Information Specified in 8 Illinois Administrative Code Section 700 Appendix J

8 Illinois Administrative Code § 700 Appendix J, Illinois Commerce Commission Agricultural Land Preservation Statement and Cooperative Working Agreement, provides for eight areas of information, denominated as Sections A through H, that should be provided in a certificate application for a project outside the corporate boundaries of a municipality. These items of information are provided in this exhibit, or references are provided to the information as provided in other testimony and exhibits submitted by Grain Belt Express Clean Line with its Application.

Section A: For linear-type projects 1) what length will be placed entirely on public-right-of-way? 2) What length will be placed in whole or in part upon privately owned land? 3) What is the easement width needed?

With the exception of the crossings of rivers and highways rights-of-ways, the Proposed Route will be placed entirely on private lands in Illinois. The Alternate Route would cross rivers and highways rights-of-ways, in addition to crossing the Hidden Springs State Forest for a distance of 2,170 feet. The width of the easement is described in Section V of the Direct Testimony of Dr. Wayne Galli, Grain Belt Express Exhibit 2.0.

Section B: On privately owned land in which easements will be purchased 1) What is the location of easements which must be purchased, as indicated on a general county highway map(s)? 2) What is the current land use listed by acreage of crop land, pasture land, wooded or brushy land, or other land?

The locations of land on which easements must be purchased are shown on the detailed maps of the Proposed Route and Alternate Route, provided in Appendix H of the Grain Belt Express Routing Study, Grain Belt Express Exhibit 8.2, sponsored by Timothy Gaul.

Tables 1 and 2 below show estimates of the current types of land use for land crossed by the Proposed Route and Alternate Route of the Project. The acreage figures shown on Tables 1 and 2 are the estimated total acreage of each type of land use that will be crossed by the Project right-of-way. However, the only Cropland and Grassland that will need to be removed from its present land use is the land occupied by the footprints of the support structures, which will comprise a much smaller amount of acreage than the amounts shown on these tables. Land on the right-of-way but not occupied by a support structure will still be available for agricultural uses.

Table 1: Land Use Summary for DC Section

Land Use	Measure (unit)	Proposed Route (DC)	Alternate Route (DC)
Agriculture/Crop Land	Acreage Crossed by ROW*	3,793	3,665
Grassland/Pasture		252	326
Forested		1,086	1,150
Water		34	28
Non-Vegetative		61	94
Acreage of Entire ROW*	Acreage	**5,226**	**5,264**

*Assumes a 200-foot ROW

Table 2: Land Use Summary for AC Section

Land Use	Measure (unit)	Proposed Route (AC)	Alternate Route (AC)
Agriculture/Crop Land	Acreage Crossed by ROW*	82	84
Grassland/Pasture		2	2
Forested		7	6
Water		2	1
Non-Vegetative		1	1
Acreage of Entire ROW*	Acreage	**94**	**93**

*Assumes a 200-foot ROW

<u>Section C</u>: On privately owned land to be purchased via fee simple acquisition 1) What is the location of the land which must be purchased via fee simple acquisition as indicated on a general county highway map(s)? 2) What is the current land use listed by acreage of crop land, pasture land, wooded or brushy land, or other land? 3) What is the proposed use of the land by the utility?

The land on which the proposed DC to AC converter station will be located will need to be acquired via fee simple acquisition. The proposed converter station site is located just over a mile northeast of the town of West Union in Clark County, Illinois, and is shown on pages 76 and 77 of the map provided in Appendix H of the Grain Belt Express Routing Study, Grain Belt Express Exhibit 8.2 and identified in the legal descriptions of Proposed Route and Alternative Route in Grain Belt Express Exhibit 8.4. The site is approximately 110 acres, and is primarily cultivated land. The northern half of the property is determined by a broad curve in Mill Creek, which is lined with a thin buffer of trees. Two small outcrops of trees totaling less than one acre are found in the middle of the parcel. The land will be used to construct and operate the DC to AC converter station. Grain Belt Express has already secured an option purchase agreement on this site.

<u>Section D</u>: From how many private land owners must land be purchased 1) Via easements? 2) Via fee simple acquisition?

1) Based on records of the tax collector of each county in which the Project will be located, the estimated numbers of parcels and landowners for which easements will be required for the Proposed Route and Alternate Route of the Project are provided below. The number of landowners is an approximation, as in some cases determining whether the landowner listed on the tax records as the owner of one parcel is the same landowner listed as owner of another parcel is not possible.

Route	Parcels (count)	Landowners (count)
Proposed Route (DC)	1350	839
Proposed Route (AC)	12	10
Total Proposed	**1,362**	**849**
Alternate Route (DC)	1214	826
Alternate Route (AC)	13	9
Total Alternate	**1,227**	**835**

2) As discussed under Section C above, there is one location that will be acquired via fee simple acquisition for the purposes of the construction and operation of the converter station. This acquisition will only involve one landowner. Grain Belt Express has entered into an option agreement with the owner of the parcel to acquire the land in fee.

