In the Matter of:

The Application of Grain Belt Express Clean Line, LLC, et al.

EA-2016-0358

December 19, 2018



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1
             BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
 2
                       STATE OF MISSOURI
 3
 4
                  TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
 5
                      Evidentiary Hearing
 6
                       December 19, 2018
 7
                   Jefferson City, Missouri
                           Volume 24
 8
 9
    In The Matter Of The
10
    Application of Grain Belt )
Express Clean Line LLC For A ) File No. EA-2016-0358
11
    Certificate Of Convenience And )
    Necessity Authorizing It To
12
    Construct, Own, Operate,
    Control, Manage And Maintain A )
13
    High Voltage, Direct Current )
    Transmission Line And An
14
    Associate Converter Station
    Providing An Interconnection
15
    On The Maywood-Montgomery
    345kv Transmission Line
16
17
                     MICHAEL BUSHMANN, Presiding
18
                          SENIOR REGULATORY LAW JUDGE
                     RYAN A. SILVEY, Chairman,
19
                      WILLIAM P. KENNEY,
                     DANIEL Y. HALL,
20
                      SCOTT T. RUPP,
                     MAIDA J. COLEMAN
21
                         COMMISSIONERS
22
    REPORTED BY:
23
    Tracy Taylor, CCR No. 939
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13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
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24
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1
                 (Exhibits 144, 145, 146, 147 and 148 were
 2
   marked for identification.)
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Let's go back on the
 3
    record. Today is December 19th, 2018. Today is the
 4
 5
    second day of the supplemental evidentiary hearing in
 6
    Case EA-2016-0358. And before we get started with our
 7
    witnesses, did any of the parties have any preliminary
8
   matters that need to be brought up?
 9
                 MR. ZOBRIST: Judge, Commissioner Hall
    asked Mr. Detweiler about numbers regarding easements
10
11
    obtained and easements that need to be obtained in
12
    Missouri, and he has that information. And at an
    appropriate time, I could put him up on the stand for
13
    a brief Q and A on that matter. And we can do it just
14
15
   before we conclude today or we can do it at the
16
    opening.
17
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Probably after like
   maybe the next break if Commissioner Hall is here, we
18
    can ask him if that would be appropriate and how he
19
20
    would prefer to get that information.
                 MR. ZOBRIST: Right. That would be fine,
21
22
    Judge.
23
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: That works for me.
   Anything cells?
24
25
                 All right. I think the next witness is
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1
    for Staff.
 2
                 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Judge. Staff
    calls Natelle Dietrich.
 3
 4
                 (Witness sworn.)
 5
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may be seated.
 6
   NATELLE DIETRICH, being first duly sworn, testified as
 7
    follows:
   DIRECT EXAMINATION BY
 8
 9
                 MR. THOMPSON:
                 State your name, please.
10
           Q.
                 Natelle, N-a-t-e-l-l-e, Dietrich,
11
           Α.
12
   D-i-e-t-r-i-c-h.
13
                 And how are you employed?
           Ο.
                 I'm the Staff director -- Commission
14
           Α.
15
    Staff director.
                 And when you say "Commission," do you
16
           Ο.
17
   mean the Missouri Public Service Commission?
18
           Α.
                 Yes.
                 And did you contribute to a document
19
           Ο.
2.0
    that's been marked as Staff's Exhibit 210 entitled
   Revised Staff Supplemental Rebuttal Report?
21
                 Yes. Confidential.
22
           Α.
23
           0.
                 Yes. And that is a confidential
24
    document, isn't it? And there is also a redacted
   public version, isn't there, that's been marked as
25
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Staff Exhibit 211? 1 2 Α. That's correct. 3 Ο. And do you have any changes or corrections to your contributions? 4 5 Α. I do not. 6 Ο. Okay. And Staff also prepared, if the 7 Commission wants them, red-lined versions of both the 8 confidential and public documents; isn't that correct? 9 Α. That's correct. MR. THOMPSON: And, Ms. Reporter, I'll go 10 ahead and mark those as Staff Exhibits 212 and 213. 11 12 MR. THOMPSON: We'll go ahead and offer that report after the last Staff witness has 13 testified, Judge, which is our practice with Staff 14 15 reports. JUDGE BUSHMANN: That sounds good. 16 17 MR. THOMPSON: So at this point I will tender Ms. Dietrich for cross-examination. 18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Just to make clear on 19 212 and 213, which one is 212 and which one is 213 20 21 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Judge. confidential version is Exhibit 212 and the redacted 22 23 public version is Exhibit 213. And I can make those available to the Commission if they want them and also 24 to any of the parties if they would like them. 25

