

ILLINOIS
COMMERCE COMMISSION
FEB 10 2014
Office of Chairman
And Commissioners

February 3, 2014

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

RE: Case # 12-0598, Robert and Marietta Worrell Farmland

Dear Mr. Scott

We are landowners in Morgan and Scott counties that would be affected by the proposed Meredosia to Pawnee Ameren power line.

The purpose of my letter is to express our opposition to the proposed Meredosia to Pawnee power line route as recommended by Ameren. We believe this is inappropriate for several reasons. The most notable are:

1. This power line would bisect two farms we own, one in each county. It would pass dangerously close to some existing homes and grain bins. In agricultural we have become much more accustomed to aerial applications of fungicides, etc. The existence of a power line would preclude that activity and could in fact diminish the farms productivity and profitability. We are retired farmers and any reduction in income or loss of farmland value would hurt our financial situation.
2. I'm aware of an existing line, which already is in place which is a 138 KV line which runs through the area. It is our opinion that the new line should parallel the existing line where easements are already in place. It is my understanding that none of the existing landowners have expressed any opposition to this alternative.
3. If the existing line is followed, there would be a cost savings of nearly \$37,000,000.00 and the route would be 18 miles shorter.
4. The commission staff and engineers have recommended the parallel route, NOT the proposed new route. What is the logic in constructing a longer and more expensive route that negatively impacts more people. This makes no sense at all.

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Ameren proposes that the existence of a parallel route would present some risk in case of a catastrophic storm. However they already have parallel lines in other areas of the state, so I do not understand the logic of that argument.

I strongly urge the commission to take a long look at this Meredosia to Pawnee segment and approve the line as recommended by the commission's own staff.

Your consideration would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Robert worrell
Marietta Worrell

Robert and Marietta Worrell
405 James Creek Lane
Jacksonville, IL 62650

cc. Mr. John Colgan, Ann McCabe, Sherina Maye, Miguel del Valle