

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION**

**AMEREN TRANSMISSION COMPANY OF ILLINOIS §
§
Petition for A Certificate of Public Convenience and §
Necessity, pursuant to Section 8-406.1 of the Illinois Public §
Utilities Act §**

Docket No. 12-0598

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE A. KNIGHT
ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF CHAMPAIGN AND
THE VILLAGE OF SAVOY**

CHAMPAIGN/SAVOY EX. 1.0

March 29, 2013

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF BRUCE A. KNIGHT
ON BEHALF OF THE
THE CITY OF CHAMPAIGN AND
THE VILLAGE OF SAVOY**

1 **Q. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME.**

2 A. My name is Bruce A. Knight.

3 **Q. BY WHOM ARE YOU EMPLOYED AND WHAT IS YOUR BUSINESS**
4 **ADDRESS?**

5 A. I am the Planning Director for the City of Champaign, located at 102 N. Neil St.,
6 Champaign, IL.

7 **Q. FOR WHOM ARE YOU OFFERING TESTIMONY?**

8 A. I am offering testimony on behalf of the City of Champaign, Illinois.

9 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

10 A. The purpose of my testimony is to explain why the City of Champaign has an interest in
11 the location of the 345 kV transmission line proposed by Ameren Transmission Company
12 (ATXI) of Illinois, and to request that if the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC)
13 approves the construction of the line from Rising to Sidney that the ICC approve ATXI's
14 primary route.

15 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND.**

16 A. I have a Bachelor of Science Degree in Urban Planning from Iowa State University and a
17 Master of Arts Degree in Public Affairs from the University of Iowa. A copy of my
18 resume is attached to this testimony.

19 **Q. PLEASE TELL US WHAT ARE YOUR DUTIES AS PLANNING DIRECTOR.**

20 A. I direct the Planning Department staff and oversee the delivery of a variety of
21 professional planning services including maintaining an up-to-date Comprehensive Plan,

22 preparing neighborhood plans and area studies, guiding preparation of a ten-year Capital
23 Improvement Plan, promoting economic development, and reviewing and making
24 recommendations on development proposals to ensure consistency with the City's long
25 range plans and to facilitate high quality growth and development.

26 **Q. WHY IS THE CITY OF CHAMPAIGN CONCERNED ABOUT WHERE ATXI**
27 **LOCATES ITS TRANSMISSION LINE WEST OF THE CITY OF CHAMPAIGN?**

28 A. A portion of the area where the proposed ATXI transmission line would be located is in
29 the extra territorial jurisdiction (ETJ) of the City of Champaign. This area is a prime area
30 for future expansion for the City of Champaign, thus, the location of the ATXI
31 transmission line would affect how this area could be used in the future. I have attached
32 as Champaign/Sidney Attachment 1.02 a map showing the location of the western portion
33 of ATXI's proposed line and the City's ETJ.

34 **Q. WHAT IS AN ETJ?**

35 A. By law, municipalities in Illinois have the right to plan for, and control the use of land
36 that extends 1 ½ miles from the municipal limits. The City's Comprehensive Plan
37 identifies the portions of the ETJ that are prepared for urban development, and reserves
38 the remainder for the appropriate time. Control of proposed development is exercised by
39 requiring that prior to any development the land owners submit a plat to the municipality
40 for approval.

41 **Q. HAVE THE LANDOWNERS IN THE AREA WEST OF CHAMPAIGN FILED**
42 **PLATS WITH THE CITY?**

43 A. No.

44 **Q. HAS CHAMPAIGN DEVELOPED A LONG-RANGE PLANNING DOCUMENT**
45 **THAT INCORPORATES THE AREA WHERE ATXI PROPOSES TO BUILD**
46 **THE TRANSMISSION LINE?**

47 A. Yes, the 2011 Comprehensive Plan incorporates the portion of the area where ATXI
48 proposes to build the transmission line that extends into our ETJ. The Future Land Use
49 Map component of the Comprehensive Plan designates part of that area for “New
50 Neighborhood” future development. The “New Neighborhood” designation would allow
51 density mix of residential development and neighborhood commercial services. The
52 City’s 2011 Trails Plan also calls for construction of a trail/greenway system adjacent to
53 the Kaskaskia River, immediately west of a portion of the area where ATXI proposes to
54 build the transmission line.

