ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 12-0598

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

JULIE MILLER

VILLAGE OF MT. ZION

Submitted on Behalf

Of

The Coalition of Property Owners and Interested Parties in Piatt, Douglas, and Moultrie Counties ("PDM"), the Channon Family Trust, and the Village of Mt. Zion

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WITNESS IDENTIFICATION

Q. Would you please state your name, business address, and basic background relevant to this proceeding.

A. My name is Julie Miller. My business address is 1400 Mt. Zion Parkway, Mt. Zion, IL 62549. I have been employed by the Village of Mt. Zion since 1990. I am the Village Administrator at the Village of Mt. Zion, Illinois. I have been in this position since 2012. From 1998 to 2012, I was the Village Treasurer and from 1990 to 1998 I was the Village Secretary. I was born and raised in Macon County and graduated from Mt. Zion High School.

My duties as Village Administrator include overseeing the operations of all functions of the Village of Mt. Zion including, but not limited to, the Village's streets, water, sewer, police, parks, finance, economic development, and the convention center. I work directly under the Mayor and Village Board of Trustees to provide citizens services and maintain a high quality of life for the residents of Mt. Zion.

INTRODUCTION

Q. Would you please describe the intent of your rebuttal testimony?

A. My rebuttal testimony will address issues raised from the Direct Testimony on Rehearing of ATXI witness Jeffrey Hackman, and the consequences and conflicts of that testimony.

Q. Have you reviewed the Direct Testimony on Rehearing of Jeffrey Hackman?

A. Yes, I have.

Q. Does Mr. Hackman discuss the location of the 'Mt. Zion' substation?

A. Yes. Mr. Hackman discusses the location of the 'Mt. Zion' substation on pages 24-25 of his Direct Testimony on Rehearing.

Q. Are you challenging the need for any of these substations?

A. No, not at this time. In fact, the Commission, in its order allowing rehearing, suggested there was a need for the "Mt. Zion' substation. As a result, we are not addressing the absolute need for any of the substations. We are attempting to identify a problem associated with the location of the 'Mt. Zion' substation.

Q. Would you identify the negative impacts faced by the Village associated with the proposed line and substation?

A. The proposed line and substation would be located on the south side of Sulphur Springs Road as that road approaches the Village from the west. The substation site is also on the south side of this road, and as a result, both would be within 100 feet of a developing subdivision on the southwest side of the Village. In addition, the Village made an investment of $300,000 in a water main loop in this area specifically to provide water service to this growth area.

ATXI's SUBSTATION LOCATION'S INTERFERENCE WITH THE VILLAGE OF MT. ZION

Q. Does the ATXI location of the 'Mt. Zion' substation directly interfere with the Village?

A. Yes. Although the proposed line and substation do not traverse into the Village limits from the west, along Sulphur Springs Road, as the proposed route progresses to the east from the substation site, the line would pass directly through the Village. Direct interference arises from the fact that a long standing Village ordinance prohibits utility structures more than 50 feet in height. See attached Exhibit B. This ordinance has been observed by AIC and its predecessor (Illinois Power) in keeping with their franchise agreement with the Village.

Q. Would you describe how the subdivision would be impacted by the ATXI location of the Mt. Zion substation?

A. The Village has been contacted by the subdivision developer, as well as existing lot owners and homeowners in this subdivision. These parties have expressed fear that their investment would be placed at risk if high voltage structures and a substation were within sight of and in close proximity to their homes or home sites. These concerns are precisely the motivation for the Village to Intervene in this proceeding.

WATER MAIN INVESTMENT

Q. Would you describe the investment in the water main you referred to and explain why the Village chose to build it?

A. Yes. First I feel it is necessary to explain why any development in the Village does not constitute growth in the greater Decatur area. If one were to examine population changes in the

Village in the last 30 years, it can be observed that as population in the Village increased, population in Decatur/Macon County itself decreased to a greater extent. More specifically, the Census data reflects a population growth in Mt. Zion from 4,432 to 5,835 from 1980 to 2010. In the same time period from 1980 to 2010, the population of Macon County has declined from 131,375 to 110,768. Likewise, the population of Decatur, Illinois has declined from 94,081 in 1980 to 76,122 in 2010. We have researched these changes and have found that the majority of people moving into the Village during this time period moved from Decatur. This accounts for a displacement of some, but not all of the loss in population in Decatur. The water main was built in an effort to enhance and facilitate the economic development in that Mt. Zion region. Mt. Zion can only grow in this direction due to being landlocked by Decatur and Long Creek.

Q. Would you now like to describe the investment in the water main you mentioned earlier?

A. Yes. Village planning obviously was aware of the expansion to the south and southwest due to the displacement effect I describe above. The Village wanted to be proactive in having facilities for water service in the ground where we knew they would be needed. This water main is divided into 2 sections, Section 1 runs from the intersection of Karl Road and County Highway 30 (Main St.) along Karl Road headed South to Sulpher Springs Road, then East to Traughber Road, then North to County Highway 30 (Main St.) then West on Highway 30 (Main St.). Section 2 runs from the intersection of Traughber Road and Sulpher Springs Road East on Sulpher Springs continuing East on Kraft Road to Henderson Road, then North to County Highway 30, then west on Highway 30 to Traughber Road. See attached Exhibit A.

Q. How close does the proposed line and substation get to this water main?

A. At the closest point, 100 feet. The water main and the line route would both traverse along Sulphur Springs Road.

Q. If growth in the southwest portion of the Village is stifled, how would the Village recover the cost of the water main.

A. The Village would not recover this investment and the unrecovered cost would simply be borne by the Village residents.

INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMER TIES TO THE LOCATION OF SUBSTATION

Q. ATXI has stated in testimony that it originally planned to locate its 'Mt. Zion' substation next to an industrial customer. Do you have an opinion as to what customer this is?

A. Yes. We are very certain this customer is the PPG plant in Mt. Zion, the only industrial customer near the Village limits.

Q. Are you aware of any major changes at the PPG plant in the last 10 years?

A. There has been a strong effort by PPG to reduce jobs and close facilities as part of a cost-cutting effort started in 2009. The affect at the Mt. Zion location was to idle one of two float glass production lines with production on that remaining line being reduced.

Q. Does the Village have any information or has the Village formed any opinion of the Viability of this plant in the future?

A. We hope that it remains open, however it is currently a shell of its prior operations. We fear we may lose this plant in the near future similar to how Decatur has lost many businesses.

Generally, population in Decatur and Macon County has decreased since 1980. While the Village of Mt. Zion's population has grown, this is largely due to displaced residents from Decatur and only a small percentage of the residents leaving Decatur have moved to Mt. Zion. The rest have left Macon County completely as reflected in the Census data. The work force is aging and it is not being replaced as people retire. Many local businesses have left Decatur completely or downsized their Decatur operations in the past 30 years including, but not limited to, ADM, Tate & Lyle, Bridgestone/Firestone, PPG, Caterpillar, Borg Warner, Wayne Castings, Ameren, and most recently the ADM Global Headquarters. Furthermore, this does not include the small businesses that served these large industries and were forced to close.