

ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

DOCKET No. 12-0598

SECOND REVISED DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

**RODNEY FRAME
ANALYSIS GROUP, INC.**

Submitted On Behalf

Of

AMEREN TRANSMISSION COMPANY OF ILLINOIS

FEBRUARY 11, 2013

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8 **I. INTRODUCTION, PURPOSE AND SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS**

9 **Q. Please state your name, business address and position.**

10 **A.** My name is Rodney Frame. I am employed by Analysis Group, Inc. (“Analysis Group”),
11 where I was a Managing Principal until July 1, 2011, at which point I became an Affiliate.
12 Analysis Group is a firm that provides microeconomic, strategy and financial analyses. My
13 business address is 1899 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 200, Washington, D.C. 20006.
14 Analysis Group has approximately 570 employees and offices in Beijing, Boston, Chicago,
15 Dallas, Denver, Los Angeles, Menlo Park, Montreal, New York City, San Francisco and
16 Washington, D.C., where I am located.

17 **Q. Please briefly describe your educational and business background.**

18 **A.** I received an undergraduate degree from George Washington University in Washington,
19 D.C. Also at George Washington, I completed all requirements for a PhD in Economics with the
20 exception of the dissertation. I have been employed by Analysis Group since January 1998.
21 Prior to being employed by Analysis Group, I was a Vice President at National Economic
22 Research Associates, Inc., where I was employed from 1984 to January 1998. My professional
23 experience and qualifications are summarized in my résumé, which is included as ATXI Exhibit

24 9.1 to this testimony. Most of my professional work has involved consulting with electric
25 industry clients on a variety of matters including restructuring issues, wholesale bulk power
26 markets and competition, transmission access and pricing, contractual terms for wholesale
27 service, mergers and acquisitions, and contracting for generation supplies from non-utility
28 suppliers. I have testified, on numerous occasions on these and related topics, before the Federal
29 Energy Regulatory Commission (“FERC”), state regulatory commissions, federal and local
30 courts, the Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals and the Commerce Commission of New
31 Zealand.

32 **Q. Have you previously submitted testimony to the Illinois Commerce Commission?**

33 **A.** Yes. I have previously submitted testimony to the Illinois Commerce Commission
34 (“Commission”) in Docket Nos. 95-0551, 02-0428, 04-0294 and 05-0160.

35 **Q. On whose behalf are you testifying in the current proceeding?**

36 **A.** I am testifying on behalf of Ameren Transmission Company of Illinois (“ATXI”), which
37 is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Ameren Corporation (“Ameren”).

38 **Q. Are you familiar with the project proposed in the Petition filed by ATXI in this**
39 **proceeding?**

40 **A.** Yes. ATXI is seeking a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (“Certificate”)
41 and Section 8-503 Order from the Commission authorizing it to construct, operate and maintain a
42 345 kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line, approximately 375 miles in length (the “Transmission
43 Line”), and related facilities, including the construction or expansion of nine substations, in an
44 area extending from the Mississippi River near Quincy, Illinois eastwards across the state to the
45 Indiana State line, and including portions connecting the Sidney and Rising Substations and the

46 Meredosia and Ipava Substations. (Such facilities, including substations, together with the
47 Transmission Line, constitute the Illinois Rivers Project.) The Illinois Rivers Project is referred
48 to as the “Project”.

49 **Q. What is the purpose of your direct testimony?**

50 **A.** Section 8-406.1(f)(1) of the Illinois Public Utilities Act (the “Act”) includes a
51 requirement that, for the granting of a Certificate for a new high voltage transmission line, the
52 Commission must find that the project for which the Certificate is sought “is necessary to
53 provide adequate, reliable, and efficient service to the public utility’s customers and is the least-
54 cost means of satisfying the service needs of the public utility’s customers or that the Project will
55 promote the development of an effectively competitive electricity market that operates
56 efficiently, is equitable to all customers, and is the least cost means of satisfying those
57 objectives.” My testimony provides an analysis of the competition-related portions of this
58 requirement of the Act, *i.e.*, the extent to which the Project will “promote the development of an
59 effectively competitive electricity market that operates efficiently... [and]... is equitable to all
60 customers”.

