



ICC Chairman Doug Scott
Illinois Commerce Commission
527 East Capitol Ave.
Springfield, IL 62701

ILLINOIS
COMMERCE COMMISSION
FEB 10 2014
Office of Chairman
And Commissioners

Feb. 7, 2014
re: case # 12-0598, Meredosla/Pawnee segment

Dear Chairman Scott,

I, Janis Dappert, am writing in regards to Ameren's ATXI alternate route which was initially approved in August 2013. My family (The Richard J. Coultas Farm Trust) has lived for seven generations in the area and adjacent to this route. The line will cut across part of the good tillable farmland which has been in my family. It will also cut through some of the oldest timber in the area, and destroy shrinking wildlife habitat.

I have been informed that there exists a shorter route which uses the existing corridor between Meredosla and Pawnee. This shorter route has been in existence as a 138kV line, and is 18.3 miles shorter and would cost \$36.78 million less to construct. In fact this existing route is the one the Commission staff recommended throughout this case! In addition it is my understanding that more than 90 homes are in close proximity to the AXTI route, as opposed to less than 40 in the existing route.

All the landowners along this existing route have been notified of the case and not a single one has voiced any objection to the new line being placed along the existing route. It would seem it would satisfy everyone's best interests if the new line be placed parallel to the existing 138 kV line: everyone's that is except Ameren. Ameren would "prefer" not to have the lines run parallel as that might cause some "problem" in the case of a catastrophic storm.

It seems to me that with the estimated \$36.78 million in savings, Ameren should be able to add safeguards, and could prevent the disruption to pristine lands and habitat that will certainly occur should the line take the proposed route approved in August 2013. It is also my understanding that the project is largely taxpayer funded, and it would make sense to go the less expensive route and not waste taxpayer dollars, let alone Ameren's.

Please consider carefully this case as to the Meredosla-Pawnee segment and approve the line as recommended by the Commission staff.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janis Dappert".

Janis Dappert
The Richard J. Coultas Farm
Scott County Illinois

cc: John T. Colgan, Commissioner
Ann Mc Cabe, Commissioner
Miguel del Valle, Commissioner
Sherina E. Maye, Commissioner