, Commission Staff has recommended that this proceeding be conducted as a Notice of Inquiry (NOI) pursuant to 2 Ill. Adm. Code 1700.310. Staff notes that an NOI proceeding is not a rulemaking, is non-decisional in character and will not lead to an enforceable Commission action by itself, although the Commission may use information gathered in the NOI to form the basis of a rulemaking or for other purposes at a later date. 2 Ill. Adm. Code 1700.310(d). Staff understands this to be consistent with the Commission's intentions in initiating Docket No. 22-0485. Staff further notes the NOI process will permit parties to offer both initial and reply comments. The Commission concurs, adopts Staff's recommendation to conduct this matter as an NOI, and now seeks comment from stakeholders regarding the Ameren Report filed in Docket No. 22-0485 on July 21, 2023.

Accordingly, the Commission initiates this Notice of Inquiry ("NOI") as a vehicle for gathering information on these matters.

II. Applicable Law – NOI

The Commission's rules with respect to NOIs are found in 2 Ill. Adm. Code 1700, Subpart D. As provided for in 2 Ill. Adm. Code 1700.330, this NOI proceeding is not a

rulemaking, is non-decisional in character, and will not lead to an enforceable Commission action by itself. Further, the information gathered may or may not form the basis for the initiation of a rulemaking or for other purposes at a later date. 2 Ill. Adm. Code 1700.330.

III. NOI Manager

2 Ill. Adm. Code 1700.310 of the Commission's NOI rules requires the designation of an NOI Manager to conduct discussions as are necessary to address the issues raised in the Commission's directive for an NOI. The NOI Manager in this case will be Joy Nicdao-Cuyugan, Director of the Commission's Utility Research and Analysis Division.

For correspondence, please note:

Mailing Address:

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IV. NOI Questions and Issues

Parties are requested to offer comment on the Ameren Report, supplying any information they consider relevant. Parties are encouraged to provide facts and information supporting opinions and recommendations whenever possible.

V. Form and Content of Documents Distributed in this NOI

Consistent with 2 Ill. Adm. Code 1700.350 of the Commission's NOI rules:

- a) An original and three copies of all comments, reply comments, and other documents should be submitted to the Chief Clerk of the Commission on or before the date stated in the NOI. The distribution of such copies will be as

follows:

- 1) Chief Clerk — Springfield
 - 2) Chicago Office
 - 3) Office of Chairman & Commissioners — Chicago
- b) In addition to providing comments and other documents set forth above, interested persons and entities are requested to e-mail the same in electronic form (preferably pdf) to joy.nicdao-cuyugan2@illinois.gov. The NOI Manager will take steps to ensure that copies of all documents filed in the proceeding are posted to the Commission's web site, www.icc.illinois.gov.
- c) Copies of all documents filed in the proceeding will be available for public inspection at the Chief Clerk's office in Springfield and the Commission's Chicago office.
- d) A copy of the list of participants may be obtained from the NOI Manager.

VI. Schedule

The schedule for this NOI shall be as follows, unless altered by the NOI Manager with adequate public notice provided:

- Submission of initial comments (pursuant to 2 Ill. Adm. Code 1700.340 (b)):
October 2, 2023.
- Submission of reply comments (pursuant to 2 Ill. Adm. Code 1700.340 (c)):
November 1, 2023.

The Commission anticipates that additional rounds of comments might be of benefit and therefore authorizes the NOI Manager to schedule further rounds, with adequate public notice provided, if the NOI Manager determines that additional comments would be helpful.

Participants are encouraged by the Commission to share their data and other

information pertinent to the issues to be addressed in this NOI with other participants, if requested.

Initiated this 3rd day of August, 2023.

(SIGNED) DOUGLAS P. SCOTT

Chairman