

ILLINOIS
COMMERCE COMMISSION

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Office of Chairman
And Commissioners

Winchester, IL 62694

January 29, 2014

Mr. Doug Scott, Chairman

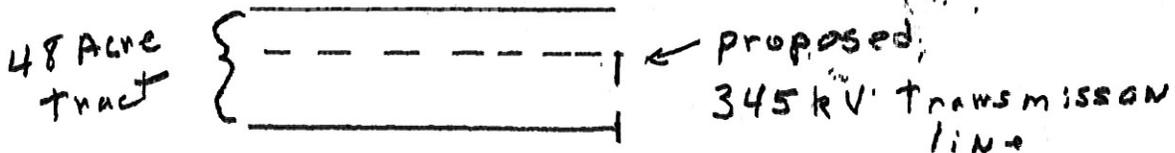
Illinois Commerce Commissioner

527 East Capitol Avenue

Springfield, IL 62701

Dear Chairman Scott,

I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposed route of the location of the 345 kV transmission line from Meredosia to Pawnee (case # 12-0598). Our family recently purchased a 48 acre tract of pristine farm land. The route which has been proposed will go approximately in the middle of the tract and split the small tract into. Furthermore, the tract will be located inside of a 90 degree angle turn which will make aerial spraying impossible on portions of this tract. This tract is located approximately 1/2 mile north of Old Route 36 and west of Riggston about 1 1/4 miles.



There are several other landowners and farmers who will face the same problem of being inside a 90 degree turn if the longer route is chosen.

Also impacted will be GPS systems which we currently rely on heavily in our farming operation. (NOTE—I checked with the local John Deere dealer and he told that through his experience, there are times when the GPS systems will not work when used in proximity of high voltage lines.)

The ownership of this tract includes Ruth Powell (wife), Matthew and David Powell (sons), and Mary Ann Sievers (sister-in-law).

I will also briefly state other factors that I would ask you to consider in locating the route parallel to the existing 138 kV line.

1. It is my understanding that there is a much shorter route if the route selected would parallel the existing 138 kV route. This route would cost \$36.78 million less and would be 18.3 miles shorter.
2. I have been advised that there have been no existing landowners along the 138kV line that have voiced any opposition to the parallel route.
3. The Commission staff has recommended the parallel route to the existing 138kV line.
4. Since GPS is heavily used in the agricultural community both by farmers and the agricultural service providers, it is very important not to interrupt the reception of the GPS signal. If the parallel route is used, there would be 18.3 miles less of GPS signal disruption.

I would respectfully request that the commissioners strongly consider the benefits of the Meredosia to Pawnee route which parallels the existing 138 kV line and approve the route as recommended by the Commission Staff.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,



Charles Powell