61 **Q. Please summarize your conclusions.**

62 **A.** My competitive analysis focuses on the portion of Illinois located within the footprint of
63 the Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc. (“MISO”) where the Project is to
64 be constructed and located. I refer to this area as the “MISO Illinois region”. The MISO Illinois
65 region principally includes the electric systems of Ameren Illinois Company d/b/a Ameren
66 Illinois (“Ameren Illinois”), Southern Illinois Power Cooperative (“SIPCO”) and City Water,
67 Light & Power (“CWLP”), the Springfield, Illinois municipal utility. There are also a number of
68 smaller municipal electric and cooperative systems in the MISO Illinois region.

69 The Project will allow the construction of more generation capacity within the MISO
70 Illinois region (and elsewhere) and, as well, increase import capability into the MISO Illinois
71 region. As a result, there will be more electricity supply available to serve MISO Illinois
72 region customers than in the absence of the Project, and prices in the competitive wholesale
73 electricity markets operated by MISO, including in the MISO Illinois region specifically, will
74 fall. While the price reductions will occur directly in the wholesale market, inevitably the
75 lower wholesale prices will result in lower retail prices as well—as retail suppliers pass on to
76 their customers the lower wholesale bulk power purchase costs they experience as a result of
77 the Project.

78 In my testimony, I estimate both the amount of additional supply available to serve the
79 MISO Illinois region from the Project and the concomitant lower wholesale electric energy
80 prices. I also provide a conservative estimate of the net reduction in electricity payments made
81 by MISO Illinois region customers taking into account both the lower wholesale electricity
82 prices as well as those customers' expected share of the increased transmission payments
83 required to fund the Project. Based on this evidence about expanded supply, lower wholesale
84 electricity prices and lower net customer payments, I conclude, consistent with the
85 requirements of Section 8-406.1(f)(1) of the Act, that the Project “will promote the
86 development of an effectively competitive electricity market that operates efficiently... [and]
87 ... is equitable to all customers.”

88 **Q. How is your testimony organized?**

89 **A.** Section II below provides a high-level description of the Project while Section III
90 describes the analytical techniques that I employ to address the competition-related requirements
91 of Section 8-406.1(f)(1) of the Act. More detailed discussion of certain of the analytical

92 techniques is contained in ATXI Exhibit 9.2 attached to this testimony. Section IV, along with
93 ATXI Exhibits 9.3 thru 9.6, provides the results from my analysis.

94 **II. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**

95 **Q. What is your understanding of the general proposed route of the Illinois Rivers**
96 **Project?**

97 **A.** The general route of the Project is described more completely in the testimony of ATXI
98 witness, Mr. Dennis D. Kramer. (ATXI Ex. 2.0.) My understanding is the Project will be routed
99 from a new substation near Palmyra, Missouri across the Mississippi River to Quincy, Illinois
100 and will continue east across Illinois to Meredosia, Pawnee, Pana, Mt. Zion and Kansas, and then
101 across the Indiana border to Sugar Creek, Indiana, with portions from Sidney, Illinois to Rising,
102 Illinois and from Meredosia, Illinois to Ipava, Illinois. My further understanding is that, in
103 connection with the Illinois portion of the Project, nine substations will be constructed or
104 expanded and six 345/138 kV transformers will be installed.

105 **Q. What is your understanding of the total cost of the Illinois Rivers Project?**

106 **A.** As indicated in ATXI witness, Mr. Jeffrey V. Hackman's testimony (ATXI Ex. 3.0), the
107 expected total cost of the Project, for the Primary Route, is approximately \$1,091,600,000.

108 **Q. What is your understanding of the principal benefits to the electric system that will**
109 **be provided by the Illinois Rivers Project?**

110 **A.** These benefits are described in the testimonies of ATXI witnesses, Ms. Maureen A.
111 Borkowski (ATXI Ex. 1.0) (generally), Mr. Hackman (ATXI Ex. 3.0) (operational benefits) and
112 Mr. Kramer (ATXI Ex. 2.0) (reliability benefits). The Project is an integral part of a portfolio of
113 Multi Value Projects ("MVPs") that was approved by MISO's Board of Directors, and that will

114 enable the reliable delivery of renewable energy, including wind power, within the MISO
115 footprint. The MVP portfolio allows for a more efficient dispatch of generation resources,
116 opening markets to further competition and spreading the benefits of low-cost generation. FERC
117 approved the MVP methodology because it “is an important step in facilitating investment in
118 new transmission facilities to integrate large amounts of location-constrained resources,
119 including renewable generation resources, to further support documented energy policy
120 mandates or laws, reduce congestion, and accommodate new or growing loads.”¹

121 **Q. What are MVPs?**

122 **A.** MVPs are transmission projects in the MISO footprint that have been “determined to
123 enable the reliable and economic delivery of energy in support of documented energy policy
124 mandates or laws that address, through the development of a robust transmission system,
125 multiple reliability and/or economic issues affecting multiple transmission zones.”² The costs of

¹ Midwest Indep. Transmission Sys. Operator, Inc., 133 FERC ¶ 61,221 at Para 3 (Dec. 16, 2010 Order).

