

1 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

2 A. Steve J. Ambrose. My business address is 4299 Northwest Urbandale Drive,
3 Urbandale, Iowa 50322-7916.

4 **Q. By whom are you employed and in what position?**

5 A. I am employed by MidAmerican Energy Company (“MidAmerican”). I am the
6 Project Manager, High Voltage Transmission, in the Compliance/Standards
7 Department.

8 **Q. Please describe your responsibilities as a Project Manager.**

9 A. My current job responsibilities as Project Manager include overall
10 responsibility for the MVP transmission projects, coordination of project
11 activities among several departments and groups, preparation of budgets,
12 negotiations of contracts for construction, construction management and
13 administration, outage and construction schedules, and working with other
14 utility partners, land owners, and government officials to permit, build, and
15 energize the MVP facilities for the benefit of our customers.

16 **Q. Please summarize your educational background and business experience.**

17 A. I graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1983 with a Bachelor of
18 Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. I have 31 years of experience in the
19 industry. I have been an employee of MidAmerican and one of its predecessor
20 companies, Iowa Power and Light Company, for the last 30 years. I have
21 worked in various areas within the electric utility, including new power plant
22 construction, operation, and maintenance.

23 My duties have included working as an engineer on numerous power plant
24 improvement projects, as a supervisor of operations, maintenance and projects
25 for a number of power generation sites with gas/oil fueled turbine-generators,
26 and as a start-up/project manager on MidAmerican's newest combined cycle
27 power generation facility in Pleasant Hill, Iowa. I served as project manager for
28 the construction of most of MidAmerican's wind power generation facilities; 21
29 projects at 14 sites throughout Iowa. In 2012, I was assigned as the project
30 manager for MidAmerican's four Multi-Value Projects ("MVPs"): MVP-3,
31 MVP-4, and MVP-7 in Iowa and MVP-16 in Illinois.

32 I have also authored or co-authored several technical papers related to "clean
33 coal" technology applications to power generation facilities for the American
34 Society of Mechanical Engineers ("ASME") and other organizations. I have
35 also made a number of presentations to industry groups, to the general public,
36 and to landowners and local government officials that were a part of our wind
37 generation development activity.

38 **Q. Do you belong to any professional associations?**

39 A. I am a registered professional engineer in the States of Iowa and Wisconsin. I
40 am also a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)
41 and the Iowa Engineering Society (IES).

42 **Q. Is MidAmerican a public utility in the state of Illinois?**

43 A. Yes, MidAmerican Energy owns and operates electric and gas facilities in
44 portions of Illinois, as well as Iowa, South Dakota and Nebraska.

45 **Q. Describe MidAmerican's service territory.**

46 A. MidAmerican serves 739,000 electric customers and 719,000 gas customers in
47 a 10,600 square mile area that is within portions of Illinois, Iowa, South Dakota
48 and Nebraska. In western Illinois, we serve 84,500 electric customers and
49 65,000 gas customers.

50 **Q. Are you familiar with MidAmerican’s proposed project to construct, own,**
51 **operate and maintain approximately 32.05 miles of double circuit**
52 **345kV/161 kV electric transmission line over an existing 161 kV line**
53 **corridor in Rock Island, Mercer, Henry and Knox Counties, Illinois?**

54 A. Yes, I am.

55 **Q. What are your responsibilities with regard to this project?**

56 A. I am the Project Manager for MidAmerican’s portion of MVP-16, which is also
57 called the Spoon River Project by Ameren Transmission Company of Illinois
58 (“ATXP”). I have the same responsibilities for this project as was outlined
59 previously for all of MidAmerican’s MVP projects.

60 **Q. What is the purpose of your prepared direct testimony in this proceeding?**

61 A. The purpose of my direct testimony is to provide an overview of
62 MidAmerican’s MVP-16 Project. Other witnesses will present testimony within
63 their respective areas of responsibility as part of the overall plan to support the
64 needs of the project which includes the acquisition of right of way,
65 environmental impacts, financing, design, and construction of the project as
66 well as to demonstrate the need and benefits of the project.

