

February 5, 2014

Barbara 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 7 2014

Office of Chairman  
And Commissioners

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

Dear Mr. Scott:

I am Barbara Bergschneider. I'm writing this letter because I am opposed to AXTI proposed route from Meredosia to Pawnee. I live north of Franklin in Morgan County on our family farm. This proposed line will be just 500 feet from my house. This proposed line will run across our property and tenant farms for over three miles. Some of the lines and poles will be built on dirt lanes that are the only way to get to the back fields with machinery. Other proposed lines will go through the pasture where our cattle graze. Our farms will be profoundly, negatively affected by the proposed AXTI route.

There is a shorter route that should be considered 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 18.3 miles shorter and would save over \$36.78 million. All the landowners 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. Amerens already has the land easements for 138kV line. Why start a new path for new power lines and tear up new farm land just because it is easier? Conserving farm ground should be more important! 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 our 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. Fewer miles of power lines and less cost by building the power line near existing lines needs to be seriously considered by the commission.

I am against 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!

Please reconsider this power line segment and approve using the existing line as recommended by the Commission staff.

Sincerely,

*Barbara Bergschneider*  
Barbara Bergschneider