

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

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ILLINOIS COMMERCE  
COMMISSION

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CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE

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, and an Order pursuant to )  
Section 8-503 of the Public Utilities Act, )  
To Construct, Operate and Maintain a New )  
High Voltage Electric Service Line and )  
Related Facilities in the Counties of Adams, )  
Brown, Cass, Champaign, Christian, Clark, )  
Coles, Edgar, Fulton, Macon, Montgomery, )  
Morgan, Moultrie, Pike, Sangamon, )  
Schuyler, Scott and Shelby, Illinois )

Case No. 12-0598

**DIRECT TESTIMONEY**

(Submitted on behalf of Wiese Farms)

NOW COME LOREN H. WIESE, PATRICIA ANN WIESE, LEN L. WIESE, LESLIE D. WIESE and LOREN H. WIESE, INC. (hereinafter referred to collectively as "Wiese Farms"), owners of certain lands within the geographical area that is the subject of this proceeding, by and through their attorneys, March, McMillan, DeJoode and Duvall, P.C., and for their DIRECT TESTIMONY (Submitted on behalf of Wiese Farms) herein state:

That LOREN H. WIESE, PATRICIA ANN WIESE, LEN L. WIESE, LESLIE D. WIESE and LOREN H. WIESE, INC. hereby file the testimony of LOREN H. WIESE, in AFFIDAVIT form, attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wiese Farms

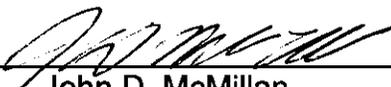
By and through their attorney

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John D. McMillan

**VERIFICATION**

STATE OF ILLINOIS            }  
  }  
  }SS  
COUNTY OF McDONOUGH    }

John D. McMillan being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is authorized to execute this DIRECT TESTIMONY (Submitted on Behalf of Wiese Farms); that he has read the above and foregoing document, has knowledge of the facts stated therein and herewith states that the matters set forth therein are true and in substance and in fact.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John D. McMillan

Subscribed and Sworn to before me, Notary Public, on this 28th day of March, 2013.



  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

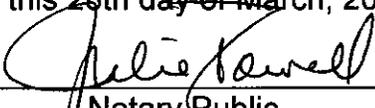
**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, John D. McMillan, being an attorney admitted to practice in the State of Illinois and one of the attorneys for Wiese Farms, hereby certify that I did serve on the 28th day of March 2013, file with the Illinois Commerce Commission, the Direct Testimony and Affidavit of Loren H. Wiese, on behalf of Wiese Farms, and electronically served same upon the persons identified on the Commission's Official Service List or by regular mail.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John D. McMillan

Subscribed and Sworn to before me, Notary Public, on this 28th day of March, 2013.



  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

John D. McMillan  
March, McMillan, DeJoode & Duvall, P.C.  
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**Exhibit 1 to Direct Testimony**

**STATE OF ILLINOIS  
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION**

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Morgan, Moultrie, Pike, Sangamon, )  
Schuyler, Scott and Shelby, Illinois )

**AFFIDAVIT OF LOREN WIESE**  
(Submitted on behalf of Wiese Farms)

NOW COMES LOREN H. WIESE, and after first being duly sworn upon his oath,  
deposes and says:

1. Q: Please state your name and address and occupation for the Record.

ANSWER: Loren H. Wiese, RR 1, Box 82, Versailles, IL 62378  
Farmer

2. Q: What interest do you have in the pending litigation, I.C.C. docket number 12-0598?

ANSWER: Loren H. Wiese, Inc. owns several tracts of farmland, in both Brown County and Pike County, which are directly in the path of the Primary Route proposed by Ameren for the new Transmission Line. Loren H. Wiese, Inc. is a corporation owned by myself, my wife, and my three sons.

My wife, Patricia Ann Wiese and I also individually own tracts of farmland that are directly in the path of the Primary Route proposed by Ameren for the new Transmission Line.

My son, Len L. Wiese, also owns farmland that is directly in the path of the Primary Route proposed by Ameren for the new Transmission Line.

My sons and I also are also tenants on additional farmland, owned by third parties, that is also directly in the path of the proposed Primary Route.

3. Q: What potential impacts do you foresee on your grain farming operation?

ANSWER: Every farmer is familiar with the inconvenience of farming around various types of electric transmission and electric distribution structures. As farm equipment has increased in size, the inconvenience is greater and the cost of equipment potentially damaged by contacting such transmission line structures has increased. Electric Utility poles and structures located in the center of farm tracts pose a greater hazard to farming operations than poles and structures located along one side of a farm, near public roads.

The construction of the concrete base for the proposed large steel Transmission Line Poles will destroy the drainage tile systems that we have installed on all of our farms.

The most significant economic impact to the farmland owned by the various persons and entities comprising Wiese Farms is the interference with center pivot irrigation equipment. I have three farms currently improved with center pivot irrigation systems and center pivot irrigation systems can only operate efficiently when the irrigation booms can

make the full 360 degree complete rotation unimpeded over tracts of 160-320 acres or larger. I have plans to construct additional center pivot irrigation systems on the farmland in sections 10, 11, 14 and 15 of Chambersburg Township in Pike County, Illinois. The only reason the additional center pivot irrigation systems are not already in place is that the equipment is unavailable, as a result of the current high demand for irrigation systems.

If the new Ameren Transmission Line is constructed on the Primary Route proposed by Ameren, we will either not be able to install center pivot irrigation systems on our farms, or will need to install multiple and smaller irrigation systems, which are more expensive and less effective in irrigating the total farm. Irrigation has been a necessary part of farming the river bottom soils for many years and has recently become more important, because of climate change and the increased cost of land and crop production inputs.

4. Q: Will other landowners in the area in which you reside and farm be similarly affected?

ANSWER: The impact to other farm owners will depend upon the size of their farm tracts and whether the proposed Transmission Line will be located along one side of their farms or run through the middle of their farms. For instance, moving the proposed transmission line one-half mile or one mile south of the proposed Primary Route and locating the Transmission Line along existing roadways, would be preferable to running the proposed Transmission Line directly through the middle of farms that have or would benefit from having center pivot irrigation systems.

5. Q: What other impact do you see to your farming operation if the transmissions lines are constructed on the proposed Primary Route?

ANSWER: A portion of the Primary Route includes grain bin sites. It is not safe to have the transmission lines close to grain bins or other metal buildings. The alternative will be for the transmission line to be moved out into the middle of our farmland, to avoid a close proximity to the grain bins and buildings. This will cause much greater interference with

our grain farming operation and a greater hazard for our large farm equipment, than if the line could be constructed along the side of a farm, near public roadways.

6. Q: Does this conclude your direct testimony?

ANSWER: Yes.

*Loren H Wiese*

Loren H. Wiese

Subscribed and Sworn to before me this  
28 day of March, 2013.

*Suzi M Murray*  
Notary Public



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