3/25/13

Ameren Transmission Co. of Illinois &
IL Commerce Commission;

My name is Katie Copeland and I am writing this note in opposition to the construction and maintenance of a new high voltage electric service line that is proposed to be constructed next to the home of my parents, Richard and Pamela Copeland. I am at their home/farm daily 2-4 times (or more) for 1-6+ hrs daily, depending on the situation. I have 4 horses there that I care for and ride, and I also do most of my business there with my horseback riding lessons. Throughout each year I give lessons to 10-25 (or more) people regularly, ranging from ages 3-63+. I use the arena near the road in front of their property and also use the rest of the property and surrounding area to ride my horses and teach my lesson people. We have a larger highline/power line that currently runs almost ½ mile west of the house and when I ride horses near it they get very antsy, skittish and have a sense of fear when within 100ft or more of the power lines. This already is an unsafe area to ride near, but I have to

crossunderneath them in many places to get around the property; and more of the lines, near the barn and area where I primarily work with outsiders/lessen people, could cause some serious problems/accidents with the animals & people. I also have a 10 year old niece and 2yr old nephew who ride horses out in the driveway, arena & yard, which is all the area that is used most and is almost directly across the road from where the powerlines are proposed to be put. When the animals are back in the pastures that currently have the power lines running through them, the horses and cattle will rarely be found near the power lines for any extended periods of time, as they will find areas away from the power lines to graze for long periods of time, as I'm supposing the power lines are uncomfortable to them, as animals are very sensitive.

Also, I have been diabetic (type 1) for 20 years and have other health problems besides. My family has a history of alzheimers, heart arrythmias, cancers and other health problems, which are all health risks that go along with the radiation released

from the power lines. I do not need any more health problems/complications than I already have, as I need good health to be able to perform my job duties as a crop insurance adjuster and riding instructor. I have given riding lessons at my parents' farm consistently as a business for 8 yrs and fear that the power lines near the farm will affect the performance of the horses and make it unsafe for people riding & working with the horses (many of which are young children).

I strongly ask you to consider our request for the alternate power line route, as with the alternate route there will be no homes affected in our area; and the original proposed route affects 3 homes in close proximity. The alternate route I am referring to is the route proposed by my parents, Richard & Pamela Copeland.

Thank you for your time and I pray that you make the decision that will be in the best interest of the lives of the people affected by this power line, as I'm sure you would desire the same if in this situation.

Sincerely,

Katie Copeland