## **BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

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In the Matter of the Application of Grain Belt Express Clean Line LLC for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity Authorizing it to Construct, Own, Operate, Control, Manage, and Maintain a High Voltage, Direct Current Transmission Line and an Associated Converter Station Providing an interconnection on the Maywood -Montgomery 345 kV Transmission Line

Case No. EA-2014-0207

## MATTHEW AND CHRISTINA REICHERT'S STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF A PREHEARING CONFERENCE AND LOCAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

Matthew and Christina Reichert (Reicherts) file this Statement in support of a Prehearing

Conference and local Public Hearings as requested in the Motion by the Eastern Missouri

Landowners Alliance d/b/a Show Me Concerned Landowners (Show Me). The Reicherts state

the following:

1. They agree with the facts, arguments, and conclusions presented in the following

filings:

a. Motion of Show Me Concerned Landowners for a Prehearing Conference;

b. The Office of Public Counsel's Statement of Support for Prehearing Conference and Local Public Hearings;

c. United of Missouri's Statement of Support for Prehearing Conference and Local Public Hearings; and

d. Missouri Landowners Alliance Statement of Support for Prehearing Conference and Local Public Hearings. 2. The Missouri Landowners Alliance submitted the Affidavit of Ms. Susan Sack to support its request for at least one Public Hearing in each of the counties that would be affected by the Grain Belt Express transmission line.

3. The Affidavit of Ms. Sack shows that the potential exists for a Party in this case or an organization to "pack" the hearings with individuals with no or minimal interest in the outcome of this case. This practice would also hinder access to the hearings by individuals with a valid interest in the outcome.

4. The ability to "pack" the hearings or hinder access can be prevented by requiring the following:

a. Disclosure of attendees' names, addresses, interests in the case, and benefits received from any organization;

b. Disclosure of actions taken by any organization to transport attendees to the hearings and provide meals and lodging for those attendees;

c. Disclosure of benefits provided by any organization to encourage, compensate, or reimburse any attendees at the hearings;

d. Maintain a waiting list of all potential attendees turned away from the hearings due to time or capacity constraints; and

e. Schedule "overflow" Public Hearings where individuals on the waiting list are invited to present their opinions.

Therefore, the Reicherts respectfully submit this Statement in support of a Prehearing Conference and local Public Hearings in each affected county. In addition, the Reicherts request that the Commission adopt appropriate controls on the Public Hearings to ensure full disclosure of "attendance buying" by any organization, maintain a list of all individuals requesting to testify at the Public Hearings, and schedule a sufficient number of initial and "overflow" local Public Hearings so that all individuals with an interest in this case are heard.

Respectfully submitted,

Law Office of Gary Drag

/s/ Gary Drag

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that true and accurate copies of this Motion were sent by e-mail on May 15,

2014, to all parties on the official service list for this case.

/s/ Gary Drag

Gary Drag, #59597 Attorney for Matthew and Christina Reichert