Luckey, Nicole

From: Scott, Douglas
Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2013 6:56 AM
To: Luckey, Nicole
Subject: FW: ICC Case 12-0598/ Mt. Zion to Kansas Segment

From: Erik Hammerstrom [mailto:erik.hammerstrom@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2013 12:00 AM
To: Scott, Douglas; Colgan, John; del Valle, Miguel; Maye, Sherina; McCabe, Ann
Subject: ICC Case 12-0598/ Mt. Zion to Kansas Segment

Dear Chairman Scott and Fellow ICC Commissioners,

The decision you are facing regarding the Mt. Zion to Kansas portion of this project is quite simple. Ameren Transmission Company (the petitioner in this case) spent years studying and researching proposed routes. Ameren held dozens of public meetings on those routes throughout 2012 and spent untold amounts of money informing the public about their project plans, holding public forums, printing maps, and allowing for and listening to public feedback. Ameren then selected two carefully studied routes through Moultrie County and submitted those routes to the ICC for approval as a part of their formal petition. This petition included all of the appropriate documentation and evidentiary support, and all proper and required due process notification to property owners had already been completed.

Again, the decision you are facing is simple. The ICC Commissioners simply need to select one of Ameren's two shorter, widely publicized, and properly vetted routes, and this case will be closed. Ameren will have one of its originally selected routes which all of its evidence, testimony, and years of research support. Over two thousand property owning families in Douglas and Piatt Counties (who were blindsided by a route created in just over two weeks by **SIX** property owners from another county) will be relieved of the cost and stress of further litigation. The citizens and ratepayers of Illinois will benefit from having a lower cost and more efficient route. The state and the ICC will be saved the embarrassment of potential higher court reversals that could come as a result of any number of issues related to the MCPO route. Labor, which is in desperate need of jobs, will be able to begin this project immediately. Our state's faltering economy will see the much needed financial benefits of this project and the jobs it will create, and the ICC Commissioners will have taken the correct action that led to all of these positive results.

Granting a rehearing during this tough economy would place more unnecessary stress and monetary strain on Douglas and Piatt County families that have already been improperly treated and wrongly targeted in this case, and calling for a rehearing could also open the ICC up to separate lawsuits for not performing their duty and instead throwing the burdens of this case back onto already negatively impacted property owners.

Again, do the right thing. Simply select one of Ameren's shorter and more direct routes which all of Ameren's testimony supports. There is no downside to this decision. Every recommendation in this case regarding the Mt. Zion substation (including that of the ICC's own staff) suggests moving the substation miles further south, which would make both of Ameren's original routes miles shorter and millions less expensive than they already are. For further support of this decision, review the press coverage, review the testimony and evidence provided in the case, review the public comments and the letters you have received. Is there anything (including any information from Ameren) that states