

ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 07-_____

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

RICK D. TRELZ

SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF

CENTRAL ILLINOIS PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY, d/b/a AmerenCIPS

OCTOBER 2007

<u>EXHIBIT NO.</u> <u>NO.</u>	<u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
2.0	DIRECT TESTIMONY OF RICK D. TRELZ	1-8
	I. INTRODUCTION AND WITNESS	1-2
	QUALIFICATIONS	
	II. PURPOSE AND SCOPE	2
	III. REAL ESTATE ACTIVITIES	2-8

ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 07-____

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF RICK D. TRELZ

1 **I. INTRODUCTION AND WITNESS QUALIFICATIONS**

2 **Q1. Please state your name, address and position with Ameren Services**
3 **Company ("Ameren Services").**

4 A. My name is Rick D. Trelz. My business address is 370 South Main Street,
5 Decatur, IL 62523. I am the Real Estate Supervisor for the southern territories of
6 Ameren's Illinois utilities, working as agent for Central Illinois Public Service
7 Company d/b/a AmerenCIPS ("Petitioner"). Ameren Services is a subsidiary of
8 Ameren Corporation ("Ameren").

9 **Q2. How long have you been employed by Ameren Services?**

10 A. I have been employed by Ameren Services and/or its subsidiary, Illinois Power
11 Company d/b/a AmerenIP (AmerenIP) for 28 years.

12 **Q3. How long have you held your present position with Ameren Services?**

13 A. I have held my present position for 2 ½ years.

14 **Q4. Will you state briefly your training and experience for the position you now**
15 **hold?**

16 A. Through my years of employment with AmerenIP and Ameren Services, I have
17 18 years of experience in land and right of way acquisition. Prior to my present
18 position, I held the positions of Real Estate Analyst, Real Estate Specialist, Real
19 Estate and Claims Specialist, and Land Management Specialist. I have a bachelor
20 degree in Business Administration from Millikin University in Decatur, Illinois. I

21 am a Senior Member of the International Right of Way Association (“IRWA”)
22 and past President of the Illinois Chapter of the IRWA.

23 **Q5. What are your duties and responsibilities in your present position?**

24 A. I am responsible for Ameren real estate acquisitions, sales and management
25 within Ameren's southern territories in the state of Illinois, including the
26 acquisition of rights for electric lines for AmerenCIPS.

27 **II. PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

28 **Q6. Are you familiar with the Petition filed by AmerenCIPS in this proceeding?**

29 A. Yes, Petitioner is requesting authority to construct new 138kV electric lines which
30 will provide service to WRB Refining, LLC’s Wood River Refinery.

31 **Q7. What is the purpose of your testimony in support of this Petition?**

32 A. The purpose of my testimony is to support the Petition for a Certificate of Public
33 Convenience and Necessity by providing information regarding the acquisition of
34 the property rights needed to construct the proposed 138kV electric lines
35 connecting AmerenIP’s L1502 and AmerenCIPS’ Roxford substation to new
36 customer owned substations at the Wood River Refinery.

37 **III. REAL ESTATE ACTIVITIES**

38 **Q8. What responsibilities does Real Estate have in connection with locating a new
39 electric line and the location of any related facilities as in this case?**

40 A. The Real Estate Department of Ameren Services provides a) routing comments to
41 the responsible engineering project managers; b) coordination and planning for
42 public workshops; c) acquisition of land rights and permits required for the new
43 electric lines through direct negotiations with landowners and agencies; and d)

44 settlement or restoration of construction damages that may occur during electric
45 line construction.

46 **Q9. What are the routes for the proposed transmission lines?**

47 A. The primary routes are as described in AmerenCIPS Exhibits 3.1A and 3.1D
48 attached to Mr. Chapman's testimony. The alternate routes are as described in
49 AmerenCIPS Exhibits 3.1B, 3.1C, 3.1E and 3.1F.

50 **Q10. How many parcels of property will be affected along the primary route for
51 the proposed transmission lines?**

52 A. Thirty-two (32) parcels in total. The COP Sub Tap 1 – primary route will affect
53 19 parcels of property. The COP Sub Tap 2 – primary route will affect 13 parcels
54 of property. A listing of the property owners is attached as Exhibit D to the
55 Petition.

56 **Q11. How many parcels would be affected by the alternate routes?**

57 A. The COP Sub Tap 1 – First Alternate would affect 20 parcels of property. The
58 COP Sub Tap 1 – Second Alternate would affect 24 parcels of property. The
59 COP Sub Tap 2 – First Alternate would affect 11 parcels of property. The COP
60 Sub Tap 2 – Second Alternate would affect 11 parcels of property. A listing of
61 these property owners is also included in Exhibit D to the Petition.