Section E: For underground facilities 1) How many inches of top cover will be placed above the top of the buried facility? 2) To what extent will the utility seek to discover field tile damaged by construction operations anywhere within the construction easement and additional working rights area? 3) What method will be employed in repairing damaged field tiles.

The Project does not include underground transmission facilities, so this section is not applicable.

Section F: For electric transmission/distribution projects utilizing above-ground structures 1) What type of support structures are proposed? 2) How many support structures will be placed on each of the following land uses? a) Crop land. b) Pasture land. c) Wooded or brushy land. d) Existing utilization lines (field borders, farm roads, grassed waterways, etc.). e) Public right-of-way. f) Other lands. 3) If the electric line parallels public right-of-way, but is to be placed in private land, how far from the edge of the right-of-way will the center line of the support structure be placed? 4) To what extent will the utility seek to discover field tile damaged by construction operations anywhere within the construction easement and working rights area, and how will damaged tile be repaired?

The proposed support structures for the Project are shown in Grain Belt Express Exhibit 2.2 sponsored by Dr. Wayne Galli.

Tables 3 through 6 below provide estimates of the number of support structures within each land use type for the DC Section, the number of support structures within each land use type for the

AC Section, the number of support structures along existing linear features for the DC Section, and the number of support structures along existing linear features for the AC Section, respectively, for both the Proposed Route and the Alternate Route. Exact support structure locations will be determined during final engineering. These estimates are provided assuming the use of monopole type structures with typical spans of 1,200 feet. In the case of structure counts for aquatic environments, the numbers were adjusted to match Grain Belt Express's intent that no structures be located in aquatic environments.

Table 3: Support Structure Placement within Land Use Types for DC Section

Land Use	Measure (unit)	Proposed Route (DC)	Alternate Route (DC)
Agriculture/Crop Land	Count of Support Structures*	599	608
Grassland/Pasture		38	59
Forested		204	190
Public rights-of-way		0	0
Aquatic Environments		0	0
Other lands		1	7
Total Support Structures*	Count	**842**	**864**

*Structure placement estimated

Table 4: Support Structure Placement within Land Use Types for AC Section

Land Use	Measure (unit)	Proposed Route (AC)	Alternate Route (AC)
Agriculture/Crop Land	Count of Support Structures*	14	14
Grassland/Pasture		1	1
Forested		0	0
Public rights-of-way		0	0
Aquatic Environments		0	0
Other lands		0	0
Total Support Structures*	Count	**15**	**15**

*Structure placement estimated

Table 5: Support structures along existing linear features for DC Section

Paralleling Opportunities	Proposed Route (DC) Structures	Alternate Route (DC) Structures
Existing Linear Infrastructure		
Transmission Lines[1]	43	159
Roads[2]	28	29
Railroads[3]	6	6
Existing Divisions of Land		
Distinct-Owner Parcel Boundaries[4]	422	321
Non-Opportunity Use		
Not Parallel to Existing Infrastructure or Land Divisions	343	349
Total Support Structures*	**842**	**864**

*Structure placement estimated

Data Sources:
[1] – *Electrical transmission line data were collected from Platts Transmission Lines geospatial data layer and was updated or modified based on field reviews and aerial photo interpretation. This includes only electrical lines of 69,000 volts and above.*
[2] – *Major roads data was prepared by the Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI), (2012) Redlands, California, USA*
[3] – *Railroad data were obtained from ESRI and the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). Only active railroads were included.*
[4] – *Property line (parcel) data were obtained from the county assessor or the GIS department responsible for disseminating this information.*

Table 6: Support structures along existing linear features for AC Section

Paralleling Opportunities	Proposed Route (AC) Structures	Alternate Route (AC) Structures
Existing Linear Infrastructure		
Transmission Lines[1]	15	15
Roads[2]	0	0
Railroads[3]	0	0
Existing Divisions of Land		
Distinct-Owner Parcel Boundaries[4]	0	0
Non-Opportunity Use		
Not Parallel to Existing Infrastructure or Land Divisions	0	0
Total Support Structures*	**15**	**15**

*Structure placement estimated

Data Sources:
[1] – *Electrical transmission line data were collected from Platts Transmission Lines geospatial data layer and was updated or modified based on field reviews and aerial photo interpretation. This includes only electrical lines of 69,000 volts and above.*
[2] – *Major roads data was prepared by the Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI), (2012) Redlands, California, USA*
[3] – *Railroad data were obtained from ESRI and the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). Only active railroads were included.*
[4] – *Property line (parcel) data were obtained from the county assessor or the GIS department responsible for disseminating this information.*

Distances between the centerline of the Project and edge of various public road rights-of-way will depend on the specific circumstances of each instance but are generally 100 feet in order to avoid the overhang of support structures on the roadways.

