BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
STATE OF MISSOURI
TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
PUBLIC HEARING
October 27, 2015
Kirksville, Missouri
Volume 4
In The Matter Of The Application Of Ameren Transmission Company Of Illinois For Other Relief Or, In The Alternative, A Certificate Of Public Convenience And Necessity Authorizing It To Construct, Install, Own, Operate, And Maintain And Otherwise Control And Manage A 345,000-Volt Electric Transmission Line From Palmyra, Missouri To The Iowa Border And An Associated Substation Near Kirksville, Missouri
RONALD D. PRIDGIN, Presiding SENIOR REGULATORY LAW JUDGE.
DANIEL Y. HALL, Chairman SCOTT T. RUPP, Commissioner.
REPORTED BY: LISA M. BANKS, CCR TIGER COURT REPORTING, LLC
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1	PROCEEDINGS
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3	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Good evening. We're on the
4	record. It is six o'clock, and the Missouri Public Service
5	Commission has set this time for a local public hearing in
6	Case Number EA-2015-0146. I'm Ron Pridgin. I'm the judge
7	presiding over tonight's hearing. And with me this evening
8	is the chairman of the Commission, Chairman Hall.
9	Mr. Chairman, are there any opening remarks
10	you would like to make before I go any further?
11	CHAIRMAN HALL: Yes. Thank you, Judge.
12	Good evening. This is the third of our
13	local public hearings in this matter. I want to make it
14	perfectly clear that all of your comments today are
15	transcribed and put in the record to be considered by the
16	Commission in reaching our decision. We take your comments
17	very seriously. It's the reason why we schedule these
18	hearings.
19	And you may or may not know that in other
20	states don't necessarily follow this process. There's a
21	lot of other states where there are few, if any, local
22	public hearings. And at those hearings there may or may
23	not be commissioners present. In Missouri, it is it is
24	an integral part of the process. We take it very
25	seriously. And I very much look forward to hearing your

1 comments tonight. Thank you. 2 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Chairman, thank you. 3 Let me see if counsel that would like to make an 4 Anyone on behalf of ATXI? appearance. 5 MR. TRI PP: Yes. Michael R. Tripp, Smith, 6 Lewis, LLP, 111 South Ninth Street, Columbia, Missouri. 7 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Tripp, thank you. 8 On behalf of the Commission Staff? 9 MR. WILLIAMS: Nathan Williams, P.O. Box 10 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102. 11 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Williams, thank you. 12 On behalf of Public Counsel, please? 13 MR. OPTIZ: Thank you, Judge. Tim Opitz on 14 behalf of the Office of Public Counsel, P.O. Box 2230, 15 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102. 16 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Opitz, thank you. 17 On behalf of Neighbors United, please? 18 MS. HERNANDEZ: Jenni fer Hernandez, 19 Hernandez Law Firm, LLC, 1802 Sun Valley Drive, Jefferson 20 City, Missouri 65109. 21 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Ms. Hernandez, thank you. 22 On behalf of United for Missouri, please? 23 MR. LINTON: Good evening, Your Honor. David Linton on behalf of United Missouri, 314 Romaine 24 25 Spring View, Fenton, Missouri 63026.

1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Linton, thank you. Any 2 other counsel? 3 All right. Before taking any testimony, I'd 4 like to give you some information about why the Commission 5 is holding this hearing. As you may well know, ATXI 6 applied to the Commission for approval to construct a 7 transmission line and associated facilities in Shelby, 8 Marion, Knox, Schuyler, and Adair Counties in Missouri, and 9 an associated converter station in Adair County. 10 The Commission may grant permission if it 11 finds this transmission line is necessary or convenient for 12 the public service. The Commission cannot decide any 13 questions about eminent domain. Those questions can only 14 be addressed by a circuit court. 15 The Commission has scheduled evidentiary 16 hearings for December of this year to take evidence, but 17 tonight's hearing, the purpose is to give the public a 18 chance to comment about the project. 19 A bit of housekeeping: This building closes 20 so that we will need to be done with the hearing by 11:00. 21 We'll do everything we can to get everybody heard by 11:00. 22 I've already warned counsel that I don't know if we'll run 23 over or not, and so I will ask folks to limit their 24 comments to five minutes or less. I will give you a 25 warning when you've approached your five minutes.

1	When I call your name, if you'd please come
2	to the podium, I will put you under oath. If you do not
3	wish to take an oath, please let me know and I will ask
4	your testimony to be affirmed instead. Commissioners won't
5	be able to answer any of your questions, but we are happy
6	to hear from you this evening.
7	Also, if you have testified before, I would
8	ask that unless you have something new to add since your
9	last testimony that you please let me know. And I'll
10	remember some of you. And if you'll go towards the end of
11	the line and let people who have not testified have a
12	chance to testify this evening.
13	All right. Let me move on to the first
14	witness, and that is Representative Nate Walker.
15	If you'll raise your right hand to be sworn,
16	please, sir.
17	(Witness sworn.)
18	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. If you
19	would please state and spell your name for the court
20	reporter. Then you may begin your remarks.
21	MR. WALKER: Okay. Thank you. My name is
22	Nate Walker, N-A-T-E W-A-L-K-E-R. I'm the Third District
23	State Representative. I represent the City of Kirksville,
24	where we're at tonight; western parts of Adair County; all
25	of Sullivan County, where Milan is; all of Putnam county,

1 where Unionville is; and all the way across to Mercer 2 County, where Mercer and Princeton are. 3 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Walker, I'm sorry, if I could ask you to speak into the mic. I think some people 4 5 in the back are --6 MR. WALKER: I don't know if this mic is as 7 good as the mics we've had in other public --8 AUDIENCE: We can't hear anything, Judge. 9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Just a moment, 10 pl ease. 11 MR. WALKER: Okay. Is that better? 12 AUDI ENCE: No. 13 MR. WALKER: There it is. 14 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. 15 MR. WALKER: I guess maybe -- there was an 16 electrical current wasn't working quite right tonight. 17 But for the record, for you -- and you have 18 a great job tonight, but my name is Nate Walker, N-A-T-E 19 W-A-L-K-E-R. 20 I represent the Third District. The Third 21 District is the City of Kirksville, where you're at now; 22 western parts of Adair County; the county of Sullivan, 23 where Milan is; the county of Putman, where Unionville is; and the County of Mercer, where Mercer and Princeton are. 24 25 I've also had the distinction -- I have an

1	asterisk by my name at the capital. I've also served in
2	the legislature prior to to this time. I've served two
3	terms in 1981 to 1985. And I represented Shelby County and
4	parts of Knox County and those parts are where this line
5	proposed line are to go through.
6	So I know most of the citizens in this area
7	very well. And I think you've heard from them from the
8	hearing over in North Shelby High School over near
9	Shelbyville last week, and then last night up in Queen
10	City, that there's a lot of concern about this line. And I
11	won't repeat a lot of those concerns, but you'll you're
12	going to hear some really good testimony again tonight.
13	But we feel that this is a project that is
14	not good for north Missouri. And we feel that this project
15	needs to be denied by the Public Service Commission.
16	I want to welcome Chairman Hall here, and
17	thank you for being here tonight. And Judge, thank you for
18	being here again. You've been to all three of them, so you
19	kind of know everything that's going on with the hearings.
20	But, certainly, we were disappointed no
21	commissioners were there last night, but we are privileged
22	to know that we've had three commissioners of the five that
23	have been at least here. And I know that you're not
24	required to be there and there's lots of different things
25	that are going on.

1 But I appreciate you being here, Chairman 2 Hall. And I have known him for a long time. He's --3 you're an honorable public servant, and I appreciate your 4 service on the Public Service Commission. 5 So at this time, I just would like to again 6 welcome you all here and ask you to be open-minded and 7 listen to the testimony of the citizens here of northern 8 Missouri. If you have any questions, I'll be glad to 9 answer them. 10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Chairman? 11 CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions. Thank you, 12 Representative. 13 MR. WALKER: Thank you. 14 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. 15 (Appl ause) 16 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Tim Supranowich. I hope I 17 pronounced that correctly. If you'll raise your right hand 18 to be sworn, please. 19 (Witness sworn.) 20 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. Please 21 state and spell your name for the court reporter, and then 22 you may give your testimony. 23 MR. SUPRANOWI CH: My name is Tim 24 Supranowich, T-I-M, last name S-U-P-R-A-N-O-W-I-C-H. I 25 also own a farm in northern Boone County. I want to thank

the PSC for setting up this meeting, and I want to start 1 2 out by saying that I am in favor of the Mark Twain 3 transmission project. 4 And basically, you know, why does Missouri 5 need this line? It's because the EPA has an enacted the 6 Clean Air Act. By 2020, plus or minus 20 percent of the 7 coal generation in this state is going to have to be taken 8 out of service. In 2013, 83 percent of the -- Missouri's 9 electricity came from coal, and now they're wanting us to 10 retire 20 percent of those plants. 11 Over 50 plants have already been retired in 12 the central part of this country. And, in fact, Associated 13 Electric just retired their Chamois plant, which is --14 earlier this year, which is located east of Jefferson City. 15 Also effective August 3rd, the EPA enacted 16 the Clean Power Plant. Well, they're saying now upwards of 17 30 percent of coal generation is going to retire in the 18 next seven -- by 2022, 2024. 19 So 30 or 40 years ago this wouldn't be such 20 a big problem, because all utilities were required to have 21 15 percent spinning reserve. That's generation online 22 spinning unloaded. That way if anything happened -- a line 23 trip, a generator trip -- the load would automatically be 24 picked up; there wouldn't be any problems. That's the way 25 the systems were operated back then.

1	Then some smart politicians came up with the
2	idea of deregulation. They thought it was a good idea.
3	And you've got everybody needs to thank the Public
4	Service Commission after tonight's meeting because the
5	State of Missouri did not embrace deregulation, you know,
6	which resulted in Missouri having some of the cheapest
7	rates and the most reliable service of any utilities in the
8	country. So they've done us all a favor.
9	States that did embrace it were California,
10	Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and states like
11	that. This resulted in multiple interties between
12	utilities, so utilities could buy and sell generation so
13	that 15 percent spinning reserve disappeared. It changed
14	the generation mix, and in doing so it wasn't a very good
15	i dea.
16	In 2003, a 345 KP line in Ohio sagged into a
17	tree. It was tripped out because it went to ground. It
18	then cascaded the system, and knocked out the entire power
19	grid from Ohio up through Pennsylvania, into New York. You
20	can go Google that online and you can see all the folks
21	walking over the Tappan Zee Bridge, the Washington Bridge
22	out of New York because the whole mass transit system has
23	been shut down.
24	So fast forward to now: We're going down
25	the same path. The EPA is wanting us to shut down our

coal-fired plants. And what are we going to do? So that's 1 2 why we're here today. 3 Is the solution wind power? It's an option, 4 but here's a profile of how wind reacts. You can go to 5 misoenergy.org and they have the daily wind load curves. 6 And you can see between the low point of today there's 7 maybe three to four times' difference in the wind 8 generation. 9 The only problem with wind generation -- and 10 it's -- this signature is common for every day -- most of 11 it happens from twelve o'clock at night until six o'clock 12 in the morning. Now, that's not a lifestyle change for me, 13 because typically I have to get up a couple times a night, 14 so that works for me. 15 But I don't know about people, if they're 16 willing to start taking their kids to school, going 17 shopping at night, doing their laundry, or what. But there 18 are -- wind is a solution, but it's not the perfect fix as 19 compared to coal generation. 20 Solar is another option. In the northern 21 hemisphere, where we're at, the solar availability factor 22 So out of the year, if you have one kW of is 11 percent. 23 solar, you will generate 6,700 kilowatt hours. That's 24 sometimes just a couple of months of usage. If you have kW 25 of coal-fired generation, that will generate over 61,000.

1	But believe it or not, we could argue that
2	point back and forth. The plants are going to be closed,
3	and this is why we're here. The most logical solution, and
4	most economical solution, is to build this transmission
5	line and tie Missouri to the states to the north.
6	The northern states are also going to have
7	to shed 20 to 30 percent of their coal generation because
8	of the clean power plant. Right.
9	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Your five minutes are up.
10	MR. SUPRANOWICH: Oh, they're up?
11	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Yes, sir.
12	MR. SUPRANOWICH: Wow, that was quick.
13	Okay. So I am in favor of it. I mean, this is really
14	serious. That was just passed a couple of weeks ago. And
15	I hope you take that in your consideration. I hope I
16	encourage everybody to support Ameren and vote for it.
17	0kay. Thank you very much.
18	MR. WILLIAMS: Judge, if I may.
19	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Williams.
20	MR. WILLIAMS: Sir, you showed a document.
21	Is that something you would like the Commission to see?
22	MR. SUPRANOWICH: Yeah. I've also got a
23	drawing of a transmission grid around here, and you can see
24	with this
25	JUDGE PRIDGIN: If you'll take that to JUDGE

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PRIDGIN reporter to be marked. 1 2 (WHEREIN, Exhibits 1 and 2 were marked for 3 identification) 4 MR. SUPRANOWICH: Okay. That's a drawing of 5 the transmission grid, and the transmission stops -- grid 6 stops way south of here. So you are on the tail end of the 7 system. Okay. Here's a profile for wind generation. And 8 I thank you very much. 9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. 10 CHAIRMAN HALL: I have a couple three 11 questions. Excuse me, sir. Where do you live? 12 MR. SUPRANOWICH: I live in Wildwood, 13 Missouri. 14 CHAIRMAN HALL: So you're -- you don't live 15 anywhere close to the proposed line? 16 MR. SUPRANOWI CH: No. I am -- from 17 Missouri. But I am very --18 MR. WILLIAMS: It doesn't in any way negate 19 the significance of what you said. I understand that. I'm 20 just -- I'm trying to -- I just want to make it clear that 21 you don't live close to the line, and so you would not be 22 directly -- or adversely affected by the line. I just want 23 to make that clear. 24 MR. SUPRANOWI CH: No, sir. No, sir. 25 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you.

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But I've been in this MR. SUPRANOWI CH: 1 2 business for over 40 years. Thank you. 3 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. John Reinhardt. If you'll raise your right hand to be sworn, please. 4 5 (Witness sworn.) 6 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. If you 7 would, please state and spell your name for the court 8 reporter, and then you may give your testimony. 9 MR. REINHARDT: My name is John Reinhardt. 10 It's spelled J-O-H-N R-E-I-N-H-A-R-D-T. 11 I'm vice president of a distributor that is 12 located in St. Louis, Missouri. We employ over 50 people 13 and have been in business, supplying electrical services 14 and material to the electrical utility market for over 50 15 years, which includes electrical cooperatives and 16 municipals in the state of Missouri, Iowa, and Illinois. 17 I was born, raised, educated, and still 18 reside today in the great state of Missouri. 19 As many of you are aware, the infrastructure 20 of our electrical grid is aging, becoming less and less 21 reliable every year. Many utilities across the county are 22 reinvesting in these lines to make them more reliable. The 23 Mark Twain project is one of those lines that is needed to 24 improve the reliability for families and businesses in 25 Missouri.

1	If any of you have experienced a natural
2	disaster be it a tornado, be it an ice storm, whatever
3	it may be you realize what it means to have reliable
4	power for your family and businesses.
5	These situations can happen at any time, any
6	place, and create potential dangerous situations within
7	seconds. And it's crucial to have alternate avenues to
8	bring power into these areas when disaster hits.
9	I personally have experienced many of these
10	storms, having supplied countless hours of procuring
11	material to restore these areas. Many of these areas were
12	able to get temporary power by feeding off the lines that
13	were located in areas not affected by these storms.
14	This line will also help deliver clean,
15	environmentally responsible wind energy to Missouri,
16	helping to meet the renewable energy standards that we, the
17	Missouri voters, overwhelmingly voted for and approved in
18	2008.
19	Because of the lay of the land in northern
20	Missouri and lowa, it is the best area to create this wind
21	energy. Improving existing transmission lines and adding
22	new ones like this Mark Twain one is helping us prepare for
23	this generation and many generations to come.
24	I personally live within a quarter mile of
25	this size of line. My family routinely takes walks under

1 it. We -- my kids have played ball and sledded under these 2 lines. And I can tell you, we have no health issues as a 3 result of that exposure. 4 About ten or 15 years ago, our industry was 5 very concerned of the effects of these lines on their 6 community. We sold many devices to help measure the 7 electromagnetic waves that were such a concern. These 8 devices -- these devices helped show that you're exposed to 9 more waves within your home than you are exposed to 10 directly under these lines. 11 There are currently three lines -- three 12 high-voltage lines that are located within the five 13 counties impacted by this Mark Twain project, which have 14 been operating for over 40 years with no human or animal 15 health impact. I would encourage each of you to learn more 16 about this. There are plenty of studies out there that 17 show these facts. 18 I would also encourage the community to work 19 with Ameren and their -- or any of the utility companies to 20 try -- that are trying to improve the reliability and 21 environmental impact they have on their communities. 22 I understand the concerns that a lot of 23 folks in this room have tonight with this project, but I 24 think you will find Ameren will be very responsive to the 25 community's needs and will make every attempt to meet your

Γ

1	needs.
2	Many of you are here tonight to be part of
3	this process, and I would encourage you to stay engaged.
4	Ameren will work with the farmers and landowners to
5	coordinate pole locations to minimize the impacts on your
6	farming community. Utility companies want to be more
7	want to be responsive to your needs and want to deliver a
8	product that is environmentally sustainable. Thank you
9	very much.
10	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Reinhardt, thank you.
11	Mr. Chairman?
12	CHAIRMAN HALL: I have no questions. Thank
13	you.
14	JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you.
15	MR. REINHARDT: Thank you for the time.
16	JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. The next witness
17	is Ken Nobbe (ph). Mr. Nobbe, did you testify last night?
18	MR. NOBBE: Yes, I did.
19	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Do you have something
20	earth-shattering to add to that that would
21	MR. NOBBE: No, I do not. My testimony is
22	similar. I I would be happy to step down and let others
23	speak.
24	JUDGE PRIDGIN: I appreciate it. If there's
25	time towards the end, we'll be glad to hear from you again.
	10

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MR. KNOBBY: I would just like to say that 1 2 we are in favor of the line. 3 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. 4 All right. Steve Luetkehans. I hope I'm 5 pronouncing that correctly. If you'll raise your right 6 hand and be sworn, please. 7 (Witness sworn.) 8 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. If you would, 9 please, state and spell your name for the court reporter, 10 and then you may testify. 11 MR. LUETKEHANS: Steve Luetkehans. Steve, 12 S-T-E-V-E, Luetkehans, L-U-E-T-K-E-H-A-N-S. 13 And I work for Henkels & McCoy. We employ 14 over 5,000 men and women across the U.S., including many in 15 Missouri. For background, we have built thousands of miles 16 of transmission line throughout the United States, 17 including Missouri, and we've built them safely. 18 I'm here to support the Mark Twain 19 transmission project to help deliver needed renewable 20 energy as well as improve area power reliability. 21 This project will create over 200 direct jobs and many others indirectly. Many of the jobs will be 22 23 hired locally, and some from outside the area. 24 So, if approved and built, the project would 25 generate local revenue and tax dollars through workers'

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1	purchases of hotel rooms, restaurants, grocery food and
2	gas. Material construction will also be sourced locally to
3	include things like tools, aggregate, and fuel.
4	As a company and person that builds and
5	works around transmission lines every day, I want to
6	iterate, there are no health issues associated with the
7	building and operations of transmission lines, both to
8	human as well as farm animals.
9	On other projects we've seen Ameren has
10	worked closely with the local agencies and landowners and
11	observed them to be a great local partner. I would expect
12	them to do the same on this project. And, in conclusion,
13	this is a good project for Missouri and good project for
14	the local area and ask for your vote.
15	JUDGE PRIDGIN: ALL right. Thank you.
16	Mr. Chairman, any questions?
17	CHAIRMAN HALL: Yeah, Judge. So you work
18	for Ingles & McCoy?
19	MR. LUETKEHANS: Henkels & McCoy.
20	CHAIRMAN HALL: Henkels & McCoy.
21	MR. LUETKEHANS: Yes.
22	CHAIRMAN HALL: And what is the nature of
23	that business?
24	MR. LUETKEHANS: We build transmission lines
25	for utility construction companies.

CHAIRMAN HALL: 1 And do you have a contract 2 in connection with this line? No, we do not. 3 MR. LUETKEHANS: 4 CHAIRMAN HALL: Will -- do you intend to bid 5 on that line? 6 MR. LUETKEHANS: That would be up to Ameren, 7 but I would hope so. 8 CHAIRMAN HALL: And so when you testify that 9 there's up to 200 jobs in the area, what do you base that 10 on? 11 MR. LUETKEHANS: We've done other projects in the area -- the Montgomery Hills project, and we 12 13 employed approximately 150 on that project, and that was a 14 much shorter line. CHAIRMAN HALL: So it would be 200 for the 15 16 construction of the entire line? 17 MR. LUETKEHANS: That's a -- that would be 18 for the line work that we'd be responsible for. 19 CHAIRMAN HALL: For the line work. Okay. 20 Thank you. 21 MR. LUETKEHANS: Yep. 22 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Commissioner Rupp, any 23 questions? No, Judge. 24 COMMISSIONER RUPP: 25 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. The

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1 next witness is Randy Shahan. If you'll raise your right 2 hand to be sworn, please. 3 (Witness sworn.) 4 JUDGE PRIDGIN: If you would, please, state 5 and spell your name for the court reporter --6 MR. SHAHAN: My name is Randy Shahan, 7 R-A-N-D-Y S-H-A-H-A-N. And I live in Kirksville, Missouri. 8 I'm not in the city limits of Kirksville, but I'm a farmer 9 and rancher. 10 I'm glad all these people from Ameren UE are 11 here, because this gives me an idea that it doesn't seem to 12 be anybody around here close that is affected by this line. 13 And I would thank the PSC members for the opportunity to 14 speak before you and air my concerns involving this 15 travesty brought upon us by -- Missouri by XTI (sic) 16 Ameren of Illinois. 17 My first concern is eminent domain. Taki ng 18 a property for one profit entity and giving to another 19 for-profit entity. And yes, I, as a farmer and rancher and 20 cattling, I hope each year to make a profit. This is not 21 what eminent domain is intended to do, to take one property 22 from one for-profit entity for the profit of another 23 for-profit entity. 24 Another great concern of mine is devaluation 25 of property value. Multiple studies by state agencies and 22

1	universities has shown that depending on how the
2	high-voltage lines cross the property, projects of this
3	nature would devalue the owner's property from 9 to 39
4	percent, and maybe more not only the value of this
5	property, but the value of your neighbor's property, his
6	neighbor's property, and his neighbor's property, and so
7	forth on down the line. This creates a rural ghetto, just
8	in the same manner as an urban ghetto.
9	Many of you rely, I'm sure in here many
10	of you are government agencies and so forth like this, and
11	Ameren UE people. You're relying on your 401(k)s and your
12	pensions for your retirement income. We as cattlemen and
13	farmers do not have these. Our retirement income must be
14	from the value of our land, either to sell or to rent.
15	Just think if your retirement income was cut
16	by 39 percent. What would this do to you and to your
17	way of life? You might, because of this loss and as you
18	get older, become indigent and not able to pay for your
19	health well-being and healthcare. Then you'd become a
20	burden on the taxpayers of the county, the state, and the
21	nation all this brought forth by XTI Ameren of
22	IIIinois's project.
23	Health concern I have: Many people don't
24	think of health concerns, but I do. Another concern is
25	health my personal health and the health of my wife,

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1 children, and others who need to be on my property from 2 time to time. 3 I, as a cattlemen use a method intentional 4 hog rotational grazing. This is moving cattle under my 5 care from one location to the next location at a fairly 6 rapid pace, never letting grasses consumed by the cattle 7 get below three to four inches in height, and not coming 8 back on this area 30 to 60 days -- for 30 to 60 days. 9 This allows the grasses to grow and thrive, 10 and doing so creates a wildlife habitat that could be 11 beneficial not only to -- for cattle, but also for 12 endangered species such as the Monarch butterfly and bees 13 that pollinate the crops that provide food to feed us and 14 the world. 15 All this done -- all this is done by using 16 an electric fence system. Rotational grazing and moving --17 it moves electrical fences each time you move the cattle. 18 These fences must go under the XTI Ameren of Illinois's 19 projected line. 20 A high-voltage line creates use 21 electromagnetic fields that can supercharge any electric 22 cattle fences, but also my watering system that my cattle 23 must drink from and I must maintain and the equipment that 24 I must work with. 25 I, for one, do not want my cattle under my

1	care to die or the high-voltage line to cause my death or
2	anyone else's death from electrocution and for it to be
3	called collateral damage by XTI of Ameren of Illinois. I
4	know they have collateral damage in their business. They
5	all figure that in. But I do not want to die. And I'm not
6	particularly interested in that.
7	And I have some other concerns. I have XTI
8	projects, and I'm happy to explain these concerns
9	individually if time would permit. I would just read these
10	and then after that I will close out:
11	Increased liability risk; increased
12	insurance costs; increased in expenses in stay voltage;
13	increased educational expense for operators and workers to
14	ensure safety; increased multiple exposure to ensure
15	operator, worker, and livestock safety; damage to due to
16	soil mix and soil compaction and soil erosion.
17	You know, you can take a satellite image and
18	look across the United States and you can see wagon train
19	tracks oh, my goodness from the 1800s. All right.
20	I'll forget that. I'd like to speak a little more on some
21	of that.
22	But personal observation and not personal
23	observation on my part the lines affects property I own.
24	On some parts this line would cut diagonally across my
25	property, causing additional burdens, and safety concerns.

1 XTI of Illinois has not been open and 2 forthcoming in helping people understand this project. 3 They refuse to answer important questions a landowner needs 4 If you ask again, they will ask you to leave or to know. 5 you'll be escorted out by security. This is a form of 6 intimidation. That's all that is. It's like a bully on a 7 school yard. 8 If you refuse to sign their paper and you'll 9 be escorted out. I, for one, do not sign papers 10 willy-nilly. If this is the kind of entity you want in the 11 state of Missouri, who treats Missouri citizens in this 12 manner -- I don't believe so. 13 And in closing, 99.99 percent of the 14 commissioners of the five Missouri counties this project 15 impacts have signed papers to the effect that this project 16 does not benefit the counties or its citizens that reside 17 in the counties they represent. We should never be here 18 just because of that. 19 And from the heart, my parents who lived 20 before me and myself who was added to these properties 21 would be heartbroke to see what we all worked so hard to 22 keep intact, the beauty that God created destroyed by a 23 project of this nature. And I, Randy Shahan, stand before 24 you and I will fight with all my might to preserve the 25 beauty that God created. Thank you.

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1 (Appl ause) JUDGE PRIDGIN: 2 Thank you, sir. 3 Mr. Chairman? 4 CHAIRMAN HALL: Your Honor -- yes. 5 MR. SHAHAN: I forgot to say that I have a 6 letter here from a neighbor that I should've said -- I need 7 to read before you. 8 JUDGE PRIDGIN: You're welcome to submit 9 that to JUDGE PRIDGIN reporter if you'd like. MR. SHAHAN: 10 I don't have time to read it 11 for him? It's very important. He's an older gentleman. 12 CHAIRMAN HALL: If you wish. 13 MR. SHAHAN: Do you have a question for me 14 or anything? 15 CHAIRMAN HALL: Yeah. I do have a couple 16 questions. Did you say that the proposed line would run 17 diagonally across your farm? 18 MR. SHAHAN: Yes. 19 CHAIRMAN HALL: How many -- or how many --20 for what distance would it run across? 21 MR. SHAHAN: Well, it would run across about 22 a quarter of a mile diagonally across on the one piece of 23 ground I own. Yes. CHAIRMAN HALL: And do you have any other 24 25 transmission or distribution line easements over your

1 property? MR. SHAHAN: 2 No. No. No. This -- that's 3 one place that would run diagonally. I have another farm 4 that it will run across, but it's not diagonally; it's 5 running parallel with the back part of my farm. 6 CHAIRMAN HALL: So -- oh, the -- which line 7 runs parallel? The -- on a different farm? 8 MR. SHAHAN: The north line runs on the back 9 side of my farm. 10 CHAIRMAN HALL: Okay. 11 MR. SHAHAN: Your proposed line to connect 12 everything west of town runs diagonally across. 13 CHAIRMAN HALL: Okay. Thank you. 14 COMMISSION RUPP: Good evening, sir. You 15 made a statement that if you didn't get information in a 16 meeting then you would be asked to leave and then shown to 17 the door by security. If you'd --18 MR. SHAHAN: That's right. 19 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Could you expand on 20 that? 21 MR. SHAHAN: Yes, I can. There was a 22 gentleman sitting right here that was asking pertinent 23 questions -- right here was asking pertinent questions, and 24 they escorted him out. 25 COMMISSIONER RUPP: When -- and when and

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1 where was this? 2 MR. SIDWELL: It was -- me. They sure did. 3 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Are you going to comment 4 later, sir? 5 MR. SIDWELL: No, sir, but I can --6 MR. SHAHAN: Oh, I can comment on all of it. 7 COURT REPORTER: I need his name if he's 8 going to speak. 9 MRS. SIDWELL: I've got the whole thing 10 right here. 11 MR. SIDWELL: Right here, because I can 12 see --13 MR. SHAHAN: I went to a meeting out here at 14 a local church. I come to the meeting. They asked me to 15 sign a paper. Well, I don't sign a paper willy-nilly, like 16 I said. I do not do that. I walked -- stepped on in. 17 They said I would have to leave, and I said okay, I will. 18 And I stood there and talked, and they brought security and 19 escorted me out. 20 I did not do a thing but not -- refuse to 21 sign a paper, and they escorted me out by the police. 22 Didn't cause a ruckus. Didn't cause anything. That's what 23 I am dealing with. That's what I've dealt with, right out here at a local church -- a church, mind you -- with 24 25 security.