² December 16, 2010 Order, at Para 1. See also the listing of the three MVP criteria in Section II.C.2 of Attachment FF of the MISO Tariff, as follows:

Criterion 1. A Multi Value Project must be developed through the transmission expansion planning process for the purpose of enabling the Transmission System to reliably and economically deliver energy in support of documented energy policy mandates or laws that have been enacted or adopted through state or federal legislation or regulatory requirement that directly or indirectly govern the minimum or maximum amount of energy that can be generated by specific types of generation. The MVP must be shown to enable the transmission system to deliver such energy in a manner that is more reliable and/or more economic than it otherwise would be without the transmission upgrade.

Criterion 2. A Multi Value Project must provide multiple types of economic value across multiple pricing zones with a Total MVP Benefit-to-Cost ratio of 1.0 or higher

Criterion 3. A Multi Value Project must address at least one Transmission Issue associated with a projected violation of a NERC or Regional Entity standard and at least one economic-based Transmission Issue that provides economic value across multiple pricing zones. The project must generate total financially quantifiable benefits, including quantifiable reliability benefits, in excess of the total project costs

126 MVPs are recovered from all load within and exports from MISO via a per mega-watt hour
127 (“MWh”) charge.³

128 **Q. Is the Project included in MISO’s list of approved MVPs?**

129 **A.** Yes. MISO’s MVP Portfolio, Results and Analysis, January 10, 2012 (“MISO MVP
130 Report”) is a recently completed comprehensive assessment of a package of 17 MVPs. Of the 17
131 projects included in this assessment, four comprise the Illinois Rivers Project.⁴ The MISO MVP
132 Report recommends that each of the 17 projects, including the four comprising the Project, be
133 approved by MISO’s Board of Directors for inclusion in Appendix A of the MISO Transmission
134 Expansion Plan process and implemented. On December 8, 2011, the MISO Board approved
135 this recommendation.

136 III. **DESCRIPTION OF ANALYTICAL APPROACH**

137 **Q. Please describe the analytical techniques you employed to provide the competitive
138 assessment pursuant to Section 8-406.1(f)(1) of the Act.**

139 **A.** As indicated, Section 8-406.1(f)(1) of the Act includes a requirement that the
140 Commission find a project for which a Certificate is being sought “will promote the development
141 of an effectively competitive electricity market that operates efficiently ... [and] ... is equitable
142 to all customers.” Lower prices are one of the essential features of competition, and an event
143 (such as the construction of a major new transmission line) that results in lower prices
144 necessarily is a pro-competitive event. All other things the same, an increase in supply to a
145 market will lower prices in that market, and therefore represents a pro-competitive event for that

³ See MISO Tariff, Schedule 26A, Multi-Value Project Usage Rate, and Attachment MM, Multi-Value Project Charge.

⁴ These four are identified in the MISO MVP Report as Projects 9 (Palmyra Tap-Quincy-Meredosia-Ipava & Meredosia-Pawnee), 10 (Pawnee-Pana), 11 (Pana-Mt. Zion-Kansas-Sugar Creek) and 17 (Sidney-Rising).

146 market. Adding new transmission capacity to the existing electric system, as the Project will do,
147 will increase electric energy supply in the MISO Illinois region both by allowing more imports
148 and by facilitating the construction of new wind generation capacity.⁵ This additional supply
149 will lower prices and, accordingly, is pro-competitive. Thus, almost by definition, the Project
150 will promote the development of an effectively competitive electricity market. In my view,
151 electricity markets in MISO already are effectively competitive, and the construction of the
152 Project can only make them more so.⁶

153 The approach that I employ to document these pro-competitive effects from the Project
154 largely mirrors the “Part 1/Part 2” analytical approach utilized by witness Dr. Karl A.
155 McDermott in his October 4, 2011 testimony in Docket No. 11-0661 on behalf of American
156 Transmission Company (“ATC”) involving ATC’s application for a Certificate for its Pleasant
157 Prairie-to-Zion Energy Center 345-kV transmission line. That analysis was found by the
158 Commission to provide “convincing evidence” that the Pleasant Prairie-to Zion Energy Center

⁵ Of course, as noted above, as discussed in the testimonies of ATXI witnesses Ms. Borkowski, Mr. Kramer and Mr. Hackman, the Illinois Rivers Project will result in other benefits as well.