With regards to field tile, if drainage tiling is used in areas where the transmission line will be constructed, Grain Belt Express will send out letters to landowners inquiring whether support structures will impact tile systems, and Grain Belt Express and its contractor will use other methods to attempt to locate drainage tile systems, including discussions with landowners, as specified in the Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement for the Project (Grain Belt Express Exhibit 7.15 and Grain Belt Express Exhibit 7.16). If Grain Belt Express is advised of possible interference with drainage tiles, support structures will be relocated, to the extent reasonably possible, to avoid interference. If a drainage tile is intercepted by support structures, the draining tile will be relocated per an agreement between the landowners and Grain Belt Express. The new drainage tile will not be relocated more than 50 feet upstream or downstream of the original location, and the overall length of the reroute will not be greater than 125% of the original length. Reroutes will be completed per the recommendations of the Illinois Drainage Code, Circular 1226.

If drainage tile is damaged during construction and repair is necessary, Grain Belt Express will reference any available county Soil and Water Conservation District specifications to aid in the repair. If no specifications are available from the county Soil and Water Conservation District, Grain Belt Express will reference the USDA NRCS Practice Standard Document, "Surface Drainage" – Code 606 to aid in the repair. Tiles will be repaired with materials of at least the same quality as that which was damaged. Tiles will also be repaired so they operate as well after construction as before construction began. Affected landowners may elect to negotiate a fair settlement with Grain Belt Express for the landowner or tenant to undertake the responsibility for repair, relocation, or reconfiguration of the damaged tile; however, in these cases Grain Belt Express will not be responsible for correcting repairs after completion of the transmission line.

Section G: On lands disturbed by construction, what methods will the utility employ to 1) Restore soil productivity, including the alleviation of soil compaction, on crop land, pasture land, or wooded or brushy land once construction has been completed? 2) Restore surface drainage and repair damaged conservation practice once construction has been completed? 3) Control excessive erosion during and after construction? 4) Ensure that all construction debris is removed once construction has been completed?

Grain Belt Express will address these issues in accordance with the terms of its Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement, Grain Belt Express Exhibit 7.15. In order to restore soil productivity, Grain Belt Express will restore rutted land to as near as practical to its pre-construction condition. Unless the Landowner opts to do the restoration work, or specifies other arrangements that are acceptable to Grain Belt Express to mitigate compaction impacts, Grain Belt Express will decompact soil to a depth of 18 inches for any cropland that has been traversed by construction equipment used for the construction or maintenance of the project, and Grain Belt Express will chisel to a depth of 12 inches any pasture that has been traversed by construction equipment used by Grain Belt Express for the construction or maintenance of the project. Grain Belt Express will repair or pay to have repaired any compaction or rutting within

45 days, weather and landowner permitting, of the completion of the transmission line's construction.

Furthermore, if desired by the landowner, and weather and landowner permitting, Grain Belt Express will agree to apply fertilizer and lime to land that has been disturbed by construction and maintenance of the transmission line in order to help restore fertility to disturbed soils and to promote establishment of vegetative cover. Grain Belt Express will apply the fertilizer at a rate established by the University of Illinois Extension office, unless the landowner specifies other arrangements that are acceptable to Grain Belt Express.

In order to repair any damaged soil conservation practices (e.g., terraces, grassed waterways, etc.), which are damaged by construction of the transmission line, Grain Belt Express will make repairs in accordance with county Soil and Water Conservation District practices, and any other local, state or federal requirements, as applicable. Grain Belt Express will repair or pay to have repaired any damage to soil conservation practices within 45 days, weather and landowner permitting, of the completion of the transmission line's construction. See also the response to Section F concerning repair and relocation of damaged or impacted drainage tiles.

Grain Belt Express will also work with landowners to prevent or correct excessive erosion on all lands disturbed by construction by implementing reasonable methods to control erosion. Grain Belt Express will follow the recommendations of the county Soil and Water Conservation District and any other required permit conditions.

Regarding construction debris, as agreed to by the landowner and Grain Belt Express, Grain Belt Express will remove any construction debris from landowner's property within 45 days, weather and landowner permitting, of the completion of the transmission line's construction. Litter generated by construction crews will be removed daily.

See also Grain Belt Express Exhibit 7.15 and Section IV of the Direct Testimony of Lee M. Jones, Grain Belt Express Exhibit 9.0.

<u>Section H</u>: What is the responsibility of the utility to correct or compensate landowners for damages to private property or crops caused by construction and future maintenance or repair?

If construction or related activities for the Project damage any private property, Grain Belt Express will use commercially reasonable efforts to repair any such damaged private property within 45 days, weather and landowner permitting, after the transmission line has been constructed. If the landowner is paid to perform the repair work, Grain Belt Express will pay the ongoing commercial rate for that work. Grain Belt Express will also, in addition to the consideration for the grant of the easement based on the fair market value of the land and the per-structure payment for the number of structures placed on the property, compensate the landowner for crop damages or other site-specific damage to the property caused by construction and future maintenance or repair. Furthermore, specific responsibilities with respect to specific parcels will be negotiated and stated in easement agreements.