1	don't have copies now.
2	MR. AGATHEN: Will those be published on
3	EFIS?
4	THE WITNESS: They already are.
5	MR. THOMPSON: They already are.
6	MR. AGATHEN: Thank you.
7	MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Judge.
8	JUDGE BUSHMANN: First cross-examination
9	would be by Missouri Landowners.
10	MR. AGATHEN: I have no questions, Your
11	Honor.
12	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Farm Bureau. Mr. Haden
13	not here?
14	Public Counsel.
15	MR. POSTON: No questions.
16	JUDGE BUSHMANN: MJMEUC.
17	MR. HEALY: No questions, Judge.
18	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Grain Belt Express.
19	MR. ZOBRIST: No questions, Judge.
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: No need for Bench
21	questions and no need for redirect.
22	Wait a minute. Mr. Haden, did
23	MR. HADEN: No questions, Your Honor.
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: did you have any
25	questions? Okay.

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1
                 MR. HADEN:
                             Thank you.
 2
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may step down.
                 MR. THOMPSON: Staff's next witness,
 3
 4
    Judge, is David Murray.
 5
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please raise your right
 6
   hand.
 7
                 (Witness sworn.)
 8
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may be seated.
 9
   DAVID MURRAY, being first duly sworn, testified as
    follows:
10
   DIRECT EXAMINATION BY
11
12
                 MR. THOMPSON:
                State your name, please.
13
           Q.
                 David Murray. Last name spelled
14
           Α.
15
   M-u-r-r-a-y.
16
                 And how are you employed?
           Ο.
17
                 I'm employed as utility regulatory
    manager in the Financial Analysis Department for the
18
    Missouri Public Service Commission.
19
20
                 And, Mr. Murray, did you contribute to
    the documents that have been marked as Staff Exhibits
21
    210, 211, 212 and 213, being confidential and public
22
23
    versions of the Revised Staff Supplemental Rebuttal
24
   Report?
25
           Α.
                 Yes.
```

1	Q. And 212 and 213 are	e red-lined versions of
2	that report, all of these are or	n EFIS. Do you have
3	any changes or corrections to yo	our contributions?
4	A. I do not.	
5	MR. THOMPSON: At	this time, Judge, I
6	will tender Mr. Murray for cross	s-examination.
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: C	ross by Missouri
8	B Landowners.	
9	MR. AGATHEN: Just	one question, Your
10	Honor.	
11	BY MR. AGATHEN:	
12	Q. Good morning.	
13	A. Good morning.	
14	Q. In looking at the	financial viability
15	under the Tartan criteria, is it	t fair to say that you
16	looked at the finances of Invent	ergy?
17	A. Looked at both, but	t I primarily focused
18	on Invenergy for purposes of the	e financial resources
19	going forward.	
20	Q. Thank you.	
21	JUDGE BUSHMANN: C	ross by Farm Bureau.
22	MR. HADEN: None,	Your Honor.
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Pt	ublic Counsel.
24	4 MR. POSTON: No que	estions, thank you.
25	JUDGE BUSHMANN: MG	JMEUC.

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1
                 MR. HEALY: No questions.
 2
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Grain Belt Express.
    CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. ZOBRIST:
 3
                 Mr. Murray, when you used the word "both"
 4
           Ο.
 5
    in that you looked at the financial viability of both
 6
    companies, you spoke of Invenergy. What was the other
    company that you examined?
 7
 8
           Α.
                 I'm sorry. Grain Belt.
 9
           Ο.
                 Grain Belt Express Clean Line, LLC, the
    applicant in this case?
10
11
           Α.
                 Yes.
12
                 Okay. And you also looked at financial
           Ο.
    information regarding its ultimate parent company,
13
14
    Clean Line Energy Partners?
15
                 Yes.
           Α.
                 MR. ZOBRIST: Okay. Thank you, Judge.
16
17
   No other questions.
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any Bench questions?
18
    Commissioner Hall?
19
20
    QUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONER HALL:
                 Yes. Good morning.
21
           Ο.
22
                 Good morning.
           Α.
23
           Q.
                 Concerning the financial viability of
    Invenergy, which I understand there is a legal issue
24
    as to whether or not that's the correct entity for us
25
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```
to be focused on, but concerning Invenergy, what --
1
 2
   what is the most significant aspect of that company
    that leads you to believe that with the -- with the
 3
   proposed conditions in place, the Tartan -- that
    Tartan factor has been met?
 5
 6
           Α.
                 I'd say the most important consideration
 7
    is the condition of the -- of the commitment to -- or
 8
    excuse me, of providing information that shows they
 9
   have all the financial commitments from various
    investors. With that being said, I also --
10
                 And let -- so the condition that --
11
           Q.
    that -- explain that condition, the condition that you
12
    just referred to.
13
14
           Α.
                 That condition is geared around the whole
    model of, well, Invenergy and Clean Line for that
15
    matter, which is a project finance model where they
16
17
    don't really do a lot of general corporate bonds at
    the -- at the holding company level for purposes of --
18
    of -- of financing their construction projects and
19
```

