

**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, 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.)

Docket No. 12-0598
RECEIVED

APR 1 2013

**ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION
CHIEF CLERK'S OFFICE**

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF THE COPELAND FAMILY

NOW COMES THE COPELAND FAMILY to present our direct testimony, states as follows:

1. We, the Copeland Family, have owned, farmed, and lived on this property, 12541 N.C.R. 300E, Mattoon, IL, Coles County and the neighboring property 12823 N.C.R. 300E, Mattoon, IL, Coles, County our entire lives. The property has been in the family for nearly 100 years.
2. This land has been passed down through the family and at this point in time we own nearly ½ of Section 21 that will be affected by the primary route. When the time comes this land will be passed down to my daughters and their families to use as their source of income to support their families, whether it is through farming or another type of business.
3. We already have a power line that runs through the west part of our property less than ½ mile from our home which has caused problems in the past with our horse' behavior and farming, as well as being an inconvenience to farming.
4. After researching available information it is apparent that there are a lot of risks from exposure to high voltage power lines and EMFs. The information and data from different studies and research is there to us to see. I feel that due to health issues within our household and the information given, it is not in the best interests of anyone residing here or being here on a daily basis to be exposed to these lines.

5. My wife, Pamela Copeland, is and has been in the hospital since February 2013, due to complications of a wound and being diabetic for over 50 years. Her immune system is already compromised and has been for quite some time due to the diabetes. It does not take much to affect her health in a negative way. She previously has had a 7 way cardio bypass and since then has had heart palpitations. She also has thyroid issues, high blood pressure issues, vascular issues, severe nerve pain and other things that pop up due to her compromised immune system. There is also a history of cancer and depression that runs in the family. These are all things that can be affected, worsened, or triggered by the EMFs, along with many other things that are mentioned in some of these attached articles. They are very informative.
6. I, Rick Copeland, also have been diagnosed with diabetes. I do not want my health to be worsened by these lines. I also suffer from high blood pressure, headaches and nerve pain. Cancer and Alzheimer's and Dementia run in my family as well. My mother has Alzheimer's and Dementia, and two of my aunts passed away due to complications from Alzheimer's. She also has previously had a cardio bypass. My father passed away from cancer. I do not want this power line close to my house in fear of raising the risks of these terrible things.
7. Various childhood cancers, as well as adult cancers, are on the rise. Evidence shows that radiation from power lines/EMFs can cause this. My grandchildren, ages 2 and 10, stay at this residence on a daily basis because my wife babysits them while my daughter, Kendra, works with me. These power lines would be putting them at a greater risk of developing cancer and other problems, which is not fair to them. We do our best to keep them out of harm's way.
8. My other daughter, Kathryn (Katie), works on our property giving horse riding lessons to young children and is there on a daily basis. Besides those children exposed, Katie has had type 2 diabetes for 20 years and does not need to be exposed to the EMFs from the power lines either. It is also not fair that her business be compromised due to the possible health risks and risks of behavioral changes in the horses which could in turn make a good situation turn dangerous.
9. We have owned and ridden horses for more than 60 years and the power lines are disruptive to the horses' behavior. Even the other ones on our property cause problems, because when near them the horses can sense the energy given off and it makes them more skittish and excitable. If the ATXI's primary route ends up going by our house it will cause problems for my daughter's business, but most importantly will decrease the safety of the children handling the horses because these power lines will be even closer than the other existing ones.
10. I understand that ATXI is proposing the primary route run north up along 300E to a point directly across from our property. It is to my understanding, according to the descriptions seen in the e-docket that it will most likely run across the road from our home, but after

speaking to a surveyor it is possible that it could run on our side of the road on our property.

11. If this were to happen, aside from it being a potential health hazard it will be another obstacle to farm around limiting land productivity. This is a burden to us since farming is our primary source of income.
12. Also in the event that we, or our heirs, were to decide to sell for some unforeseen reason it would decrease our property value making it harder to sell, especially in today's real estate market.
13. We pray and would greatly appreciate it if ATXI would choose to use our suggested alternate route since it is clearly the best and by far the safest choice since it is getting the harmful EMFs away from my family and precious grandchildren and other children in the area. Our neighbor to the south, William Moore has 3 children. The neighbor to the east, Erbon Doak, has 2 great-grandchildren.
14. We understand there are several things that will be affected by the power lines running so close to us, but we are the most concerned about our health and the health of our innocent grandchildren and the neighboring children since the lines will run directly in front of their home also.
15. We have attached a platt map and ATXI map and description telling where the proposed ATXI primary route. It also shows our alternate route that we are suggesting. I also have other evidence showing that radiation EMFs and power lines affect all of our above concerns.

For all of these reasons, The Copeland Family oppose any plan which would cause the Primary Route proposed by AXTI, or anyone, to run through the area where they reside in on 300E in Coles County, Illinois.

Richard Rick T. Copeland Jr.

Pamela J. Copeland

Anna Mae Copeland for Rick Copeland

Richard (Rick) T. Copeland Jr
Pamela J. Copeland
Anna Mae Copeland

12541 N.C.R. 300E
Mattoon, IL 61938

217-234-9365
217-234-8076 (fax)
Rcope51773@aol.com

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to me, a Notary Public, on this 26th day of
March, 2013.

Jean A. Webb
Notary Public



STATE OF ILLINOIS)
)
COUNTY OF COLES) SS

VERIFICATION

We, being homeowners residing in Coles County, Illinois, and/or are individuals directly affiliated with the real estate involved in the proposed primary route of Ameren's Illinois Rivers Transmission Project, Docket No. 12-0598, have read the above and foregoing document, have knowledge of the facts stated herewith states that the matters set forth therein are true in substance and in fact.

Richard Rick T. Copeland Jr.
Pamela J. Copeland
Anna Mae Copeland BOB Rick Copeland

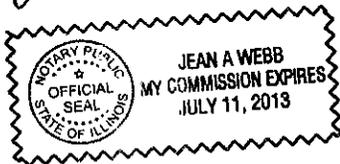
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Jean A Webb

Notary Public



PROOF OF SERVICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF COLES)

We, being homeowners residing in Coles County, Illinois, and/or are individuals directly affiliated with the real estate involved in the proposed Ameren's Illinois Rivers Transmission Project, Docket No. 12-0598, herewith certify that we did, on the 26th day of March, 2013, file with the Illinois Commerce Commission, our direct testimony, and electronically served same upon the persons identified on the Commission's official service list.

Richard (Rick) T. Copeland Jr
Pamela J. Copeland
Anna Mae Copeland POA Rich Copeland

Richard (Rick) T. Copeland Jr
Pamela J. Copeland
Anna Mae Copeland

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Jean A Webb
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