⁶ That markets in MISO are effectively competitive is something that has been documented on numerous occasions by MISO’s Independent Market Monitor (MISO IMM). See, e.g., the 2011 State of the Market Report for the MISO Electricity Markets, prepared by Potomac Economics, the MISO IMM, June 2012, where at page i it states as follows:

The MISO energy and ancillary service markets generally performed competitively in 2011. Conduct of suppliers was broadly consistent with expectations for a workably competitive market. Our analysis revealed little evidence of potential attempts to exercise market power or engage in market manipulation. The output gap, a measure of economic withholding, declined over the course of the year and averaged less than 0.1 percent of actual load, which is extremely low. Consequently, market power mitigation measures were applied very infrequently.

Similar statements about the competitiveness of the MISO markets are found in the MISO IMM’s state of the market reports for 2009 and 2010. Other evidence supporting the competitiveness of MISO’s wholesale electricity markets includes FERC’s continuing determinations that individual suppliers in MISO lack market power and therefore qualify for market-based rate authority.

159 transmission line would “promote the development of an effectively competitive electricity
160 market...”⁷

161 **Q. Please describe generally the Part 1 analysis that you conducted.**

162 **A.** The Part 1 analysis uses the PROMOD IV (PROMOD) market simulation model to
163 estimate future locational marginal prices (LMPs)⁸ in MISO and surrounding geographic areas
164 with and without the Project. PROMOD, which is marketed by Ventyx, simulates the operation
165 of the regional generation and transmission system, in so doing reflecting a variety of generator
166 operating characteristics and constraints and transmission system topology and limits. The
167 PROMOD analysis for the Project was conducted by colleagues of mine working under my
168 supervision. Along with the data set that was employed, the PROMOD analysis is described
169 more fully in ATXI Exhibit 9.2 attached to this testimony. The PROMOD market simulation
170 model and the data set employed are identical to those used by MISO in the above-noted MISO
171 MVP Report assessing the 17 projects in the MVP portfolio package.⁹

172 The hour-by-hour LMP values produced by the PROMOD analysis were used, along with
173 the amount of load served from each of the pricing nodes, to develop load-weighted average
174 wholesale energy prices. The difference between the load-weighted average electric energy
175 prices without the Project and the load-weighted average electric energy prices with the Project
176 represents the wholesale energy price effect from implementing the Project. If this difference is

⁷ American Transmission Company LLC, April 10, 2012 Order in Docket No. 11-0661, at page 8.

⁸ In MISO, electricity prices are developed for individual “nodes” on the system. These location-specific “nodal” prices commonly are referred to as locational marginal prices or LMPs. Differences in LMPs from location to location occur because of differences in marginal losses as well as the presence of congestion. When congestion is present, it is not possible fully to exploit differences in marginal generating costs at different locations and LMPs in transmission-constrained areas will rise above LMPs outside those transmission-constrained areas.

⁹ In this regard, MISO’s MVP Report analysis compares the results between the “with 17 MVP” case and a “but for” case that does not include any of the 17 MVPs, whereas the analyses reported on herein compare the results between the “with the Illinois Rivers Project” case and a “without the Illinois Rivers Project” that includes the other 13 MVPs, but not the Illinois Rivers Project (which encompasses four of the 17 MVPs analyzed by MISO).

177 positive, as turns out to be the case, then this is an indication that the Project will lower average
178 wholesale electric energy prices. As discussed, such a lowering of wholesale electricity prices
179 (which can be expected to flow through to retail customers) is consistent with the requirement of
180 Section 8-406.1(f)(1) of the Act that the Project “promote the development of an effectively
181 competitive electricity market that operates efficiently...” Indeed, as noted, lower prices are the
182 essence of competition and competitive markets.

183 The PROMOD analyses were run for two future study years, 2021 and 2026, using six
184 different scenarios for each year. These scenarios, which are described further below and which
185 are also used in the MISO MVP Report, contain different assumptions about load growth,
186 natural gas prices, carbon constraints and other policy matters, and therefore allow an assessment
187 of the relative robustness of the study results across a range of possible futures.