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Well, anyway, I'd like to read this letter 1 2 on behalf of Waldo West -- W-A-L-D-O W-E-S-T. He's a 3 neighbor and not able to be here because of illness. 4 He says: I appreciate the opportunity to 5 express my concerns regarding the proposed Ameren power 6 line. I first became involved with the Ameren proposal 7 when I attended an informational meeting in this area about 8 one year ago at a fellowship church on Jamison Street in 9 Kirksville. I understand that there were powerful 10 11 interests and opinions regarding this project, but never in 12 my 81 years had I seen a local meeting at a house of 13 worship attended by armed policemen. There you go. 14 My name is Waldo West, and I've owned my 307 15 acres for over 25 years located three miles east of 16 Kirksville, bordered on the south by state blacktop Highway 17 6, on the west by Strawberry Way, and on the north by 18 Bermuda Way. This farm has excellent access on three 19 This farm or part of it is not for sale at any si des. 20 price. And he underlined about that. 21 I have had many offers to sell parts of the 22 farm, and on two occasions to sell the entire 307 acres. 23 The owner of a large local lumber yard has made several 24 trips to talk to me about purchasing the 370 (sic) acres 25 and said he already had interested developers. I told him

1	I was not interested. And while the local banker has made
2	several attempts to purchase the 370 acres and gave me a
3	written contract for it, which I declined.
4	The Ameren people have shown me on a map how
5	my farm is perfect farm for Ameren, they say. Ameren
6	representatives said my farm is level, free from ditches,
7	trees, brush, and would be perfect for them to build on.
8	He told me that the federal government
9	requires, as I remember it, for the line to be inspected
10	two times per year for safety. This represents
11	continued the representative continued to tell me that
12	Ameren is very conscientious and they would inspect it one
13	or two times on their own and that my land would be very
14	convenient to inspect because land could be easily driven
15	upon.
16	And it will just take me a second to finish
17	the page.
18	I told Ameren the Ameren man the line
19	would generally devaluate my farm on the 150-foot easement,
20	and will likewise devalue the remaining land by nearly half
21	because of the 90- to 100-foot poles with several
22	340,000-volt lines crossing the heart of my farm. Who
23	would want to invest and develop this farm at a later date
24	with a 35,000-volt (sic) power line across it forever and
25	no income from it?

1	Later, an Ameren woman told me that I would
2	get a one-time payment for use of the easement ground. I
3	would receive no compensation for the devaluation of the
4	remaining land, and nothing for my inconvenience and
5	process regarding the health of family, livestock that live
6	near the line.
7	I am well known as one of Adair County's
8	most dedicated conservation-minded farmers. Conservation
9	is defined as wise use of our natural resources. The power
10	line is anything but wise use for our natural resource. I
11	don't want anything to do with it. Respectfully submitted
12	by Waldo West.
13	(Appl ause)
14	JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. I'll
15	show it as Exhibit 2.
16	COURT REPORTER: Actually, Judge, it's 3.
17	JUDGE PRIDGIN: 3. Thank you.
18	(WHEREIN, Exhibit 3 was marked for
19	identification.)
20	MR. SHAHAN: Any questions?
21	CHAIRMAN HALL: No further questions.
22	MR. SHAHAN: Thank you, gentlemen.
23	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you.
24	CHAIRMAN HALL: Thank you for your
25	testimony.

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JUDGE PRIDGIN: David Debord, if I'm reading 1 2 that name correctly. 3 MR. DEBORD: Yeah. 4 JUDGE PRIDGIN: If you'll raise your right 5 hand to be sworn, please. 6 (Witness sworn.) 7 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. If you would, 8 please state and spell your name for the court reporter, 9 and then you may testify. 10 MR. DEBORD: My name is David, last name 11 Debord, D-E-B-O-R-D. All right. 12 I'd like to say that we are for the proposed 13 Mark Twain transmission line. I am a subcontractor for a 14 utility company that does and has worked for Ameren in the 15 past and currently am working for another transmission line 16 that is just south of here, the line that went from 17 Mississippi Crossing to Maplewood. 18 I just want to point out that there is a 19 bunch of good points that will come from this transmission 20 line, not only the economic benefits that will -- we all 21 heard earlier -- hotels, schools, et cetera -- will all 22 benefit from the financial impact that is coming here. 23 Basically just want to say that I work 24 underneath transmission lines every day. I'm just like 25 everybody else here. I have no health concerns from it.

1	Environmental stewardess is of utmost importance to Ameren
2	from its previous projects. And just say I look forward to
3	working in the state that I live in.
4	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Any questions?
5	CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions. Thank you for
6	your testimony.
7	JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. Teri
8	page. Ms. Page, have you testified before?
9	MS. PAGE: No.
10	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay.
11	MS. PAGE: I have not.
12	JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. If
13	you'll raise your right hand to be sworn, please.
14	(Witness sworn.)
15	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Please state and
16	spell your name, and then you may give your testimony.
17	MS. PAGE: My name is Teri page, T-E-R-I
18	P-A-G-E. I'm also speaking on behalf of my two children
19	who are in the audience. Thank you for being here tonight
20	to hear our testimony.
21	I'm opposed to the Mark Twain transmission
22	project for many reasons, but tonight I'll focus on two
23	that are closest to my heart.
24	We moved to northeast Missouri three years
25	ago and invested our life savings in a beautiful piece of
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1	property in Adair County. We've spent countless hours
2	building our home with our own hands, creating organic
3	gardens and orchards, and raising animals for food so we
4	can provide our children, who are ages four and seven, with
5	a beautiful, healthy, and safe life.
6	When I first heard that this project was
7	proposed to cut diagonally across a corner of our property
8	in a swath right next to the woods that we walk in daily, I
9	was extremely concerned concerned about the devastation
10	to the wildlife that use this forested corridor, concerned
11	about the wetland that would be destroyed, but mostly
12	concerned about my children.
13	Medical studies and the World Health
14	Organization have pointed to an increase in leukemia in
15	young children living near high-voltage lines such as this
16	one. The International Agency for Research on Cancer
17	classifies EMFs from high-voltage power lines as possible
18	carcinogens. This is the same classification that the IARC
19	gives cigarettes.
20	Some here will claim that there are no
21	health risks of high-voltage power lines and EMFs, but one
22	thing that's crystal clear: We need to know more. At this
23	point in time, with the research available, we can simply
24	not say that there is no risk to our children, to our
25	livestock, to expectant mothers. And as a mother of two

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1	young children, I am not okay with this risk.
2	ATXI's website and brochure claim to
3	consider schools in their routing criteria, and I would
4	assume that this means that they seek to avoid schools.
5	But yet my family, and indeed all of the families that
6	within a half mile of me, are homeschooling families.
7	At least five children and one more yet to
8	be born child live and study and play outdoors within a few
9	hundred feet of the proposed route. If ATXI is avoiding
10	schools, why are they not avoiding our home-based school?
11	When I expressed my concerns at ATXI's open
12	house, their EMF expert laughed at my concerns for my
13	children yes, laughed to my face. So many of us have
14	been treated with such utter disrespect throughout this
15	entire process.
16	But my biggest frustration is hearing again
17	and again that this project is necessary for Missouri, and
18	yet when we look at Missouri's electricity use over the
19	past decade it has declined and will likely continue to do
20	S0.
21	I do not believe that this project is
22	necessary, mostly because I live on a street right here in
23	Adair County where out of nine households, eight of us live
24	without any connection to the grid. If that sounds
25	impossible, let me assure you that it is not.

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1	We live without any connection to what ATXI
2	likes to call the "grid of the future." We raise families.
3	We grow food. We own small businesses. We host thousands
4	of visitors, and we homeschool our children. In short, we
5	live fully productive, rich, and normal lives without
6	damaging forests, farmland, and homes with costly and
7	destructive transmission lines.
8	In my own home we use rooftop solar to
9	generate electricity. We have three solar panels. We're
10	able to power lights, a freezer, phone, a fan to keep us
11	cool in the summer. My husband built our home and runs a
12	small business using power tools plugged into our solar
13	electric system. I have a website about homesteading,
14	gardening, and off-grid living. And yes, this too is
15	powered by the sun.
16	Rooftop solar and community solar projects
17	are viable, cost-effective methods of meeting renewable
18	energy standards and generating electricity in a way that
19	is not only safe but does not violate the property rights
20	nor does it take away the livelihood of over 250 families
21	in northeast Missouri.
22	Alternatives such as these have put people
23	and community above corporate profit, might be considered a
24	radical idea, yet consider the widespread lack of support
25	for the Mark Twain transmission project, that the

Kirksville City Council drafted a letter opposing the Mark 1 2 Twain transmission line, expressing concern for property 3 rights and against the use of eminent domain; that state 4 representatives have gone on record opposing this project; 5 that thousands of petitions have been submitted opposing 6 this project so far. 7 Out of the dozens of testimonies given at 8 the local public hearings, only a small handful of people 9 -- mostly Ameren's contractors -- have been in favor of this project. All of the county commissioners in the five 10 11 affected projects (sic) have signed statements of formal 12 opposition to the Mark Twain transmission project, because 13 they recognize that a high-voltage project is not in the 14 best interest of the families and businesses they 15 represent. 16 In light of these facts, I think examining 17 alternatives is worth a second look. Please do it. It is 18 truly in the best interest of the public, and deny ATXI 19 their certificate of convenience and necessity. Thank you 20 for your time. 21 (Appl ause) 22 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Does the Commission have any 23 questions? 24 CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions. Thank you for 25 your testimony.

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1	MS. PAGE: Thank you.
2	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Thank you. Marla
3	Murphy. Ms. Murphy, did you have anything to add from last
4	ni ght?
5	MS. MURPHY: Just a concern for my youngest
6	daughter.
7	JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. If you'll raise
8	your right hand to be sworn, please.
9	MS. MURPHY: Sure will.
10	(Witness sworn.)
11	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Please state and
12	spell your name, and then you may give your testimony.
13	MS. MURPHY: My name is Marla Murphy,
14	M-A-R-L-A M-U-R-P-H-Y. And I and my husband I own a
15	farm in Adair County, southeast of Kirksville.
16	When I spoke in the meeting at Queen City
17	yesterday, I want to add additional concerns I have about
18	this ATXI line through northeast Missouri. I fear for
19	excuse me my youngest daughter is now working in several
20	counties in northeast Missouri. She is one of only two
21	women in the state of Missouri who is qualified to spray
22	crops. She has a certified driver's license and a
23	hazardous material applicator's training license issued by
24	the state of Missouri.
25	She said her crop sprayer was 80-feet wide

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1	and many other crop sprayers in the area in our area are
2	up to 130-feet wide. She also applies anhydrous ammonia,
3	which is nitrogen fertilizer on farmers' fields, with a
4	very large applicator that is between 35 and 40 feet wide.
5	She pulls large tanks full of anhydrous ammonia behind the
6	applicator, which is considered a hazardous material and is
7	flammable.
8	I worry what might happen if she were to
9	come in contact with one of the steel poles or concrete
10	foundation ATXI is planning to put up in farmers' fields,
11	where she will be working.
12	Many CRP acres the Crop Reserve Program
13	are starting to be returned to crop production as the
14	contracts run out. More and more acres are going to be
15	needed sprayed and fertilized before those fields can be
16	farmed again. These fields may already have trees and
17	other objects in the way of the equipment she uses, and now
18	the Mark Twain transmission project will put even more
19	obstacles in her way.
20	While she first was learning to spray crop
21	fields, she had a minor incident with a tree or power pole.
22	I never could quite determine which. But luckily she
23	wasn't harm hurt.
24	Farm equipment is getting bigger, as all our
25	equipment is twice the width of what I was in 1972 when we

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1	started farming. I submitted pictures of some of our
2	tractors and equipment at last night's hearing. Many other
3	farmers have even wider and taller pieces of equipment than
4	ours, since they have more acres to cover in a short amount
5	of time. Farm machinery will continue to get even larger
6	and more expensive in the coming years as farmers try to
7	feed the ever-growing population.
8	An alternative would be to bury these lines,
9	but Ameren Illinois has rejected that idea because they say
10	it would make it more expensive and would create too much
11	heat. If they can bury these types of transmission lines
12	in Europe, then why can't they bury them here? Besides, if
13	they produce so much heat under the ground, then it is very
14	likely that we can look forward to more extreme weather.
15	High temperatures and droughts like we had
16	in 2012 and 2013 would if this transmission line is
17	built, I think we should consider cutting back on the use
18	of electricity and conserving more.
19	I try to hang up clothes outside on a line,
20	but with a pinched nerve in my hip it has become very
21	difficult to climb steps going in and out of my house to
22	the clothesline in the backyard. I watch very little
23	television, as most of the shows nowadays are not worth
24	watching.
25	Yes, we all need electricity, but it would
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1	be safer to come up with an alternative source of
2	electricity that can be produced locally or in the area
3	where it is needed. We don't need high-voltage
4	transmission lines strung clear across the United States
5	and the state of Missouri.
6	I think this power line will destroy the
7	beauty and the peacefulness of rural Missouri, put peoples'
8	health at risk, and I know it will destroy the land my
9	husband and I have worked hard to pay for and our daughters
10	hope to inherit. Please grant us the freedom to farm as we
11	have for over 50 years and want to continue doing for as
12	long as God will let us remain on this earth. Please deny
13	ATXI permission to build this high-voltage transmission
14	l i ne.
15	And I just read the other day I don't
16	have a copy of it that Missouri and 20 other states are
17	suing the federal EPA because of the carbon restrictions
18	they are putting on power plants. If that gets stopped,
19	the coal-fired plants should not have to be shut down. I
20	just read it in a local paper the other day. Thank you.
21	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you for your time.
22	CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions. Thank you.
23	(Appl ause)
24	MS. MURPHY: It will run diagonal through
25	our property too. I wanted to make a point to say that,

1	since you're new. Thank you.
2	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Brent Coursey.
3	If you'll raise your right hand to be sworn, please.
4	(Witness sworn.)
5	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. Please
6	state and spell your name for the court reporter, and then
7	you may testify.
8	MR. COURSEY: Yes. My name is Brent
9	Coursey, B-R-E-N-T C-O-U-R-S-E-Y.
10	Well, I want to tell you a little bit about
11	myself. I'm a computer engineer by trade, an entrepreneur
12	by practice. We came from Texas via South Carolina. We
13	sold a resort in South Carolina in 2006 and we came to
14	Missouri be we traveled the country in 2006 in a tour bus
15	with our family, and we went all over the country looking
16	at different business opportunities.
17	We came to Missouri. We liked Missouri
18	because Missouri stays out of your business. And so we
19	wound up here. We had a business in southwest Missouri we
20	sold in 2009. And we decided in 2009 that we've got
21	four children and we wanted to figure out how to take care
22	of oursel ves.
23	We'd never done farming before. We bought a
24	farm in northeast Missouri in Adair County 74 acres. We
25	have run cattle. We've got organic strawberries. We've

done tomatoes, chickens, sheep. You name it, we've done 1 2 it: 3 And so -- the other part I want to tell you 4 about that I think is a vision for the future: We bought 5 our farm -- it was an Amish farm, and it had no electricity 6 in it. And we have decided that we would not hook up to 7 the grid; that we would figure out as a family how to live 8 a normal life like all of you guys on the Commission with 9 wind and solar power. 10 We installed -- in December of 2009, we 11 installed 2.6 kilowatts of solar -- or about half of that 12 at the time; we added a little bit later -- and 1 kilowatt 13 of wind. And we have lived that way for five years on wind 14 and solar power. 15 We have a normal house. We have electric 16 plugs like you have. We have lights. We use computers. 17 We have a front-loading washing machine. we have two 18 refrigerators. We do everything that everybody else does. 19 We even have an air conditioner downstairs. 20 And so the vision that I have for power is 21 everybody talks about big transmission lines and coal-fired 22 plants going bad -- going down, pushing power across our 23 state from wind farms in Iowa and Nebraska, out east. 24 I think the real solution is to keep it 25 local. If you take a look at what happened when Ameren

1 opened up the solar rebates -- I was involved with selling 2 solar at the time, and there was a tremendous amount of 3 people that wanted, through the incentives, to put solar in 4 their house. When you add all that up, you have a power 5 plant locally. You don't have to -- you don't have to have 6 a grid. 7 When my neighbors down the road -- we have 8 an ice storm and they go down, they look over at our farm 9 and our lights are on. Why is that? Because I've got wind 10 and solar and I've got battery backup. 11 So I think the real solution here is for 12 Ameren to step up and put wind and solar locally, create a 13 power plant locally, and quit pushing the power around. 14 You're losing a lot of power when you start pushing power 15 from -- wind power from Iowa to Pennsylvania. How much 16 loss do you have in that line, pushing it over there? I 17 would rather see the money that Ameren spends spent on 18 giving incentives to people to put it on their roof or --19 (Appl ause) 20 MR. COURSEY: The second thing I want to say 21 before I go is we currently have our farm for sale. I'm an 22 entrepreneur and we're moving on. So we have our farm for 23 sal e. And we've had -- it's been for sale for a year and a 24 half, all during this project. 25 We've had several prospects come to look at

1	the property. And we have to disclose that there's a
2	possibility that this huge transmission line will
3	diagonally cut through our property about a quarter of
4	an acre, in case you want to ask or yeah, a quarter
5	mile, I guess it would be, of our property. And those
6	people have left. They've decided they did not no
7	longer wanted to be a part of a property that would have a
8	power line on it. So that's my testimony.
9	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you very much, sir.
10	Any questions?
11	CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions. Thank you for
12	your testimony.
13	(Appl ause)
14	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Brian Thomas. If you'll
15	raise your right hand to be sworn, please.
16	(Witness sworn.)
17	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. Please
18	state and spell your name for the court reporter, and then
19	you may testify.
20	MR. THOMAS: Yes. Hi. My name is Brian
21	Thomas, B-R-I-A-N T-H-O-M-A-S.
22	Thank you for being here and taking the time
23	to listen to us for the past three days. I live in with
24	my wife and two young children on a beautiful piece of land
25	in Adair County, with woods, pasture, a pond, gardens.
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We're starting to raise dairy cows, sheep, chickens, ducks, 1 2 pi qs. And the Mark Twain transmission project would cut 3 through a corner of our property, diagonally. 4 I am wholeheartedly against this project --5 against it along with my neighbors, against it along with 6 the hundreds of others along this line and their neighbors 7 and their friends and family. I'm against it along with 8 our county commissioners, and I'm against it along with the 9 Kirksville City Council; against it just like any American 10 citizen would be when faced with an unwanted taking and 11 destruction of their land. We live in what I think most of us would 12 13 consider a just society. We respect our neighbors. We 14 don't hurt one another. We don't steal. And very 15 occasionally when something is in the overwhelming public 16 greater good, the use of eminent domain is justified, but 17 this is rare. But here we have a huge project set to 18 destroy a great swath of Missouri homes and farmland, and 19 it isn't a public project. 20 ATXI is an out-of-state, private corporation set to make millions of dollars off of the seizure of our 21 22 property, and yet here we are. It seems crazy, yet you're 23 here to decide if they should be able to do this and seize for our land for their financial benefit. That sounds kind 24 25 of like stealing to me.

UNI DENTI FI ED SPEAKER: 1 Yeah. 2 So as our Public Service MR. THOMAS: 3 Commission, I want my testimony to reaffirm and remind you of the multitude of stories that you've heard over the past 4 5 few days, and remind you of the people you've seen at these 6 hearings. 7 Remember the frightened mothers worried 8 about the health risks to their child, the farmers losing 9 their rich, fertile farmland, the century farms whose 10 serene beauty has been in Missouri families generation 11 after generation, threatened to be taken; young families 12 seeing their dreams of taking over their family farmhouse 13 dashed. 14 Again, thank you for being here. You' ve 15 read and will read our testimonies. And I urge you to 16 remember our faces. Look at the sea of good, honest people 17 who are scared and worried and sad. Remember us and make 18 the right decision for Missouri and deny ATXI the approval 19 they seek. Thank you very much. 20 (Appl ause) JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Thomas, remain for any 21 22 questions. 23 CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions. Thank you for 24 your --25 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you.

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Paul Moore. If you'll raise your right hand 1 2 to be sworn, please. 3 (Witness sworn.) 4 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. If you 5 would please state and spell your name for the court 6 reporter, and then you may then testify. 7 MR. MOORE: It's Paul, P-A-U-L, Moore, 8 M-0-0-R-E. 9 And I'm here tonight to offer my support to 10 -- for this project. We've got some concerns about the 11 coal-fired plants being retired, and I think we're going to 12 be in a real pickle here real soon if we don't get a way to 13 transport the wind energy across the nation and this thing 14 could be a two-way street that could be also bringing power 15 from the east back through this area. 16 This project is going to provide meaningful 17 jobs in the region. There's already a big movement in Iowa 18 and Illinois, Ohio and Indiana, to -- this is all going to 19 be linked together and it's really going to help 20 reliability of our system. 21 It's going to have a positive local impact 22 on the businesses here during construction -- the hotels, 23 restaurants, trucking, concrete, limestone. Everybody --24 There's going to be just a lot of opportunities to fuel. 25 help get this thing -- help with jobs here in the area.

1 It's going to be an increased tax base for 2 the schools in the district that I'm sure they need. And, 3 I mean, it's going to be -- it's also a business opportunity for -- due to the increased power that's going 4 5 to be in the area. 6 And one of the biggest items at the bottom 7 line: It's going to hearten the area. It's going to offer 8 additional power opportunities in case the system would go 9 down somewhere. Thank you very much. 10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Any questions? 11 COMMISSIONER RUPP: I didn't catch your 12 name. 13 MR. MOORE: Paul Moore. 14 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Thank you. 15 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Anything further? Thank 16 you. 17 Curt -- I don't remember if it's Piesman or 18 Pi seman. And I believe you testified last night? 19 MR. PISEMAN: I did, and I have nothing new 20 to add. 21 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. Evonne 22 Baker. If you'll raise your right hand to be sworn, 23 pl ease. 24 (Witness sworn.) 25 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Please state and

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1	spell your name for the court reporter, and you may then
2	testi fy.
3	MS. BAKER: Evonne Baker, E-V-O-N-N-E
4	B-A-K-E-R.
5	My family is going to be doubly impact by
6	this high-voltage Mark Twain line. The line almost crosses
7	my driveway, and then it follows up beside the two homes
8	that my husband and I live in and my son and his family
9	live in, overlooking a lake. This is our lake. This is
10	our houses. And this is the line.
11	I have two major concerns. There are some
12	studies out there that talk about health risks for the
13	heart and cancer, both of which my husband and I have
14	already battled. So we really don't want to be living next
15	door to this high-voltage.
16	Secondly is the decrease in our property
17	value. We will lose a minimum of \$250,000 to the value to
18	our property, even if I can find a buyer. I have sold real
19	estate for the past 34 years. And it will have a major
20	impact on an appraisal on our property. Don't get me
21	wrong: I love electricity. And it comes into my property
22	underground.
23	Now, let's move a few miles south, to our
24	farm. Our farm has been in our family over 75 years, and
25	we currently maintain it as a wildlife refuge. The same

4	
1	line comes in on the southeast corner, exits on the
2	northwest corner of the center, 80 acres of our farm. This
3	is our farm. This is the 80 acres. This is the power
4	line. It crosses diagonally across our open land, which
5	previously was in row crops.
6	Over the past several years we have enrolled
7	in the CRP program. We have annual requirements that we
8	have to do to our land for the CRP qualification to receive
9	our payments. We have to we have planted basically warm
10	season grasses.
11	We have entered into a burn program with the
12	Conservation Department. They tell us because of the
13	high-voltage of this power line, we will not be able to
14	maintain our land, and therefore we cannot qualify for the
15	CRP payments.
16	If we would enter into an agreement with
17	Ameren Illinois, we would have to repay all of the monies
18	we've received over the past several years. We cannot do
19	that.
20	Last but not least is it will have a great
21	impact also into the value of our farm, and it will be
22	decreased by a minimum of 50 percent in property values.
23	Now, we are planning to leave that to our grandsons. So I
24	ask that you deny this request. I do thank you for your
25	time.

Г

1	(Appl ause)
2	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Any questions?
3	MR. WILLIAMS: If I might.
4	JUDGE PRIDGIN: I'm sorry. Mr. Williams.
5	MR. WILLIAMS: Ma'am, you had a couple of
6	documents which you indicated were houses and some land.
7	Would you like if you'd hand them to JUDGE PRIDGIN
8	reporter.
9	MS. BAKER: Here you go.
10	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. And Madam Court
11	Reporter, I'm sorry, what number are we on?
12	COURT REPORTER: I'II make these both Number
13	4.
14	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you very much.
15	(WHEREIN, Exhibit 4 was marked for
16	identification.)
17	COMMISSIONER RUPP: Excuse me, miss. I have
18	one for her. Evonne Ms. Baker
19	MS. BAKER: Sorry.
20	JUDGE PRIDGIN: That's all right.
21	COMMISSIONER RUPP: What does the CRP
22	program stand for?
23	MS. BAKER: Conservation Reserve Program,
24	and it is a federal program that we have an agreement with
25	the federal government. And they are ten-year contracts,

1 so we're in probably about the third ten-year contract. 2 We have to -- it's a -- it's to stop erosion 3 and for habitat -- wildlife habitat. So we plant certain 4 plantings. We have to maintain it. We are inspected by 5 the ASCS office and also the conservation to qualify for 6 the annual payment. 7 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Thank you. 8 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. 9 Warren Brown. If you'll raise your right hand to be sworn, 10 pl ease. 11 (Witness sworn.) 12 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. Please 13 state and spell your name for the record, and you may then 14 testify. Warren Brown, W-A-R-R-E-N 15 MR. BROWN: 16 B-R-O-W-N. 17 I did come here today to talk about the need 18 of this project, however, I would like to talk about the 19 direct benefits for many Missouri families. I've lived my 20 whole life in Missouri. I grew up on a farm in St. Clair, 21 Missouri, where my two brothers and I still manage our 300 22 acres in our spare time. I went to school at the 23 University of Missouri-Rolla, obtained my engineering 24 degree, and went to work for a company called Hubbell Power 25 Systems in Centralia, Missouri.

At Hubbell we manufacture a wide variety of 1 2 products for the electric utility construction. And on 3 this transmission project, we currently supply insulators 4 and hardware that attach the conductor to the structures 5 along with anchors, connectors, lighting arresters, 6 switches, and a variety of other products within the 7 substation, much of which is manufactured at our Centralia 8 facility. 9 And Centralia is a small, rural community 10 just southeast of Moberly. We have about 3,500 people 11 there. And we employ 70 -- 750 people in our operations. 12 The success of our company and this community is driven 13 largely by the investments in projects like this, and so it 14 is easy for me to support this project when you see the 15 direct benefits to so many families in our community. 16 On a personal side, the labor benefits of 17 this project create needed demand. My oldest brother lost 18 his job during the last recession after spending his whole 19 career working at Chrysler, when they closed their Fenton 20 facility in Missouri, here. 21 At 40 years old he decided to become a 22 utility lineman, went to lineman school, graduated the top 23 of his class, and then had to wait almost two years before 24 joining the local union as an apprentice. And this was all 25 due to lack of project work here in the state.

