

1 ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

2 DOCKET NUMBER 12-0598

3 DIRECT TESTIMONY

4 OF

5 Intervener, Melvin Loos

6 Q: Please state your name?

7 A: **Melvin Loos**

8 Q: Please state your current residence?

9 A: **1222 N. 350 Ave**

10 **Payson, IL 62360**

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

15 A: **PIN: 21-0-0160-000-00 attached hereto as Exhibit 1.**

16 **PIN 21-0-0160-001-00 attached hereto as Exhibit 2.**

17 **PIN 21-0-0161-000-00 attached hereto as Exhibit 3.**

18 **PIN 21-0-0263-000-00 attached hereto as Exhibit 4.**

19 **PIN 21-0-0174-001-00 attached hereto as Exhibit 5.**

20 **Collectively referred to herein as (the "Property")**

21 Q: Please identify the nature of your interest in the property?

22 A: **Melvin Loos is the property owner for all of the above-referenced parcel numbers.**

23 Q: How is the property currently used?

24 A: **Agriculture: corn and soybeans.**

25 **Hunting: Melvin Loos leases the property to private outfitters who use the property**
26 **to hunt deer.**

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

28 A: **There are no buildings on the structure that may be affected by the proposed**
29 **primary transmission line route.**

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

31 **A:** **Yes. Melvin Loos has a landlord/tenant relationship with Loos Farm Supply. The**
32 **revenue generated from the land is through the landlord/tenant relationship. Melvin**
33 **Loos also uses the property to lease to private outfitters to hunt deer. The proposed**
34 **transmission line cuts through the middle of the wooded area that is used for**
35 **hunting. Melvin Loos will lose approximately \$3,000 to \$4,000 per year in hunting**
36 **leases.**

37 **Q:** **What is the quality of the soil on the property?**

38 **A:** **See Exhibit A attached hereto for a description of the quality of the soil.**

39 **Q:** **Is the property encumbered by any existing utility easement(s)?**

40 **A:** **No.**

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

42 **A:** **Yes.**

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

44 **A:** **Melvin Loos opposes the entire length of the primary route.**

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

46 **A:** **Melvin Loos objects to the primary route for the following reasons:**

47 **1. Soil Compaction: The transmission line towers will involve disrupting the soil.**

48 **Based on my personal experience I know that when you continually run**
49 **construction equipment over farm ground, there is a loss of yield at the location**
50 **of the construction. Based on my personal experience, the operation of normal**
51 **tractors over soil may disrupt the average yield for two years, at a minimum.**

52 **2. Drainage: Melvin Loos has drainage tiles in the vicinity of the proposed primary**
53 **route. The construction of the lines will likely disrupt or destroy the drainage**
54 **tiles. The construction will also involve the destruction of trees and timber that is**
55 **currently used to prevent erosion. The ATXI information submitted in support**
56 **of the Petition does not address the negative impact the transmission line will**
57 **have on drainage and soil erosion on the properties.**

58 **3. Aerial Spraying: Melvin Loos has used aerial spraying for her property in the**
59 **past. The proposed placement for the primary transmission line route will spilt**
60 **the property in half. Both sides of the property is used for agricultural purposes.**

61 **The transmission line will make it difficult or impossible to conduct effective**
62 **aerial spray applications.**

63 **4. GPS Navigation: Melvin Loos objects to the proposed transmission line to the**
64 **extent it will have a negative impact on the GPS navigation systems on the**
65 **farming equipment, such as auto-steering technology and swath control**
66 **technology.**

67 **5. Field Efficiency: The possible placement of transmission line towers on the**
68 **property will have a negative impact on field efficiency.**

69 **6. Hunting Lease: Melvin Loos uses the property to lease to outfitters to hunt deer.**

70 **7. Land Value: The installation of the transmission line will have a permanent,**
71 **negative impact on value of the Property.**

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

74 **A:** **Melvin Loos will suffer a loss resulting from the decreased yield through the soil**
75 **compaction. If they are unable to conduct aerial spray applications, then there will**
76 **be a financial loss through decreased yield. Moreover, there may be a financial loss**
77 **because of the negative impact on drainage and soil impaction.**

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

80 **A:** **There are no buildings nearby that are impacted by the transmission route.**

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

82 **A:** **Yes.**

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

85 **A:** **Loos Farm Supply is a tenant on the property. Melvin Loos also leases the property**
86 **to outfitters who use the property to hunt deer.**

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

89 ~~**A:** **Melvin Loos' tenant, Loos Farm Supply, objects to the proposed primary route of**~~
90 ~~**ATXI.**~~

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

92 A: ~~Yes.~~
93 Q: What is the basis for the individual's or party's opposition to the primary route?
94 A: ~~Loos Farm Supply objects to the primary route for the reasons set forth above.~~
95 Q: ~~Does the individual or party oppose the entire length of the primary route?~~
96 A: ~~Yes~~
97 Q: Does this conclude your testimony?
98 A: Yes.

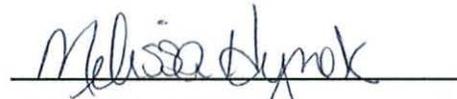


MELVIN LOOS

105 STATE OF ILLINOIS)
106) SS
107 COUNTY OF ADAMS)



109 Signed and Sworn to before me, a Notary in the County and State aforesaid by
110 Melvin Loos on this 26th day of March, 2013


NOTARY PUBLIC

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