188 **Q. Does the PROMOD analysis reflect the complete set of wholesale electricity price**
189 **benefits from the Illinois Rivers Project?**

190 **A.** No. The PROMOD analysis quantifies the lower wholesale electric *energy* prices that
191 will result from the Project, but it does not quantify other potential wholesale electricity price
192 benefits such as lower operating reserve costs and lower capacity requirements and prices.
193 Focusing just on wholesale electric energy price comparison results of the PROMOD analysis
194 therefore will understate the full range of price benefits that can be expected from the Project.

195 **Q. What geographic region is covered by the PROMOD analysis?**

196 **A.** The geographic region covered by the PROMOD analysis includes a large portion of the
197 Eastern Interconnection,¹⁰ including all of MISO and the footprint of the adjacent PJM
198 Interconnection (“PJM”) and other directly and indirectly interconnected systems.

199 **Q. In the Part 1 analysis, did you treat LMP changes on the CWLP and SIPCO**
200 **systems differently than LMP changes on the Ameren Illinois system?**

201 **A.** Yes. It is appropriate to do so. Customers on the CWLP and SIPCO systems are to some
202 extent hedged by the generation capacity owned by their suppliers and, as such, are not exposed
203 in the same fashion to wholesale price changes as are customers in restructured areas, such as the
204 Ameren Illinois territory. Accordingly, focusing just on LMP changes would not accurately
205 assess the effects of the Projects on customers on the CWLP and SIPCO systems since it would
206 ignore potentially offsetting effects on generating profits which ultimately would get flowed
207 through to those customers. Accordingly, instead of examining just LMP changes for these two
208 systems, I examined the net effect of LMP changes and changes in generating operating margins.

209 **Q. Please describe generally the Part 2 analysis that you have undertaken.**

210 **A.** The goal of the Part 2 analysis is to quantify the extra wholesale electric energy supply
211 made available to the market area as a result of construction of the Project. Making more supply
212 available to a market area is consistent with promoting the development of an effectively
213 competitive electricity market as contemplated by Section 8-406-1.1(f)(1) of the Act and, all
214 other things the same, will result in lower prices in that market. I used Economic Capacity to
215 measure the increase in supply attributable to the Project. Economic Capacity is one of two

¹⁰ The Eastern Interconnection includes roughly the eastern two-thirds of the “lower 48” (with the exception of portions of Texas) plus Canadian provinces to the east of Alberta.

216 capacity measures used by FERC when it conducts competitive analyses using the Delivered
217 Price Test (“DPT”) analytical technique.¹¹ Under FERC’s procedures, Economic Capacity is all
218 generation capacity located within or deliverable to a “destination market” with variable costs
219 (including fuel, emissions and transmission) less than or equal to 1.05 times the competitive
220 market price. My Part 2 analysis develops estimates of changes in Economic Capacity available
221 to serve the MISO Illinois region as a result of the Project.¹²

222 There are two portions to this Part 2 Economic Capacity analysis. The first portion
223 involves developing an estimate of *additional in-region supply* as a result of the Project. In this
224 context, in-region supply refers to electric generating capacity located within the MISO Illinois
225 region. The second portion of the Part 2 Economic Capacity analysis involves developing an
226 estimate of *additional import capability* into the MISO Illinois region as a result of the Project.

¹¹ FERC uses DPT analyses for two principal purposes: (i) to assess the competitive implications of mergers and acquisitions under Section 203 of the Federal Power Act; and (ii) as part of its assessment of the appropriateness of market-based pricing by jurisdictional suppliers under Section 205 of the Federal Power Act. In this latter context, the DPT analytical technique is used only in instances where the supplier has failed one of two “indicative” market power screens that FERC also employs. In the Section 203 context, the DPT is used by FERC as a technique to measure market share and market concentration and transaction-induced changes in market concentration. In the Section 205 context, the DPT is used by FERC to measure market share and market concentration and to make a determination as to whether or not the market-based rate applicant is “pivotal”.

¹² In its DPT analyses, FERC also uses a second capacity measure, referred to as Available Economic Capacity. The Available Economic Capacity of a particular supplier is equal to its Economic Capacity less its native load (and certain wholesale contract) obligations. The Economic Capacity measure is generally considered to be the more relevant of the two in situations, such as Illinois, where industry restructuring has occurred and the link between traditional suppliers and their native load customers has been altered. Accordingly, my analysis herein utilizes only the Economic Capacity measure. In any case, while the absolute levels will differ, the MW change in Economic Capacity from the “without the Illinois Rivers Project” case to the “with the Illinois Rivers Project” case will be the same as the MW change in Available Economic Capacity. That is, the difference between Economic Capacity and Available Economic Capacity involves the subtraction in the case of the latter of native load and certain wholesale contract obligations. However, these subtractions do not change between the “without the Illinois Rivers Project” and “with the Illinois Rivers Project” cases thus making the MW differences between the two cases the same for both Economic Capacity and Available Economic Capacity.