1	But I am proud to say after three and a half
2	years, he has had steady work, much of which has been
3	working on Ameren projects. And next spring he will become
4	a journeyman lineman. I cannot tell you the peace of mind
4 5	
	that this has brought him and our family, as we have
6	watched him struggle to support his wife and two kids
7	during this transition.
8	So these investments and these projects like
9	this bring needed benefits and job security to many
10	families in our state, both directly and indirectly. So,
11	again, it's easy for our family to support this project.
12	To the Landowners and those directly
13	impacted here in the room, I know these are challenging
14	situations, and especially as a fellow landowner, we
15	definitely empathize with you and what you're going
16	through. However, if this project is approved and
17	constructed, let me be the first to say on behalf of one
18	family, among many: Thank you.
19	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Brown, thank you. Any
20	questions?
21	CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions.
22	JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you.
23	CHAIRMAN HALL: Thank you, Mr. Brown.
24	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Rodney Pitford. Rodney
25	Pitford. No? Glenn Wehner. If you'll raise your right

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1 hand to be sworn, please. 2 (Witness sworn.) 3 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. If you 4 would please state and spell your name, and then you may 5 testify. 6 DR. WEHNER: Dr. Glenn Wehner, G-L-E-N-N 7 W-E-H-N-E-R, Ph.D. My address is at 22533 Spencer Lane 8 that resides just east of the bypass of 63, south of 6. 9 And probably of anybody in the room, I am -- a handful of 10 us are most highly affected. 11 As the crow flies, I'm about four to five 12 hundred yards from the Zachary station. The north line 13 goes along my property from the Zachary station, within, 14 again, 400 yards of my house, and it went across my 15 property on the south. I currently have a transmission 16 line from Ameren that runs north and south across the 17 property line on the west side, so I already have this. 18 My -- I'm giving you my bona fide easement. 19 I have a Ph.D. from the University of 20 Tennessee, have been instructed and done research at Oak 21 Ridge, so I'm familiar with EMFs. I teach here for 34 22 years in beef cattle science. I'm an animal nutritionist 23 by trade. I have worked with lactation and animal 24 And, again, the thing that we have to keep in breedi na. 25 mind -- there have been a lot of points, and I just wanted

1 to clarify a few.

-	
2	In terms of what goes on and people working
3	under the lines, that's fine. That's a couple hours a day
4	eight hours a day. We will be living under these lines
5	24 hours a day, seven days a week. There is a difference
6	in terms of exposure with anything. Two aspirin takes care
7	of headache. One baby aspirin, 81 milligrams, helps take
8	care of heart attack. Two bottles will kill you. And so,
9	again, it's the exposure that I think we have to look at.
10	In terms of the jobs, I'm not so awful sure
11	about that. Recently, I was going back home to Ohio to
12	visit my mother-in-law. We happened to stop for dinner
13	with my wife, you know, in Illinois. As we went in, there
14	were several trucks and the gentlemen who were standing
15	behind me were talking about working on the Ameren line in
16	central Illinois. The gentleman they were talking about
17	was a local, and their indication there was that they were
18	following the line.
19	If you're looking at the businesses, it is
20	short gain, short-term. Sure, we'll sell some concrete,
21	some rock, those kind of things. But, then again, that
22	benefit is gone away. We're going to be living with these
23	lines. There is dangers to those.
24	And, again, the transmission line that we're
25	talking about, and the ability that they have indicated

that they could increase the voltage which would increase 1 2 the danger. Again, I speak against this line as one that's 3 highly affected. Thank you. 4 (Appl ause) 5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. Any 6 questions? 7 CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions. Thank you. 8 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you very 9 much. 10 DR. WEHNER: Thank you. 11 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Chloe Jackson. Ms. Jackson, 12 do you have anything to add from what you've already 13 testi fi ed? 14 MS. JACKSON: I've only read for other 15 people. I haven't done my own testimony. 16 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Then I see you'd 17 rather your testimony affirmed; is that correct? 18 MS. JACKSON: Yes. 19 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. 20 (Witness affirmed.) 21 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. If you would, 22 please state and spell your name, and then you may give 23 your testimony. 24 MS. JACKSON: Chloe Jackson, C-H-L-O-E 25 J-A-C-K-S-O-N.

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1	Recently, Ameren began running ads on
2	Truman's radio station. They paid large sums of money for
3	this to be done, of course. And the ad goes something like
4	this: The Mark Twain transmission project and Ameren are
5	good for Missouri, and Ameren is a proud partner of KTRN.
6	I was torn between wanting to laugh at the
7	absurdity of this statement and the length Ameren is going
8	to in an attempt to convince us that this line is a good
9	idea, and cry because I've heard the stories of those of
10	you affected and can't comprehend how this statement, "This
11	transmission line is good for the state" can be made
12	honestly.
13	I want to make it clear that I'm a Truman
14	student from the suburbs of the Kansas City, and I am not
15	directly affected by the line. I could conceivably do my
16	work, get my degree, and leave this community, much like
17	Ameren can come in, build this line, and then leave and
18	forget about the consequences.
19	There are hundreds of organizations I could
20	get involved with on campus that I could then add to my
21	transcript or resume, but I chose to root myself in the
22	community of northeast Missouri because the cause of
23	Neighbors United struck a chord in my heart.
24	I've been attending the meetings since they
25	began a little over a year ago. After the first few, when

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I was getting to know people's names and stories, I became 1 2 very frustrated, and I still am today. I'd ride my bike 3 home after the meetings and ask myself and my roommates, "How is this legal? How is this happening? And how is 4 5 this right?" 6 We've begun using candles more and more, and 7 walking around our house in the darkness because we don't 8 want to pay Ameren even one extra cent knowing what pain 9 they're causing in the lives of our rural neighbors. 10 The disrespect with which Ameren has treated 11 landowners, especially at open houses, is disgraceful. 12 Even when I, a 21-year-old, curious college student, asks 13 questions, I was treated as if my concerns were a farmer's 14 -- people living off the grid and wildlife are unnecessary 15 and ridiculous. I've attended all the PSC hearings in the 16 past two weeks, and I've heard hundreds of testimonies of 17 those against the line and a few in support of it. I have 18 several questions. 19 Can one- to two-year construction jobs that 20 may or may not be taken by local people outweigh a lifetime 21 of cancer and suffering, and even one child with leukemia? 22 Are corporations' profits more important 23 than a species like the Indiana brown bat, or bumblebee? 24 Does some extra tax revenue for a city make 25 up for the destruction of the cherished history of century

farms? 1 2 And how is it okay that people living 3 without electricity and off the grid have to suffer from 4 the consequences of people using electricity halfway around 5 the country? 6 Ameren and the PSC, I look at you with the 7 full belief that you're a corporation and commission are 8 run by human with hearts and minds, just like the hearts 9 and minds of those in the people in this sea of red. 10 And I have to ask how you are not moved by 11 the stories you've heard, of Julia Jack-Scott and the baby 12 she carries? Of the Hollenbecks and how their bees and 13 their businesses have suffered? As with my breakfast, I 14 stir their honey stirred in my oatmeal in the morning. Of 15 my landlord, Waldo West, who was read for earlier, is one 16 of the kindest landlords I've ever met, and of the 17 countless farmers whose land has been passed down from 18 generation to generation. 19 These are the things that matter, not 20 Ameren's bank account. This is not just a question of 21 economics or convenience. This is a moral question that 22 severely impacts people's lives and livelihoods, not to 23 mention many creatures and plant life that would suffer from the construction of this line. 24 25 I graduate in May. I plan on dedicating my 62

1	life to activism like this. I don't mind because I think
2	it's the right thing to do, but I often wonder how our
3	country got to this point. Twenty-somethings like myself
4	are often called idealistic and unrealistic, but I'd love
5	if someone could point out to me how putting the health and
6	well-being of humans and the planet above corporate profit
7	is just a college kid's dream.
8	UNI DENTI FI ED SPEAKER: Yeah.
9	(Appl ause)
10	MS. JACKSON: I hope to have a family
11	someday. I hope to have woodlands and gardens and live
12	without electricity. I hope to have healthy children. But
13	I worry about the kind of world they'll grow up in, a
14	world, a country, and a state where corporate profits seem
15	to outweigh people and the environment in the eyes of our
16	governi ng bodi es.
17	When I imagine my future of looking out at a
18	garden with family and friends, swimming in a pond nearby
19	or taking a hike, I do not imagine a 345,000-volt power
20	line in the picture, and I'm sure the people in this room
21	don't either.
22	To combat Ameren's radio ads with a college
23	student's budget, I made signs last week for a table my
24	friend Kaitlyn and I had in this very building to provide
25	information about this issue to Truman students. With the

1	help of a couple people from Neighbors United, I was able
2	to come up with a few slogans. They read: People power
3	versus corporate greed; people over profit; and no eminent
4	domain for corporate gain.
5	With my amateur art skills, I tried to make
6	the "A" in corporate look like the "A" in Ameren's logo. I
7	hope Ameren doesn't sue me for that like they sued the PSC.
8	The last sign, however, was a bit simpler
9	than this. It read: Please deny ATXI, and that's what I
10	ask you to do today. Thank you for your time.
11	(Appl ause)
12	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Any questions?
13	CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions.
14	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Rodney Pitford. If you'll
15	raise your right hand to be sworn, please.
16	(Witness sworn.)
17	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. Please
18	state and spell your name for the court reporter, and then
19	you may testify.
20	MR. PITFORD: My name is Rodney Pitford.
21	It's spelled R-O-D-N-E-Y P-I-T-F-O-R-D.
22	I am the owner of OTG Solar out of Macon,
23	Missouri. The Ameren line doesn't directly affect me and
24	my property. I am a property owner, however. I came from
25	Colorado. I grew up in Macon as a child. I was living out

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in Colorado and one of these big transmission lines went
through really close where we were. I do know all of the
eye sores and the different arguments that people are
showing here.

5 But my reason for speaking tonight is 6 because I believe that Ameren has not exhausted -- has not 7 exhausted all the viable solutions out there. I have to 8 believe that we can meet the demand with rooftop solar. 9 More sunlight hits this earth than could -- to run the 10 earth's -- the demand for earth for a year on energy. So 11 as far as not collecting it, that's the fault of just not 12 doing it.

13 Ameren had a great rebate program going on 14 and was really pushing this. We put in -- personally 15 ourselves, we put in more than a megawatt of power in 2013 16 alone, and that equals out to about two -- the amount of 17 power that's been installed in -- on Ameren's line, if you 18 just go by rebate numbers, it's more than 200 megawatts of 19 power in one year, guys. I mean, this is a big number. So 20 a 400-megawatt power line that's needing to be put in is 21 very obtainable.

I think without the rebate -- when it went
away, I think that it was definitely a crush to the solar
community, but I would personally like to see that solar is
explored better. I do believe that people can do it. This

1 is an option that even though Ameren did pay a rebate in 2 the last couple of years, we have been seeing homeowners 3 still putting this in on their own. And this is affecting 4 power. 5 Ameren doesn't need this demand met. 6 They're doing it on their own and that's helped them out 7 tremendously. 8 California -- as we all know, California had 9 an energy crisis. It is absolutely being solved by rooftop 10 solar. It's not something that we can argue on that point. I come here really to support that. I don't want to see 11 12 one of these big lines go in for people that it does 13 directly affect. And I just want to make sure that 14 pointing out to you guys that we have explored different 15 If it's not rooftop solar, let's talk about options. 16 something else. 17 I -- again, I just wanted to itinerate -- or 18 to say that, bottom line, guys, we can do better than this 19 for our future. The EPA is coming down hard. Instead of 20 fighting them, let's look at the future and have a better 21 future for our kids and families. Thank you. 22 (Appl ause) 23 CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions. 24 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. Bob 25 Jackson. If you'll raise your right hand to be sworn,

1	pl ease.
2	(Witness sworn.)
3	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. Please
4	state and spell your name for the court reporter, and then
5	you may testify.
6	MR. JACKSON: B-O-B J-A-C-K-S-O-N.
7	I'm Bob Jackson, Landowner, farmer, from
8	southern Adair County. I currently serve as president of
9	the Adair-Schuyler Farm Bureau. The two-county
10	organization has a membership of 1,374 families. And at
11	our annual membership meeting, held on September the 1st, a
12	resolution was unanimously passed to oppose the Mark Twain
13	transmission project.
14	I wish to speak in opposition to this
15	transmission project. From the perspective of agriculture
16	production and placement of transmission lines in crop
17	fields creates problems for operation of large field
18	machinery, having to till, plant, harvest around large
19	towers which are obstructions in the fields.
20	Compaction and distribution of and
21	disturbance of the soil as a result of the construction
22	process of the transmission towers, as construction
23	equipment will affect the productive capability of the
24	soil, the structure of the soil will forever be damaged.
25	This proposed project will affect 55,000 acres in five

counties, and will impact and reduce food production on 1 2 that soil. 3 Should the project be approved, the 4 maintenance of these towers and lines will continue to 5 create problems of soil compaction and alter the soil 6 structure and destroy the existing annual crop production. 7 This project would have detrimental effects 8 on a -- have detrimental effects on approximately 18 to 20 9 acres per mile, and have a large impact on the soil 10 productive capabilities for future food production. 11 Aerial application of the chemicals and 12 nutrients for crops and pasture production would be 13 eliminated as a management tool utilized by agriculture 14 producers. Modern technology such as GPS, or global 15 positioning systems, are a standard tool in today's modern 16 farm equipment. 17 The electronic treatment frequencies from 18 the electrical lines will change or possibly interfere with 19 GPS transmissions, therefore altering the efficiency of 20 farming techniques. Another concern of mine is use of eminent 21 22 domain by private companies. In a meeting this past 23 spring, I was visiting with Ms. Peggy Ladd, director of 24 Ameren transmission stakeholder relations, and she stated 25 that Ameren UE is a private stock company held by -- held

She 1 by the stockholders. It is not a public utility. 2 could not confirm that Mark Twain transmission project 3 would serve Missouri Ameren UE customers. 4 It is my opinion that Mark Twain 5 transmission project does not serve Missouri citizens and I 6 would certainly encourage the state -- Missouri Public 7 Service Commission to deny the permit requested. То 8 approve eminent domain for a project like this is 9 unwarranted and unjust. I would answer any questions and 10 thank you for your consideration of my remarks. 11 (Appl ause) 12 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Jackson, thank you, sir. 13 Conor Hughey. 14 COURT REPORTER: Judge, he gave me his 15 remarks as 5. 16 (WHEREIN, Exhibit 5 was marked for 17 identification) 18 JUDGE PRIDGIN: If you'll raise your right 19 If you want to raise your right hand to be -- excuse me. 20 sworn, please. 21 (Witness sworn.) 22 JUDGE PRIDGIN: If you'll please state and 23 spell your name for the court reporter, and then you can 24 give your testimony. 25 MR. HUGHEY: My name is Conor Hughey,

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1	
1	C-O-N-O-R H-U-G-H-E-Y.
2	I would like to first speak on behalf of
3	Mr. and Mrs. Mike and Mary Conley. They have to say that
4	their family opposes the MTTP on many levels, for many
5	reasons the Mark Twain transmission project, of course.
6	Primarily, they fail to see the need for the
7	project when compared to the costs and the damages to the
8	land and farms along its route. It's unclear if and when
9	wind farms or other power sources will be developed. If
10	so, will they benefit the landowners and citizens in its
11	path who stand to lose property rights and will have to
12	deal with the effects of high power transmission lines?
13	They have hunted for 25 years on a farm in
14	Knox County, which would literally be cut in half by the
15	project. The final route will actually pass directly over
16	three stand sites on this beautiful family farm. They own
17	a small farm in Putnam County that will at least be ten
18	miles from the route, but the project will have the same
19	effect on the farms in this area.
20	Save the use of eminent domain for projects
21	with a tangible benefit for the residents of Missouri, they
22	say. The Mark Twain transmission project looks more like
23	an investment for Ameren than benefit for the public.
24	Next, I would like to read my own statement.
25	I'd like to also point out that I am not directly affected

by the construction of this line. I, myself, am from 1 St. Louis, Missouri. But the information regarding this 2 3 project has had a significant impact on my outlook 4 regarding corporations such as Ameren. 5 First of all, the testimonies by some of the 6 landowners present here today say that they were offered a 7 one-time easement. On Ameren's site they claim that they 8 will "make the landowners whole" by fully compensating them 9 for any effect on the market value of their property caused by the imposition of easement of power lines. 10 11 I would like to ask: How can they do this 12 by offering payment before the landowners have sold their 13 property? It is not up to Ameren to decide the value of 14 the land and the livelihoods of the affected people. How 15 does cutting through people's property with an eye sore to 16 the naturalist of the land make them whole? 17 The line is slated to run from the lowa 18 border to Palmyra, Missouri, according to the information 19 on Ameren's website. Ameren Transmission Company, also 20 known as ATXI, is the an Illinois-based company. So why does the info not make mention of where the line goes 21 22 beyond Palmyra? 23 This is assuming that ATXI has its interests -- has in its interests the construction of Illinois 24 25 infrastructure, but this is irrelevant. ATXI is

1 subordinate to the Midwest Independent System Operator, or 2 MISO as it's known, who operates in the western portion of 3 Illinois as well as Missouri. However, Eastern Regional Power Cooperative, PJM, also shares Illinois power with 4 5 MI SO. 6 And I employ you -- and I implore you to 7 consider the question of how much the actual power Ameren 8 predicts they will transfer will benefit energy rates for 9 Missouri consumers, and how much of the power will be 10 wasted in the procedure of transmitting it to other states 11 and beyond. 12 In speaking with some of the representatives 13 of Neighbor United -- Neighbors United, I have come to 14 interpret that one primary reason for their opposition to 15 the Mark Twain project is due to Ameren's failure to 16 provide adequate information to many landowners who would 17 be affected by the line. And at this point I'd like to ask 18 a question to the audience. And if you're comfortable, 19 please stand up. 20 How many people here right now are part of 21 the Amish or Mennonite community? 22 I'd like to let that speak for itself. 23 Without such voices, not all people are 24 being adequately represented here. Is it right to take 25 away land from people who have little to no knowledge on

the subject? I don't have to speak on the moral aspect of 1 2 this project. The kind folks who have spoken before me 3 should make that evident. Thank you for listening. 4 (Appl ause) 5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you very much. Dan 6 Whal en. If you'll raise your right hand and be sworn, 7 pl ease. 8 (Witness sworn.) 9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. Pl ease 10 state and spell your name for the court reporter, and you 11 may then testify. 12 MR. WHALEN: Dan Whalen, D-A-N W-H-A-L-E-N. 13 I'm with Hanson Professional Services, 14 Incorporated, a consulting firm with a Missouri office that 15 provides services to Ameren for over 40 years. We have not 16 provided services related to this specific project, but we 17 do hope to be able to bid on this project just as we will 18 to provide services on other infrastructure projects in the 19 area and in the region. 20 My comments are based on over 25 years of 21 personal experience working with Ameren on a wide variety 22 In addition to the construction of of projects. 23 maintenance crews, engineering, scientific, and technical 24 service will also be bringing some revenue to the area. 25 We would anticipate 20 to 30,000 man hours

1	related to land surveying, environmental reviews, site
2	reconnaissance prior to final pole placement and line
3	design, geotechnical engineering and soil pourings; also
4	foundation quality assurance and quality control, in
5	addition to what the previous contractors have spoken to.
6	I'd also like to share that based on my 25
7	years of experience on Ameren projects that they strive to
8	be a good corporate citizen and take the responsibilities
9	for environmental stewardship very seriously. They meet or
10	exceed regulatory requirements. Our company has been
11	involved with environmental reviews, helping to make sure
12	that impacts of wetlands, threatened endangered species and
13	cultural resources are minimized and mitigated.
14	During construction phase, as some of the
15	contractors that have testified can attest, Ameren is very
16	strict when it comes to erosion control, storm water
17	pollution prevention plans, and safety.
18	I know many of the affected landowners are
19	businessmen and women, and I can also speak to my
20	experience with Ameren as a business partner. They
21	negotiate fairly and follow-up with what they say they
22	will.
23	Concerning local impacts on infrastructure
24	due to their projects, we are also working with Ameren on
25	row monitoring and repair and local reimbursement on

1 several of their transmission line projects. They don't walk away from their responsibilities. In my experience 2 3 they do what they say they will do. 4 That's all I have. 5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Any questions? 6 CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions. Thank you for 7 your testimony. 8 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Lu Nelsen. If 9 you'll raise your right hand to be sworn. 10 (Witness sworn.) JUDGE PRIDGIN: 11 Thank you. Please state and 12 spell your name for the court reporter, and you may then 13 testify. 14 MR. NELSEN: Yes. It's Lu Nelson, L-U 15 N-E-L-S-E-N. 16 And I work for the Center for Rural Affairs. 17 We're a non-profit based in Lyons, Nebraska. So I'm not 18 from around here. I'm not affected by the line. But we 19 work on a lot of energy policy issues at the center, across 20 the Midwest and the Great Plains, and one of those issues 21 is transmission. 22 And one of the reasons why we work on 23 transmission issues is because we believe that transmission 24 and upgrading the transmission grid is an essential piece 25 of rural development and taking advantage of our rural

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resources and capturing the benefits for rural communities 1 2 that taking advantage of those resources can deliver. 3 And we've seen in numerous instances that 4 lack of sufficient transmission can severely limit the 5 ability to develop rural energy in rural communities where 6 all these benefits would be welcome. 7 But while we do believe that transmission 8 and updating the grid and building out-connections through 9 renewable energy is incredibly important, we also believe 10 that it's essential that local communities and landowners have a say in the process, and that developers like Ameren 11 12 work incredibly hard to address those concerns and work 13 with landowners to identify the solutions for those issues. 14 And, again, I work on transmission projects 15 in multiple states. I've seen a lot of examples where 16 everyone coming to the table has probably a lot of 17 benefits. It's helped to address these issues. And I 18 guess, in closing, we support the grid, but we think it's 19 essential that community members' letters have their say in 20 the project. 21 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. Any 22 questions? 23 CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions. Thank you. 24 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Clifford Thank you. 25 Hollenbeck. And have you testified before, sir?

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No, I haven't. 1 MR. HOLLENBECK: 2 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. 3 MR. HOLLENBECK: I'd like to be affirmed, 4 pl ease. 5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Absol utel y. 6 (Witness affirmed.) 7 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. ١f 8 you will, please state and spell your name for the court 9 reporter, and you may then testify. 10 MR. HOLLENBECK: My name is Cliff Hollenbeck 11 -- or Clifford, C-L-I-F-F-O-R-D H-O-L-L-E-N-B-E-C-K. 12 I'm a resident of Adair County. I have been 13 all my life. I'm 55 years old. I live on my family farm. 14 I'm a commercial beekeeper. My wife testified last night. 15 I do have studies that I'd like to submit tonight 16 concerning EMF and honeybees. 17 I know Ameren likes to say that, you know, 18 EMF are great for everybody, including the bees, but I 19 think we all really know better; that there are studies --20 in fact, there are actually studies that power line 21 companies -- you know, power companies have funded that 22 seems to have just a little bit of truthful information to 23 They don't have very much, but there's a little bit them. 24 you can glean from there. 25 But I've had experience with honeybees since 77

1973. I was 13 years old when I started keeping bees as a 1 2 hobby. Later in years, I became a commercial beekeeper. 3 I've been commercially keeping bees for over 20 years, now. 4 My wife and me run Hollenbeck Honey Farm, Kirksville, 5 Missouri. 6 I can just probably about tell you 7 everything there is about a bee -- a honeybee, and I don't 8 say that braggingly. But when I was a kid, that's all I 9 ever thought about. I had trouble with studies in school 10 -- you know, my social studies and those things because honeybees was on my mind. And I'm still that way to this 11 12 day. I understand honeybees, and that's one reason why 13 I've been very successful in the business that I am. 14 And exposures to bees -- to power lines, 15 I've had experience with them, not under 345,000-volt 16 lines, of course. I think probably the highest one that I 17 have -- had any experience with was probably I would assume 18 60,000. 19 We had to move those bees from out from 20 under those lines. Those bees were there for about three 21 years. I kept attributing the problems we was having with 22 these bees with maybe crops -- you know, pesticides and 23 stuff. You know, you don't always know what's going on, 24 you know, with animals and stuff. Sometimes you've got to 25 figure it out. But after a certain amount of years, we

began kind of putting things together about the bees acted 1 2 a little bit different than they did in other locations. 3 And one of the studies that I show -- will 4 show here, it talks about bees. It's underneath power 5 lines. And it says produces bee disturbances, increases 6 mortality, abnormal propolization, and possible impairment 7 of colony growth. 8 You know, I know you guys don't understand 9 bees, but, you know, really, what that just boils down to is honeybees don't do what they normally do, you know, in 10 11 the natural. And in working with bees, I guess I am a 12 naturalist in some ways. I do use pesticides, believe it 13 or not, even though I have honeybees. 14 And I do love electricity, but -- these 15 bees, they don't perform in the same function. The queens 16 -- which is the life of a colony -- they do not lay as 17 well. They're superceded, which actually means the bees 18 replace them a little bit more often from -- you know, than 19 they normally would. 20 Normally the life of a queen is about one 21 and a half to two years. Underneath a power line, I mean, 22 they were superceding these queens probably every two or 23 three months. I mean, just -- and when they supercede, it 24 keeps the bees' pollen -- you know, their population from 25 building up like it should be, and population is key to

1 honey production in our business. 2 Like I say, I can go into a lot of different 3 details, but, you know, my wife and me run an operation in three different counties. Two of these counties is going 4 5 to be affected by this power line. Several different yards 6 -- we've got a total of almost 30 yards of bees in these 7 counties, 30 different locations. We're going to be 8 severely impacted on this. And to top it all off, the 9 substation is on my road, next to my land. 10 And like I say, I've lived there all my 11 life. My dad and mom lived there all their life. Μv 12 granddad lived there all his life, and his dad before him. 13 This land has been in this family since -- some of it since 14 And I can tell you right now: There isn't anybody 1847. going to take my land away. I don't care whether their 15 16 name is ATXI or what. 17 (Appl ause) 18 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. 19 MR. HOLLENBECK: I guess if I have any time 20 left, I'd just like to say, man, I'm so proud of all these 21 people out there that -- these are my neighbors. Thank 22 you. 23 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. 24 (Appl ause) 25 (WHEREIN; Exhibit 6 was marked for 80

identification.) 1 2 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Ms. Hollenbeck, I believe 3 you testified last night? 4 MS. HOLLENBECK: Yes. I have a couple things I'd like to --5 6 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Certainly. You may come up. 7 If you'll raise your right hand to be sworn. I'm sorry. 8 Thank you very much. 9 (Witness affirmed.) 10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Please state and 11 spell your name for the court reporter, and you may then 12 testify. 13 MS. HOLLENBECK: Margaret Hollenbeck, 14 M-A-R-G-A-R-E-T H-O-L-L-E-N-B-E-C-K. 15 We've heard several people today mention 16 about their land being cut across diagonally. That is also 17 the case with our property and my nephew's property. He 18 has an 80-acre stretch of property. It goes from the 19 southwest corner to the northeast corner, cutting in 20 diagonally across. 21 There's several other people that have farm 22 -- hunting ground -- prime hunting ground cutting from one 23 corridor diagonally to the other corner. When prime 24 hunting ground gets cut like that, you lose all the trees, 25 forage for the -- for the wildlife. Numerous -- like I

1 said, numerous people diagonally across. Could care less 2 what is done with our property. 3 The second thing I'd like to add: They keep 4 talking about these EMFs don't affect people; they're not 5 any higher than what's in your own home. I beg to differ. 6 My brother sprayed underneath these power lines. They took 7 fluorescent light bulbs, stood underneath the power line, 8 and they were illuminated. 9 There's numerous videos online that you can 10 view that they've done the exact same tests: Gone out 11 there with everyday fluorescent light bulbs, stood 12 underneath a power -- these high-voltage transmission lines 13 and the light bulbs are illuminated. 14 They saw -- I took a fluorescent light bulb 15 -- because we have fluorescent lights in our house -- so I 16 took an unattached fluorescent light bulb, went around to 17 all my appliances they say do not put off anymore EMFs than 18 what our normal vacuum cleaner did. Turned my vacuum 19 Did not illuminate my light bulb. Went to my cleaner on. 20 microwave, turned it on, did not illuminate the light bulb. 21 Therefore, I don't know how they can say 22 these EMFs are not any greater than what we have in our own 23 homes, if they do not illuminate a light bulb just like 24 that. That's all I have to say. 25 (Appl ause)

