

ENSURING THE SAFETY OF ST. CHARLES' DRINKING WATER

IS ST. CHARLES WATER SAFE TO DRINK?

YES The water coming out of the faucet at homes and businesses in St. Charles has been, and continues to be, safe.

Cleanup Plan Approved

Ameren Missouri is executing a targeted cleanup of cleaning solvent remnants beneath the Huster Substation in St. Charles. A soil treatment work plan has been approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), representing a critical step in a years-long effort. The soil layer inside the substation being treated, which is the size of a three-car garage, is the last remaining area of impact on Ameren property. This short-term soil treatment at the substation will accelerate groundwater compliance objectives at the site.

The spring 2026 timeframe provides a narrow window when a 315,000-pound transformer is due to be replaced, allowing access to clay soils previously impacted by cleaning solvents.

Last fall, a video conference was held to explain the complex engineering and environmental issues to stakeholders, including members of the EPA, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), the city of St. Charles and others.

During the meeting, experts described in extensive detail how the project will involve:

- Excavating and removing impacted soil located beneath a large industrial transformer that is being replaced.
- Installing injection wells into the subgrade soil layer.
- Applying a low-flow, low-pressure permanganate treatment via a tightly spaced injection well network to remediate residual solvents within the soil layer.

Ameren Missouri's work plan is protective of nearby city wells and includes a plan to closely monitor groundwater in and around the treatment area. Ameren is working with the EPA to ensure the city's drinking water supply remains in compliance with state and federal drinking water standards at all times. Over the past few years, Ameren has successfully remediated groundwater outside the substation, and concentration levels are nearing or below reportable levels. The substation is the last remaining area of impact.

10
permeable
reactive barrier
walls installed

23
monitoring
locations

3,300+
total samples
taken

Visit AmerenMissouri.com/StCharles to:

- Read the plan to complete work at the Huster substation.
- Watch the stakeholder meeting.
- Understand how your water system works.



COMMON QUESTIONS

■ **Who has reviewed the work plan?**

The work plan was submitted to the EPA in October 2025 and reviewed in a conference call along with technical experts and representatives from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, the city of St. Charles and others.

■ **What will be visible while the work is underway?**

People may see additional activity, with crews traveling to and from the substation, but the work will be contained within the site.

■ **Will the existing treatment wells remain operational after the new transformer is installed?**

Existing treatment wells inside and outside the substation will operate until they are closed in accordance with MDNR regulations. Monitoring wells will continue to function throughout.

■ **Does the new treatment interfere with remedial measures already installed at the substation?**

Laboratory tests were performed to evaluate the safety of this new treatment, and scientists found that there are no concerns.

■ **What happens after injection treatments?**

Groundwater will be checked at regular intervals, and soil samples will be collected and analyzed to confirm progress.

■ **Is the treatment safe for the environment?**

Yes. The treatment method has been carefully evaluated and is designed to safely target impacted soil while protecting the environment.

■ **Will this work affect drinking water?**

No. Multiple safeguards and monitoring systems are in place to protect drinking water, and the treatment is designed to stay within the targeted area.

■ **How deep is the groundwater?**

Groundwater in the area is generally about 30 feet below ground, but this varies from time to time depending on site conditions.

■ **Who is overseeing and approving this work?**

The work is being conducted under the oversight of environmental regulators, including state and federal agencies, to ensure it meets all safety and regulatory requirements.

■ **Why is the work scheduled for spring 2026?**

The spring 2026 timeframe provides a narrow window when a 315,000-pound transformer is due to be replaced and the ground will be accessible.

■ **How long will the work take?**

The injection process will take several months, with about five gallons injected daily per location. Injections should be completed by fall 2026, followed by an evaluation phase.

■ **What safety measures are in place during the treatment?**

Ameren Missouri will closely monitor the site throughout the process and has controls in place to stop or adjust work.

■ **Has this type of treatment been used here before or at other sites?**

Yes. Similar treatment methods have been used successfully at this site and at other locations to address soil and groundwater impacts.

■ **Will the site be tested during and after the treatment?**

Yes. Groundwater and soil will be tested during the project and after treatment is complete to confirm progress and effectiveness.