But for -- in -- in that type of situation, they rely a lot on -- on the private capital markets. And that can include private equity

their -- you know, for -- for purpose of Invenergy has

mainly been renewable generation and -- and gas-fired

20

21

22

23

24

25

generation.

- 1 sponsors. So not just Invenergy as a private equity
 2 investor, but also various institutional investors
 3 such as -- I think might be some type of investment --
 - Q. Let me -- let me -- let me cut you off.
 - A. I'm sorry.

- Q. So the -- the -- the condition you're talking about that I'm asking you about is on page 11 of the revised Staff Supplemental Rebuttal Report.

 Correct? And the condition is that Grain Belt will not install transmission facilities on easement property until it has obtained commitment for funds in the amount equal to or greater than the total cost to build the project.
- 14 A. Yes.
 - Q. And it is my understanding and I guess I'm wondering if it's yours as well, before the financing can be in place, there has to be a commitment to purchase the energy on the line. I believe that was the testimony yesterday. Is that your understanding as well?
 - A. Yes. I think David Berry had about 70 percent of capacity needed to be, I guess, committed to as far as in their process of -- of seeking out shippers on the line.
 - Q. Okay. So can you explain -- explain to

1 me from your perspective, from Staff's perspective why
2 that condition is so important?

- A. Because, you know, this condition will actually assure that the full amount of -- of -- of capital needed once -- when they're getting ready to actually do physical construction and cross, you know, landowners' properties, that they will have commitments for the full amount of the estimated project costs, which I believe is about 2.3 billion.
- So that will assure that that -- that -- if it's Invenergy through, you know, Grain Belt, that they have actually gone through the process of -- of selling this project to all the -- the private investors, which would include private equity sponsors, but also investors in the debt, which may include banks.
- Q. So in other words, based upon your analysis, based upon your understanding, before any landowner's property could possibly be taken, the -- there would have to be contracts in place to purchase the energy and there would have to be financing in place to cover the entire project?
 - A. Yes.