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1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Judy Peterson. 2 If you will please raise your right hand and be sworn. 3 (Witness sworn.) 4 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Please state 5 your name and spell it for the court reporter, and you may 6 then testify. 7 MS. PETERSON: My name is Judy Peterson, 8 J-U-D-Y P-E-T-E-R-S-O-N. 9 Thank you for the opportunity to come and 10 speak with you about the Mark Twain transmission line. My 11 husband and I retired in 2006, and we moved back to 12 Schuyler County. And we built our new home on the farm 13 that has been in our family for over 70 years, a property 14 where you can see for miles in any direction. 15 People who come to our home to visit us, 16 especially from the city that come, talk about how 17 beautiful it is there. It just doesn't matter which 18 direction you look. It's just absolutely beautiful. 19 The proposed line would cut diagonally 20 across the front portion of our property, permanently 21 destroying the view. Ameren does not care about that, but 22 we certainly do. We have stated -- they have stated that 23 it was their intent to minimize impact by following 24 property lines, but in testimony after testimony from 25 landowners it has been reported that the lines run

1 diagonally across their rich farmland as well. And in many 2 cases it literally cuts their land in half. 3 Our property values will be significantly 4 affected forever. Ameren reports that their lines will be 5 compatible with farming and pasture use, however, there 6 will be a lifetime of restrictions near each one of those 7 huge, ugly poles. Many documented reports and articles 8 have stated that cattle can be adversely affected by the 9 stray voltage from power lines. 10 Our land is currently being leased as 11 pasture land for the raising and breeding of cattle. 12 asked specifically what our renter was to do with his 13 cattle during the construction process, and I was told that 14 we would be compensated for any monies that we lost for 15 rent during that time, but what he did with his cattle was 16 his problem. I don't think that he's going to find that an 17 acceptable solution, and we will most likely lose a long 18 and faithful renter in the process. 19 We have been told that we would receive fair 20 market value for our land, but there is no fair market 21 value for land that is not for sale. Ameren --22 (Appl ause) 23 MS. PETERSON: Ameren has treated us -- all 24 of us -- with no respect, referring to us as NIMBYs -- not 25 in my backyard -- and telling us specifically that this

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line will go through and there's nothing we can do about 1 2 it: 3 We asked where it was going to go once it 4 reached the lowa line, and we were told that their job was 5 to connect Point A to Point B; they didn't care who it went 6 across; and after it reached Point B, they did not care 7 what happened. Their job was to get it from Point A to 8 Point B. 9 Landowners have been escorted out of public meetings by armed guards. We've heard tonight how Ameren 10 11 has been so concerned with working with landowners and 12 trying to make it an easy process for it. 13 I'd like to know which landowners they 14 treated that way, because if you ask a question at the 15 public meetings and it -- very few of them were answered in 16 The ones my husband and I asked they either said, any way. 17 "We can't answer that," or, "Answer it at the next 18 station." You'd go to the next station and they wouldn't 19 answer the question either. 20 But we have friends that were escorted out 21 by armed guards for asking a question about what -- about 22 -- it was just a simple, respectful question, and they were 23 escorted out. And this is an insult. This is an insult to 24 us as landowners in so many ways, on so many levels. 25 It is our right -- it is our right as an

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American to be protected from losing our land for a project 1 2 such as this. 3 (Appl ause) 4 MS. PETERSON: We are fighting for our 5 rights and for the future of Missouri. If Ameren is 6 granted the authority to misuse the true intent of eminent 7 domain to condemn our land, it sets a precedence for others 8 to come in and do the same, and they will. Thank you. 9 (Appl ause) 10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Dwight Peterson. 11 If you'll raise your right hand to be sworn, please. 12 (Witness sworn.) 13 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. Please 14 state and spell your name for the court reporter, and you 15 may then testify. 16 MR. PETERSON: Dwight Peterson, D-W-I-G-H-T 17 P-E-T-E-R-S-O-N. 18 I'm speaking tonight not only on behalf of 19 myself but of my father and mother-in-law. First off, I'd 20 like to thank you, Commissioners, for hearing us out. And 21 as you will see, my wife is much the better speaker than I. 22 But I'd like to say this on behalf of my 23 in-laws. This past week we spent the weekend, and that was 24 the reason why I couldn't be at last night's meeting, was 25 -- at Queen City. And that's where our -- that's closer to

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our home, and that's why we wasn't there, was because we 1 had previous commitment with our son, John Robert and 2 3 Bonnie Dodson. Do you need to have the spelling of their 4 names al so? 5 This is the farm that it is impacting, is 6 John Robert and Bonnie Dodson's farm. We was unable to 7 make the meeting last night because of a prior commitment, 8 as I earlier said. We was out visiting our son who is a 9 fitness commander in the Naval Academy. 10 While I was there I saw the Navy playing a 11 football game, and it was Navy versus Tulane. Maybe some 12 of you have seen it on television. I don't know whether it 13 was brought back to this far or not, but this was in 14 Annapolis, Maryland. And in this game, I saw something that 15 16 sparked an interest to me that I've never seen before. 17 I've been in the military. I'm a military veteran. But I 18 seen a commander that I'd like to take my hat off to. The 19 commander of the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, 20 Maryland, when the Navy scored a seven-point touchdown, he 21 run out with all the cadets on the goal line. 22 And I don't know whether any of you have 23 ever seen this or not. But he runs out with the cadets. 24 Runs out, drops down. And if it's a seven-point touchdown, 25 he does seven push-ups. All the cadets do seven push-ups

1 al so. But he starts it. They don't ever -- they don't 2 ever start their push-up until he does it. 3 I would say that there was better than 100 4 cadets out on the goal line there with the commander. I 5 was asking my son -- I said, "What is his rank?" And I'm 6 -- in my military service I was the U.S. Army. I did not 7 -- I do not understand the naval ranking system like he 8 does. So I had to ask him. I said, "What is his 9 10 rank, military rank of him?" He said, "He's the vice admiral of the base, Dad." I said, "In Army, Air Force, 11 12 and Marines, what is that?" He said, "That's a three-star 13 general." And I said, "Oh, this guy has got some clout 14 there, hasn't he?" And he said, "Sure does, Dad." 15 He was the leader there. I saw some 16 leadership there that I would be willing to say that John 17 Robert and Bonnie would like to ask you Commissioners to 18 bring forth and say no to this transmission line. 19 But I'm also speaking for myself. I would 20 like to add these thoughts too. I'm a retired construction 21 worker myself, so I know some of these construction trades. 22 But as you know, in the construction trades, there's always 23 quick money to be made. 24 I would like to talk about an asphalt job 25 because we had the Miller Construction Company here in

1	Kirksville. And as you go by a resurfacing job, the thing
2	that you see in the middle of the job is a rubber tired
3	roller.
4	This rubber tired roller has a special
5	purpose. It's not put in right after the asphalt is laid,
6	and it's not put in at the end of the job to clean up the
7	job. It's put in the middle for a purpose, and that
8	purpose is to get the compaction on that asphalt so that it
9	will stay.
10	This is exactly what we're talking about
11	whenever you ask to bring trucks across our ground. These
12	trucks have rubber tires on them. They'll put compaction
13	in our soil like you don't understand. There's few people
14	in here maybe several; I don't know how many people is
15	here my five minutes are up? I would like to end this,
16	sir, by saying thank you. I'm sorry that I've gone over,
17	but thank you for your time. Is there any questions?
18	CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions.
19	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you very much, sir.
20	(Appl ause)
21	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Dr. Margaret Wilson. If
22	you'll raise your right hand to be sworn, please.
23	(Witness sworn.)
24	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Please state and
25	spell your name for the court reporter, and you may then
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1	testi fy.
2	DR. WILSON: I'm Dr. Margaret Wilson,
3	M-A-R-G-A-R-E-T W-I-L-S-O-N.
4	I am a life-long resident of Adair County.
5	My ancestors were Irish immigrants that came and settled in
6	northeast Missouri to look for a better life. I do own
7	land my husband and I own land in Adair County, but
8	currently the path chosen by Ameren does not directly
9	impact us, although we were on one of the original lines.
10	I want to thank the commissioners for being
11	here tonight. I think it's really important that you are
12	here to hear the citizens of northeast Missouri. And we're
13	very disappointed that they were not here to hear those in
14	Schuyler County Last night.
15	I'm here tonight to state that I am opposed
16	to ATXI's Mark Twain transmission project. I am adamantly
17	opposed to the use of eminent domain and the violation of
18	property rights to profit a private, Fortune 500
19	corporation.
20	I do not believe this project is in the
21	public interest of the citizens of Missouri. I do not
22	believe that this line is necessary nor does it benefit
23	Missouri, and here's why some of the facts: Missouri's
24	energy needs actually have and are proposed to further
25	decline over the next 20 years. This is due to a decreased

1	demand and a weakened economy.
2	Ameren Missouri does not need this line to
3	meet their renewable portfolio standard mandate. I
4	attended Ameren Missouri's public hearings on rate hike
5	increases in this very room in January.
6	A colleague and I approached the vice
7	president of Ameren Missouri and asked him if they planned
8	to use energy from the Mark Twain project, and he answered
9	they did not need it; they have other projects they're
10	working on. He spoke the truth. Of course, at the time,
11	he did not know that we represented Neighbors United.
12	More facts: The local rural electric
13	cooperatives are not planning to use the Mark Twain
14	transmission project. There are no operating wind farms or
15	proposed wind farms in Missouri that are planning to use
16	the MTTP.
17	If the MTTP provides a real benefit to
18	Missouri, then why did ATXI choose to sue the Public
19	Service Commission, arguing that they should be able to
20	bypass that state regulatory authority. And when the Mark
21	Twain project was first proposed there was no mention of a
22	substation in Missouri, indicating their real intention of
23	providing strictly a pass through our state.
24	The Mark Twain transmission project will
25	adversely affect, impact, or destroy nearly 300 family

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farms and over 50,000 acres of farmland in northeast 1 2 Missouri. It will impede farming, make it difficult to run 3 farm equipment, and move livestock around the line. Thi s 4 project violates the Right to Farm law. 5 As a physician, I also have grave health 6 concerns regarding the potential negative effects of 7 high-voltage lines. EMFs are known as a potential 8 carcinogen and these types of lines have been linked to an 9 increased incidence of childhood leukemia, miscarriage, 10 autism, and other detrimental health effects. 11 ATXI likes to advertise that the local 12 economy will benefit from tax revenues related to this 13 project, but what about the negative effects on reduced 14 land and home values? Let's be real: Who wants to buy 15 farmland that has a very high, large high-voltage line 16 running diagonally right down the middle of it, or a house 17 with a line of just a few hundred feet from the front door? 18 Last night, at Schuyler County, you would've 19 heard from the president of the Kirksville School Board who 20 said he is not aware of any revenue expected from this 21 project to benefit or go to our schools. 22 Ameren also says that the line will create 23 new jobs. Well, we know it takes highly specialized crews 24 to construct these lines. I sincerely doubt that this 25 one-time construction will bring any significant or

1 sustained jobs to our communities. 2 Last night and tonight we've heard from a 3 few people who are in favor of the project. They were all 4 out-of-town contractors and linemen who would profit from 5 this project. They don't live here. They didn't even 6 bother to stay and hear the testimonies of those who do. 7 They all talked about the economic revenue from hotels and 8 restaurants and gas stations while the crews are in town. 9 They did not talk about what happens when they all go home 10 and about the economic devastation to farmers --11 (Microphone went silent and was replaced.) 12 DR. WILSON: All right. Excuse me. 13 They did not talk about what happens when 14 they all go home and about the economic devastation to 15 farmers, cattlemen, and the hunting industry. They talked 16 about their jobs, but they didn't talk about ours, the jobs 17 already here in the agricultural industry. 18 My opinion is that ATXI targeted northeast 19 Missouri because they believe they can take advantage of 20 the fact that Missouri has less strict eminent domain laws, 21 that farmland is less expensive to purchase here than in 22 Illinois or Iowa. Missouri also has no laws to observe 23 property lines. We have large populations of Amish who 24 practice a passive lifestyle and will not fight for 25 property rights. And Missouri does not have the "buy the

farm" law. 1 2 I think they thought we were an easy target. 3 ATXI, instead of upgrading existing lines or following 4 roadways and existing easements, have chosen to destroy 5 forest blocks, go diagonally through cropland, and totally 6 disregard all our livelihoods. This line is not essential 7 to Missouri, and provides little or no benefit to us. And 8 I think my husband would like to donate his time to me, if 9 I could finish. 10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: You may finish. Thank you. 11 DR. WILSON: All right. We're extremely 12 grateful to our county commissioners in all the five 13 counties that are affected who are willing to stand up and 14 do the right thing to oppose this project. 15 (Appl ause) 16 DR. WILSON: PSC commissioners, you need to 17 do the right thing, too, and deny ATXI the certificate of 18 necessity required for this project. 19 (Appl ause) 20 DR. WILSON: This line does not benefit 21 Missouri, and it is your responsibility to protect the 22 interests of us, the citizens. 23 Lastly, I would like to speak to the human 24 toll this proposed project is taking on those it will 25 affect. I'm not a farmer. I'm a physician. I don't know

much about crops or cattle, but I do know about human 1 2 suffering. And I am witnessing it firsthand here. 3 (Appl ause) 4 DR. WILSON: I know the pain, the anxiety, 5 the fear, the grief, the loss, the human suffering 6 occurring by those who may lose their farms, their lands, their livelihoods, and possibly their health. 7 The farmers, 8 the beekeepers, the cattlemen, the legacy farmers whose 9 lives, lands and future will be forever harmed by this 10 project. 11 Commissioners, I would like you to look into 12 the eyes of this -- these good people and tell me what 13 price is it worth to take what they have worked for. To 14 Ameren I say: You have greatly underestimated the citizens 15 of northeast Missouri, their intelligence, their fortitude, 16 their tenacity and strength. They will not give up and 17 surrender their land. 18 (Appl ause) 19 DR. WILSON: This line is just wrong. 20 Commissioners, please do your job and protect us. Please 21 do the right thing. And thank you. I appreciate it. 22 (Appl ause) 23 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Thank you very much. This looks to be a convenient time to take a 24 25 break. I'm going to try to make this pretty brief, since

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1 we have several people who still want to testify. I'm 2 showing it's 8:10 on this clock. Let's resume at 8:20. 3 All right. Thank you. We're going off the record. 4 (Off the record.) 5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: I'd ask everyone to take a 6 seat, please. If I can have everyone take a seat, please. 7 If I could have everyone take a seat, please. All right. 8 Thank you. 9 Before I go on to the next witness, let me 10 reiterate: I do have some people who have signed up that have testified before. I would ask if you're one of those 11 12 people that you would consider moving toward the end of the 13 line to allow others who haven't been heard yet to testify. 14 Then, also, we need to wrap this up around eleven o'clock. 15 The building closes around 11:30. And we'll do everything 16 we can to get everybody heard. As you can see, you know, 17 it takes a long time to get this done. I'll try to get 18 through without another break. But if my court reporter 19 falls over, we're going to have to take a small break and 20 give her a chance to rest before we continue. 21 All right. The next witness is Marsha 22 I hope I pronounced that correctly. Sal assa. 23 MS. SALASSA: You did. You did beautiful. 24 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. 25 MS. SALASSA: I actually had someone read on

my behalf last night, but listening today I -- there are 1 2 some other things I'd like to add. 3 JUDGE PRIDGIN: If you'll raise your right 4 hand to be sworn. 5 (Witness sworn.) 6 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. If you would, 7 please, state and spell your name and then you may then 8 testify. 9 MS. SALASSA: My name is Marsha Salassa, 10 M-A-R-S-H-A S-A-L-S-A-S-S-A. 11 I just want to say I am opposed to Mark 12 Twain transmission project because of the potential harm it 13 poses to my parents' family farm. I haven't seen a lot of 14 the next generation here tonight. I am the next generation 15 of farmer. I've watched my dad work this land his entire 16 life, and my grandfather before him. I've seen the harm 17 that it's going to do to my neighbors, and that it's --18 they've gone through with this process; the harm to my 19 friends' livestock, wildlife. 20 My father harvests hay to feed his cattle on 21 these fields, and then grazes his cattle there. This is 22 Ameren is asking him to take a pay cut. his job. Woul d 23 you like it if somebody told you you had to take a pay cut? 24 I don't know too many people that would be happy about a 25 pay cut. He's going to lose the quality of land because of

1	the soil impaction from all of those vehicles that have to
2	drive out on that field to put in those power lines. That
3	reduces the grass that's produced on that land. If he goes
4	to put crop in anywhere that that land is compacted, that
5	crop will not grow like it does where it's not compacted.
6	I walk through these fields to help him herd
7	cattle and move hay. I fear for his well-being, my own,
8	and that of his livestock.
9	Also, I think the second man that spoke read
10	for Waldo West. My dad also goes to that farm and harvests
11	hay and crops for that gentleman. So it's not only
12	affecting him where he actually works, but this is another
13	form of income that he gets from this gentleman who's also
14	losing land to this project, so he's going to further get a
15	pay cut from that.
16	This proposed high-voltage power line would
17	not only decrease the value of the land, but also
18	productivity. The effects these line will cause will last
19	a lifetime, if not forever, by taking out precious top
20	soil. Whereas Waldo's land is mostly flat, my dad's is
21	rolling hills. So you're taking out trees, grass. That's
22	going to increase erosion in areas that he's worked hard to
23	put in things to not cause erosion, which is part of the
24	CRP project. And I don't even I'm not even sure we
25	had some small amount of land that is still in the CRP.

1	Tornadoes have frequented this area in past
2	years, and the damage that would done by this event would
3	be catastrophic, if these lines were in place. If a
4	tornado hits a one of these lines, you can't tell me if
5	it crashes to the ground and there's a herd of cattle there
6	that it's not going to kill those cattle. It's going by
7	ponds, over creeks, over highways. It's going by our
8	entire neighbor it's like going right in front of their
9	home. There are three proposed routes. They finally
10	narrowed it down to this one because, interestingly enough,
11	there were churches and schools that were close to the
12	other ones.
13	So if it's not okay to go by these places
14	with a lot of children and where people congregate, why
15	would it be okay to go directly in front of my neighbor's
16	house? Or another neighbor that's on down the way, who
17	decided to build his home there and raise his children
18	there?
19	And they say that these EMFs are not going
20	to affect us, but they haven't even done the studies here.
21	The only studies you can really find are in European
22	countries, and they say that these EMFs do cause childhood
23	leukemia. So if it's going to cause cancer in children,
24	what's it going to do to my dad's cow when they have
25	cal ves?

1 This project is not in the public interest 2 for the state of Missouri. It's just going through us. 3 They never once -- Ameren never once said they've provided 4 anything to Missouri residents as far as electricity. It's 5 just going through. That's it. 6 The environmental impact alone is 7 disheartening. In past years there has been a decline in 8 wildlife such as Bobwhite and pheasant. I have seen an 9 increase in such wildlife on this very property. Just to 10 have their habitat destroyed by these lines seems like such 11 a waste. 12 It's not -- if it's not okay to run by the 13 schools and churches, why would it be okay to run by 14 someone's home where children are living? How many 15 creatures that we aren't even aware of will be harmed by 16 these power lines, including bees? Ameren would never 17 answer questions like these in their open houses. The 18 entire process, they were rude, they were disrespectful 19 towards landowners, and homeowners. 20 I never actually heard Ameren answer 21 anyone's question. They just kept pushing you from one 22 table to another table. And if you -- basically, didn't 23 want you to ask a question. They just wanted you to listen 24 to what they had to say and not basically fight back in any 25 way.

1	Ameren has not proven that this project will
2	benefit Missouri in any way other than the temporary jobs
3	that it will create during the construction process not
4	even the benefits of electricity conducted by these lines.
5	These temporary jobs I'm almost done do not outweigh
6	the overall damage and loss of productivity to the land of
7	Missourians. It's a temporary job. My dad's job will span
8	the entirety of his life, and possibly mine. How can
9	something temporary outlie outweigh forever?
10	I would like to thank the PSC for their help
11	and support in this matter, and for help keeping the
12	public's interests in mind, and request that the PSC deny
13	this project.
14	(Appl ause)
15	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Thank you. Nina
16	Meyers.
17	MS. MEYERS: Yes. I'd like to donate my
18	time to Michael Kelrick.
19	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Marian Spring.
20	MS. SPRING: I would also like to donate my
21	time to Michael Kelrick.
22	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Sharon Johns.
23	MS. JOHNS: I'd also like to donate my time,
24	pl ease.
25	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Michael Kelrick.

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1	Thank you. If you'll raise your right hand to be sworn,
2	pl ease.
3	(Witness sworn.)
4	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. Please
5	state and spell your name for the court reporter, and you
6	may then testify.
7	MR. KELRICK: My name is Michael Ira Keller,
8	M-I-C-H-A-E-L I-R-A K-E-L-R-I-C-K.
9	Okay. I'd like to thank the members of the
10	Public Service Commission for being here and for allowing
11	us to testify, and thanks for the people who have ceded
12	their time to me. I appreciate that as well.
13	I'm a biologist here at Truman State
14	University. I've been here for the past 28 years. I've
15	also served administrative roles at the University,
16	including the director of interdisciplinary studies in the
17	provost's office and as the chair of the biology
18	department. My training is as an ecologist. I am a
19	practicing conservation biologist and a population dynamics
20	modeler.
21	I have extensive experience doing field
22	conservation biology work, I have been funded by and worked
23	closely with both state and federal land management
24	agencies on species of conservation concern. Among many
25	studies that I've been involved in conducting, this has

1	included work in Missouri the federally endangered
2	Missouri bladderpod. That's a plant species. For example,
3	I conducted U.S. Geological Service Biotic Resources
4	Division funded research and provided recommendations
5	supporting, and consequently co-authored the management
6	plan for that plant species where it occurs on Wilson's
7	Creek National Battlefield, which is a national park site
8	just south of Springfield, Missouri.
9	I've also worked in U.S. Forest Service
10	wilderness areas in Colorado and Wyoming, conducting field
11	surveys of amphibians of conservation concern and also
12	studies of non-native plant species work that was supposed
13	by the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute of the
14	U.S. Forest Service.
15	All of this is to simply say that I'm
16	testifying as a trained and relevantly experienced field
17	ecologist about considerations pertaining to the
18	prospective impacts of the proposed transmission project on
19	non-human species and habitats.
20	I'm understanding that in their application
21	testimony Ameren transmission of Illinois, I've heard
22	people referring to this entity as ATXI, so I will as well
23	has admitted that they must conduct field studies,
24	
24	perhaps pursuant to the Endangered Species Act and other
24 25	perhaps pursuant to the Endangered Species Act and other regulatory statutes, and thus will need approval going

1	forward from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and perhaps
2	also the Missouri Department of Conservation regarding the
3	concerns of these agencies. And I'm glad to know this,
4	since it's also my understanding as an ecologist that this
5	would be most necessary.
6	So some comments from correspondence that
7	I'm aware of that passed between the Fish and Wildlife
8	Service office here in Missouri, the Columbia office, and
9	Ameren, or ATXI, representatives thereof, as well as the
10	Missouri Conservation Department. These correspondences
11	occurred starting in June of 2014 and through December of
12	2014. And I'd like to note before I continue with my
13	comments that if I could submit several documents as
14	exhibits that I will have mentioned in my continuing
15	testimony.
16	So among the many concerns voiced in these
17	pieces of correspondence from both the U.S. Fish and
18	Wildlife Service representatives as well as the Missouri
19	Conservation Department representatives, they address
20	species of federal level conservation concern. These are
21	two bat species the endangered the federally
22	endangered Indiana bat, myotis sodalis, as well as its
23	congeneric species that is a candidate for federal listing,
24	the Northern Long-eared bat. It's myotis detentions.
25	They also mentioned impact on tracts of

continuous forest habitat, especially its fragmentation
 that will occur should this project go forward insofar as
 it has well-documented effects on migratory songbird
 species that nest in these forests.

5 The correspondence also mentions prospective 6 impacts on raptors and owls, their nesting habitat; 7 prospective impacts on biparium (ph) corridors, which are 8 important sources of both habitat as well as prey items for 9 the bird species and the bats that I've already mentioned; 10 and prospective impacts on special conservation easements 11 that the Missouri Department of Conservation has with 12 private landowners.

All of these will require some level of attention, at the very least in terms of consultation with the pertinent agencies. Most will require more or much more effort, including extensive field survey work, to provide information that's necessary to address the concerns of these agencies.

19 I'd like to address this explicitly by
20 reading something from the correspondence dated December
21 5th, 2014 from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service office.
22 And I quote, "The Mark Twain transmission project consists
23 of two major segments, Maywood to Zachary and Zachary to
24 State Line. For each major segment, Ameren has reduced the
25 potential alternatives within each segment to two

1	alternative routes per segment. The two routes Maywood to
2	Zachary run through Marion, Shelby, Lewis, Knox, and Adair
3	Counties. The two routes for Zachary to State Line run
4	through Adair and Schuyler Counties. Every county
5	intersected by the proposed alignment is known to be
6	occupied by maternity colonies of the endangered Indiana
7	bat" that's a federal endangered species "myotis
8	sodalis. Furthermore, based on past surveys, the routes
9	pass through five known maternity colony home ranges."
10	That's where the bats raise their young, and they use the
11	home ranges as the territory for foraging.
12	Many areas along the proposed line have
13	suitable habitat but likely have not been surveyed for
14	federally listed bats. These areas of suitable habitat in
15	the aforementioned counties have a high likelihood of
16	occupancy by Indiana bats, proposed endangered northern
17	long-eared bat. That's the myotis septentrionalis also
18	present in northeast Missouri and has been documented in
19	Lewis County. It's much more reportedly known than the
20	more rare myotis sodalis.
21	The end paragraph of this particular letter
22	from the December 5th, 2014 says, "Finally, when selecting
23	the final alignment, Ameren should minimize overall forest
24	degradation and loss and should avoid habitat fragmentation
25	of existing forest patches to the extent practical to

1	reduce impacts to federally listed bats and migratory
2	birds. At this time the Service cannot recommend specific
3	routes because each of the four alternatives intersects
4	with know Indiana bat maternity colony home ranges. The
5	Service requests a meeting with Ameren and the Missouri
6	Department of Conservation to coordinate efforts on the
7	Mark Twain transmission project before the final line is
8	selected. Should proposed route alternatives change"
9	dot, dot, dot contact information.
10	So it seems very clear that there's a
11	substantial amount of field work that would be required to
12	even ascertain whether there are concerns to be pursued,
13	and then furthermore that the plans for addressing whatever
14	the consequences of those field studies would be would
15	remain to be worked out with those agencies. And those
16	agencies, indeed, would have to approve those plans prior
17	to the project going forward.
18	I want to mention a couple of papers from
19	the relevant ecological literature that I think state a
20	couple of important points. One that is mentioned by the
21	Fish and Wildlife Service; the other that is not mentioned
22	by them that might even be more important. These are going
23	to be in the documents that I submit as exhibits.
24	So one addresses the effect of forest
25	structure and fragmentation that is, the interruption of

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1	continuous forest by construction on the site occupancy
2	of bat species. This study was conducted in southeastern
3	Missouri. It's the closest that I could get to the habitat
4	that the bats would be experiencing up here. And in the
5	abstract which distills down what the study had to say, it
6	says that at the landscape scale, occupancy of Indiana
7	bats, the federal endangered species, was directly related
8	to the amount of right forest and land cover.
9	Northern long-eared bats, the other species that is a
10	candidate, was universally related to edge. That is the
11	smaller the fragment, the fewer the bats would be there
12	because more edge due to fragmentation. And in both cases
13	forest management was viewed as a very important component
14	to the maintenance of these species on the landscape.
15	So whatever the impacts that are direct of
16	the destruction of forest, which are substantial because
17	the Indiana bat requires large snags for its roosting and
18	nesting colony sites, just the change on the landscape
19	level would also appear to be detrimental if the forests
20	are going to be destroyed for the installation of this
21	transmission line. And therefore, survey work would have
22	to be conducted prior to that time to establish which bats
23	are there and whether they actually represent roosting
24	maternity colonies for the Indiana bats, especially under
25	the Endangered Species Act.