55 **Q. WHY DOES THE CITY OF CHAMPAIGN SUPPORT ATXI’S PRIMARY**
56 **ROUTE PORTION THAT IS WEST OF CHAMPAIGN?**

57 A. As the City of Champaign understands the proposed primary route, it would be located
58 on the same right of way as the 138 kV transmission line from Bondville to West Campus
59 approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission in Docket No. 12-0080. The 138 kV
60 line utilizes an existing easement for an underground pipeline owned by Enterprise
61 Products Operating LLC. The City has been informed that the Ameren 138 kV line
62 utilizes a 120 feet wide right of way and that an additional 30 feet would be needed to
63 accommodate the 345 kV ATXI line. The City has also been informed that Ameren
64 Illinois and ATXI would place their lines on the same poles. Provided that only 30 feet
65 of additional right of way is needed, and that the lines are combined on the same poles,

66 the net effect is to minimize any additional impacts of the potential for future urban
67 development in this area.

68 **Q. IN SUPPORTING THE ATXI PRIMARY ROUTE WEST OF CHAMPAIGN, ARE**
69 **YOU OR THE CITY OF CHAMPAIGN OFFERING ANY TESTIMONY**
70 **REGARDING WHETHER THE LINE IS NEEDED FROM EITHER AN**
71 **ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING OR RELIABILITY POINT OF VIEW?**

72 A. No. For purposes of my testimony, I defer to the ICC staff and others to determine if the
73 line is needed. My testimony is limited to the location of the line if it is approved.

74 **Q. ARE YOU AWARE THAT ATXI FILED AN ALTERNATE ROUTE FOR THE**
75 **LINE?**

76 A. Yes. The alternate route portion west of Champaign would be about two miles west of
77 the primary route.

78 **Q. DOES THE CITY OF CHAMPAIGN SUPPORT THE ALTERNATE ROUTE?**

79 A. As the area is outside of our ETJ and under the jurisdiction of other municipalities, the
80 City of Champaign has not taken a position on the alternate route.

**Resume for
Bruce A. Knight FAICP**

I. Professional Experience:

A. Current:

- 1988 to present - Planning Director, City of Champaign, Illinois. Responsible for leading a ten person, two division department in achieving its mission to engage in responsible and responsive planning to enhance the quality of life in the community, promoting the wellness of existing neighborhoods, protecting property values by encouraging compatible development, and providing for the future growth and stability of the City of Champaign.
- 1997 to present – Adjunct Lecturer, University of Illinois Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Responsible for annually teaching a senior level Land Use Workshop with the intent to provide “real life” experience for seniors in the Bachelor of Arts in Urban and Regional Planning curriculum allowing application of the skills and knowledge learned in prior coursework to a real planning problem.

B. Prior:

- 1984 to 88 – City Planner/Assistant Director of Community Development, City of Liberty, Missouri.
- 1981 to 84 – Associate Planner, Urban Planning Division, City of Iowa City, Iowa,
- 1979 to 81 – Planner/Program Analyst, Community Development Block Grant Division, City of Iowa City, Iowa
- 1977 to 79 – Regional Planner, Mid-Iowa Development Association Council of Governments.

II. Education:

- 1977 - Bachelor of Science in Urban Planning, Iowa State University.
- 1984 - Master of Arts in Public Affairs, University of Iowa.