Q. And from your perspective, that requirement that the financing be in place is

essentially -- the financing is the viability, in other words, is it not? I mean with the financing, the project's viable; without the financing, the project's not viable?

5

6

7

8

9

10

15

16

17

- A. It's not going to be -- it's not going to get built without the financing.
 - Q. Are there other aspects of -- of the company or the -- the particular project at issue here that -- that leads you to believe that this Tartan factor has been met?
- 11 A. Yes. I'll say with Invenergy, actually
 12 their financials are much -- you know, much healthier
 13 than Clean Line's. So to the extent that Invenergy is
 14 stepping in, I'll say that providing --
 - Q. So to the extent that this Commission viewed Clean Line as meeting the Tartan factor, you would say that it's clearly been met now?
- A. Yes. Invenergy actually has assets and revenues. Clean Line doesn't have any revenues.
- Q. Is there -- is there anything else that you'd like to highlight that -- that would lead you to believe and should lead us to believe that this Tartan factor has been met?
- A. I sa-- I mean obviously one of the reasons why I was holding out for needing to see the

financial statements was to verify their statement
that they had cash on hand for purposes of
development. And, you know, that's a very simple, you
know, matter of just looking at what the cash balance
is on their balance sheet. And they had a significant
amount of cash on hand.

- Q. Does the fact that in order for this project to go forward that the financing has to be in place -- in order for the financing to be in place, there has to be individuals, companies, banks, organizations willing to put their money up for this project. And -- and but for all of those individuals' and entities' willingness to put their money on the line, this project would not happen. Is that -- is that relevant to you?
- A. It's relevant to the extent, yes, we put this condition in there to ensure that -- the fact that they don't have upfront committed financing for this construction project, that with the project finance model, you know, understanding that, you know, they have to make a certain amount of progress before investors, whether it's debt and/or, you know, private equity investors provide capital that the -- that they've had to make a certain amount of progress and -- and show that they're not going to have to rely

too much maybe on the merchant side. 1 2 Maybe they've actually contracted generation, say 20-year contracts versus -- they have 3 that in their -- I guess in their -- in their 5 Membership Interest Purchase Agreement as far as short 6 term contracts versus long term contracts. So those were the same things that the investors will look at 8 and -- before they're willing to provide capital. And then another question, and this --9 Ο. this is a little bit outside of your testimony, but I 10 think based upon your expertise, you may -- you may be 11 12 able to answer it, but if not, that's obviously fine. The -- the -- the arrangements in place 13 here regarding the financing for this project, are 14 15 they fairly consistent with the financing that you would see on these types of projects around the 16 17 country, or do you know? I don't know. This is -- this is not 18 something I regularly deal with in my duties at the --19 20 with the Public Service Commission. Okay. Fair enough. Thank you. 21 Ο. 22 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: No questions. 23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Recross based on Bench questions. Missouri Landowners. 24 25 MR. AGATHEN: No, Your Honor.

1	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Farm Bureau
2	MR. HADEN: None, Your Honor.
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Public Counsel.
4	MR. POSTON: No questions.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: MJMEUC.
6	MR. HEALY: No questions, Judge.
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Grain Belt.
8	RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. ZOBRIST:
9	Q. Mr. Murr Mr. Murray, could you turn to
10	page 9 of the Rebuttal Report, which I believe is your
11	portion from the report?
12	A. Yes.
13	Q. Okay. Now, in response to Commissioner
14	Hall's questions, you were quoting the paragraph that
15	begins on line 11 and it says, 1. Grain Belt will not
16	install transmission facilities on easement property
17	in Missouri until it has obtained commitments for
18	funds in an amount equal to or greater than the total
19	cost to build the entirety of this multi-state
20	transmission project. Correct?
21	A. Yes.
22	Q. Okay. Now, it does not relate to how the
23	easement property is obtained, whether through
24	negotiations, through eminent domain or otherwise.
25	Correct?

```
1
           Α.
                 No.
 2
           Q.
                 Okay. And so the condition relates to
    the showing of the financial commitment not before
 3
   property is subject to an easement, but rather before
 5
    facilities are being installed -- transmission
 6
    facilities are being installed through that easement.
   Correct?
                 Yes. That has to do with the
 8
           Α.
 9
    construction.
10
                 MR. ZOBRIST: That's all I have, Judge.
    Thank you.
11
12
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Redirect by Staff.
13
   redirect?
                 MR. THOMPSON: No redirect, thank you.
14
15
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, Mr. Murray.
16
    You may step down.
17
                 THE WITNESS:
                               Thank you.
18
                 COMMISSIONER HALL: Judge, could I ask --
   not a question of the witness, but a question of
19
2.0
    counsel?
21
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Sure.
22
                 COMMISSIONER HALL: Mr. Zobrist, you
23
    raised an issue and I appreciate you clarifying --
24
                 MR. ZOBRIST: I can't hear you,
    Commissioner.
25
```