1 Finally, another consideration that was not 2 even mentioned by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the 3 Missouri Department of Conservation is the current pathogen 4 known as white nose syndrome -- pathogen -- that is 5 decimating bat species in the eastern part of North 6 American. It's been moving westward over the past ten 7 years, and has reached eastern Missouri. 8 We don't know whether it's present in 9 northeastern Missouri in either of these two species or not, but both of the two species that I mentioned are hosts 10 for white nose syndrome in other parts of their habitat 11 12 further eastwards. 13 So let me just read you a couple sentences 14 from the beginning of this paper that was published in 15 2012, which is a review of the population level impact with 16 white nose syndrome on the endangered Indiana bat. 17 "White nose syndrome has been associated 18 with severe and abrupt declines in bat abundance in eastern 19 North America since the winter of 2006. As of spring of 20 2012, white nose syndrome has been confirmed in 21 hibernacula" -- that's where the bats spend their winters 22 -- "as far north as Ontario and Quebec and as far south as 23 Alabama and as far west as eastern Missouri. The fungus 24 causing white nose syndrome, Geomyces destructans, has been 25 observed for over a wider range, occurring in Oklahoma, for

instance" -- all right -- and so forth. 1 2 The impact reported by these authors on this 3 paper across six bat species including the Indiana bat and the long-eared bat is a decline of 10.3 percent annually. 4 5 And for the Indiana bat in particular and other parts of 6 its range, it has reversed the trends of gains that it had 7 been making in the prior 15 years, since it was a listed 8 speci es. 9 So any weakening of the bats themselves by 10 virtue of habitat destruction would only render them more suspectible to other such difficulties and insults. 11 To mv 12 mind, that's worth taking note of, whether the U.S. Fish 13 and Wildlife Service mentioned it or not. 14 So it would be my recommendation that the 15 Commission members do not approve this request until the 16 appropriate field work has been conducted to provide the 17 appropriate information required for the agencies involved 18 -- that is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Missouri 19 Department of Conservation -- to discharge those agencies' 20 obligations under the relevant statutes to protect wildlife 21 and habitat appropriately. These include the Endangered 22 Species Act, the Natural Environment and Policy Act, and so 23 forth. 24 It seems appropriate to request that the 25 results of these studies, as well as the consequent plans

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1	to address their findings, should be open for public
2	scrutiny and comments before the Commission rules on a
3	proposed project. If, however, the Commission chooses to
4	approve ATXI's project before such field studies are
5	conducted in full, and a completed plan for the entire
6	route is developed, and they've appropriately addressed the
7	results of said field studies, then I must recommend that
8	the Commission's approval be made conditional until the
9	studies are completed in full and the plan for the entire
10	route has been approved by the relevant agencies involved.
11	Thank you for your attention. And if you
12	could tell me where I could deliver these documents, I will
13	do so.
14	JUDGE PRIDGIN: If you can give those to
15	JUDGE PRIDGIN reporter, please.
16	MR. KELRICK: Thank you very much.
17	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you.
18	(Appl ause)
19	(WHEREIN; Exhibit 7 was marked for
20	identification.)
21	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Tim Peters. All right. If
22	you'll raise your right hand to be sworn, please.
23	(Witness sworn.)
24	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. Please
25	state and spell your name for the court reporter, and you

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1 may then testify. 2 MR. PETERS: My name is Tim Peters, T-I-M 3 P-E-T-E-R-S. 4 First of all, I'd like to thank you for 5 giving me the opportunity to speak. And I can stand here 6 and tell you my story, as those have before me and will 7 after me, but it's pretty much the same as theirs. 8 I own a parcel of land that this 9 transmission line will cut diagonally from corner to corner 10 through my property, rendering it useless to me completely. 11 The line comes in on my property at the only 12 point in which I can enter it. Therefore, if this is 13 approved, my land is of no value to me whatsoever, and will 14 be of no value to anyone in the future. 15 In preparation for tonight, I thought about 16 telling you at an Ameren public meeting how they told me 17 that now they've selected the line I couldn't build on it. 18 And I told them, "Well, I plan to build my house on it," to which their reply was, "Well, we'd have to question your 19 20 motivations." They would have to question my motivations 21 for doing on my land what I intended to do with it. 22 There's something really wrong with that. That led me to 23 believe that this process is really kind of whack. 24 These people here and the others you've 25 heard and the others you will hear should not have to

1 defend their property rights to a company --2 (Appl ause) 3 MR. PETERS: I say instead Ameren should be 4 begging our forgiveness for doing this to us, for making us 5 come here and testify. You, sir, should go back to them 6 and say, "We're doing a terrible injustice," but I doubt 7 that you will. 8 Ameren may claim that this is necessary for 9 the greater good, but I have to ask the Commission: Can 10 you name for me one person who has suffered by this line 11 not having already been put in? I doubt it. But if you 12 look behind me at the people who are behind here yet to 13 testify and the ones who have, you see the faces of the 14 people who have suffered in red. Even before this line is 15 in people will suffer greatly after it's -- if it's 16 approved by you. 17 Now, I'm not saying Ameren can't build and 18 grow their for-profit company. I'm a company owner myself. 19 I'm all for profit, but not at the cost of destroying 20 family lives. And to those of you who've testified and 21 thanked us, it's not accepted. If I had to make my living 22 destroying a family farm or a century farm or a homestead, I'd quit. 23 (Appl ause) 24 25 MR. PETERS: Let them find a route that has 113

1	no harm. There are people who will sell, who don't see the
2	harm. Let them find that route. If they wish to make a
3	profit off this line, let them pay the cost of doing the
4	business that they have to do, the same way I have to pay
5	the cost of business.
6	I'm going to read to you part of your
7	mission statement that's right on your website: Provide an
8	efficient regulatory process that is responsive to all
9	parties and perform our duties ethically and professionally
10	ethically and professionally.
11	Every day I go to work and I'II be a
12	little happier going to work tomorrow knowing that nobody
13	suffers when I do my job. My men come to me. We're in
14	homes. We're in businesses. We're on your family farms.
15	And we have issues that come up in our jobs that we're
16	doing. And they'll come to me and say, "What do I do?
17	We've run into a problem." And every day I say the same
18	thing to them, "Just do the right thing." I don't care if
19	it costs us money. They've trusted us to be in their
20	house. Just do the right thing. I wish Ameren had that
21	same goal. We wouldn't be here tonight.
22	(Appl ause)
23	MR. PETERS: Instead, by choosing through
24	lines, they've pitted farmers and friends against each
25	other, hoping that the others would drop out and hope that

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it's your property, not mine. Next, it could be your 1 2 property. And even if they hadn't chosen mine, I'd be here 3 toni ght. 4 So I'm asking the Commission to honor its 5 mission to behave ethically and professionally and to ask 6 Ameren to do the right thing: To find another way that is 7 ethical, professional, fair, and just; a way that does no 8 harm to the citizens of this state and the people you see 9 before you tonight. Thank you. 10 (Appl ause) 11 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Commissioner Rupp, any 12 questions? 13 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Who was it that told you 14 that they would question your intentions, and when did that 15 happen? 16 MR. PETERS: It was at the same gathering 17 that -- well, I think it was -- Randy was at, at the 18 church, where we were ushered around. For people who know 19 nothing about farming, they sure knew how to herd us around 20 like cattle, from station to station. 21 And when I got to the real estate station 22 and started questioning the line and where it was going to 23 go, it was the gentleman there who looked at me and said, 24 "Well, we would just have to question your motivation." 25 That is his direct words. I was dumbfounded.

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1 COMMI SSI ONER RUPP: Was that -- do you know, 2 was he an employee of Ameren? Was he a legal counsel? Do 3 you know? 4 MR. PETERS: He had an Ameren shirt on, so I 5 would assume he was an employee of Ameren. 6 COMMISSIONER RUPP: And where was this? 7 What city was this? 8 MR. PETERS: This was here in Kirksville at 9 the First Baptist Church over on Jamison. 10 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Thank you. 11 MR. PETERS: Thank you. 12 MR. WILLIAMS: I'd like to ask a quick 13 question. 14 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Williams. 15 MR. WILLIAMS: How large is your parcel of 16 ground that the line is to cross? 17 My parcel of ground is 40 MR. PETERS: 18 And the majority of the acreage is fairly rough acres. 19 terrain, so there's really only two building sites. And 20 believe it or not, they cut right through both of them. 21 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you. 22 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Thank you. Reverend 23 Jeremy Broach. If you'll raise your right hand to be 24 sworn, please. 25 (Witness sworn.) 116

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1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. Please 2 state and spell your name for the court reporter, and you 3 may then testify. 4 MR. BROACH: Jeremy Broach, J-E-R-E-M-Y 5 B-R-O-A-C-H. 6 Good evening. Thank you for this 7 opportunity. I'm a pastor here in the community. And 8 there are several with land in our church that are affected 9 by this issue. I was asked to share on the very sensitive 10 topic, and when asked to share this evening I was a little 11 taken back. 12 I don't own land that's affected, and I know 13 little about the subject at hand. My first inclination was 14 to say no to the offer and just move on. But as I thought 15 about it and researched it, I found there's something I can 16 share that may help. 17 As a minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ, 18 I don't claim any extensive experience or expertise on 19 either side of this issue. I understand some of it and can 20 sympathize with the landowners. I understand even less on 21 Ameren's side of the issue. So I won't be speaking toward 22 any of the subjectivity that's been thrown around this 23 eveni ng. I do, however, carry some authority in 24 25 theology and what God says about human behavior. I've

1 noticed some fear mongering, and now appeal to those who 2 believe in a sovereign God. This type of behavior does not 3 line up with your beliefs. 4 We're to trust God and to do what's right, 5 especially when things don't seem to be in our favor. 6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your 7 own understanding, Proverbs 35 says. And Psalm 37:25, I 8 have been young and now I'm old, yet have not seen the 9 righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread. 10 I do, however, have just two more comments in opposition to this project. God created man with free 11 12 will. This is one of the key attributes that make us in 13 His image. One thing we can see for sure all throughout 14 the scriptures is that God, even in His sovereignty, will 15 not violate our free will. There are consequences when 16 immoral choices are made which cause us to lose freedom, 17 but we are free to choose. This is one of the reasons we 18 experience evil in the world we do today. God will not 19 make us choose Him or make us do His bidding. It's our 20 And God allows us to make it, even if it goes choi ce. 21 against the good of all. 22 He's careful to tell us His will and how we 23 should behave, but He never forces us. So I caution 24 forcing someone to go against their free will, even if it 25 can be justified as being for the greater good. To violate

this principle without moral violation would be a grave 1 2 perversion of governmental power. 3 Finally, there seems to be no way around the 4 facts that property values will diminish. The biblical 5 issue that arises here is one of inheritance. In the 6 scriptures, an inheritance is also known as a blessing. 7 Many families being affected by this project will be 8 unwillfully forfeiting some of their inheritance. To bless 9 our children, or even our grandchildren, is a good thing 10 and encouraged by God. Like it says in Proverbs 13:22: Α 11 good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children. 12 So the issue is not one of just land. lt's 13 an issue of taking away blessings and violating free will, 14 even when morality is not in question. Please carefully 15 consider your actions. Just because something is legal 16 does not mean it honors the creator and sustainer of our 17 life. I thank you and I pray that our great God will bless 18 you and give you wisdom. 19 (Appl ause) 20 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. John Moore. 21 Raise your right hand and be sworn, please. 22 (Witness sworn.) 23 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. Pl ease 24 state and spell your name for the court reporter, and you 25 may then testify.

1 MR. MOORE: My name is John Moore, J-O-H-N 2 M-0-0-R-E. 3 And I would also to thank you all for your 4 time and listening to our concerns. 5 When I first came here this evening I wasn't 6 sure exactly what I was going to speak about. As I've sat 7 here, I wanted to rebut a couple of things that some of the 8 Ameren surrogates brought forth early in the evening. 9 One gentleman testified that he worked 10 underneath these power lines to no ill effect, and I'm sure 11 that's true. But I can give the example of my brother, who 12 at the age of 15, after living underneath Ameren 13 transmission lines, developed acute lymphocytic leukemia. 14 So I'm not saying it's from the power lines, but I am 15 saying that he did have leukemia after living under these 16 power lines for ten years. So for one person to say, "I'm 17 healthy because I worked under lines," that doesn't 18 necessarily mean that somebody else might not be healthy. 19 So that is something that we all do need to consider. 20 The second thing I would like to address was 21 one of the contractors that worked with Ameren said that 22 they would be wonderful partners for the rest of us to work 23 I have one Ameren pole sitting on my property that with. 24 actually goes to my neighbor's house. They wanted to 25 spray, and in doing so they sprayed the shrubs and trees

that were growing up underneath the line, but they also
 killed a large patch of my alfalfa that I harvest to feed
 the sheep.

4 Then on my neighbor's property line that's 5 next to me, they sprayed into the grass that we put up for 6 hay, destroying that. I know it wasn't intentional. I 7 know a lot of the Ameren employees here in the area -- good 8 people. I call several of them friends. But I also know 9 that the workers that they may have contracted to do this 10 work are not necessarily as careful as the picture is being presented, so I do want people to realize that. 11

12 Finally, the point I did want to make 13 whenever I came here is that when I spoke with Ms. Peggy 14 Ladd earlier this year, she also used the same derogatory 15 term of calling people NIMBYs -- not in my backyard. And 16 she said she didn't even want to deal with people like 17 And it caused me to think. And whenever Mr. Rupp that. 18 asked somebody what CRP was, it also reminded me that some 19 people don't have the same connection or understanding of 20 the land that a lot of us here in northeast Missouri do. 21 The piece of property that I live on that --

the lot that -- the proposed line is going to go diagonally across mine, like it is so many others, that piece of property I bought from the man that was my sponsor when I was confirmed in the Catholic faith. And he was a friend

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1	of the family for years. He was kind enough to sell me
2	this piece of property. My wife and I built a house on
3	this piece of property. It's halfway between my veterinary
4	clinic in La Plata and my veterinary clinic that I operate
5	with my father in Kirksville. This is the one piece on the
6	entire planet that I wanted to live. I can see my
7	grandparents' farm from my back deck. We built a pond that
8	we could look at from our back deck. And those power lines
9	are going to go between my house and that pond.
10	And I understand there are lots of stories
11	out here just like mine, but what Mrs. Ladd Ms. Ladd did
12	not understand is that that land means something to me. It
13	means something to these people here that's passed down
14	from generation to generation. We're not a backyard in
15	suburban St. Louis that we can take a big lump sum from
16	Ameren and go buy another place. It's not that way to us.
17	To us, it is our way of life. It means just as much to us
18	as our pets and our family members. We have that
19	connection, that very visceral connection to the land and
20	to the property.
21	And so I would ask that the Commission try
22	to try to understand that and try to realize that we
23	need to build these lines if it has to be done, we need
24	to do it in the least impactful manner possible. Find

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other routes. Use rivers, railways, highway systems. We

1	there are plenty of other ways. And I can actually see
2	Ameren power lines about a mile north of me. I don't know
3	why that line can't be used as well. I think there are
4	other ways. We've been way too quickly or Ameren has
5	been too quick to try to push this whole process through
6	and not taking their time like Dr. Kelrick discussed
7	lots of ecological issues that we need to try to figure
8	out.
9	I wish that everybody would step back, take
10	their time, and please try to do what's right and what's
11	best for all people involved. I appreciate your time.
12	Thank you.
13	(Appl ause)
14	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Aaron
15	Hollenbeck.
16	MR. HOLLENBECK: I'd like to be affirmed.
17	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you.
18	(Witness affirmed.)
19	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. If you would,
20	please, state and spell your name for the court reporter,
21	and you may then testify.
22	MR. HOLLENBECK: My name is Aaron
23	Hollenbeck, A-A-R-O-N H-O-L-L-E-N-B-E-C-K.
24	I'm here today to express my opposition to
25	the Mark Twain transmission project. I feel this line is
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1	harmful to us and our environment. It is easy for Ameren
2	to say that there's no harm when it's not their family that
3	could be affected. If I, standing here today as an
4	automotive technician for Ford, told you that the best car
5	to buy was a 2015 Ford Edge, would you just take me at my
6	word, or would you go and do your own research and read
7	other reviews and see if it was, indeed, the best car?
8	I've had a lot of experience with EMFs.
9	Prior to working on cars I worked commercial refrigeration.
10	And these systems, we have to deal with EMFs affecting our
11	communication circuits. If you put a communication line
12	too close to a high-voltage line, you will induce a false
13	signal to your computers, creating a system to malfunction.
14	Most of the communication wire suppliers
15	have done multiple research to enable their systems to be
16	closer and not be affected by this, by installing shields
17	and cables and stuff inside of them. Unfortunately, we
18	can't do that to our homes.
19	Also, in the automotive world, as I've also
20	had plenty of experience as I went to school for automotive
21	technician, cars use communication systems as well. And if
22	you put a high-voltage line, such as a spark plug wire,
23	that emits a current, you can also affect these sensors and
24	cause false readings in the automotive world. This leads
25	me to wonder what can happen to the farmers and their

equi pment? 1 2 In this -- in the farming industry, more and 3 more things are becoming computerized. You have GPS-guided 4 tractors. You have planters that determine how much seed 5 to put along the way, how much fertilizer to install in the 6 soil. If driving underneath of these power lines could 7 induce a voltage into these communication systems, you 8 could also affect your production on that land. 9 At what expense do the farmers have to 10 suffer for the -- Ameren to have gains of fatter pockets? 11 I live right next to the land that Ameren is proposing to 12 have the Zachary substation. This land has been in my 13 family for over 100 generations. It's passed down from me 14 -- or from my family, and I plan to pass it down to my 15 kids, and then their kids, and futures to come. At what 16 extent is it -- to what extent do we go to say that your 17 profit is worth more than my family and my future family's 18 health and well-being? 19 I ask you guys to take all of these 20 testimonies that have been given to you and deeply consider 21 the potential harms that can be caused to us and our 22 So let our voices be heard as a united group. communities. 23 I thank you for your time. 24 (Appl ause) 25 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. 125

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1 Ariel Shapiro. Are you the same Ariel Shapiro that 2 testified last night? 3 MS. SHAPIRO: Yes. I'm reading on behalf of 4 someone el se. 5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. If 6 you'll raise your right hand to be sworn, please. Can I be affirmed? 7 MS. SHAPI RO: 8 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Yes, you may. 9 (Witness affirmed.) 10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Then if you would, please, 11 state and spell your name for the court reporter, and you 12 may then testify. 13 MS. SHAPI RO: Should I spell their name or 14 mi ne? 15 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Both, please. 16 MS. SHAPI RO: Okay. A-R-I-E-L 17 S-H-A-P-I-R-O. And the person I'm testifying for is 18 D-A-N-A M-C-D-O-W-E-L-L. 19 I would like to express my concern over the 20 transmission line that will run through Adair County. I 21 have lived in Adair County my entire life, and it is a 22 great place to live. Why are we wanting to destroy it by 23 putting these power lines across it? 24 Adair County is known for being one of the 25 best deer, turkey, and other hunting in northeast Missouri.

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These lines will make a great difference in hunting 1 2 wildlife and their habitats. These transmission lines 3 could change the revenue that Adair County gets from the 4 hunter that comes during the different hunting seasons. We 5 need to preserve our county for our children and future 6 generations to come. 7 I truly hope the Commission will say no to 8 these transmission lines and help us preserve our county. 9 I say no to this eminent domain and future ones. These 10 transmission lines will lower the value of the ground that 11 they cross drastically. They will limit the use of the 12 These lines will destroy development for the ground. 13 future of this ground that they cross. These lines are 14 crossing much of our prime farm ground and wildlife 15 habi tat. Today, it's this bunch of transmission lines. 16 Tomorrow it's a new bunch, and across different landowners 17 and ground. Please help us to preserve our ground. Dana 18 McDowell. 19 (Appl ause) 20 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Mark Thompson. If you'll raise your right hand to be sworn, please. 21 22 (Witness sworn.) 23 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. Pl ease 24 state and spell your name for the court reporter, and you 25 may testify.

1 MR. THOMPSON: My name is Mark Thompson, 2 M-A-R-K T-H-O-M-P-S-O-N. 3 Mark Thompson, standing here in front of you 4 this evening, is a commissioner from Adair County. **|'**m 5 proud to be part of the Adair County Commission, because we 6 drafted the initial resolution in opposition to the Mark 7 Twain transmission line. 8 (Appl ause) 9 MR. THOMPSON: As a politician, you might 10 find this a little bit disheartening, but I'm going to keep 11 this short tonight. So -- most politicians don't. 12 When I first came in, I noticed the young lady over here with a TV camera. Her name is Ashley Koch. 13 14 I remember her at the same meeting we've talked about 15 tonight over at the church on Jamison Street. I know that 16 she was standing -- sitting out there in a KTVO car. Ιt 17 She was denied access into that meeting. was hot. 18 I don't like the word transparency, but what 19 are they hiding? Why didn't they let the media in there to 20 hear what's going on? I find that unacceptable. 21 I'm going to make this short, so I'd like to 22 express that God has blessed northeast Missouri farmers to 23 serve as our breadbasket and the shepherds of our farmland. 24 The transmission line would simply be a -- an everlasting 25 big footprint diminishing our heritage and our

1	productivity. So am I emotional about this; yes. I am
2	a farmer. I my family family's farm, we're about a
3	quarter of a mile from the edge of the transmission line,
4	so it doesn't affect me personally nor my family.
5	Another thing I'd like to share with you:
6	CRP. That's been brought up several times tonight, the
7	Conservation Reserve Program. The transmission line would
8	force landowners who have contracted with the federal
9	government to involuntarily violate their contractual
10	agreement, and consequently result in substantial financial
11	penalty. I can say that very truthfully because I
12	contacted the USDA chief executive director today. He's
13	responsible for three counties here in northern Missouri
14	Adair County, Schuyler County, and Putman County. He
15	called me dad. So very proud of him. He tells it like it
16	is the truth.
17	I taught here for 31 years on this campus.
18	I hear very many I hear lots of times from people that I
19	teach with here, but last night and tonight the public has
20	spoken. Their testimonies have been articulate, educated,
21	emotionally packed presentations from those who oppose the
22	transmission line. And not only last night, but tonight,
23	there I guess a concern I have is when the transcript
24	from this kind young lady over here are conveyed to the
25	rest of the Commission through a transcript that they may

1 not feel the emotion behind what is expressed tonight. 2 Last night I heard the opponents discuss 3 their families' lives and livelihood being devastated by 4 the proponent's financial being. Commissions (sic), 5 whether it's yours or a county commission's are accountable 6 to their constituents. An advertised public hearing was 7 held in Adair County at the courthouse a few weeks ago 8 concerning the transmission line resulted in both pro and 9 con input from the attendees. A show of hands vote 10 reflected two in favor and 51 opposed to the transmission 11 line. Numbers do talk. 12 Five counties have -- let me start again. 13 Five counties' commissions have boldly spoken in opposition 14 to this transmission line. A quote from Indiana Jones' 15 movies seems very applicable at this time. To the Public 16 Service Commission, choose wisely. Deny their request. 17 To sum up tonight, I'd like to talk about 18 green energy. You know, we've talked about wind energy, 19 solar and that kind of stuff. I look at wind energy as 20 Money is green, and money has a powerful energy to money. 21 achi eve desi rable outcomes. As a commissioner, I cannot be 22 Thank you. bought. 23 (Appl ause) 24 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Any questions? 25 CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions. Thank you.

1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you very 2 much. 3 MR. WILLIAMS: I do have one brief question. 4 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Mr. Williams. 5 MR. WILLIAMS: If you would very briefly 6 explain what the CRP is. 7 MR. THOMPSON: I think it was explained 8 earlier tonight, if you were listening. CRP is the 9 Conservation Reserve Program. I've involved in it. It 10 doesn't affect my property. 11 It puts land in a contract with the federal 12 government for ten years. It sits idle. It's designed 13 both for soil conservation and wildlife refuge habitat. 14 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you. 15 Yes, sir. MR. THOMPSON: 16 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. The 17 next witness is Deborah (indiscernible). And I believe --18 did you testify last night? 19 I did, and if I've got a few MS. DEBORAH: 20 minutes tonight I'd like to give it to Deborah Ganes. 21 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. Pat 22 Doors and -- did you testify last night? 23 MS. DOORS: I testified at Shelby County, 24 but I would like to give my time to Deborah Ganes. 25 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. ALL

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Deborah Ganes, I believe you testified last night? 1 right. 2 MS. GANES: Yes, I did. I have new 3 information. 4 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Is this something 5 where you may be preventing somebody who hasn't been able 6 to be heard yet from being heard? I mean --7 MS. GANES: The information I have 8 represents the work of 300 people, and I feel a 9 responsibility to share some of it. 10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: If you're reading from a 11 letter, would you mind submitting the letter and 12 summarizing it rather than simply reading, just so we can 13 get other people to the microphone who haven't had a chance 14 to speak yet? 15 MS. GANES: I think it's important enough to 16 hear. I'll probably take ten minutes, if that. 17 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. I'll give you 18 your ten minutes. If you'll raise your right hand to be 19 sworn, please. 20 MS. GANES: Yes. 21 (Witness sworn.) 22 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Please state and 23 spell your name for the court reporter, and then you may 24 give your testimony. 25 MS. GANES: Deborah Games, D-E-B-O-R-A-H

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1	G-A-N-E-S.
2	Thank you for the opportunity to speak to
3	the Commission. This line is going right through my
4	daughter's homeschooling cooperative in La Plata, and would
5	devastate it, an intentional community in La Plata, that
6	lives without electricity and teach it the skills necessary
7	to do so. It's heartbreaking to have this line next to our
8	homeschooling cooperative because it's not safe for
9	children to be around.
10	There's nothing you can say to a
11	two-year-old to keep them from running under a transmission
12	line. And if there's wind, rain, or stray voltage, it
13	could be fatal. I'm deeply concerned for all the children
14	in our community, born and unborn. And I don't want any
15	children to have cancer.
16	I'm also concerned for those children as
17	adults, as adults will have farmland that is encumbered
18	with easements for transmission lines. Farmland is
19	restricted from productive use means there's less income
20	for future generations and less likelihood of the family
21	farm surviving.
22	I'm concerned this project doesn't provide a
23	net benefit to Missouri. Ameren Missouri doesn't need the
24	energy with their electricity generation being reduced by 7
25	percent in their 20-year plan. Ameren Missouri is the only

1 utility that's part of MISO in Missouri. The rural 2 electric cooperatives, the only other utility companies in 3 northeast Missouri, are not planning to use Mark Twain. 4 And they serve more of the meters in our counties than 5 Ameren does. 6 There are no operating wind farms in 7 Missouri that are planning to use Mark Twain. There are no 8 proposed wind farms in Missouri that are planning to use 9 Mark Twain. There is no plan to develop wind energy in the 10 state of Missouri. When Shuteye Creek Wind Farm was 11 terminated in 2012, Tradewinds' CEO Rod Freeman said it's 12 increasingly evident that the wind energy market in 13 Missouri will simply not develop in the foreseeable future 14 given the lack of interest in wind in the state. 15 There are no significant reliability issues 16 in northeast Missouri. There are only alleged reliability 17 issues starting in 2021, and they begin to drop off in 18 2026, according to an engineer with a Ph.D. in electrical 19 engineering from MIT. 20 Mark Twain is not needed for Ameren 21 Missouri's plan to add 400 megawatts of wind energy. The 22 Department of Energy projects a major decline in wind power 23 growth in the U.S. after 2016. The federal wind tax credit 24 has expired, and wind development will not continue without 25 it because the wind farms are cost prohibitive and

1 unsustai nabl e.

