

MEMORIALIZATION OF EX PARTE
COMMUNICATION NOT FROM INTERESTED PARTY

ICC Docket Number, or Docket Number or Case Number from Other Jurisdiction

(Please be specific): 06-0706

Subject of the Communication (Note - This field is limited to 8 lines of text):

Ottawa-Wedron transmission route

Name of the Commission Officer or Employee Making Report (first, then last name):

Tiffany

Ingram

Job Title:

Legal Advisor to Chairman Box of the Illinois Commerce Commission

Names and Job Titles of Other Commission Employees Present:

Chairman Charles Box, Commissioner Lula Ford, Commissioner Erin O'Connell-Diaz, Commissioner Sherman Elliott, Chairman and Commissioners

Date of Communication: Aug 30, 2009

Location of Parties to Communication:

O'Fallon, Illinois and Ottawa, Illinois

Mode of Communication (Please Check All That Apply):

e-Mail

FAX

In Person

Mail

Telephone

Nature and Substance of All Oral Communications (Note - This field is limited to 15 lines of text):

N/A

ILLINOIS
COMMERCE COMMISSION
2009 SEP 30 10 49 53
CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE

MEMORIALIZATION OF EX PARTE
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Responses Made to Written or Oral Communications (Note - This field is limited to 8 lines of text):

No written or oral responses were made.

Please Check One:

- Submitted are copies of all written items received.
 No written items were received.

Please Check One:

- Submitted are copies of written responses.
 No written responses were made.

Name of, Title of, and Entity Represented by Person Communicating to You:

Robert Lawton, skydiver and Vickie Donahue, resident of Ottawa

State What Action, If Any, the Person Requested or Recommended (Note - 11 lines of text):

Letters requesting the Commission reopen docket 06-0706. These letters argue that this route would adversely impact the environment and the skydiving activity done in the region by Skydive Chicago.

Include Any Other Information You Deem Pertinent:

This may include any additional names of persons, or references to the file names of any PDF attachments.

N/A

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Instructions for Locking the Form and Submitting It to the ICC Ethics Officer:

Once you've completed this form and any other necessary documentation, please lock the form and submit it, together with any accompanying documents, as an e-mail to the ICC Ethics Officer. If you are submitting additional documents with the form, please convert those documents first to PDF files by following the instructions below. Using this method will ensure that the contents of the accompanying documents cannot later be changed.

Converting other documents to PDF files:

To save a Word or Excel document as a PDF, click on the Office button in the upper left-hand corner of the screen, move the cursor to "Save As," and select the "PDF or XPS" option. "Pdf" will appear as the default choice in the "save as type" pull down menu. Once you've converted the necessary documents and named them, please identify those additional documents in the "Other Pertinent Information" field above.

Locking the form:

Select this button to change all fields, including the docket number or case number field, to "read only." Once locked, no field in the document can be changed.

After you've completed and locked this form and converted any accompanying documents to PDF files, please submit the form and other documentation by e-Mail to the ICC Ethics Officer.

Under Section 5-50(c) of the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, the information required by this form shall be reported immediately to the agency's ethics officer, who shall require that the ex parte communication be promptly made a part of the record, and who shall promptly file the ex parte communication with the Executive Ethics Commission.

Aug 28, 2009

Robert Lawton
939 Jordan Drive
O'Fallon, IL 62269

RECEIVED
SEP 02 2009
Illinois Commerce Commission
CHICAGO OFFICE

Charles E. Box
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 East Capitol Ave
Springfield, IL. 62701

Dear ICC Commissioner

I am asking the Illinois Commerce Commission to re-open docket 06-0706, with regard to the Ottawa Wedron power line routing through the Fox River Valley.

It has come to my attention that Ameren intends to build high voltage transmission lines along the Fox River. This is a terrible idea for several reasons. My main concern, however, is for the safety of the skydivers at Skydive Chicago.

I have made over 800 skydives at Skydive Chicago, though I live hours away. One of the big reasons I choose to jump at Skydive Chicago is their ability to organize and attract large numbers of skydivers to their many world-class events.

The skydives I make range from solo jumps to large formation jumps with hundreds of jumpers. During this time, I have learned that anything can happen - from high winds, to bad "spots" (exits), to parachute malfunctions - and yes, even poor judgement.

In spite of what most people believe about skydiving, these problems rarely result in serious injury or death. (Yes, I mean 'rarely'). However, the construction of high voltage lines in the vicinity of a the mid-west's largest skydiving facility will certainly increase the risks and will certainly (and yes, I mean CERTAINLY) result in skydiver deaths. It's just a matter of time before a skydiver, for whatever reason, makes a mistake and lands in these transmission lines.

If Ameren builds its new lines along the Fox River, people will die, it's a statistical fact. If you have the power to prevent this, then these deaths will be ON YOU. So please reconsider.

If human lives don't motivate you, then consider that if enough skydivers feel less safe jumping at Skydive Chicago, they will simply choose a different venue for their skydiving vacation, and the region will suffer economically, too. So please reconsider for that reason, too.

The purpose of the ICC is to promote the public interest in these matters. The ICC judge allowed this routing to be determined by a stipulation agreement, to the sole benefit of a small group of land developers, while ignoring clear evidence supporting the other routes. Recently, the City of Ottawa backed out of the stipulation agreement by unanimous resolution when they realized the disastrous consequences to the entire community.

This project is a clear environmental catastrophe in the making. The ICC can avert this by reopening docket 06-0706, and deciding the route based on common sense evaluation of the evidence. Mistakes were made based on false pretenses, but now, you have the power to help resolve this impending environmental disaster to the benefit of our local citizens and our precious natural resources.

Sincerely,

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Robert Lawton

Aug 28, 2009

Robert Lawton
939 Jordan Drive
O'Fallon, IL 62269

SEP - 9 2009

Erin McConell-Diaz
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 East Capitol Ave
Springfield, IL. 62701

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**Illinois Commerce Commission
CHICAGO OFFICE**

Aug 28, 2009

Vicki Donahue
1808 Champlain
Ottawa, IL 61350

Charles E. Box
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 East Capitol Ave
Springfield, IL. 62701

Dear ICC Commissioner

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Regarding the Ameren high power lines along Champlain Street in Ottawa, IL, there have been numerous mornings that I have observed a bald eagle soaring on the air currents above the Fox River. If this project is allowed to start and the trees along the Fox are destroyed, bald eagles will no longer have the habitat which they enjoy now.

A logical mind would come to the conclusion that the route of the power lines should affect the least number of people and disrupt the smallest area of wildlife natural habitat.

I urge you to use your power to persuade the ICC to reopen the case and to locate those lines along Route 71 thereby disturbing the least amount of natural landscape.

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