

Concurring Opinion for EA-2015-0146

I am voting in support of this order but I am compelled to note for the record, my concerns about this project and the decision we've had to make here today.

The evidence supported the assertion that ATXI meet four of the five elements required for the Certificate of Convenience and Necessity. Those include need, qualifications, financial ability, and economic feasibility.

The fifth element, public interest is the one that is debatable. On one hand, it is undeniable that this project will benefit many consumers, both in and outside of Missouri.

In addition, the project itself could generate jobs and yield economic benefits provided that Missourians are utilized for these opportunities. I would strongly encourage employing Missouri residents as much as possible for this project.

The evidence provided through the evidentiary hearings, depositions, and briefs show that ATXI took care to address various concerns, including those about the impact this would have on wildlife along the proposed transmission line route.

It should be understood that in granting this CCN, the Commission is in no way minimizing how this project affects the Amish and Mennonite communities.

In an ideal world, we could find a compromise that would meet the needs of all, instead of the leaning towards what benefits the majority. Unfortunately, that is not the world in which we currently live.

Commissioner Maida J. Coleman