2	Mark Twain would devastate or destroy almost
3	300 farms, including century farms, and 54,000 acres of
4	farmland in northeast Missouri. ATXI is not going through
5	farms in Illinois, or Mid-America Energy is not going
6	through farms in lowa. And those are the states which
7	benefit the most from the line, because they produce the
8	most wind energy in MISO and are selling it to the east
9	coast.
10	In Illinois, ATXI must observe property
11	boundary lines. In lowa they are using existing easements
12	and upgrading an existing 161,000-volt line to 345,000
13	volts. ATXI proposed a route which minimized their costs,
14	but then the burden of increased costs is placed on our
15	farms instead.
16	ATXI would maximize its profits and
17	guarantees a 12.38-percent return on equity. It makes it
18	virtually risk-free for ATXI with the forward-looking rate
19	cal cul ati on.
20	Our farms aren't earning anything from this
21	line. In fact, they are losing farm income and being
22	inadequately compensated for the amount of farmland that
23	would be taken out of full production forever.
24	Furthermore, they would bear the increased expenses of a
25	345,000-volt line interfering with farming. This cost can

1 be up to 200,000 or more per farm. 2 Under the Right to Farm law passed in August 3 of 2014, ATXI doesn't have the authority to take farmland 4 out of productive use. And it's a constitutional law to 5 protect Missouri's number one industry: Agriculture. The 6 Right to Farm law protects farms so corporations can't 7 devastate or destroy farms to maximize corporate profit. 8 ATXI calculates the cost of this project as 9 8 percent of the total project cost of 224 million, or 10 about 18 million to Missouri ratepayers. However, the real 11 cost is to our farms and loss of farm income due to 12 decreased production and increased expenses. 13 Farm expenses just to accommodate the line 14 would be over \$50 million. This doesn't include the 15 production income loss forever. When this real cost is 16 included, the costs far outweigh the benefits to Missouri. 17 Mark Twain requires upgrading the electrical 18 system from no code to National Electric Code at the 19 That alone makes this line cost farmers' expense. 20 prohibitive to everyone on it. Other expenses include 21 losing hundreds of acres of valuable top soil due to 22 construction; having to buy out of CRP; having to replace 23 electric fencing, GPS systems, electronic weigh scales on 24 the grain cart, metal storage bins; crop loss from acres 25 that can't be sprayed by a crop duster; price of cattle

killed from stray voltage; income loss due to the renter 1 2 asking for less cash rent per acre; income loss from leased 3 hunting ground due to construction and maintenance; less 4 crop yield due to soil impaction. The list goes on and on. 5 These expenses can reach 200,000 or more per 6 farm, not including the annual loss of income of up to 7 60,000 or more per farm. These would be out-of-pocket 8 expenses to financially strain farmers. These actual 9 tangible expenses should be included in a cost/benefit 10 analysis of the project. If ATXI is violating the Right to 11 Farm law and going through farms to save costs, they should 12 be required to compensate farms for these added expenses. 13 Otherwise, ATXI is maximizing profits by passing what would 14 be their costs on to the farms. 15 ATXI's cost for the line is \$2 million per 16 mile. If they cut through farms to take the straightest 17 distance between two points they save costs. If they save 18 ten miles of transmission, they've saved 20 million. But 19 it's costing the farms 50 million. And if ATXI were held 20 accountable for this cost, it would be more cost effective 21 for them to avoid the farms. 22 Even going along the property line --23 property boundary lines of the farm, if the easement is on 24 productive land, the same loss of income and increased 25 expenses applies. Only if ATXI is held accountable for

1 these costs then are they financially motivated to consider 2 using existing easements or upgrading existing lines. 3 One farm will lose 60,000 annually forever. 4 That's \$6 million a century on a century farm. ATXI 5 devastates the poorest counties in Missouri and then brags 6 the cost to Missouri is only \$18 million. This is wrong. 7 They do this by ignoring the inconvenient costs. Thi s 8 perpetuates erroneous decision making on everyone's part. 9 Now that Missouri has a Right to Farm law 10 and productive farml and is protected, these costs should be 11 part of the equation in the cost/benefit analysis. 12 Evaluating true cost supports the best 13 decision making. When these costs are included in the 14 project cost/benefit analysis, the project does not meet 15 the 2.3 to 3.3 cost/benefit range, and therefore it doesn't 16 pass the test of whether the proposal is economically 17 feasi bl e. 18 The only benefit to Missouri is a small 19 amount of tax revenue. Even if it's promised to last 20 20 years, the damage to our farms will last for centuries. 21 Money is not a reason to obliterate our livelihoods, 22 violate our Right to Farm law, and violate our 23 constitutional property rights. 24 Our engineer has recommended exist --25 upgrading an existing 161,000-volt line to 345,000 volts,

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1	instead of building this line. This would minimize land
2	use impacts and provide the lowest cost to ratepayers.
3	ATXI isn't motivated to upgrade the existing line because
4	they would earn 12.38 percent on the upgrade cost of 10
5	million rather than the project cost of 224 million.
6	Violating the Missouri constitutional Right
7	to Farm law to maximize their profits is confiscation of
8	farmland, and it's illegal according to the Right to Farm
9	law.
10	The weather in Missouri has been enough of a
11	challenge for farmers. Three of the last four years have
12	either been drought or excessive rains. The county losses
13	this year on average were two and a half to four million
14	per county. Farms have enough challenges without the added
15	burden of corporate interests.
16	The Missouri Department of Conservation
17	recommended that ATXI choose a route which destroyed the
18	least number of forest blocks, utilize more existing
19	easements, and largely follow the roadway. Instead, ATXI
20	chose a route which destroyed more forest blocks, used
21	almost no existing easements, and diagonally goes through
22	farms.
23	JUDGE PRIDGIN: That's ten minutes.
24	MS. GANES: That's ten. Okay.
25	JUDGE PRIDGIN: If you can wrap up quickly,
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that's fine. 1 2 MS. GANES: Okay. Thank you. 3 It's important to discern which projects are 4 essential. As we know, MISO has planned to spend 25 5 billion in the next 25 years. MISO has already planned 6 another four transmission lines in Missouri, one of which 7 is in NEMO -- northeast Missouri. Proposed transmission 8 projects will continue for at least the next decade per an 9 analyst S&P Capital IQ. 10 We respectfully object to our farms being 11 obliterated by continued proposed transmission lines. Α 12 majority of landowners are opposed to this line for 13 legitimate reasons. We request that the PSC require ATXI 14 to provide the cost/benefit analysis of the alternatives 15 consi dered. 16 And lastly, please take heed of our county 17 commissioners' decision to oppose the project and do what's 18 right for the farms and citizens of Missouri. We ask for 19 your help in defending our farming rights and our 20 constitutional property rights. We count on your help. 21 Please deny ATXI franchise, or at least disapprove the Mark 22 Twain project. We're not willing to forfeit our farming 23 rights or property rights to corporate profit. 24 Thank you. 25 (Appl ause) 140

1	JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. The
2	next witness is Mark Schild. And what I'm going to do
3	don't please, just a second, Mr. Schild. l've got about
4	20 witnesses left, and I'm trying to get everybody in
5	before we have to leave the building. If you'll try to
6	watch me, I'll try to give you a warning when you've got
7	one minute left. And then if everybody gets at or near the
8	five minute time, I think we can get everybody in, but I'll
9	just ask everybody to try to be sensitive to time.
10	All right. Thank you, sir. Very good.
11	Thank you. If you'll raise your right hand to be sworn,
12	pl ease.
13	(Witness sworn.)
14	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. Please
15	state and spell your name for the court reporter, and then
16	you may testify.
17	MR. SCHILD: My name is Mark Schild, M-A-R-K
18	S-C-H-I-L-D.
19	The farm that is impacted by this
20	transmission line is in Knox County. It's 95 acres. It's
21	the first farm my parents bought, and now I own. It was
22	purchased 60 years ago. It has been rented by sharecrop
23	for the entire 60 years. The last 45 years it's been
24	rented by two farmers, sharecropped the last 45 years by
25	one.

I guess my guestion is: What is my farm 1 2 going to be worth with a transmission line that runs from 3 the center of the north border diagonally to the southeast, 4 the entire length, and exits the southeast corner? And 5 what is it going to be worth if my sharecrop renters elect 6 not to farm anymore -- or anybody elects not to farm? It 7 will be dirt and that's it. 8 I'd like to make kind of an analogy for the 9 people who don't own ground but own a house, is that this 10 line enters my home by driving through a wall. You drive 11 through my home and you exit another wall on the way out. 12 Ameren wants to compensate me for the holes and the damage, 13 which will never be enough. The holes in the wall, the 14 holes in the home, cannot be fixed by me, my sons, my 15 grandchildren, or their children because that's the way 16 it's going to be. 17 Thank you for your time. 18 (Appl ause) 19 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Annette Sweed, 20 Douglas Sweed, have you already testified? No response. 21 All right. Thank you. Ethan Hughes. 22 You can -- thank you. If you'll raise your 23 right hand to be sworn, please. 24 (Witness affirmed.) 25 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you very much. If you

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would, please state and spell your name for the court 1 2 reporter, and you may then testify. 3 MR. HUGHES: First, can I ask my fellow 4 landowner, Helena Marcus is in France and has asked me to 5 also testify? We created this piece together. 6 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Sure. That's fine. 7 MR. HUGHES: Thank you. You spell her name H-E-L-E-N-A, Marcus, 8 9 M-A-R-C-U-S. My name is Ethan, E-T-H-A-N H-U-G-H-E-S, 10 Hughes. Thank you. 11 I want to start by asking everybody: What 12 was the United States government built for? It was 13 actually made to serve the American people. And businesses 14 were built to serve the needs of the American people. And 15 so it's amazing that we have to work hundreds of hours to 16 be heard by the government. I appreciate that you are 17 I know you have a family and you have neighbors and here. 18 you're spending your time here, and I honor that you're 19 here. And everyone else, thank you. 20 But I don't think American citizens need to 21 spend hundreds of hours to get signatures to talk to the 22 very corporations and governments that are supposed to 23 serve us. It says it in the constitution. 24 So is this project in the public interest? 25 First, we have to ask: Who is the public? Who's the

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1	public in Missouri? Ameren Illinois? They don't live in
2	Missouri, so they can't be the public interest of Missouri.
3	Out-of-state experts? They have nothing to do with the
4	interests of the people of Missouri.
5	So raise your hand if you are a public
6	interest someone representing the public interest of
7	Missouri. And if you are against this let me hear you say
8	no.
9	CROWD: No.
10	MR. HUGHES: So this hearing should be over
11	right now, if we're respecting the laws of the American
12	government. And I have been here with my wife. My
13	daughter is staying up with a cold and a sore throat. We
14	al ready said no.
15	But then the next question: Well, let's
16	check on the experts. So who are the experts? Ameren
17	Illinois? Let's check. In an open house I'm a
18	beekeeper of 15 years. Hollenbecks have 30 years. But
19	we're not experts. We're sharing about the loss of the
20	honeybee. We're talking about decimation of lots of our
21	food if the honeybee dies.
22	So they said, "Oh, we have an expert and
23	you're wrong." So I did some research. The Ameren expert
24	took a weekend bee class and they said they're the they
25	were the bee expert. And then I did a little survey. And

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1	this is just for common sense. I went up to Ameren
2	employees at the open house at the church and I said,
3	"Okay. If there were two identical farms and one had a
4	power line and one didn't, which one would you take?" And
5	the lower employees of Ameren said, "Of course, we'd take
6	the one without a power line." I started to ask six of
7	them I said, "Thank you for just being honest, for
8	telling the truth." The head person came in.
9	We got trouble Houston over here. We have
10	someone who's a rural dimwit trying to make scenarios.
11	So the guy comes down. He said, "What's the
12	question?" And I say, "What would you do? Two identical
13	farms: One with a power line and one without." He looked
14	me straight in the face and said, "I'd take the one with
15	the power line."
16	(Laughter)
17	MR. HUGHES: That's not an expert. That's
18	ridiculous. But they said that to my face.
19	So who's the expert? Is it the bureaucrats
20	in Washington, D.C. who have never milked a cow at 6:00 in
21	the morning, who are walking away with millions of
22	Americans' money? No. They're not the experts for
23	northeast Missouri.
24	So who is? Is it the lawyers? Well, all
25	these so-called experts haven't spent a day or an hour or a
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1	minute in northeast Missouri, and they're trying to tell us
2	what's in our best interests. It's it is ridiculous.
3	So the I want to find out: Who are the experts? Who
4	listens to residents? Who sat with them? Who listened to
5	Ameren? Who listened to the Public Service Commission?
6	There was someone in our county who lives here, our
7	neighbors, and they are the county commissioners. And I
8	want to give them a round of applause right now.
9	(Appl ause)
10	MR. HUGHES: I had time for Helena Marcus
11	and myself which makes ten minutes.
12	JUDGE PRIDGIN: I'm sorry. You're correct.
13	You can continue.
14	MR. HUGHES: But thank you for checking. I
15	want to honor everyone's voice tonight.
16	So they live with us. They are actually the
17	experts in this situation, because they're elected by us;
18	they know what's happening on the state level; and they are
19	listening to us. Not like going into the open house and
20	being treated like we're not human beings and disrespected.
21	So we ask the experts tonight, all the
22	county commissioners: What's your vote? You are the
23	experts. You live here. You elbow-to-elbow with your
24	neighbors. And every one of them says no. So you haven't
25	listened to the American people. So next let's listen to

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1	the experts, the county commissioners. And they say no.
2	They know us. They know our community and our community
3	needs. So, again, I'm just inviting you to follow what the
4	American constitution says to do. Listen to the people of
5	America. Listen to our local authorities that live with
6	us, not someone from out of state. They've never spent a
7	moment or a second at my farm, learning my name or my
8	daughter's name. So now you're saying maybe well, this
9	is just some guy that lives on a farm, and I don't
10	understand the big part of America the need for energy,
11	so this is all kind of local and not really relevant.
12	Really? Does America need more power? Do we need another
13	Las Vegas? Do we need another strip joint? Do we need
14	another where does all this power go?
15	Has Ameren said, "Let's shut off Las Vegas
16	so we can have our homes"? That hasn't even been proposed.
17	Where does it go, millions of dollars for mansions that our
18	elected officials which 90 percent in Washington D.C.
19	that are senators and our congress people are millionaires.
20	Can they represent us?
21	What about electricity? Do we need more?
22	According to many sources, if we put in retrofitted
23	all-electric saving devices right now in the United States,
24	in every home, every institution, in every school, in every
25	hospital, we would reduce overnight 70 percent of America's

1	electricity use 70 percent. Well, the question is: Why
2	don't we do this? We used to practice thrift and humility
3	and frugality, the values our ancestors stood by. Why
4	don't we do this? Because Ameren sells electricity. There
5	is no profit in this approach, to actually honor God's
6	creation and actually live with humility and live with
7	frugality. There is no money. And we all know that this
8	is all about money. Everyone who has spoken tonight has
9	been paid to come up here. There's been bribes to our
10	local officials, and it's an outrage. Basketball games and
11	money
12	(Appl ause)
13	MR. HUGHES: I know all of you sitting there
14	know what's happening on the state level. I have no idea,
15	and I'm sure it's shocking. Big government and big
16	corporations have had an unholy alliance, and I'm tired of
17	God's creation being pushed around, our farms and homes
18	being rolled over, and profit over people. So this is
19	about money. And our heroes on the city council, the
20	county commissioners are saying enough. Risk everything
21	for what is right, and not there's more.
22	We know this is corrupt. We know it's about
23	money. I invite you tonight to actually do something
24	different. Forget about money and power. Jesus said what
25	use is it to own the world and have all the riches of the

1	world if we lose our own souls. So in the end we don't
2	need this project. But I'm going to end with
3	(indiscernible) final authority in my life: God and Jesus
4	Christ who said, "You shall know my disciples by their love
5	for one another." One of the greatest commandments is love
6	your neighbor as yourself. The Golden Rule is do unto
7	others as you would have them do to you.
8	So dear Public Service Commission, please,
9	all of you sitting there up front, I ask you to humble
10	yourself to the ultimate expert and authority, God and
11	love, and to choose our families, our community, creation
12	and neighbors, choose a new course for America, a nation
13	based in humility, a nation based in love for one another,
14	a nation that honors God's holy creation. Seek in your
15	hearts tonight. Stand up for truth.
16	It is time to do the right thing. Say no to
17	greed. Say no to this line and yes to the American people;
18	yes to committing to take care of creation; say yes to us,
19	your neighbors, who God has commanded you to love. Thank
20	you.
21	(Appl ause)
22	CHAIRMAN HALL: Mr. Hughes, thank you for
23	that compelling testimony. You made a number of very
24	interesting points. I want to and I would remind you
25	that you're under oath. You alluded to some bribes. I was

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wondering if you could give me more information about that. 1 2 Or were you speaking metaphorically? 3 MR. HUGHES: I wasn't speaking 4 metaphorically. 5 CHAIRMAN HALL: Okay. Well, I --6 MR. HUGHES: I don't know how politics 7 works, so I want to honor my local county commissioners and 8 other people in the room, but there were basketball games 9 offered to people in this room. And I invite the county 10 commissioners and I invite those who have been offered 11 things to come up and speak. But I am going to have to 12 stand by people in the room who shared that information 13 And I -- you all know that there are bribes with us. 14 happening on the state level. 15 Can I ask you under oath: Are there bribes 16 happening at the state level right now? 17 CHAIRMAN HALL: Mr. Hughes, you're not doing 18 yourself service right now. Okay. You alluded to bribes 19 That's a serious, serious charge. Now, if under oath. 20 what you are telling us is that you've heard from others 21 that they received offers that constituted bribes, that's 22 Is that what you're saying? one thing. 23 MR. HUGHES: That is correct. 24 CHAIRMAN HALL: Okay. 25 MR. HUGHES: Other people --

1 CHAIRMAN HALL: Okay. 2 MR. HUGHES: -- other politicians --3 CHAIRMAN HALL: No. I would welcome anybody 4 else in this room that has direct evidence of this 5 happening, please provide us with that information. Thank 6 you. 7 MR. HUGHES: Yeah. Thank you so much for 8 that clarification. It was hearing that other people were 9 bribed. And I just want to say that my daughter, who's 10 eight, wrote -- she's spoke at testimony, and just because 11 of the emotional impact and fear she was too scared to read 12 it tonight. So just think about the impacts also to our 13 But I'm going to hand in her testimony, Etta children. 14 Iris Wilcox Hughes, my hero, age eight. 15 Thank you. This will be JUDGE PRIDGIN: 16 Exhibit 8, Madam Court Reporter? 17 COURT REPORTER: Yes, sir. 18 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. 19 (WHEREIN; Exhibit 8 was marked for 20 identification.) 21 MR. HUGHES: I do apologize that I was 22 unclear about that. Thank you for making it clear. I 23 appreciate it very much. 24 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. 25 Patricia Fajkus. I hope I'm pronouncing that name

correctly. I'm sorry. If you'll raise your right hand to 1 2 be sworn. 3 (Witness sworn.) 4 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. If you would, 5 please state and spell your name for the court reporter, 6 and you then testify. 7 MS. FAJKUS: Patricia Fajkus. It's P-A-T-R-I-C-I-A F-A-J-K-U-S. 8 9 I'd like to thank the members of the 10 Missouri Public Service Commission for the opportunity to 11 just come and speak to you and testify. 12 I am opposed to the transmission project. 13 was raised on a farm just three miles east of Queen City. 14 Both of my parents are deceased, but our family farm is now 15 owned by myself and seven siblings. Our family farm has 16 been, and hopefully will be -- continue to be a source of 17 income and great pride for our family. 18 My brother and his wife still live and work 19 in our family farm. Our father was a World War II veteran 20 and loved farming. He always looked for new and innovative 21 ways to farm and provide for our family. The rural 22 lifestyle that we live was built on love and hard work, and 23 farming remains to be one of the best ways to raise a family. 24 25 The original proposed transmission line was 152

1	to cut across and divide our family farm down the middle.
2	The original proposed easement was estimated to be
3	appropriate 47 feet from our family home, taking out a
4	swath of productive farmland and running right through our
5	yard, taking out a very old large tree in the front yard.
6	The line would also take out the farm lane which was used
7	to reach the fields to the south of our property.
8	Ameren has said that they would move the
9	line to the property line, but also stated that they could
10	change that location if they so wish. Even if the line
11	were to be moved to the property line, it would still take
12	out a large portion of productive ground and source of
13	income and lower the value of our property.
14	Like most farmers in northeast Missouri,
15	we're not wealthy and our farm is not large. Farming is
16	hard work, but the land is more than just our livelihood.
17	lt's a way of life.
18	The unsightly high-voltage lines would cut
19	through our beautiful countryside and family yards,
20	destroying unhindered views of nature. If you could see
21	our family farm I wish you could our house sits up on
22	a little rise, overlooking a valley, and the line would go
23	right past that.
24	In conclusion and summary, I oppose the
25	high-voltage project because (1) it will take valuable
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1	farmland out of production and reduce the value of our
2	land, some say as much as 50 percent. Secondly, the lines
3	will introduce safety hazards. There are questions about
4	the safety of this 345,000-volt line. Small children
5	living close to these lines being at risk as childhood
6	leukemia has been linked to exposure to high-voltage lines.
7	There are many studies that do show
8	high-voltage lines causes cancer. I just Googled it
9	earlier and you can just read it right on the Internet.
10	My nephew, who wanted to build on the
11	property, has recently decided not to build there because
12	of concerns for the health of his young daughter from the
13	effects of the high-voltage line. Sadly, he's already
14	decided it may not be safe to live on the family farm where
15	he was raised if the line goes through.
16	Lastly, it's my understanding that Ameren
17	customers will see their electrical rates increase because
18	of this project so that we can help pay for this project,
19	and then on top of that our land will be taken by Ameren so
20	that Ameren of Illinois can profit. From our collective
21	losses, they will profit.
22	Ameren is the only party to gain on this
23	project. It is my opinion that this high-voltage
24	transmission line is not in the public interest. It's only
25	in the interest of Ameren of Illinois.

Thank you for listening, and I respectfully 1 2 request that you deny Ameren of Illinois's request to build 3 this high-voltage line. Thank you. 4 (Appl ause) 5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. The 6 next witness is Anthony. The last name begins with an F, 7 and I'm afraid I can't read it. 8 MR. FAJKUS: It's Fajkus. 9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. I apologize. 10 MR. FAJKUS: No. I apologize for not being 11 able to write it clearly. 12 JUDGE PRIDGIN: If you'll please raise your 13 right hand to be sworn. 14 (Witness sworn.) JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. If you 15 16 would, please state and spell your name for the court 17 reporter, and you may then testify. 18 MR. FAJKUS: My name is Anthony Fajkus. I 19 go by Tony Fajkus -- Tony. Last name is F-A-J-K-U-S. 20 I thank you for this meeting that you have. 21 I was reading your website about the things that the Public 22 Service Commission does: Gathering information, serving 23 the public. You are a commission that serves the public, 24 and so it's like - as I'm looking through your vision 25 statement, the things that you're doing, I was very

1 impressed in terms of what -- the purpose behind all that 2 you do here is. And I'd like to be able to address you 3 toni ght. 4 I've listened to these people talk about all 5 the things that -- how they're being affected -- their 6 lives, their farms. And I just wanted to -- you know, 7 sometimes individuals in these situations, it's like, you 8 know, who are we? Who are our names? I mean, why don't we 9 have a -- we vote. We have opinions and things like that. 10 But I wanted to -- it reminded me of some 11 other people that are very important. I mean, if the 12 president of the United States showed up tonight and he was 13 sitting out here and he stood up and he said, "Hey, I have 14 an opinion. I want to -- you know, you would probably 15 listen to that and say, "Well, he's not just anybody." 16 Right? Even if the governor of the state came. 17 And so I was just going to just read some 18 quotes by some people. These are some of the founding 19 fathers of our nation. And some others are leaders in our 20 country. 21 And they addressed the issue of property 22 rights and whether it's important or not. Tonight, I'd 23 just like to -- one of the resounding things I heard over 24 and over again is people say these are our properties. We 25 should have some rights when it comes to this. This is

1 important; these farms are important to us. Please hear 2 our voi ce. 3 So listen to these voices. Samuel Adams 4 said, "Among the natural rights of the colonists are these: 5 First, a right to life. Secondly, liberty. Thirdly to 6 property. Together with the right to defend them in the best manner they can." 7 8 John Adams said, "Property is surely a right 9 of mankind as real as liberty." John Jay said, "No power on earth has the 10 11 right to take our property from us without our consent." James Madison -- you know all these people. 12 You've heard their names before, so I won't tell you the 13 14 positions they've had in the past. "As a man is said to 15 have a right to his property he may be equally said to have 16 a property in his rights." 17 Calvin Coolidge, "Ultimately, property 18 rights and personal rights are the same thing." 19 Lastly, William Howard Taft, "Next to the 20 right of liberty, the right of property is the most 21 important individual right guaranteed by the constitution, 22 and the one which is united with that of personal liberty 23 has contributed more to the growth of civilization than any 24 other institutions established by the human race." 25 I'll just leave those with you because if

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1	those gentlemen were here tonight and they were telling you
2	their opinion about the situation about family farms or
∠ 3	
	your were ready to seize their farm or run a line through
4	their house or whatever it might, I think the Commission
5	might hear those individual voices differently. But it
6	shouldn't be differently. We're all citizens. We all want
7	to do the right things. We want to do the right thing. So
8	I ask you to deny this request by Ameren UE. Thank you
9	very much.
10	(Appl ause)
11	JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. I
12	apologize if I get the next name wrong. Stephen Hadwiger.
13	Was I close? No.
14	UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I thought it was
15	Stephen Hadwiger.
16	JUDGE PRIDGIN: I'm very sorry. If you'll
17	raise your right hand to be sworn, please.
18	(Witness sworn.)
19	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. Please
20	state and spell your name for the court reporter, and you
21	may then give your testimony.
22	MR. HADWIGER: All right. Stephen Hadwiger,
23	S-T-E-P-H-E-N H-A-D-W-I-G-E-R.
24	May I quickly bring up these for you to look
25	at?
-	
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1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: You may -- give those to 2 JUDGE PRIDGIN reporter. 3 MR. HADWIGER: I'll give them to JUDGE 4 PRIDGIN reporter. 5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Oh, these are all 6 copi es? Okay. Thank you. 7 (WHEREIN; Exhibit 9 was marked for 8 identification.) 9 MR. HADWIGER: Yes. These are all --10 The first thing I wanted to do is to mention 11 that yesterday I made some honey butter biscuit cookies, 12 and I used the honey from Hollenbeck farms. And if I 13 realized, I actually would've brought a sample for each of 14 you to see what the delicacy is, that we will lose here 15 when the Hollenbecks lose their livelihood. 16 (Appl ause) 17 MR. HADWIGER: But I want to draw your 18 attention also to this diagram. This is one of the 19 diagrams for the line going north from the Zachary station. 20 And on B-19 it goes right between my house at 22626 Spencer 21 Lane and the Di Stefano house which is just south of it. 22 My house is located -- if you can see the 23 yellow diagram. It also looks like an inverted Idaho or 24 something. It's five acres. I didn't buy the full 20-acre 25 lot of land. And so the ten acres just south of my house

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is conveniently where Ameren transmission is going to put 1 2 their line through. 3 The yellow line is about 100 yards from my 4 house, and that's about halfway to where the blue line is, 5 which is where their line is going to be. So just by 6 ground level, it would be probably -- I'm guesstimating --7 200 meters or less to my house from their line. 8 If you look at the diagram I made underneath 9 it, when I went to the open house with Ameren transmission 10 -- and I hate to call them Mark Twain. I think that's an 11 offense to one of our state fathers. 12 (Appl ause) 13 MR. HADWIGER: Their nice public relations 14 diagrams portrayed a flat curve, and so they depicted every 15 place -- or where their lines would go and where houses 16 would be. But diagrams that would look very similar to 17 this one underneath it. Now, this is my diagram, not 18 theirs. 19 And 200 meters from the power line is on a 20 flatter ground. In reality, where that line is going 21 through, that's a valley. And my front door looks out over 22 it. It's very beautiful scenery. I'm going to have a high 23 power line going across once that is done. But it's a 24 valley. 25 And so if you look at my second diagram, 160

1	most likely the distance between the power lines and my
2	house is going to be less than 200 meters. That is a
3	concern for me. I have leukemia. I have chronic
4	lymphocytic leukemia, which is not the same as the acute
5	lymphocytic leukemia that the studies all talk about.
6	I am more vulnerable to other forms of
7	cancer, including ALL, because of my chronic lymphocytic
8	leukemia. I don't own the land that Ameren transmission is
9	going through, so there's no easement or any financial gain
10	for me as they go through. My health will be at higher
11	risk, I believe.
12	The studies that compare national one of
13	the studies I've got on the back page there has a nice
14	diagram that shows what the electromatic magnetic
15	radiation differences are between microwaves and power
16	lines and things like that. But as other people have said
17	tonight, I don't run my microwave 24 hours a day. And
18	those electric or those power lines will be operating 24
19	hours a day, seven days a week. So I think my risk does go
20	higher even though per item
21	Basically, I feel like this is a case where
22	I'm not going to be able to sell my house and move with my
23	leukemia because I have to be honest about the power lines
24	going right out in front of it. It's going to destroy the
25	front porch view. And so I'm pretty much stuck in a

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situation where if you approve them putting through these 1 2 lines, it's going to be detrimental to me. I do ask you 3 very humbly to reject their request. Thank you. 4 (Appl ause) 5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Thank you. Greq 6 Lawrence. If you'll raise your right hand to be sworn, 7 pl ease. 8 (Witness sworn.) 9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. Pl ease 10 state and spell your name for the court reporter, and you 11 may then testify. 12 MR. LAWRENCE: Greg Lawrence, G-R-E-G 13 L-A-W-R-E-N-C-E. 14 I want to say that this power line, once it 15 got started and -- they're already figured out where it's 16 going to go -- it's going right across two pieces of 17 property of mine. One, it goes 425 foot from my house. 18 I've got to look at it every day if it's there. The next 19 one is going over another piece of property, which there's 20 already a transmission line going south -- north and south, 21 and this one is going to cut east and west over the top of 22 So think about how big of poles they're going to have it. 23 to use -- towers. 24 They just put up a U.S. Cellular tower 25 behind the Moose. They dug an eight-foot hole, went down 162

1	33 foot, and put in 76 yards of concrete for that hole.
2	That's going to compact all my ground. I run cattle and
3	row crop. The cattle on my property go underneath the
4	trees for winter and summer. It's going to take out half
5	of my trees, so how much are them trees worth?
6	So I'm just saying I'm against it. They're
7	not doing anybody any favors out there by putting it in.
8	And I've dealt with power lines before with power companies
9	when they cut out the local ones. When they cut out brush
10	underneath the trees, they tore my fences out. And I'd
11	call them. Never would put them back in, so I had to do it
12	myself. So that's what I'm going to have to look at for
13	this deal, except a lot worse. I would respect that you
14	guys do your conscious and vote against it instead of your
15	bank book. Okay. Thank you.
16	(Appl ause)
17	JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you.
18	Kamra DeFries. If you'll raise your right hand to be
19	sworn, please.
20	(Witness sworn.)
21	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. If you would,
22	please, state and spell your name for the court reporter,
23	and you may then testify.
24	MS. DEFRIES: Okay. Kamra DeFries,
25	K-A-M-R-A D-E-F-R-I-E-S.