227 **Q. Please describe further the first portion of the Part 2 Economic Capacity analysis,**
228 **the development of the additional in-region supply as a result of the Illinois Rivers Project.**

229 **A.** DPT analyses at FERC typically examine a number different season and load level
230 periods and provide separate computations for each such period. For my analysis, I used three
231 different periods, defined as Summer Extreme Peak, Summer Peak and Off-Peak.¹³ I first
232 determined the competitive market price for each of these periods. For this purpose, I used the
233 weighted average of the LMPs in the MISO Illinois region produced by the PROMOD analyses
234 during the hours comprising each period. From the PROMOD generator data, I then developed a
235 “supply stack” for each period, and quantified the amount of in-region capacity with variable
236 costs less than or equal to 1.05 times the competitive clearing price. As part of this process,
237 consistent with DPT analyses conducted for FERC, I derated wind generation capacity to
238 account for expected utilization levels and derated other generation capacity to account for
239 planned and forced outages. I went through this process for each scenario in each study year for
240 both the “with Project” and “without Project” cases. The difference represents the additional in-
241 region Economic Capacity resulting from the Project. As it turns out, the mega-watt amount of
242 additional Economic Capacity is the same across all scenarios and study years, representing as it
243 does the portion of the MISO Illinois region new wind generation capacity that was modeled by
244 MISO in its MVP Report but determined by MISO to be “curtailed” if the Project were not
245 constructed.

¹³ In this regard, the Summer Extreme Peak consists of the 1 percent of Summer Peak hours with the greatest loads in the MISO Illinois region. The summer peak consists of all other summer peak hours. The Off-Peak consists of 24 hours per day on Saturday, Sunday and NERC holidays and 8 hours on other days, on a year-round basis.

246 **Q. Please describe further the second portion of your Part 2 analysis, the development**
247 **of the additional import capability into the MISO Illinois region as a result of the Project.**

248 **A.** For this step, the PROMOD analysis was used to determine hourly flows
249 into the MISO Illinois region with and without the Project. I made this determination for each
250 scenario and study year. I used the average flows during the 10 percent of hours with the greatest
251 inflows as a proxy for the amount of Economic Capacity available to the MISO Illinois region from
252 the outside.¹⁴ Accordingly, the changes in flows during these 10 percent of the hours between the
253 “without Project” and “with Project” cases provide estimates of the additional amount of Economic
254 Capacity available to the MISO Illinois region from the outside as a result of the Project.

255 **Q. What specific scenarios are included in your analysis?**

256 **A.** The following six scenarios were included:

- 257 i) Business as Usual, Low Demand - assumes the continuation of current energy
258 policies and continuing “recession-level” demand and energy growth;
- 259 ii) Business as Usual, High Demand - assumes the continuation of current energy
260 policies and a return to pre-recession demand and energy growth levels;
- 261 iii) Carbon Constrained - assumes the continuation of current energy policies plus a
262 carbon cap modeled on the Waxman-Markey bill;
- 263 iv) Combined Energy Policy - includes the enactment of multiple new energy
264 policies including a carbon cap modeled on the Waxman-Markey bill, a 20
265 percent Federal RPS requirement, smart grid implementation and the widespread
266 adoption of electric vehicles;
- 267 v) Business as Usual, Low Demand, High Natural Gas Prices - same as the Business
268 as Usual, Low Demand case listed above but with higher natural gas prices; and
- 269 vi) Business as Usual, High Demand, High Natural Gas Prices - same as the Business
270 as Usual, High Demand case listed above but with higher natural gas prices.

271 These six scenarios are described more completely in ATXI Exhibit 9.2 attached.

¹⁴ Placing the IRP in service results in increased imports into the MISO Illinois region across virtually all hours of the year across all scenarios as determined in the PROMOD analysis. The use of average inflows measured over the 10 percent of hours with the highest inflows provides a proxy for the increase in additional import capability attributable to the Illinois Rivers Project.