1	COMMISSIONER HALL: Oh. I appreciate you
2	clarifying that with with Mr. Murray, but that
3	raises a question for me. Is there anything in any of
4	the conditions related to the timing by which the
5	company could acquire easements by eminent domain? Is
6	there is there any is there any requirement that
7	the financing be in place? Is there any requirement
8	that a certain percentage of the of the line
9	capacity be spoken for?
10	MR. ZOBRIST: Well, there's nothing that
11	I'm aware of that relates to the use of the power of
12	eminent domain if it has to be used. The policy of
13	this company has always been that is a last resort.
14	COMMISSIONER HALL: And I appreciate
15	that.
16	MR. ZOBRIST: Right. And I think
17	Mr. Zadlo talked about how this pre-construction
18	phase, this development phase continues. There may be
19	something relating to how many easements you need to
20	get before you can do something, but that's the only
21	requirement that I recall. And it does not
22	differentiate between freely negotiated easements or
23	through eminent domain proceedings.
24	COMMISSIONER HALL: Okay. Thank you.
25	MR. THOMPSON: Mister Commissioner, if

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I could direct you to line 8 on page 4 of Staff's
1
 2
   Revised Supplemental Rebuttal Report. This would be
    in the confidential non-red-lined version.
 3
                 COMMISSIONER HALL: Could you -- could
 4
 5
   you do it on the revised -- on the red-lined version?
 6
                 MR. THOMPSON: We're looking for it.
 7
                 COMMISSIONER HALL: Okay.
 8
                 MR. THOMPSON: Yeah. Page 4, line 10 of
 9
    the red-lined version. And this is a condition that
    Mr. Zadlo acknowledged and agreed to during testimony
10
    yesterday.
11
12
                 MR. ZOBRIST: Well, and Mr. Thompson's
   right. Mr. Schulte also clarified that depending on,
13
   you know, how you interpret this, it makes no sense
14
   because it would have certain things that would be
15
    done before you could do any construction. And I
16
17
    don't think that was the intent.
18
                 And I think that Mr. Zadlo was saying
   we're going to live up to the spirit of this, but we
19
20
    have -- we have -- we opposed that literal condition
    earlier in this phase of the case because it -- it
21
    doesn't make sense. You've got certain conditions
22
23
    relating to construction that, you know, you would not
    begin to carry out until you acquired your easements
24
25
    involuntary or involuntarily.
```