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1	I'm here on behalf of my family. I have
2	four children, and my husband is here as well. Our story
3	is much like the others that you heard. Our home is built
4	on 99 acres, at the top of a beautiful hill and it
5	overlooks some beautiful bottom grounds and forest area.
6	We have a view that allows us to see for miles. We built
7	our home in 2009, after our original home here in
8	Kirksville was burned in a fire.
9	We relocated to this new property in hopes
10	to build a farm and raise our family. We've been working
11	hard to improve the land and make it a farm that we can
12	enjoy the rest of our lives.
13	Like I said, we have four children. Their
14	ages are 12, ten, seven, and four. We have cattle and
15	horses and other many other farm animals chickens and
16	all that. We have a new pond behind our home. And like I
17	said, we just really look forward to spending the rest of
18	our lives there with our family in our own little special
19	pl ace.
20	The bad news is, like many others, ATXI is
21	planning to run their power lines diagonally across our 99
22	acres, from the northwest corner, basically straight
23	through to the southeast corner. And it will cross behind
24	our home. Our view will be completely ruined, which is one
25	of the main reasons why we built the house on this

particular place. It will come across the back of our 1 2 house, across our pond, and then up next to our home, 3 around 100 yards away. 4 It will decrease our property value 5 significantly. I can almost guarantee you that if you were 6 looking for a property and you found one with a beautiful 7 view, you would not want 345,000-volt power lines right out 8 your back window. 9 It will make the grazing and rotating of our 10 cattle very difficult, if not impossible, with our electric 11 fence. And my biggest concern is for the potential health 12 risks to my children. They can tell me all day long that 13 the studies show that it's safe, there's only a slight 14 risk, there's a small risk. I don't care how big of a risk 15 it is. It's still a risk. 16 There is -- and, again, the don't really 17 have any evidence saying that there is no risk. So that's 18 24 hours a day that that voltage will be near my children. 19 ATXI has done very little to ensure that --20 they're trying to -- or to try to help property owners 21 through this. I mean, as you've heard over and over again, 22 it is cutting diagonally through people's property. That 23 is to reduce their cost and to make it easier for them. 24 They do not care about the farms and the families that 25 they're affecting.

1	ATXI has not even shown they can say that
2	they have good reason, but I haven't seen any good
3	statistics as to why this is necessary. They try to spin
4	it that it's going to be a benefit for Missourians. I was
5	in the courtroom in Jefferson City when ATXI was suing the
6	Public Service Commission, and their lawyers stated
7	their words were, "We should be exempt from filing with the
8	PSC because we are not a public utility, and we do not
9	provide power to Missouri residents." That was from their
10	lawyers. And I'm sure you guys could find that on record
11	somewhere.
12	So my hope is that you guys will take a look
13	at the bigger picture of this and not just go along with
14	the big business and the corporation and the money, and
15	that you will look at how it's affecting the citizens of
16	northeast Missouri. Thank you.
17	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you.
18	(Appl ause)
19	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Sarah Wilcox-Hughes. If
20	you'll raise your right hand to be sworn, please.
21	MS. WILCOX-HUGHES: I'm Quaker. Can I
22	affirm?
23	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Yes, you may.
24	(Witness affirmed.)
25	JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you very much. If you

would, please state and spell your name for the court 1 2 reporter, and you may then testify. 3 MS. WILCOX-HUGHES: Sarah, S-A-R-A-H, Wilcox, W-I-L-C-O-X, hyphen Hughes, H-U-G-H-E-S. 4 5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. 6 MS. WI LCOX-HUGHES: Go? 7 Okay. I just want to express appreciation 8 for all of you being here, and also for my neighbors and 9 friends and people I don't know at Neighbors United who 10 have spent countless hours of their time Monday evenings 11 meeting, when I know that they have a lot of other things 12 to do. So anyway --13 Tell my story: My husband and I came to 14 this area eight and a half years ago, full of dreams. And 15 I was pregnant with our first of two daughters. We came to 16 start an electricity-free, educational center where we 17 could live close to creation, serve others, and offer 18 hospitality and training to those wishing to do the same. 19 Since that time we have hosted thousands of 20 people from all over the country and the world for anything 21 from a two-hour tour to a stay of one or more years. 0ur 22 project has inspired and facilitated the creation of many 23 like-minded projects, and several friends have moved to the 24 area, resettling the countryside around us, using little or 25 no electricity from the grid on their farms and homesteads.

1 Together, my neighbor Teri and I homeschool our four children, doing our very best to raise them with a 2 3 sense of awe and reverence for this beautiful land we live 4 As my neighbor Dawn Miller and I call it, paradise. on. 5 More children may join our school 6 cooperative in the future. Teri's land and thus our school 7 and my daughters' favorite play place is slated to be 8 impacted by the proposed line. It goes without saying that 9 a high-voltage power line running this little neighborhood and homeschool collective that was built specifically 10 11 around the principles of simplicity and low energy use 12 would be a great irony, a devastating heartbreak, as well 13 as a health hazard, according to the World Health 14 Organization which specifies that children are particularly 15 susceptible with up to a 70-percent increase in childhood 16 leukemia close to such lines, among other risks. 17 It's difficult to say whether all the 18 families in our neighborhood would choose to say, despite 19 all of the beautiful buildings we have built by hand, the 20 hundreds of native and cultivated our trees we have 21 planted, the soils we have amended, the loving 22 relationships we have nurtured, this beautiful land and its 23 inhabitants, both human and non-human. 24 I believe that our educational project has 25 added to our local economy, offering our volunteer services

1	in town and to the university, attracting more residents to
2	a depopulated area, bringing in tourists that support local
3	hotels, train station, airport, farms, and businesses.
4	All this talk about Ameren's line being good
5	for the local economy, while I believe it may do some good
6	but that it would do far more harm than good. The true
7	economic advantage would go to Ameren Illinois while
8	Missouri farms, forests, and homes are ravaged.
9	Ameren is not seeing or presenting the cost
10	of projects like ours leaving the area, or farmers' losses
11	from property damage or destruction, damage to wildlife
12	habitat which also includes lessened hunting and hunting
13	tourism, diminished property value, as seen in my neighbor
14	Brent Coursey's example, health problems, demoralization,
15	and depression of residents, and the inestimable cost of
16	the lost beauty of Missouri's invaluably sweet and humbly
17	gorgeous Landscapes.
18	I know that this power line is not
19	necessary. I know it deep down because of the way I live
20	a rich and meaningful life without electricity; and the
21	way my friends live with solar panels enough to meet their
22	electricity needs. Americans can use less electricity and
23	live better because of it. We can turn off lights, dry our
24	clothes in the great outdoors, sing songs together, or
25	visit each other for entertainment.

1	I'm fully aware that not everyone wants to
2	live quite as ruggedly as we do in this day and age, but
3	there is a great spectrum and I guess we're on the far end.
4	But this push for more electricity that's supposedly to
5	support the people's needs but I say that the people
6	have become pawns to the corporations. Ameren is no longer
7	serving our needs. We are being used to serve their need
8	for expansion and profit by using more, by becoming
9	transfixed and sedate consumers.
10	And now the people in this room and many
11	others are being demanded to sacrifice something absolutely
12	sacred to them; to hand over this beautiful land that we
13	have so carefully, loving been loving and stewarding.
14	I say no, it's not needed. Let's get back
15	into balance. Who is serving who? And by the way: Who is
16	serving creation and who is serving God? I feel that this
17	is a time when God is calling us to use less energy, not
18	more. Our very planet, our only planet, an intimately
19	immeasurable gift from the creator is in great peril. It
20	is not the time to be bulldozing through forests for the
21	sake of the corporate bottom line.
22	I do not support huge grids, even if they do
23	not even if they do use some amount of alternative
24	energy, nor do I support coal. I know that if we need
25	energy we can do better by using local alternatives like

private solar power. And if Ameren wants a way to make a
profit, let them jump on board and start designing and
installing private systems like this. That way they could
really claim to be doing something ground-breaking and
interesting in this area.
Thank you, and I will cut the rest of it
short. But I ask you to please please not give them
permission to build this power line.
JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you.
(Appl ause)
JUDGE PRIDGIN: Anna Hughes.
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Her testimony was
turned in.
JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Barbara Stone.
If you'll raise your right hand to be sworn, please.
MS. ALBRIGHT: My name is Victoria Albright
and I'm reading Barbara Stone's testimony.
JUDGE PRIDGIN: I'll still need you to raise
your right hand to be sworn, please.
MS. ALBRIGHT: Affirm.
JUDGE PRIDGIN: Affirm?
MS. ALBRIGHT: l'd appreciate it.
JUDGE PRIDGIN: Yes, certainly.
(Witness affirmed.)
JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. If you would,

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please state and spell your name and then state and spell 1 2 the name of the person for whom you're testifying, and then 3 you can testify. 4 MS. ALBRIGHT: Okay. My name is Victoria 5 Albright, V-I-C-T-O-R-I-A A-L-B-R-I-G-H-T. And I'm 6 testifying for Barbara Stone, B-A-R-B-A-R-A S-T-O-N-E, in 7 opposition of the Mark Twain transmission project. 8 Number 1: Health impact. I'm concerned 9 with the unknown health impact on families and livestock 10 and the lack of public disclosure of the expected health 11 impact of the 345,000-volt transmission line in northeast 12 Missouri. 13 Two: Eminent domain. I am concerned about 14 the precedent this project would set if this corporation 15 were granted eminent domain. It is my understanding that 16 in this case, the taking of private land is not for local 17 use -- local public use, therefore not for the purpose of 18 benefiting the general public locally. This is a project 19 of Ameren Illinois, an entity outside of Missouri, with 20 intent to transport electricity not for the benefit of 21 Missourians. The public would be better served by local 22 generation of renewable energy and energy conservation. 23 Three: The absence of county commissioner 24 It is my understanding that our elected Adair approval. 25 County commissioners have denied approval of this project.

1 Four: This line is not in the public 2 Ameren customers will bear the cost this interest. 3 expensive transport of electricity. 4 Signed by Barbara Stone. 5 And I would like to make a short addition to 6 my testimony in Schuyler County last night. I want to 7 explain something about the difference between an adult 8 body and that of a child or a developing fetus. 9 The rate of growth in cellular function in an infant or for a child or a young child is astronomical 10 11 compared to that of a 40-year-old construction worker. 12 That is why they are so susceptible to damage from EMFs or 13 chemicals or other carcinogens. I ask you to bear this in 14 mind in your considerations and to not approve Ameren 15 IIIinois. Thank you. 16 (Appl ause) 17 (WHEREIN; Exhibit 10 was marked for 18 identification.) 19 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Gena Briggs. 20 MS. BRIGGS: Good evening, again. 21 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Good evening. If you'll 22 please raise your right hand to be sworn. 23 (Witness sworn.) 24 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. lf 25 you would, please state and spell your name for the court

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reporter, and then you may give your testimony. 1 2 MS. BRIGGS: My name is Gena Briggs, G-E-N-A 3 B-R-I-G-G-S. I am reading two testimonies tonight. The first one is my husband's, Billy Briggs, B-I-L-L-Y 4 5 B-R-I-G-G-S. 6 He says: I see no need for this power line. 7 Ameren says the line is to provide low-cost energy, but to 8 whom? I'm positive my electric bill will never decrease, 9 and it will probably increase to pay for a transmission 10 line that will not benefit Missouri. 11 ATXI's CEO and executives aren't going to 12 take a pay cut to provide low-cost energy to consumers. 13 believe it would infringe on my right to farm by limiting 14 my farming methods and reducing production. 15 At the Schuyler County meeting last night, 16 someone made a great analogy of a basketball court -- our 17 farms -- with one single chair -- a power line pole -- on 18 it to have to play -- to farm around. A small 19 inconvenience, but we'd get used to it. The thing is that 20 the game would forever be changed. 21 I'd like to expand on this analogy. We have 22 our court with one chair to play around, and then someone 23 adds a couple more chairs, and then another, and another, 24 until our court is entangled with chairs to the point of 25 not being able to play at all.

1 My farm has two different Ameren power lines 2 running perpendicular, and ATXI is wanting to add a third. 3 We've suggested to Ameren representatives that they use 4 existing right-of-way, either line, and was dismissed 5 immediately. 6 In closing, I would like to say that putting 7 all of your power into one national grid might not make it 8 reliable or stronger, just a bigger target. I believe a 9 better solution is to invest in upgrades to existing 10 coal-fuel power plants using biofuel with combined turbine 11 technology, solar and wind power. The old adage of not 12 putting all your eggs into one basket makes great sense to 13 me. 14 Thank you for your opportunity to express my 15 heartfelt feelings tonight. That was --16 (Appl ause) 17 MS. BRIGGS: The second one is from a 18 gentleman named Hassan Hall. His spelling is H-A-S-S-A-N 19 H-A-L-L, and he is from Scotland County. 20 I write to you now in opposition of the Mark 21 Twain transmission line. I am not opposed to needed 22 growth, though I believe that this project will do more 23 damage than good toward what we do need now. I believe that we are -- what we need is a 24 25 society of people that care for the planet that they live,

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for without this care, we will make choices that do not 1 2 take care of this planet, this planet that we rely on for 3 sustenance. I believe that in order to take care of a 4 5 place we need to care about it. It's really simple, though something that seems to be missing is so much of what we 6 7 do. I believe that the care that is needed is something we 8 need to cultivate, and this takes time: Time for 9 connections and relationships to farm -- to form. Sorry. 10 I believe that if these connections and 11 relationships are broken that life seems much less worth 12 living for, and that I want to live in a society that's 13 full of people that have as many reasons for living as 14 possible and our planet that can sustain us. Thank you 15 very much, Hassan Hall. 16 (Appl ause) 17 MS. BRIGGS: And gentlemen, I would like to 18 add some information. You guys were asking about the open 19 house meetings. The open house meetings that they were 20 talking about that was at the church was held Thursday, 21 October 30th, 2014. It was in Kirksville. Thank you, 22 guys. 23 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. 24 CHAIRMAN HALL: Excuse me, ma'am. Were you 25 present for that open house?

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MS. BRIGGS: You bet I was. 1 2 CHAIRMAN HALL: And so the statements made 3 by others here that they were forcibly removed from that open house for whatever reason, were -- did you witness any 4 5 of that? 6 MS. BRIGGS: It was absolutely the truth. 7 My husband was not allowed in the building at all. 8 CHAIRMAN HALL: And was it explained to him 9 why he was not allowed inside the building? 10 MS. BRIGGS: We were supposed to sign in upon entering the building, and when they figured out that 11 12 my husband was one of the five families that had gone to 13 court and intervened with -- at Cole County in Jefferson 14 City, they stopped him at the door. I got in before they 15 got me stopped. And I wound up talking to three 16 representatives and two security guards because I refused 17 to sign up. I kept asking them why I had to sign anything, 18 when I had my letter of admission and my invitation in my 19 None of them could give me an answer. But I wound hand. 20 up signing. Honestly, I did not sign my name. I just 21 signed a name. And that satisfied them. 22 CHAIRMAN HALL: I'm just -- I'm putting 23 Ameren on notice that -- I intend to ask further questions 24 about this at the evidentiary hearing in December. 25 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Same thing. I will be

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1 aski ng. 2 (Appl ause) 3 COMMISSIONER RUPP: So I really want to 4 clarify. Was it a sign-in sheet? It wasn't a statement of 5 you're not going to record this or anything? It was just 6 _ _ 7 MS. BRIGGS: It was just -- it was a 8 sign-in. 9 COMMISSIONER RUPP: It was a sign-in? 10 MS. BRIGGS: Just walk through the door. 11 Here, sign your name on her book, and then you can enter 12 our proceedings. COMMISSIONER RUPP: 13 There wasn't any form or 14 anything? It was just a list of names? 15 MS. BRIGGS: It was just a book. 16 COMMISSIONER RUPP: And were they asking for 17 e-mail or phone number or anything or just names? 18 MS. BRIGGS: Just the name. 19 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. 20 UNI DENTI FI ED SPEAKER: (Indi scerni bl e). 21 COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry. I cannot --22 UNI DENTI FI ED SPEAKER: They were filming. 23 MS. BRIGGS: They were filming, I guess, and 24 when we signed, they were asking us if it would be all 25 right to have our permission to be filmed, which by law

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1 they're supposed to do anyway. 2 COMMI SSI ONER RUPP: Thank you. 3 MS. BRIGGS: Thank you. 4 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. Dana 5 McGuire. If you'll raise your right hand to be sworn, 6 pl ease. 7 (Witness sworn.) 8 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you very much. Pl ease 9 state and spell your name for the court reporter, and then 10 you may testify. 11 MS. MCGUIRE: Okay. I have also my husband, 12 Gavain U'Prichard. He's next on the list, I think. 13 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. 14 MS. MCGUIRE: What did you tell me to say? 15 My name. 16 JUDGE PRIDGIN: I'm sorry. State and spell 17 your name. 18 MS. MCGUIRE: Dana McGuire, D-A-N-A 19 M-C-G-U-I-R-E. 20 Maybe I'll read Gavain's first. We didn't know we had five minutes, so these are short. 21 22 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. 23 MS. MCGUIRE: The basic reality of our time 24 is that we live with the constant danger of corporatocracy. 25 We're expected to gladly place our future in the hands of

1	companies that are, by design, anesthetized to local
2	concerns, traditions, and environmental stewardship. They
3	are designed to maximize profit by using the economy of
4	scale to drive their product or service to the marketplace,
5	regardless of the challenges or resistance.
6	Too often have local and state level
7	oversight committees and regulatory bodies been treated as
8	the adversaries to a presumed right to pursue their
9	business models on the part of large industries.
10	ATXI's vision of the future is one where the
11	communities in NEMO play second fiddle to their more highly
12	prized and lucrative clients to the east. They would be
13	more than willing to make NEMO yet another rural sacrificed
14	zone with their harmful, high-voltage transmission lines.
15	They're counting on government complicity in imposing their
16	vision on modern for-profit of modern for-profit power,
17	not a distributed grid of alternative energy which would
18	serve NEMO, along with everyone else.
19	They betrayed their callous disregard for
20	jurisdiction and proper oversight in their opening gambit
21	when they sued this very commission, claiming that the PSC
22	has no authority to regulate the Mark Twain power line
23	because Missourians are not customer clients of the
24	project.
25	Can you imagine a worse precedent to let
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I				
1	stand? Shall we let every corporation with an industrial			
2	project on its drawing board deny oversight and veto to the			
3	very communities which will be debilitated or destroyed by			
4	these projects on the thin reasoning that these communities			
5	are not loyal customers of said companies?			
6	There are many visions of the future, and			
7	ATXI's is Dickinsonian in its rejection of communal			
8	well-being and jurisdiction for both profit motives. It			
9	has no place in NEMO.			
10	(Appl ause)			
11	MS. MCGUIRE: My name is Dana McGuire, and I			
12	live with my husband on a little townstead in Edina knox			
13	County. We came to live in northeast Missouri because even			
14	though we didn't actually we didn't exactly fit in			
15	and I never fit in anywhere it kind of felt like home,			
16	you know. We if we want to build a structure on our			
17	land and it looks goofy, people might not like it and they			
18	might laugh at it, but if it isn't hurting anybody, they'll			
19	let us make our own choices about how we live.			
20	I can homeschool my children. I can buy raw			
21	milk from a farmer up the road. Many places in this			
22	country restrict the way Americans can live, but here we			
23	feel pretty free to live our truth, and we know how to be a			
24	good neighbor at the same time.			
25	A few years ago, my husband and I began			
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1 catching up on the latest science surrounding climate 2 change. Hear me out. I needed to know what was happening, 3 because I have four children. And I've lived in many 4 places and I've been seeing that all over the country 5 extreme weather has become normal. I've become obsessed 6 with -- we became obsessed with understanding the climate 7 si tuati on. We read a book. We read about the data that's 8 been measured by thousands of teams in hundreds of fields 9 of science from all around the planet. We dug into every 10 argument, scientific or not, of concern about or disregard 11 of climate destruction, human cause forming, historic 12 climate changes like little lce Age, solar flares, 13 geoengineering, governmental conspiracy, and most 14 importantly we studied who is paying for all these studies 15 and which scientists and climate spokespeople are paid by 16 which industries. 17 We pieced together the big picture. And 18 horror of horrors, we learned that the situation is much 19 more dire than any of our governments, politicians, or 20 corporate leadership are talking about. The right is dead 21 wrong about climate change, but so too is the left. 22 Over two years ago my husband and I set 23 aside our day-to-day lives and began marching long distance 24 from state to state, pulling our children in carts and

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wagons, passing out climate information sheets. It was

extremely trying for us, but we were compelled to act, to 1 2 do something, anything, to call attention to the situation. In retrospect, it was a desperate, yet sane, response to a 3 4 dire threat. 5 Last year, we walked all the way to the east 6 coast. We met lots of people who were apathetic to our 7 cause, as they perceived it. Many people who thought what 8 we were doing was cool, more important, and many other 9 people you will be surprised to hear who thought that we 10 were misguided and foolish for one reason or another. 11 But one thing I wasn't surprised to discover 12 as we walked across the country and talked to all these 13 different people -- you know, people who are giving us the 14 hairy eyeball -- is that we all agree about one thing --15 where am 1? 16 JUDGE PRIDGIN: That's your five minutes. 17 Are you taking your husband's five? 18 MS. MCGUIRE: Oh, yes. Please. Thank you. 19 JUDGE PRIDGIN: You may proceed. 20 MS. MCGUIRE: I am almost done. Almost 21 done. Come on, brain. 22 Everyone who is taking a moment to look up at our surroundings and to understand our times, trying to 23 24 understand, we all know that this is the beginning of the 25 end. We all know that corporate control over the best

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interest of citizens is a joke. We know that our 1 2 civilization has taken far more than our share, and that 3 the hammers of justice or the revenge of nature or the 4 wrath of God is our doom. 5 I'm here tonight to report that we fight 6 against Ameren's Mark Twain transmission line not only 7 because our own neighbors' rights, health and well-being 8 are directly threatened by this proposed monstrosity. I'm 9 here to sound the alarm that wind power -- graceful and 10 romantic as it may seem -- is not the answer. 11 The fact is, currently, there is no answer. 12 Our trajectory, as we all deeply suspect, is a downward 13 We fight this battle now knowing that it is but spiral. 14 one of the first battles that we are wakening to in the 15 final order for resources and survival that is our 16 children's future. Let us set a precedent now that 17 Missouri does not answer to corporation. Thank you. 18 (Appl ause) 19 COURT REPORTER: Ms. McGuire, what's your 20 husband's name? 21 JUDGE PRIDGIN: And I understood that the 22 next witness was Gavain U. U'Prichard, but that --The next was him. I read for 23 MS. MCGUIRE: him. 24 25 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Will you spell

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that name for -- G-A-V-A-I-N? 1 2 MS. MCGUIRE: G-A-V-A-I-N --3 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Last name, U --4 MS. MCGUIRE: U, apostrophe, 5 P-R-I-C-H-A-R-D. Thank you. 6 JUDGE PRIDGIN: 7 COURT REPORTER: Thank you. 8 JUDGE PRIDGIN: And I believe the next 9 witness is Victoria Albright, but I believe we've already 10 heard from her --11 MS. ALBRIGHT: Yeah. 12 JUDGE PRIDGIN: -- was my memory. 13 MS. ALBRIGHT: Correct. 14 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. Kaitlyn Meyer. 15 I believe you testified last night; is that correct? 16 MS. MEYER: I read someone else's statement. 17 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Very good. Thank you. ١f 18 you'll come forward. If you'll raise your right hand to be 19 sworn, please. 20 (Witness sworn.) 21 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. If you would, 22 please state and spell your name for the court reporter, 23 and you may then testify. 24 MS. MEYER: Kaitlyn Meyer, K-A-I-T-L-Y-N 25 M-E-Y-E-R. And I'm actually going to read another -- a

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statement for someone else first. 1 2 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. 3 MS. MEYER: And her name is Emily Harrison, 4 E-M-I-L -- E-M-I-L-Y H-A-R-R-I-S-O-N. 5 And she says: The Truman State University 6 Collegiate Farm Bureau stands with the Adair-Schuyler 7 County Farm Bureau in opposition of the Mark Twain 8 transmission project. This project will have a negative 9 impact on producers by decreasing property values and 10 interfering with everyday agricultural practices. 11 That was hers. So I would like to start off 12 by saying thank you to the Public Service Commission for 13 allowing concerned citizens to have our voices heard 14 I'm a student here at Truman, and I became toni ght. 15 involved with Neighbors United last fall when I heard about 16 the Mark Twain transmission project and how it would affect 17 the people, land, and non-human creatures along the line. 18 This transmission line will not be going over or near land 19 I live on, but I still consider myself to be affected. 20 This is a community which I have come to 21 call home. I will one day be a landowner, and I know that 22 the property I plan to own, raise a family on, be a steward 23 of and grow food on could just as easily become 24 jeopardized, too. 25 Although I have become deeply invested in 186

1 this project and have learned extensively how it will have 2 negative impacts, I don't think it takes some sort of 3 engineer, specialist, or highly educated person to realize 4 that this proposed line is not in the best interests of the 5 public. 6 To me, this is about common sense. lf 7 someone is the owner of a land, they should, at the very 8 least, have a say in what can be done with it. Most of us 9 would never let a stranger come onto our land and do with 10 it what they please. It seems as though the only reason 11 ATXI is getting away with this is because they are a 12 corporate entity with a great amount of power. And it just 13 doesn't seem right to me. 14 I realize that some of the suggested 15 alternatives to this project may cost more money, but the 16 economic costs are only one piece of the puzzle. Shoul dn' t 17 the non-monetary cost be taken into consideration as well? 18 And if the purpose of this project truly is to serve 19 people, why is money being given priority? 20 As we heard last night and tonight, nearly 21 every person who testified in favor of the project 22 supported it because of the projected economic increases it 23 And I have trouble supporting something that would bring. 24 is mostly bringing in money that will make a few wealthy 25 people even wealthier.

