

ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

Docket No. 12-0598 (R)

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

DR. TOM W. EMANUEL

Submitted on behalf of the Coalition of Property Owners and Interested Parties in Piatt, Douglas
and Moultrie Counties, and the Channon Family Trust

November 13, 2013

1 **Q. Please state your name and background.**

2 A. My name is Dr. Tom W. Emanuel. I am the Interim Director of the University of Illinois
3 Institute of Aviation. I have served in this capacity since 2006, and I have been associated with
4 the Institute of Aviation for some 30 years. I have over 36 years of classroom teaching
5 experience in the area of aerodynamics, flight meteorology, federal aviation regulations, flight
6 standards, national airspace system, instrument flight, aviation psychology, and advanced flight
7 instruction. I am a licensed commercial pilot, and certified flight instructor.

8

9 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

10 A. I am writing to express concerns that the Institute of Aviation at the University of Illinois
11 has about the proximity of the proposed Ameren transmission line to the Tuscola airport. While
12 the primary airport (home base airport) for our ninety-one flight students is in Savoy, Illinois, our
13 students, flight instructors, and aircraft regularly go to the Tuscola airport for take-off and
14 landing practice. Because of this we pay a small stipend annually to the Tuscola airport towards
15 the maintenance of the runway.

16

17 **Q. How does the proposed MCPO transmission line route impact the Tuscola airport?**

18 A. While the anticipated altitude and proposed location of the transmission line would be
19 clear of an aircraft's flight path under normal circumstances, such would not necessarily be the
20 case if an aircraft was experiencing engine failure in the case of a multi-engine airplane or engine
21 problems in a single-engine airplane. At such critical times when an airplane would have
22 difficulty climbing or even maintaining flight at a constant altitude, a large transmission line
23 located so close to the Tuscola airport is an obstacle that could be fatal.

24 **Q. What is the position of the University of Illinois, Institute of Aviation on this**
25 **matter?**

26 A. The University of Illinois, Institute of Aviation strongly requests that no additional
27 obstructions be built in the vicinity of the Tuscola airport as a matter of public safety.

28

29 **Q. Does this conclude your testimony?**

30 A. Yes.

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS.
COUNTY OF SANGAMON)

I, DR. TOM W. EMANUEL, after first being duly sworn on oath, depose and state that the testimony I have given is true and correct.



Dr. Tom W. Emanuel

SUBSCRIBED and SWORN TO before me
this 12 day of November, 2013.

Rita R. Black
Notary Public