```
1
                 COMMISSIONER HALL: Okay. Well, this is
 2
    an issue that I think is really important. And -- and
   perhaps when we conclude with the hearing today, I may
 3
    ask for some specific briefing on -- on -- on that
 5
    issue.
 6
                 MR. ZOBRIST:
                               Right. And -- and,
    Commissioner, I would just say I've haven't had a
 7
8
    chance to have all of us talk with Staff, but we are
 9
    certainly willing to work with language that we think
    adheres to the spirit of this condition, but -- but
10
    otherwise, we get in a position where we're unable to
11
12
    conduct surveys and do some of the pre-construction
   work if we don't have the easement.
13
                 That doesn't deal with construction or
14
15
    actually getting on the land. And that's why I was
16
    having Mr. Murray confirm the financing obligations.
17
    It relates to what you will have in place before the
    installation of transmission facilities on easement
18
19
   property.
20
                 COMMISSIONER HALL:
                                     Okay.
                                            Thank you.
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, Mr. Murray.
21
                 MR. THOMPSON: Staff calls Michael
22
23
    Stahlman.
24
                 (Witness sworn.)
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please be seated.
25
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1
                 THE WITNESS:
                                Thank you.
 2
    MICHAEL STAHLMAN, being first duly sworn, testified as
    follows:
 3
    DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. THOMPSON:
 5
           Q.
                 Please state your name.
 6
           Α.
                 Michael Stahlman, spelled
 7
    S-t-a-h-l-m-a-n.
 8
           Q.
                 And how are you employed, Mr. Stahlman?
 9
           Α.
                 Regulatory economist with the Missouri
    Public Service Commission.
10
11
                 And, Mr. Stahlman, did you contribute to
           Ο.
12
    the documents marked as Staff Exhibits 210 through
    213, which is Staff's Revised Supplemental Rebuttal
13
14
    Report in confidential and public versions and also in
15
    confidential red-lined and public red-lined versions?
16
           Α.
                 Yes.
17
           Ο.
                 And do you have any changes or
18
    corrections to your contributions to that report?
19
           Α.
                 No.
20
                 MR. THOMPSON: At this time I would offer
    Staff Exhibits 210, 211, 212 and 213.
21
22
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Are there any
23
    objections?
24
                 Hearing none, those exhibits are
    admitted.
25
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1	(Exhibit 210, 211, 212 and 213 were
2	received into evidence.)
3	MR. THOMPSON: And I tender Mr. Stahlman
4	for cross-examination.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Just one question,
6	Mr. Thompson. I notice that 208 and 209, the previous
7	reports, were marked. Did you intend to offer those
8	or not?
9	MR. THOMPSON: I do not. Thank you,
10	Judge.
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Just clarifying. Thank
12	you.
13	First cross would be by Missouri
14	Landowners.
15	MR. AGATHEN: No questions, Your Honor.
16	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Farm Bureau.
17	MR. HADEN: No questions, Judge.
18	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Public Counsel.
19	MR. POSTON: No questions.
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: MJMEUC.
21	MR. HEALY: No questions, Judge.
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Grain Belt.
23	MR. ZOBRIST: No no questions, Judge.
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from the
25	Bench?

```
COMMISSIONER KENNEY: I have no
1
 2
    questions.
 3
                 COMMISSIONER HALL: I maybe have one.
 4
    QUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONER HALL:
 5
           Q.
                 Good morning.
 6
           Α.
                 Good morning.
 7
                 Are you concerned about Grain Belt's
           O.
 8
   withdrawal from the queue in terms of timing -- in
 9
    terms of timing?
                 To an extent, yes. I don't -- I think
10
           Α.
    with the condition in place that they have to complete
11
    the RTO studies, that that -- it's not an overly
12
    concern, but I'm unsure on how -- there's been a lot
13
14
    of changes with different projects in the queue.
15
                 And with the -- the major concern of the
    ATX line not being constructed is mostly resolved
16
17
   because it is in progress, although it's not completed
    yet. But -- so there's going to be different changes
18
    and I just am uncertain on what -- how that's going to
19
20
    impact what the RTOs -- how they study this pro-- this
21
    line.
22
