

January 31, 2014

Joseph Bergschneider
852 Franklin Alexander Rd.
Franklin, IL 62638

Mr. Doug Scott, Chairman
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 East Capitol Avenue
Springfield, IL 62701

ILLINOIS
COMMERCE COMMISSION
FEB 5 2014
Office of Chairman
And Commissioners

SUBJECT: Docket Number 12-0598 – Illinois River Project—The Meredosia to Pawnee Segment

Dear Mr. Scott:

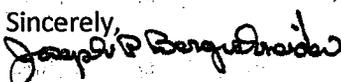
I am Joseph Bergschneider and I'm writing this letter about the "Proposed Route" of the Meredosia to Pawnee power line. I live on my family farm north of Franklin, I am opposed to this AXTI proposed route. This proposed line will be just 500 feet from my residence. The proposed line will run across my farm and tenant farms for over three miles. I will have to move my planting and harvest equipment right next to those huge poles and lines because three of my fields have no public road access. The only way we can get back to those fields is the dirt lane. The proposed route has the power line being built right on this very lane.

I know there is a shorter route using the existing power line corridor between Meredosia and Pawnee. Building the new power line beside this existing line would be cheaper and shorter in distance. This line would be 18.3 miles shorter and would save over \$36,000,000. All the landowner of this existing route have been notified of this case and no one has objected to the new line being along the shorter existing route. Even the Commission Staff has recommended using this existing route.

Ameren wants the longer route because they are concerned about the weather problems of two parallel power lines. However, the existing 138kV power line will be only 5.5 miles northeast (as a crow flies) of the proposed power line to be built on my farm. That is a very short distance between two huge power lines, to think that the weather will be all that different! Besides, the proposed longer route will have 18 miles of more power lines exposed to bad weather conditions.

I am very opposed to the proposed power line route from Meredosia to Pawnee. By using the existing power line corridor, Ameren would save \$36.78 million immediately because it's shorter. And they would have eighteen miles less of power lines and poles to maintain for many years. That would save money too!

I am asking you to, please, reconsider this power line segment and approve using the existing line as recommended by the Commission staff.

Sincerely,

Joseph Bergschneider