ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

DOCKET NUMBER 12-0598

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

Intervener, David Lewis

Q: Please state your name?

A: **David Lewis**

Q: Please state your current residence?

A: **730 South 21st Street, Quincy IL 62301**

Q: Please identify by street address and parcel number any real property in which you claim an interest that will be affected by the proposed electric transmission line and related facilities that are subject of Ameren Transmission Company of Illinois' ("ATXI) Petition currently before the Illinois Commerce Commission?

A: **PIN: 18-0-0229-000-00 a true, accurate, and correct map of this parcel is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 1.</u>**

PIN: 18-0-0241-000-00 a true, accurate, and correct map of this parcel is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 2.</u>

PIN: 18-0-0242-001-00 a true, accurate, and correct map of this parcel is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 3.</u>

The above parcels are collectively referred to as the "Property".

Q: Please identify the nature of your interest in the Property?

A: **I am the sole owner of the Property.**

Q: How is the Property currently used?

A: **Grain farming.**

Q: Are there any building(s) and/or structure(s) on the Property?

A: **No.**

Q: Is there any revenue that is earned from the Property, if so what is the revenue?

A: **Yes. $30,000.00 per year.**

Q: What is the quality of the soil on the Property?

A: The condition of the soil is good. I have the following types of soil on my property: Fishhook; Hickory; Tama Silt Loam; Fayette; Downs Silt Loam; Darwin Silty Loam; and Haymond Silt Loams.

Q: Is the Property encumbered by any existing utility easement(s)?

A: No.

Q: Do you oppose the primary route proposed by ATXI?

A: Yes.

Q: Do you oppose the entire length of the primary route?

A: Yes.

Q: What is the basis of your opposition to the primary route?

A: From my personal experience, soil compaction is a major concern and makes tillage and preparation for planting more difficult and time consuming. Additionally, soil compaction will reduce the yield from beans and corn. I have concerns regarding damage to drain tiles on each side of the line. Damaged drain tiles could change the topography of the land and it can cause a dishing effect. There is a concern that damage to the tiles would create the necessity for installing more tiling at an expense of more than $10,000.00.

I also have concerns that aerial spraying will be impacted in a planes ability to maneuver over the field to conduct spray operations. Additionally, to have placement of towers/poles on my property would hinder the ingress and egress to the field

I have also spent substantial amounts of money to modernize farming on the Property utilizing a GPS system. The transmission lines could very likely interfere with his GPS system thus creating accuracy problems for seeding. In addition towers and poles on the property will be difficult to get around when planting with large equipment. This creates problems with an inefficiency of seed drop and delivery of insecticides and herbicides.

Additionally, there is approximately fifteen acres of timber on the property that would be affected. Finally, future building on property would be negatively affected if the transmission line goes through.

Q: What is the expected financial loss from the use of the property as a result of the primary route?

A: The financial loss from the use of the property as a result of the primary route varies. However, I estimate the loss at $8,000.00 annually.

Q: What is the proximity of the building(s) and/or structure(s) on the property to the primary route proposed by ATXI?

A: None.

Q: What interference will the primary route have with the current use of the property?

A: It will affect the property by making it more difficult to farm, the amount of land available to farm and would devalue the land by approximately 5 percent.

Q: Are you in favor of ATXI utilizing existing right of ways for the ATXI transmission line?

A: Yes.

Q: Please identify any other party or individual who may have an interest in the Property, and explain the nature of such interest?

A: I have a tenant farmer, Keith Flesner, and the items listed in this testimony I believe would affect his ability to farm the land.

Q: If there is an individual or party who has interest in the Property, does that party or individual oppose the primary route proposed by ATXI?

A: Yes.

Q: Does the individual or party oppose the entire length of the primary route?

A: Yes.

Q: What is the basis for the individual's or party's opposition to the primary route?

A: Keith Flesner is the tenant farmer of the property and it would affect his ability to farm the land.

Q: Does this conclude your testimony?

A: Yes.

David Lewis

DAVID LEWIS

STATE OF ILLINOIS)

) SS

COUNTY OF ADAMS)

Signed and Sworn to before me, a Notary in the County and State aforesaid by David Lewis on this 26th **day of** March **, 2013**

"OFFICIAL SEAL"
JEANNE M. FARHA
Notary Public, State of Illinois
My Commission Expires 06/01/14

Jeanne M. Farha

NOTARY PUBLIC