272 **Q. Please describe the data sets used for your analysis.**

273 **A.** The PROMOD analysis relies on the same data used by MISO in its economic analysis of
274 the MVP portfolio. These data include information on customer loads, transmission
275 infrastructure, forecasted fuel prices, and existing and new generation resources. Similarly, the
276 scenarios I analyzed were also analyzed by MISO in the MISO MVP Report, and I relied on the same
277 assumptions regarding customer demand and energy growth, fuel prices, wind penetration and
278 carbon prices. New renewable resources are added so that each state in the MISO region can
279 comply with its state Renewable Portfolio Standards. Aside from the Project transmission, the
280 only difference between the “with Project” case and “without Project” case is the quantity of
281 wind power assumed in each case. As described earlier, the quantity of new wind power
282 resources is reduced in the “without Project” case based on MISO’s determination that fewer
283 wind resources can be reliably supported. These data assumptions are described in further detail
284 in ATXI Exhibit 9.2.

285 **IV. PRESENTATION OF RESULTS**

286 **Q. Have you prepared exhibits summarizing your results?**

287 **A.** Yes. The results of the analysis are described in ATXI Exhibits 9.3 thru 9.6.

288 **Q. Please describe ATXI Exhibit 9.3.**

289 **A.** As indicated, the PROMOD analyses involve a comparison of the “without Project” and
290 “with Project” cases for two different study years (2021 and 2026) and six (6) different scenarios
291 within each study year. ATXI Exhibit 9.3 provides the weighted average LMP values for the
292 MISO Illinois region from these analyses.

293 **Q. What does ATXI Exhibit 9.3 indicate?**

294 **A.** Wholesale electric energy prices, as measured by the average LMPs reported in ATXI
295 Exhibit 9.3, are lower with the Illinois Rivers Project in the MISO Illinois region. As discussed,
296 it is a pro-competitive outcome when prices are reduced in this fashion; as such, constructing and
297 energizing the Project will be pro-competitive. The conclusion about lower prices exists for all
298 of the scenarios that I evaluate. Across these scenarios, the reduction in prices in the MISO
299 Illinois region from the Project range from \$0.87 to \$2.31 per MWh in 2021, and \$0.98 to \$5.06
300 per MWh in 2026. The percent reduction in prices ranges from 1.2 to 4.3 percent in 2021, and
301 1.6 to 4.5 percent in 2026.

302 **Q. Please describe ATXI Exhibits 9.4 and 9.5.**

303 **A.** ATXI Exhibits 9.4 and 9.5 present a conservative depiction of the estimated payment
304 reductions for MISO Illinois customers as a result of the Illinois Rivers Project. ATXI Exhibit
305 9.4 is a one page summary containing estimates of the payments for wholesale electric energy for
306 each of the six scenarios, with and without the Project, and includes a subtraction for MISO
307 Illinois customers' estimated share of the transmission expenses to support the Project. ATXI
308 Exhibit 9.5, which consists of six (6) pages, provides year-by-year detail of the wholesale
309 electric energy payment reductions for each of the scenarios.

310 To prepare these exhibits, I began with the MISO Illinois region LMP comparisons from
311 the PROMOD analysis from 2021 and 2026. These were multiplied by MISO Illinois region
312 load to provide estimates of total payments for wholesale electric energy. The computations
313 were made for a 20-year period (2020-2039). I selected 2020 as the beginning year for this
314 evaluation since that represents the first full year when the entire Project is expected to be fully
315 energized. I used the 2021 and 2026 PROMOD-produced electric energy payment amounts to

316 determine a growth rate between these two years, and used this growth rate to interpolate or
317 extrapolate the values for the other years in the 20-year comparison period. As indicated, in
318 ATXI Exhibit 9.4, from the estimated total payments for electric energy I subtracted an estimate
319 of the amount of investment costs for the Project that will be borne by MISO Illinois customers
320 as well as an estimated variable expense component. The remainder provides a conservative
321 estimate of the payment reduction that can be expected for MISO Illinois customers as a result of
322 the Project. The figures in ATXI Exhibit 9.4 and ATXI Exhibit 9.5 are present values as of mid-
323 year 2013 computed using alternative discount rates of 3 percent and 8.2 percent, which are the
324 same discount rates used in MISO's MVP Report. ATXI Exhibit 9.2 provides a more detailed
325 explanation of the computational procedures employed in developing ATXI Exhibits 9.4 and 9.5.
326 I characterize the ATXI Exhibits 9.4 and 9.5 payment reduction estimates as conservative
327 because they reflect expected reductions in wholesale electric energy payments (net of increased
328 transmission payments) but not reductions in payments for other unbundled components of full-
329 requirements electricity supply such as capacity and operating reserves. The estimate also does
330 not account for reduced electric energy payments prior to 2020, or for improvements in
331 reliability and other benefits.