1	I think it is important to point out that			
2	yes, I do use fossil fuels in my daily life, but this is			
3	not something I do because I want to. And I know that many			
4	of us use electricity and depend on power lines. So it can			
5	be hard to say that this project shouldn't happen, because			
6	there are probably transmission lines going through other			
7	people's land that is supplying the energy we use as well.			
8	However, perhaps we should not rely on a			
9	system of supplying energy that causes so much			
10	environmental degradation or disturbance to the land and			
11	peopl e.			
12	I think it is time to stop operating with			
13	the ignorance is bliss mind set and instead start truly			
14	considering the consequences of our actions. I do not			
15	believe the ends justify the means in situations that			
16	involve destroying the planet and its people along the way.			
17	As someone who's going to have to grow up living with the			
18	consequences of the decisions made by those who lived			
19	before me, I ask you to sincerely consider the impacts this			
20	will have.			
21	It is easy to oppose a project from which			
22	you will only benefit and not have to bear the burden of			
23	forever, but there are people that will. This project is			
24	not in the public interest, and I ask you to please deny			
25	ATXI permission to build this transmission line. Thank			

1 you. 2 (Appl ause) 3 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. I 4 apologize if I mispronounce or misread the next thing, but 5 is it Glen Moritz? 6 MR. MORITZ: Thank you. 7 JUDGE PRIDGIN: I was close. 8 MR. MORITZ: You're very good. My writing 9 is horrible. 10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Could I ask you to raise 11 your right hand to be sworn, please. 12 (Witness sworn.) 13 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you very much. Pl ease 14 state and spell your name for the court reporter, and you 15 may then testify. 16 MR. MORITZ: My name is Glen Moritz, G-L-E-N 17 M-O-R-I-T-Z. 18 Thank you for the opportunity to be here 19 tonight. I'm the mayor pro tem and past mayor of 20 Kirksville. I don't see myself so much as a politician, 21 but as an individual who really serves the public to look 22 after their best interests. 23 I was a champion of the human rights ordinance a couple years ago, the only human rights 24 25 ordinance north of I-70; senior housing, et cetera. So 189

1	yeah, I have great compassion for the concerns here.			
2	As several have spoken earlier, yes, the			
3	Kirksville City Council did send a letter earlier this year			
4	to the PSC denouncing this effort by Ameren because, from			
5	our aspect, the eminent domain was simply not legal use of			
6	it. The City of Kirksville certainly does not misuse that			
7	type of law as this is being proposed.			
8	It's probably good. I misplaced my notes.			
9	But just because we've heard so many other fine speakers			
10	before me, I just want to affirm so many of the intelligent			
11	and albeit emotional remarks that have been given, which			
12	I'm sure were deeply, deeply from each person's heart.			
13	Again, I just want to affirm that the			
14	Kirksville City Council is definitely against this			
15	proposal. Thank you so very much for giving me the time			
16	toni ght.			
17	(Appl ause)			
18	JUDGE PRIDGIN: ALL right. Thank you. And			
19	again I apologize if I get this next name wrong. I believe			
20	it's Rick or Rich. The next name starts with an "R." And			
21	then, I'm sorry, I can't read it. Nobody is claiming that			
22	one?			
23	All right. Becca Elder. If you'll please			
24	raise your right hand to be sworn.			
25	(Witness sworn.)			

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JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Please state your name and spell it for the court reporter, and then you may testify. MS. ELDER: Becca Elder, B-E-C-C-A E-L-D-E-R. I'd like to start off with saying thank you for hearing concerns of the people who would be most directly paying for this transmission line. I'm a student at Truman State University, and I consider northeast Missouri to be my home and these people to be my neighbors. Through my studies, I am continuously confronted with data stating facts about the degradation of our home, many of which would only be worsened by this transmission line. Every day ecocides, which are the willful killing off of ecosystems, are committed, such as mountaintop removal and deforestation when our ecosystems

mountaintop removal and deforestation when our ecos
are so precious and we know that our existence and
continuation rely entirely on them.

This transmission line would clearly
devastate ecosystems and destroy habitats as my professor,
Dr. Kelrick, has mentioned.

Additionally, our current economic system has created a plethora of social injustices where people are denied and stripped of basic human rights such as access to clear air, clean water, and healthy food in

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1 exchange for the things that actually are unnecessary in 2 the name of a thing that we call progress. 3 I often wonder: Who made the decisions that 4 have allowed for the environmental degradation that have in 5 turn caused for the suffering that we see today, decisions 6 that took away these basic human rights in order to make 7 temporary products or provide temporary electricity? What 8 were the values of these people? They surely did not value 9 the health of my generation or of future generations. 10 I suspect they valued economic growth and 11 materialistic progress. Perhaps they did not know the 12 outcome of their trades. However, as I face story after 13 story about loved ones who are dying of cancer and people 14 around the world who are dying because other corporations 15 came in and destroyed the natural resources of their homes, 16 I argue that we have the wisdom and ability to make better 17 deci si ons. 18 I pray for those who have the authority to 19 choose how we use our home to protect my neighbors and all 20 of our fellow inhabitants of this planet. 21 This transmission line is not necessary. 22 Right now, we can begin working to give future generations 23 a chance at having access to basic human rights so that 24 they will not be also confused by the suffering around them 25 as a result of the decisions today by us.

1 I ask that you value the livelihoods of 2 these people and realize the importance of their message 3 and the significance of your decision in this project. 4 I've heard stories like these of my neighbors too many 5 times, and I've also heard Ameren's story of progress too 6 many times. 7 If we listen to these people and deny Ameren 8 the right to build this power line, we can start writing a 9 story of a different kind of progress, one of equality and health, nourishing of life and liberty in the pursuit of 10 11 happiness. This is a story future generations can be glad 12 for and grow from. Let's start writing it now. Thank you. 13 (Appl ause) 14 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. 15 hope I'm not mispronouncing this name, John Leunen. 16 MR. LEUNEN: You did good. 17 JUDGE PRIDGIN: If you'll raise your right 18 hand to be sworn, please, sir. 19 (Witness sworn.) 20 Thank you, sir. JUDGE PRIDGIN: Pl ease 21 state and spell your name for the court reporter, and you 22 may then testify. 23 MR. LEUNEN: My name is John Leunen, J-O-H-N 24 L-E-U-N-E-N. 25 And I had a lot of things to say tonight,

but I'm going to cut it short because we're late. 1 The 2 first thing is ATXI has a motion to compel before your 3 committee tomorrow. You're going to make a decision on 4 I believe that's an unnecessary motion, because they that. 5 already have all the information they're asking for. They 6 have all our names, all our addresses, all our phone 7 numbers. They have all our parcel numbers, all the power 8 lines already on their maps. I have pictures here of my 9 own place and several other properties to show all the 10 power lines they're asking us to furnish them with. And I 11 know they have all our information because I -- it's on 12 that, and I also work for the assessor's office in Schuyler 13 County, and all of their requests have been filled up there 14 -- all information they've asked for.

15 The second thing that I have is your 16 favorite word tonight: Diagonal. Everywhere this power 17 line goes, it's diagonal. It doesn't cross my property. 18 It cuts across it, passes the corner of it. 422 feet --19 they just measured on their map -- from my home is the 20 center of the power line. 300 feet from the corner of my 21 property line is their right-of-way. And this line just --22 there's no need for it to come diagonal that close to that 23 There's five houses in a cluster. many houses. They' re 24 coming right through the center of us. None of us are more 25 than 750 feet from this power line -- from the actual line,

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1 not the easement. There's no reason for that. 2 This line comes out of lowa from north of 3 Ottumwa on that power line. They're using their existing 4 161 right-of-way and they're building a -- what they called 5 a double-circuit. They're going to bring back down to 345 6 and a 161 on the same easement -- 150-foot easement, one on 7 top of the other. That's according to Mid-American 8 Energy's brochures online. 9 Why does it have to come into Missouri -- it 10 can be split into two lines -- and run diagonal all over 11 the place? It just makes a big loop as it comes in and 12 then comes back into Kirksville, just cuts up everybody's 13 property all the way down the line. 14 There's no reason they can't run it down the 15 existing 161 that is there, and that is a straight line, 16 practically, from the lowa line to the substation here in 17 Kirksville. And there's -- it doesn't impact any more 18 homes, any more properties. It adds 50 feet to their 19 easement, and that's all it does. And they could run 20 everything they need right there, just like they're doing 21 in Iowa. 22 That's really all I have to say. I have 23 some information here that I'm going to leave with your 24 court of these maps showing where these houses are and the 25 lines and the properties where they come in. Actually,

1	they come in at the north end of our county and they come			
2	down about two and a half miles, and they run parallel to			
3	each other, actually taking a 250-easement out of all of			
4	those properties for the first two and a half miles. And			
5	then they split up and go diagonal for about 12 miles			
6	before they loop around and come down again and go diagonal			
7	back into Kirksville. And I don't think there's any need			
8	for doing that.			
9	I requestfully respect or ask you to deny			
10	their permit and send them home and tell them to rework			
11	their plan and come back with a compatible plan, if this			
12	line is that necessary, something that will work for			
13	everyone all the landowners and Ameren, not just Ameren.			
14	(Appl ause)			
15	MR. LEUNEN: There's a whole packet for you.			
16	Thank you very much.			
17	COURT REPORTER: Thank you.			
18	(WHEREIN; Exhibit 11 was marked for			
19	identification.)			
20	JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. Is			
21	there anyone on who signed up to testify tonight that I			
22	asked to go to the back of the line who has not had a			
23	chance to testify? I see a hand. All right. Would you			
24	please state and spell your name for the court reporter.			
25	MR. DAVISON: Terry Davidson, T-E-R-R-Y			
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1	D-A-V-I-S-O-N.			
2	(Witness affirmed.)			
3	JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. When			
4	you're ready, sir.			
5	MR. DAVISON: First, I have a brief irony			
6	for you. This evening I was came in and I sat down at			
7	the computer to write some notes, and the power went out.			
8	So I had to fire up a generator. So I suggest maybe we			
9	should spend our resources here in Missouri on			
10	infrastructure locally rather than interstate commerce.			
11	I'm a local landowner. We have I've			
12	lived on the same farm all my life. I live in a house my			
13	granddad built. I think I'm a fifth generation here. Same			
14	story as many people here.			
15	Ameren's line would dissect our farm			
16	diagonally 8,000 feet, according to their map in the Days			
17	Inn, covering two sections of land. All that land we have,			
18	it goes to two ponds. It goes across 15 acres of wetland.			
19	There's livestock, row crop, timber, pasture, timber. Same			
20	story everyone el se has.			
21	But first I'd like to speak rather than a			
22	landowner as a citizen. I know you guys said you don't			
23	deal with eminent domain, yet we do deal with land			
24	acquisition. And that's something that all of us are			
25	concerned with. The big issue for us all is land			

1	acquisition and the results of that acquisition.			
2	I will say, though, that the whole process			
3	of acquiring land for the benefit of the whole has changed			
4	over time, especially the past couple generations, to the			
5	extent that initially, as has been stated before, the			
6	intent was something that was necessary for the populous,			
7	not something that was maybe necessary.			
8	We have a line here that being everything			
9	you've heard we don't know what's going to go on in lowa,			
10	so really their bridge to nowhere, it may be a wire to			
11	nowhere.			
12	I would submit that due diligence on our			
13	parts as Missourians will be to ensure that if the line is			
14	built at all it should be guaranteed a process end to end			
15	or not be built at all. That's our obligation as			
16	Mi ssouri ans.			
17	Construction of this project is another			
18	concern of mine, as is many. Compaction has been noted.			
19	We would have probably based upon the information they			
20	give me at Days Inn, around ten towers on our place, each			
21	one requiring excavation of a lot of land. They told me			
22	that the dirt would be taken out and spread out across the			
23	top of the top soil, putting old clay dirt on top of top			
24	soil, destroying it forever.			
25	Livestock running adjacent to this during			
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	1,0			

1 construction will either be put at risk or have to be moved 2 somewhere else. 3 My son has a big combine, and we're trying 4 to figure out how we can get that combine across this 5 diagonal line to the other side of the farm because there's 6 no way we can go, because we were also told down at Days 7 Inn that any combine that was so high, it can't be run 8 underneath the power lines. 9 The problems are almost endless. The 10 question again is: You see the personal tragedies here. 11 You see the lives of -- we have to ask ourselves as 12 Missourians: Is this something that our founding fathers 13 would've intended? Okay. To take our lands for not 14 something that is absolutely necessary. Ameren has 15 different -- hasn't given any demonstration that someone 16 will be without power if this line isn't generated. So I 17 submit that we need to think about that. 18 I recall 30 years ago, 40 years ago someone 19 told me that by the year 2000 we would no longer use 20 petroleum, and we're still using it. Coal production 21 wasn't getting it. I submit that we should reject this 22 pl an. Thank you. 23 (Appl ause) 24 JUDGE PRIDGIN: And I don't think I have 25 anymore names on the list that I have overlooked. With the

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1 understanding that we are very short on time, is there 2 anyone else who wishes to be heard? I see a couple people 3 -- more hands going up. All right. Whoever wants to --UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: If there's somebody 4 5 who wants to speak who hasn't been heard yet? 6 JUDGE PRIDGIN: That's what I was hoping 7 for. 8 UNI DENTI FI ED SPEAKER: Prioritize --9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. If I can get you 10 to state and spell your name for the court reporter, 11 pl ease. 12 MR. ANDERSON: Cory Anderson, C-O-R-Y 13 A-N-D-E-R-S-O-N. 14 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. And will you 15 please raise your right hand to be sworn. 16 MR. ANDERSON: Affirmed. 17 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Yes, sir. 18 (Witness affirmed.) 19 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you very much. 20 Whenever you're ready. 21 MR. ANDERSON: I recently moved to this 22 region from Ohio, and I was excited when one of my students 23 here at Truman State University told me that there was a 24 hearing on the Ameren this evening because I have been 25 hearing about this utility line all the way back in Ohio a 200

1 couple years ago, making the news.

Why? Because there is a population in this region of the state that is one of the most promising economic engine generators for a rural area. There's a population that is uniquely and solidly rural. And in Missouri, they're growing in new settlements about the third fastest rate of all 50 states.

8 These are the Amish. I looked at the map 9 and I've noticed that this line passes right near two Amish 10 communities that are growing very quickly. As a geography 11 professor here, I track new Amish settlements. And in 12 northern Missouri alone, the population of new Amish 13 settlement has doubled from 2000 to 2010, and there's no 14 signs of this abating. The Amish are looking for rural 15 land, and Missouri is home to lots of it -- and beautiful 16 rural land.

17 Quite a bit if I look around it's sort of 18 It -- if -- there's issues with depopulation in untouched. 19 this country in rural areas. And Ameren is a group that 20 shows promise for picking up older homesteads, old farms 21 that may no longer be used. And as I look at this line, 22 it's cutting across many areas that are potential sites for 23 new Amish settlements. They're springing up all along this regi on. 24

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Having a new power line in the middle of a

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1 region of people who do not even use electric power off the 2 grid is a little bit ironic. So I wish to bring that piece 3 of evidence as well to the case. I apologize I came a bit 4 late this evening. I don't know if anyone else here has 5 mentioned that. But I at least wanted to add that to the 6 pool of consideration. 7 You've got a population along with the 8 Mennonites and possibly even Hutterites coming down from 9 the Dakotas. There's a new Hutterite settlement that just 10 started in Missouri this year the first one. And 11 they're looking for these rural places. A large power line 12 is going to deter them from settling in these places. So 13 thank you for your attention. 14 (Applause) 15 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. 16 CHAIRMAN HALL: You mentioned that the 17 proposed line is going to run through two Amish 18 communities? 19 MR. ANDERSON: I said it's going to go along 10 the lines of two quickly growing communities. 21 CHAIRMAN HALL: Okay. Do you know the size <td< th=""><th></th><th></th></td<>					
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24 currently has two districts, which is approximately	22				
	23	MR. ANDERSON: The Greentop community			
25 estimated 50 to 60 households, a household having	24				
	25				

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1	approximately six to seven people in it. The second is			
2	down in Gibbs. Currently, it's standing at close to 30			
3	families, which is getting close to starting a second			
4	district. It's also a much more spread out community. The			
5	population of the Amish is doubling in America every 20			
6	years. So if you look at that growth alone, how many more			
7	are going to be moving to a region like this, especially if			
8	it's already attracting so many from other states and			
9	within the state?			
10	CHAIRMAN HALL: And those are the only two			
11	Amish communities impacted by the line, that you're aware			
12	of?			
13	MR. ANDERSON: Yes.			
14	CHAIRMAN HALL: Thank you very much.			
15	JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. Is			
16	there anyone else who has not testified in any local public			
17	hearings yet who wishes to be heard?			
18	MR. BILLINGTON: Yeah.			
19	JUDGE PRIDGIN: If you'll state and spell			
20	your name for the court reporter, please.			
21	MR. BILLINGTON: Roger Billington, R-O-G-E-R			
22	B-I-L-L-I-N-G-T-O-N.			
23	JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. If you'll raise			
24	your right hand to be sworn.			
25	(Witness sworn.)			

Thank you, sir. When you're 1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: 2 ready. 3 MR. BILLINGTON: Corporate America owns 90 4 percent of the wells in this nation, that leaves the 5 cattlemen and the farmers to take care of the land. I rent 6 grassland that's got 161,000 volts through it. My cattle 7 don't congregate under it. I've never seen any wildlife of 8 any type around that. I've never even seen a buzzard fly 9 over it. 10 This line will run approximately 200 yards from the water supply for my livestock, and it going to run 11 12 along 80 acres -- through this 80 acres, which is the best part of my farm. All parallel lines under this 13 14 transmission line has to be grounded. If this line is so 15 safe, why does these fences have to be grounded? 16 John D. Rockefeller is a prime example of 17 corporate greed. But guess what happened in the end? 18 Guilt overcame his greed for impression and destroying so 19 many people's lives he gave huge tracts of land back to 20 this nation in the form of national parks. 21 This company bypassed cattle and 22 Rockefeller, a local rock hold -- I'm sorry -- local banker 23 here, and he done that for one reason: Because of the 24 wealth that these people have. 25 Everybody wants to kill this coal industry. 204

1 What are you going to do with this coal? They're going to 2 send it up to China. And guess what? In approximately six to ten days we're going to get the results of that through 3 4 the wind currents. 5 My final thing, make sure that the decisions 6 that you make for us that you can live with for the rest of 7 your life. Thank you. 8 (Appl ause) 9 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. 10 Anyone else who has yet to testify who wishes to be heard? Anyone -- I'm sorry. 11 12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I testified last 13 night. 14 JUDGE PRIDGIN: I will get to you if time 15 allows. Just make sure. Is there anyone else who has yet 16 to testify who wishes to be heard? All right. Anyone else 17 wishing to be heard? I see some hands. We've got about 15 18 minutes. 19 MR. SIDWELL: I just want to comment on the 20 letter I wrote to the Commission. JUDGE PRIDGIN: You'll need to state and 21 22 spell your name for the court reporter and be sworn, 23 pl ease. 24 MR. SIDWELL: My name is David Sidwell. 25 Last name is S-I-D-W-E-L-L.

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1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: If you'll raise your right 2 hand to be sworn. 3 (Witness sworn.) 4 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. When you're 5 ready, sir. 6 MR. SIDWELL: Okay. I'd like to comment on 7 the letter I wrote to the Commission on April the 3rd, 2015 8 describing how I was treated at one of Ameren's so-called 9 open house meetings. We were invited to come and ask 10 questions. I came in and very naively asked a question 11 about the state I aw that -- 229.100 that says the counties 12 have to have -- have to give Ameren permission to cross 13 their county. And they just -- and they called over 14 security and had me thrown out of their meeting. 15 And I'd just like you to -- this gentleman 16 raised the issue of how Missouri citizens were treated with 17 their so-called open house meetings, and I think they 18 should be held accountable for it. I'd like to submit 19 I've already read it to you all. If I can give this thi s. 20 to the reporter for y'all to --21 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Absolutely. 22 MR. SIDWELL: Okay. All right. 23 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. 24 Madam Court Reporter, what is? 11? 25 COURT REPORTER: This is 12.

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1 (WHEREIN; Exhibit 12 was marked for 2 identification.) 3 JUDGE PRIDGIN: 12. All right. Thank you. 4 (Appl ause) 5 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Okay. Anyone el se wi shi ng 6 to be heard? Yes, ma'am? Yes, sir. I see a couple hands. 7 If you'll state and spell your name for the 8 court reporter, please. 9 MS. JACK-SCOTT: Julia Jack-Scott. It's 10 J-U-L-I-A J-A-C-K hyphen S-C-O-T-T. 11 JUDGE PRIDGIN: And if you'll raise your 12 right hand to be sworn. 13 (Witness sworn.) 14 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. When you're 15 ready. 16 MS. JACK-SCOTT: I, similar to this 17 gentleman here, I just wanted to add for the record, since 18 the commissioners seem to be interested in knowing more 19 about these incidents about people being kicked out of open 20 houses, that my father was similarly kicked out of an open 21 house in Marion County for asking actually the same exact 22 question that this gentleman asked, which was what they --23 Ameren intended to do with the support of all of the five 24 county commissions. 25 And then he was escorted out by security,

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1	bouncer people. And he was refused readmittance to use the			
2	bathroom, which I thought was extremely disrespectful.			
3	He's a very dignified and respectful person.			
4	And the second thing I just wanted to add			
5	was another testimony about the Amish communities affected.			
6	A lot of the Gibbs Amish community are my neighbors and			
7	friends, and I know that both the north and the south route			
8	in our area would've crossed through multiple Amish farms.			
9	And I know that they were all in opposition to that and			
10	were asking me and my husband for information because they			
11	had a lot of concerns.			
12	And I encouraged them to speak out or get			
13	involved, and they said it was against their religion to do			
14	so, but that they were opposed to it. So I just wanted to			
15	state that, that there are Amish affected on the route.			
16	JUDGE PRIDGIN: ALL right. Thank you.			
17	Commissioner Rupp.			
18	COMMISSIONER RUPP: Yes. Thank you. You			
19	said it was your father or your father-in-law who was at			
20	the meeting?			
21	MS. JACK-SCOTT: My father.			
22	COMMISSIONER RUPP: Your father. And what's			
23	his name?			
24	MS. JACK-SCOTT: His name is Howard Scott,			
25	H-O-W-A-R-D S-C-O-T-T.			

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COMMISSIONER RUPP: And was this the same 1 2 meeting in -- on Thursday, October 30th, 2014 at the 3 Baptist church here in Kirksville? 4 MS. JACK-SCOTT: No, it wasn't. It was in 5 Marion County. 6 COMMI SSI ONER RUPP: This was in Marion 7 County. Thank you. Do you happen to know when that was? 8 MS. JACK-SCOTT: I'm sorry, but I don't. 9 COMMISSIONER RUPP: You don't know the 10 month, the year? UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Was it last year? 11 12 MS. JACK-SCOTT: Last year they had two rounds of open houses, and the second round of open houses, 13 14 it was that one. 15 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Thank you. Do you have 16 an address? 17 MS. JACK-SCOTT: I'm sorry, but I don't. 18 | --19 COMMISSIONER RUPP: I'm sure we --20 MS. JACK-SCOTT: I'm not from Adair County, 21 so we had gone to just --22 COMMISSIONER RUPP: I am sure we can find it. 23 24 MS. JACK-SCOTT: Okay. I'm sorry, but I 25 can't tell you that.

1 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you. 2 (Appl ause) JUDGE PRIDGIN: If you'll state and spell 3 4 your name for the court reporter, please. 5 MR. BAMBRICK: John Bambrick, J-O-H-N 6 B-A-M-B-R-I-C-K. 7 JUDGE PRIDGIN: If you'll raise your right 8 hand to be sworn. 9 (Witness sworn.) 10 JUDGE PRIDGIN: Thank you, sir. When you're 11 ready. 12 MR. BAMBRICK: Yes. I went to -- one 13 additional comment about the open houses. I went to all 14 three of them, the -- that second round that Julia is 15 referencing. And we had brought -- I went to get 16 information, but I also -- we brought flyers -- what we 17 were researching. We wanted the public to know and people 18 to know that we were getting different information that 19 ATXI was giving. So I was handing out flyers, so I saw a 20 lot of people coming in and out. 21 I was not denied access myself, but I'm --22 when I started to see repeated people coming out and be 23 like, "They just threw me out; I didn't even do anything" 24 -- so I just want to state that I can say on the record I 25 saw multiple people come out almost shocked that they had

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1	been removed for acking cimple questions			
1	been removed for asking simple questions.			
2	I wanted to contrast what I've seen I've			
3	been to all three PSC hearings. And my experience has been			
4	that you all have been listening, been paying attention.			
5	You've been flexible when someone goes over five minutes.			
6	You work with us. This seems like an environment where			
7	you're the kind of project that we want to be a part of			
8	and kind of government and community where people listen			
9	and respectful.			
10	On the other hand, if you compare that to			
11	the open houses, it was a totally different thing for us.			
12	It was not openness. It was questions were cut off. We			
13	were shuffled through. People were kicked out. And I'm			
14	wondering if part of this PSC process should actually be			
15	we don't have time tonight, but to take more testimony			
16	about those open houses to get more of people's information			
17	about people who were mistreated.			
18	Why that's important is even if you thought			
19	we should build this line, I don't think we should do it			
20	with ATXI. I don't think we should build it at all, but so			
21	far this company has not demonstrated that they have our			
22	interests that they're trustworthy. Someone trustworthy			
23	would be able to answer questions and, you know, some level			
24	of dialogue. So I think this should be strongly			
25	considered. Just by what we've seen of the character of			

how its treated citizens, they shouldn't even be considered 1 2 for such a project. And they shouldn't be --3 (Appl ause) MR. BAMBRICK: They shouldn't be allowed to, 4 5 "Oh, maybe this route won't work. We'll go back and come 6 up with a different route that might work." I think we've 7 seen enough, and plenty enough of the spirit here. And I 8 hope no ill will. I'm not trying to be hateful towards 9 ATXI, actually, we're fellow human beings. But the treatment here just hasn't been something that we'll give 10 11 over our land and our property for this. So I just wanted 12 to submit that. And I do thank you for your openness and quite the endurance to listen to all of this. 13 14 (Appl ause) 15 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you very 16 much, Mr. Bambrick. Any questions? 17 JUDGE PRIDGIN: No questions. 18 JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. We 19 are running dangerously low on time. Is there anyone else 20 who wishes to be heard before I see if any commissioners 21 have any closing remarks? 22 Chairman Hall? All right. 23 CHAIRMAN HALL: Very briefly. I want to 24 thank you for the compassionate, compelling, eye-opening 25 testimony. It's heart-warming to me when I see the

citizens of our great state stand up and speak about things			
that are important to them. And even more important than			
that I shouldn't say more important than that, but also			
important is the transfer of information from you to us.			
We're going to take we're going to take this testimony			
seriously. We're going to consider it, and it will be			
involved in our final decision. So thank you.			
(Appl ause)			
JUDGE PRIDGIN: Commissioner Rupp?			
COMMISSIONER RUPP: I have no comments.			
Thank you.			
JUDGE PRIDGIN: All right. Thank you. And			
I will simply echo Chairman Hall's comments. Thank you			
very much for your participation in this process, for your			
testimony, and simply for your attendance. We appreciate			
your input. And, again, we will we have evidentiary			
hearings scheduled in December.			
All right. Thank you very much. We are			
adjourned and off the record.			
(WHEREIN; Exhibits 13 and 14 was marked by			
the court reporter)			
(WHEREIN, the hearing was concluded.)			
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1CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER23I, LISA M. BANKS, a Certified Court Reporter, within and4for the State of Missouri, do hereby certify that the witnesses5whose testimony appears in the foregoing hearing was duly sworn;6that the testimony of said witnesses was taken by me to the best7of my ability and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my8direction; that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor9employed by any of the parties to the action in which this10deposition was taken, and further, that I am not a relative or	
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9 employed by any of the parties to the action in which this	
10 deposition was taken, and further, that I am not a relative or	
11 employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties	
12 thereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome	
13 of the action.	
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