#### BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

In the Matter of:	)	
	)	
STANDARDS FOR THE DISPOSAL OF COAL	)	R 2020-019
COMBUSTION RESIDUALS IN SURFACE	)	(Rulemaking – Land)
IMPOUNDMENTS: PROPOSED NEW 35 ILL.	)	
CODE 845	)	

### **NOTICE OF FILING**

To: Service List

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that I have today electronically filed, with the Office of the Clerk of the Pollution Control Board, AmerenEnergy Medina Valley Cogen, LLC and Union Electric Company, d/b/a Ameren Missouri's Motion to Strike, copies of which are herewith served upon you.

Dated: April 2, 2021

Respectfully submitted, AmerenEnergy Medina Valley Cogen, LLC and Union Electric Company, d/b/a Ameren Missouri.

By /s/Claire A. Manning

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned, an attorney, certifies that a true copy of the foregoing Notice of Filing, AmerenEnergy and Union Electric Company, d/b/a Ameren Missouri's Motion to Strike, were electronically filed on April 2, 2021 with the following:

Don Brown, Clerk of the Board
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and that copies were sent via email on April 2, 2021, to the parties on the service list.

Respectfully submitted, AmerenEnergy Medina Valley Cogen, LLC and Union Electric Company, d/b/a Ameren Missouri.

By /s/Claire A. Manning

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#### BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

In the Matter of:	)	
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STANDARDS FOR THE DISPOSAL OF COAL	)	R 2020-019
COMBUSTION RESIDUALS IN SURFACE	)	(Rulemaking – Water)
IMPOUNDMENTS: PROPOSED NEW 35 ILL.	)	
CODE 845	)	

### **AMEREN'S MOTION TO STRIKE**

NOW COMES AmerenEnergy Medina Valley Cogen, LLC and Union Electric Company, d/b/a Ameren Missouri (collectively, "Ameren"), by their attorneys Claire A. Manning and Anthony D. Schuering of BROWN, HAY & STEPHENS, LLP, and pursuant to 35 Ill. Adm. Code § 102.108(d), asks that the Board strike and/or disregard the March 30, 2021 filing designated as Public Comment No. 152. In support thereof, Ameren states as follows:

- 1. On November 6, 2020, the record in the above-captioned rulemaking was closed. See Opinion and Order of the Board, No. R20-19, slip op. at 8 (Ill. Pol. Control Bd. Feb. 4, 2021) (noting that the Attorney General's January 14, 2021 public comment regarding dismissal of an unrelated circuit court case was "untimely as this rulemaking's record closed on November 6, 2020", and irrelevant because it involved the "discussion of specific, ongoing legal actions between and amongst the participants" to the rulemaking).
- 2. On February 4, 2021, the Board submitted proposed rules, which were the subject of this rulemaking, to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules ("JCAR"). *See Opinion and Order of the Board*, No. R20-19, slip op. at 2 (Ill. Pol. Control Bd. Feb. 4, 2021).
- 3. Under the Illinois Administrative Procedures Act (the "IAPA"), JCAR is responsible for promoting adequate and proper rules by agencies and fostering public understanding with respect to those rules. *See* 5 ILCS 100/5-100(a). In many scenarios, that role

is advisory. *See Id.* (identifying two statutory sections, which are inapplicable to this proceeding, as scenarios where JCAR's role is not advisory). To meet its mandate, JCAR is required to review the statutory authority upon which any administrative rule is based, 5 ILCS 100/5-105(b), to examine the proposed rule and assess, in relevant part, whether the proposed rule has an adequate basis in law and whether the agency has considered alternatives to the rule which are consistent with the stated objectives of the enabling legislation. 5 ILCS 100/5-110(a).

- 4. On March 18, 2021, the Board issued an Order explaining that JCAR asked for additional time to "examine the proposed rules and, specifically, the Board's reliance on the October 19, 2015 effective date of the corresponding federal rules in delineating the universe of CCR surface impoundments subject to Part 845." *See Opinion and Order of the Board*, No. R20-19, slip op. at 1 (Ill. Pol. Control Bd. Mar. 18, 2021).
- 5. On March 26, 2021, JCAR—as part of its legislative mandate to examine the rules which this Board submitted to it for review—called a meeting between its staff, representatives for Ameren, employees of the IEPA, and participants in this rulemaking, including representatives of the Attorney General's Office, to discuss the issues Ameren has raised regarding the retroactivity of the Board's proposed rules given the use of a 2015 effective date.
- 6. On March 30, 2021, the IEPA submitted for inclusion into the public record of this rulemaking a memorandum which purports to summarize a "potential *ex parte* communication" related to this rulemaking. *See* P.C. # 152. This memorandum claims to "summarize[] a meeting between representatives of [JCAR] and several interested parties" related to this rulemaking. *Id.* at p. 1. For multiple reasons, this memorandum is improper and should not be a part of the rulemaking's public comment.

- 7. First, even assuming the memorandum accurately portrayed the content of the meeting it purports to summarize, the meeting does not constitute an *ex parte* communication. Under the IAPA, an *ex parte* communication is one that, in relevant part, "makes a material argument regarding potential action concerning an agency's . . . rulemaking under this Act and that is communicated to that agency, the head of that agency, or any other employee of that agency." 5 ILCS 100/1–165(b). The IEPA's own memorandum concedes it is not the "agency" for purposes of this provision—the Board would be. *See* P.C. # 152, p. 1. Moreover, there was no material argument regarding potential action—it was a meeting to address JCAR's questions so that it can fulfill its obligations under the IAPA. There was no indication that any action has even been contemplated, let alone that the potential for such action exists.
- 8. Second, this is yet another untimely public comment filed by the State in opposition to Ameren's legal arguments. As the Board noted in its February 4, 2021 Order, the record on this rulemaking closed on November 6, 2020, and any subsequent public comments are untimely. *See Opinion and Order of the Board*, No. R20-19, slip op. at 8 (Ill. Pol. Control Bd. Feb. 4, 2021) (noting that the Attorney General's January 14, 2021 public comment regarding dismissal of an unrelated circuit court case was "untimely as this rulemaking's record closed on November 6, 2020"). While Ameren concedes that a requirement exists under Section 5–165(c) of the IAPA to file notice of an *ex parte* communication in the record of any rulemaking, *See* 5 ILCS 100/5–165(c), this requirement is inapplicable here because the meeting does not qualify as an *ex parte* communication.
- 9. Under 35 Ill. Adm. Code § 102.108(d), untimely comments "will not be considered, except as allowed by the hearing officer or Board to prevent material prejudice." In this case, neither the Board nor the Hearing Officer have entered an order allowing P.C. # 152 to be made

part of the record. Moreover, no prejudice, of any kind, exists in this case, because the participants who could theoretically be prejudiced by the communication—participants who believe the use of a 2015 effective date is not impermissibly retroactive—were included in the conversation.

Accordingly, Ameren respectfully requests that the Board strike and/or disregard Public Comment number 152.

Dated: April 2, 2021

Respectfully submitted, AmerenEnergy Medina Valley Cogen, LLC and Union Electric Company, d/b/a Ameren Missouri.

By /s/Claire A. Manning

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