332 **Q. What does ATXI Exhibits 9.4 indicate?**

333 **A.** The results of my analysis reported in ATXI Exhibit 9.4 show that the Project will lead to
334 substantial reductions in payments by customers in the MISO Illinois region. Under the
335 Business as Usual, Low Demand case, the present value of reductions in wholesale electric
336 energy payments from the Project is \$324.7 million (at a discount rate of 8.2 percent.) The
337 present value of transmission payments for the Project is \$119.6 million, resulting in a net
338 reduction in energy payments by MISO Illinois region customers of \$205.1 million (*i.e.*, \$324.7

339 million minus \$119.6 million). Thus, there is roughly a three to one ratio of reduction in
340 wholesale energy payments to Project payments. The exhibit also shows that the reduction in
341 payments would be even greater under the other scenarios I evaluated, with reductions in net
342 payments for these other five scenarios ranging between \$311.0 million and \$1,624.3 million.
343 When the analysis is performed using a lower 3 percent discount rate the reduction in net
344 payments increases in each scenario and ranges from \$539.9 million in the Business-as-Usual
345 Low Demand case to \$4,073.9 in the Combined Energy Policy case.

346 **Q. Do you have any additional comments relating to ATXI Exhibit 9.4?**

347 **A.** The MISO MVP Report provides an overall assessment of the benefits of the 17 MVPs
348 (see, *e.g.*, page 50 of the MVP Report) as well as an assessment of the benefit/cost ratio of the
349 17 MVP package for each individual “zone” examined by MISO, one of which zones is the
350 MISO Illinois region as defined herein (see, *e.g.*, page 7 of the MISO MVP Report). The results
351 in the MISO MVP Report have been developed using the same PROMOD simulation, data set
352 and scenarios employed herein. The MISO report concludes that there are substantial benefits
353 from the 17 MVP package in *each* zone. On this basis, one might conclude that the
354 implementation of the 17 MVP package was equitable to all customers. However, the MVP
355 Report does not contain a benefit/cost assessment for individual MVPs in individual zones. With
356 respect to the Project, the information in ATXI Exhibits 9.4 and 9.5 helps to bridge this gap by
357 demonstrating that MISO Illinois customers will receive greater benefits than costs. This is
358 consistent with a conclusion that the Project is equitable to customers in the MISO Illinois
359 region. Moreover, it is efficient to implement projects such as the Project where the benefits
360 clearly exceed the costs by a substantial margin.

361 **Q. Please describe ATXI Exhibit 9.6.**

362 **A.** ATXI Exhibit 9.6 depicts the increase in supply to the MISO Illinois region as a result of
363 the Project using the Economic Capacity measure, as discussed above, and disaggregated into
364 “within MISO Illinois” and import components. There are six pages to this exhibit, one for each
365 of the six scenarios analyzed.

366 **Q. What does ATXI Exhibit 9.6 indicate?**

367 **A.** ATXI Exhibit 9.6 shows that the Project would increase electricity supply into the MISO
368 Illinois region, which is a pro-competitive outcome and thus consistent with the requirements of
369 Section 8-406.1(f)(1) of the Act. Under the Business-as-Usual Low Demand case in 2021,
370 shown on page 1 of ATXI Exhibit 9.6, supply from within the MISO Illinois region increases by
371 the 154 MW of additional wind power supported by the Project. The Project will also allow an
372 additional 450 mega-watts of supply from outside the MISO Illinois region to enter the
373 MISO Illinois region. The combined increase of 603 MW of supply from internal and external
374 sources represents an increase of 3.7, 4.0 and 5.3 percent respectively in the Summer Extreme
375 Peak, Summer Peak periods and Off-Peak periods. The total increased supply in 2026 is 544
376 MW. Results in other scenarios are similar, with increased supply ranging from 371 MW
377 (Business-as-Usual High Demand – High Gas) to 626 MW (Carbon Constrained) in 2021 and
378 from 320 MW (Combined Energy Policy) to 599 MW (Carbon Constrained) in 2026.

379 **V. CONCLUSIONS**

380 **Q. Does this conclude your second revised direct testimony?**

381 **A.** Yes, it does.