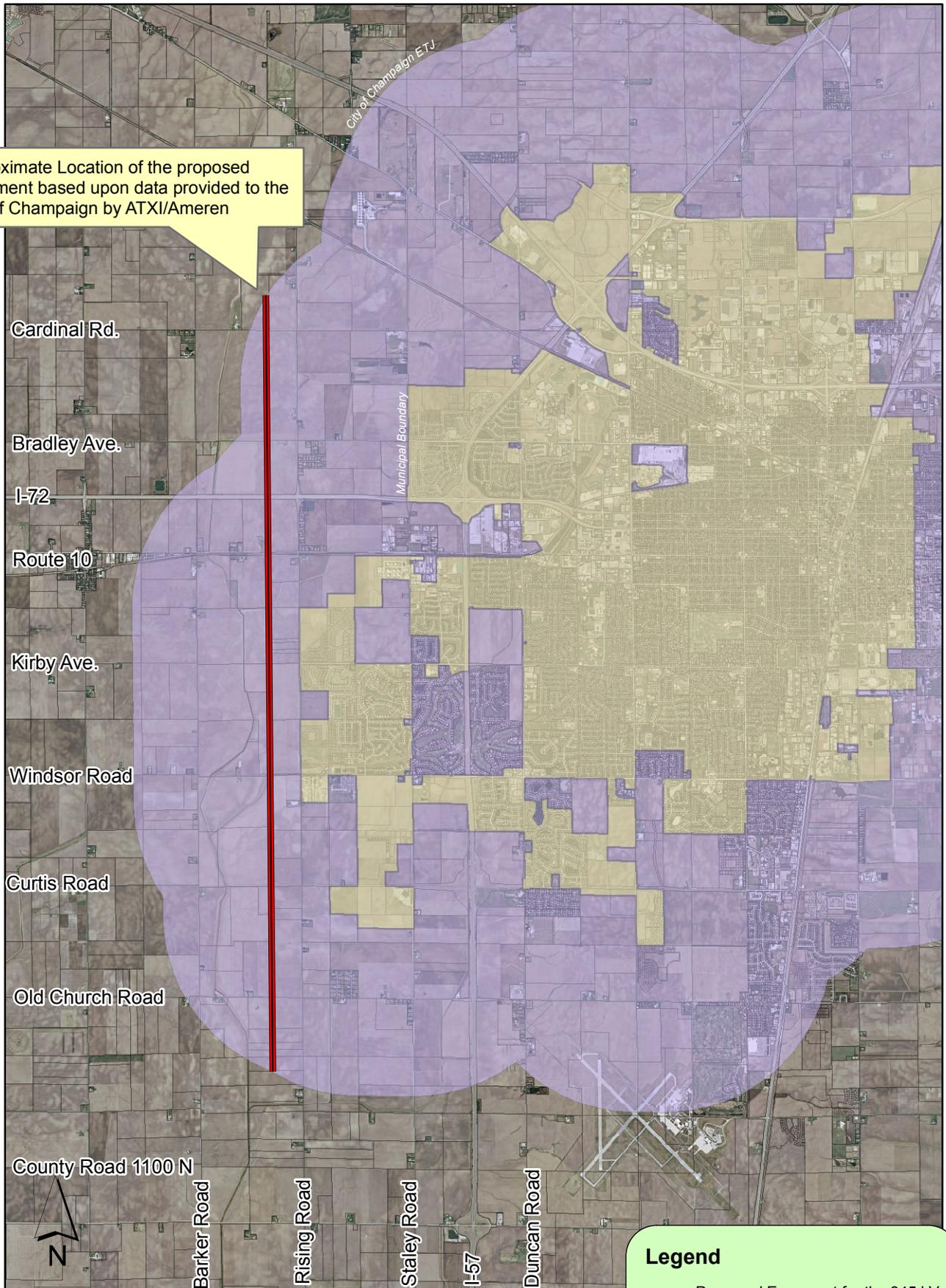
III. American Planning Association:

- 1980 to Present – Member of the American Planning Association (APA)
- 1985 – 2003 Member American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)
- 2003 to Present - Fellow of AICP
- 1997 to 2000 – President Illinois Chapter APA
- 2000 to 2008 - Served two terms as APA Board Member for Region IV (Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana and Ohio).
- 2009 to 2012 –President-Elect, President and Immediate Past President of the American Planning Association.

CHAMPAIGN/SAVOY EXHIBIT 1.02

Attachment 1.01

Approximate Location of the proposed Easement based upon data provided to the City of Champaign by ATXI/Ameren



Legend

- Proposed Easement for the 345 kV
- Champaign Municipal Boundary
- Champaign ETJ