62 **Q12. How wide will the right-of-way need to be to accommodate the proposed
63 transmission line?**

64 A. The right-of-way width will vary but will be no more than 100 feet in width.

65 **Q13. Is this of typical width?**

66 A. Yes, this is the typical right-of-way width for a 138kV transmission line of this
67 design.

68 **Q14. How has Ameren involved the public in the siting of the proposed**
69 **transmission lines?**

70 A. On May 31, 2007, the Ameren project team held a public informational workshop
71 for landowners whose property was potentially affected by the line routes under
72 consideration. More than 200 landowners were invited to the informational
73 workshop, to view and discuss the line routes, the need for the transmission lines,
74 and the proposed facilities. Landowners were encouraged to offer comments
75 concerning the project. Twenty-two (22) landowners participated in the
76 informational workshop. The workshop was for informational purposes only and
77 no easement negotiations were permitted. As discussed below, AmerenCIPS has
78 also made contact, by letter and/or in person, with all landowners on the primary
79 routes it is proposing in this proceeding.

80 **Q15. Have all of the property owners of the affected parcels along the primary**
81 **routes been contacted?**

82 A. All landowners along AmerenCIPS' primary (preferred) route, except Shell Oil
83 Company and Premcor Refining Group Inc., as shown by the Records of the Tax
84 Collectors, were mailed a letter and "Statement of Information from the Illinois
85 Commerce Commission Concerning Acquisition of Rights of Way by Illinois
86 Utilities". The information contained in the letter and the Statement of
87 Information complies with the requirements of 83 Ill. Administrative Code Part

88 300 and was mailed to American Oil Company on July 19, 2007, to Explorer
89 Pipeline Company on October 22, 2007 and to the remaining landowners on
90 August 16, 2007 certified, return receipt requested. This information will be
91 mailed to Shell Oil Company and Premcor Refining Group, Inc. in early
92 November. In addition, AmerenCIPS has participated in an informal general
93 project discussion with Premcor Refining Group and is attempting to schedule a
94 similar discussion with Shell Oil Company. No contact with these landowners for
95 the purpose of negotiations was initiated by AmerenCIPS for at least fourteen (14)
96 days subsequent to those mailings. Efforts for direct landowner contacts began in
97 August, 2007.

98 **Q16. Have other local officials or representatives been contacted or informed of**
99 **this project?**

100 A. Yes, AmerenCIPS representatives met with the following local representatives on
101 behalf of the mayors for the following communities.

102 Village of Hartford – Jim Spann, Village Board Member

103 Village of Hartford – Deanna Barnes, Administrative Assistant and Projects
104 Manager

105
106 Village of South Roxana – Dennis Carpenter, Chief of Police and Economic
107 Development Director

108 Village of Roxana – Marty Reynolds, Director of Public Works.

109 In addition, AmerenCIPS has discussed this project with Illinois State Senator
110 William Haine and Illinois State Representative Daniel Beiser.

111 **Q17. Do these local representative support the Project?**

112 A. Yes.

113 **Q18. Please explain the process by which Ameren Services or AmerenCIPS will**
114 **negotiate for the purchase of any affected properties.**

115 A. AmerenCIPS representatives will, subsequent to the fourteen (14) day notices
116 mentioned previously, contact landowners, in person if possible, and discuss the
117 project in detail and inform them of the reason for the contact and the purpose of
118 the project. A written project purpose statement, a small scale map and aerial
119 photocopy of the easement area, as well as information regarding the type and
120 location of proposed facilities, will be provided. Compensation will be offered
121 and the basis of that compensation explained. The amount and length of the
122 proposed easement will be provided as well as a copy of the proposed option to
123 purchase easement agreement and easement document. Ameren
124 Services/AmerenCIPS representatives will be available for discussion and
125 negotiations as required by each landowner.

126 **Q19. How do Petitioners plan to address construction damages to the property of**
127 **each owner?**

128 A. Petitioners are responsible for the restoration of or payment for its damages to the
129 property of landowners and tenants. Each landowner will be notified prior to
130 commencement of construction, and each property will be assessed for damage by
131 Petitioners. Each landowner will be provided an Ameren representative to contact
132 to report damages.

133 **Q20. Is damage to drainage tile included in that to be restored or paid for by**
134 **Petitioners?**

135 A. Yes. AmerenCIPS will work closely with the Illinois Department of Agriculture
136 and will abide by their methodology of identifying and repairing tile, if damaged.

137 **Q21. Have Petitioners addressed the potential environmental, wetlands, and other**
138 **potential impacts of the proposed project?**

139 A. Yes. Please refer to Mr. Kenneth Lynn's testimony, AmerenCIPS Exhibit 4.0,
140 and Mr. Tom Girman, AmerenCIPS Exhibit 5.0.

141 **Q22. Will the construction of the proposed electric lines remove agricultural land**
142 **from cultivation?**

143 A. The actual farmland taken out of production will be very minimal. The majority
144 of the easement area will only have overhanging wires. The small areas that will
145 be taken out of production will be the area required for the concrete foundation
146 bases that will support the steel poles. Structures will be placed approximately
147 every 600 feet along the easement strip. The structures will be single shaft poles,
148 not "H" structures.

149 **Q23. Will the proposed electric lines interfere with the operation of any**
150 **commercial airports or restricted landing areas?**

151 A. No.

152 **Q24. Are other utilities crossed or affected by this Project?**

153 A. Yes, a listing of those utilities is attached as Exhibit B to the Petition. Petitioners
154 will work cooperatively with those utilities to ensure the least amount of impact.

155 **Q25. Does this conclude your prepared direct testimony?**

156 A. Yes.