

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

ILLINOIS
COMMERCE COMMISSION

Department of Physics
1110 West Green Street
Urbana, IL 61801-3080
MC-704



AUG 29 2013

Office of Chairman
And Commissioners

Ms. Beth Bosch
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 East Capitol Avenue
Springfield, IL 62701

August 26, 2013

Dear Ms. Bosch:

WDWS radio in Champaign included an audio clip statement from you in its August 20 reporting on the Illinois Commerce Commission Ameren Illinois Rivers Project ruling. In your brief statement you stated that "the goal is to be able to bring additional wind energy from the west through the Midwest." The use of "through" in the phrase "through the Midwest" rather than "to" as in "to the Midwest" allows what is, I believe, a misrepresentation of this project. In the past few months a number of central Illinois newspapers have reported that the goal of the project is to bring wind energy from the west, through Illinois, to the east coast. This characterization suggests that Illinois would not benefit from the project, and the characterization serves to increase public opposition. I regret that public opinion can turn on a bite from a sound bite. The take-away message is that words must be chosen carefully.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul T. Debevec'.

Paul T. Debevec
Professor of Physics, Emeritus

Cc: Doug Scott, Chair, Illinois Commerce Commission