67 **Q. Please provide a summary description of MidAmerican’s MVP-16 project.**

68 A. MidAmerican's MVP-16 project is part of a regional plan to address
69 transmission constraints, generation optimization, and reliability issues that
70 received an extensive amount of study over the past ten years. The study
71 identified 17 high priority projects in ten Midwestern states as part of the MISO
72 Transmission Expansion Plan (MTEP) of 2011. MidAmerican owns and
73 operates existing transmission facilities in the area that have been identified as
74 the MVP-16 project in that transmission expansion plan. MidAmerican's share
75 of the MVP-16 project is a 32 mile long segment from Oak Grove, Illinois to
76 Galesburg, Illinois. MidAmerican also has the responsibility to expand its
77 existing Oak Grove, Illinois Substation that is on the north end of this line
78 segment. MidAmerican owns enough property at Oak Grove to accommodate
79 the expansion of the existing 345 kV yard. The south end point of
80 MidAmerican's portion of the MVP-16 project will be at ATXI's Sandburg
81 Substation which will be adjacent to the existing East Galesburg Substation.
82 MidAmerican and ATXI are coordinating work activities and the line route into
83 the Sandburg Substation and the design details related to the interconnection.
84 ATXI will have responsibility for the Sandburg Substation and the continuance
85 of the 345 kV transmission line from the Sandburg Substation to a substation in
86 their system near Fargo, Illinois to complete their respective scope of the
87 project.

88 **Q. How does MidAmerican propose to construct the MVP-16 project?**

89 A. MidAmerican will utilize the services of a qualified engineering, procurement,
90 and construction (EPC) contractor to perform these three major tasks of the

91 work. We currently have an engineer to design the project to meet all applicable
92 codes and design standards and to provide a specification for the work to be
93 accomplished. This specification will be sent out for bids. The bids will be
94 received and evaluated and an award will be made taking into account several
95 factors. We will also need to reach an agreement on acceptable terms and
96 conditions and negotiate any exceptions to the terms and work scope. The
97 process will be very similar to what was done for two very similar transmission
98 line projects that are now underway in Iowa. For our respective shares of the
99 MVP-3 and MVP-4 projects, we are building a similar transmission line for
100 over 191 miles in northern Iowa. Much of the Iowa transmission line is also
101 over existing right of way. Following the award to an EPC contractor, detailed
102 engineering will be performed and major materials will be procured by the
103 contractor, with involvement and approval from MidAmerican, in accordance
104 with the specifications. A detailed cost for the materials and labor will be
105 identified along with a construction schedule. It is MidAmerican's desire to
106 have all approvals in place to support a construction start date of November 1,
107 2015. With this as the start date, we anticipate completion of the project by
108 December 1, 2016.

109 **Q. Is MidAmerican capable of efficiently managing and supervising the**
110 **construction of the roughly 32.05 miles of double circuit 345 kV/161 kV**
111 **line proposed in its Petition?**

112 A. Yes. MidAmerican currently owns and operates over 4,300 miles of 345 kV,
113 161 kV, and 69 kV electric transmission line in the State of Illinois, Iowa,

114 Missouri and South Dakota. Approximately 1,000 miles are owned and
115 operated at a voltage of 345 kV. Although MidAmerican has not recently
116 constructed any 345 kV lines or 345 kV/161 kV double circuit lines in the State
117 of Illinois, MidAmerican is seeking approval from the State of Iowa for two
118 major projects, both of which would be 345 kV/161 kV double circuit lines.
119 The first project would consist of approximately 71 miles of double circuit 345
120 kV/161 kV line in northeast Iowa. Approval of a 12 mile portion of that project
121 was granted in June 2014 and it is currently under construction. The second
122 project is approximately 121 miles of double circuit 345 kV/161 kV line in
123 northwest Iowa. MidAmerican received a proposed order granting approval of
124 the northwest Iowa project on July 24, 2014. The current schedule is to begin
125 construction on this project in September of 2014.

126 **Q. In addition to a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the**
127 **Commission, what other authorizations are required for MidAmerican's**
128 **MVP-16 Project?**

129 A. In addition to the certificate of public convenience and necessity, it will be
130 necessary to obtain permits from the Illinois Department of Transportation, and
131 from Rock Island, Mercer, Henry and Knox Counties to obtain permits to work
132 within the road right of way where the line crosses roads. Road usage permits
133 may also be required to support the delivery of materials to the right of way. All
134 of these permits will be secured prior to the start of deliveries and construction.

135 **Q. Does this conclude your prepared direct testimony for this proceeding?**

136 A. Yes, it does.