                 Okay. And this is a question that I
           Q.
23
    asked the company's witness yesterday, but do you --
    is there -- from your perspective, from Staff's
24
   perspective is there any benefit to the -- to the MISO
25
```

```
system to -- to that system within Missouri with
1
 2
    regards to the 21 million dollars in upgrades that
    would be required on the system?
 3
                 I -- I -- there could be some reliability
 4
 5
    improvements, but I'm not certain on that. Dan Beck,
 6
    I think, testified to that a bit in the previous
   hearing.
 8
           Ο.
                 So those -- whatever reliability benefits
 9
   were -- that were testified to at the last hearing,
   you -- you would -- you would -- you're unaware of any
10
    additional ones?
11
12
           Α.
                 Correct.
13
                 Okay. All right. Thank you.
           Ο.
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Are there any counsel
14
15
    that would like to have recross based on Commissioner
16
    questions?
17
                 MR. AGATHEN:
                               None, Your Honor.
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Mr. Zobrist.
18
    RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. ZOBRIST:
19
20
           Ο.
                 Mr. Stahlman, were you here when Jonathan
   Abebe testified?
21
22
           Α.
                 Yes.
23
           Q.
                 Do you remember that he said it was his
    understanding that Invenergy intended to enter the
24
   MISO queue in the first quarter in 2019?
25
```

```
That's what he testified, I -- yes.
1
           Α.
 2
           Q.
                 And would that give you greater assurance
 3
    that this queue -- interconnection queue process would
   be initiated sooner rather than later?
 4
 5
                 It -- I just don't know what the results
 6
    are going to be of the studies. They haven't been
 7
    completed or entered into at this time.
                 Right. But entering into the queue would
 8
           Q.
 9
    then place it in a position to have those studies
   begin --
10
11
           Α.
                 Yes.
12
           Ο.
                 -- correct?
                 MR. ZOBRIST: Okay. Nothing further,
13
14
    Judge.
15
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Redirect by Staff.
                 MR. THOMPSON: No redirect. Thank you,
16
17
    Judge.
18
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Mr. Stahlman, you may
19
    step down, sir. Thank you.
20
                 MR. THOMPSON: May Mister -- may Staff's
   witnesses be excused?
21
22
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN:
                                  They may.
23
                 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you.
24
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Ready for MJMEUC
25
   witness.
```

```
We're ready, Judge.
 1
                 MR. HEALY:
 2
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please raise your right
    hand.
 3
 4
                 (Witness sworn.)
 5
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.
 6
    JOHN GROTZINGER, being first duly sworn, testified as
 7
    follows:
 8
    DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HEALY:
 9
                 Can you please state your name for the
           Ο.
    record?
10
                 John Grotzinger. And that's
11
           Α.
12
    G-r-o-t-z-i-n-q-e-r.
                 And, Mr. Grotzinger, who is your
13
           0.
14
    employer?
15
                 Missouri Joint Municipal Electric Utility
           Α.
    Commission; otherwise referred to as MJMEUC here.
16
17
           Ο.
                 Okay. And what's your position at
    MJMEUC?
18
                 I'm the chief operating officer.
19
           Α.
20
           Ο.
                 And what does the chief operating officer
21
    of MJMEUC do?
22
                 I'm in charge of the power supply and
           Α.
23
    transmission arrangements for the organization on
    behalf of our pools and producing for our projects.
24
25
           Q.
                 Okay. Did you cause Direct Supplemental
```

```
1
    Testimony to be filed in this case previously marked
 2
   as Exhibit 480?
                Yes, I did.
 3
           Α.
           Ο.
                 Okay. Do you have any corrections to see
 4
    that testimony?
 5
 6
           Α.
                 I do have a minor correction. On page 2,
 7
    line 10, the sentence that begins, The savings from
    the Grain Belt TSA. Should insert the word "the
 8
 9
    additional savings from the Grain Belt TSA."
           Q.
                 Okay. Do you have any updates to your
10
    testimony?
11
12
           Α.
                 The -- the -- there has been an amendment
    to the TSA.
13
14
           Q.
                 Okay.
15
                 MR. HEALY: And, Judge, if I can
    approach, I have that amendment. That's both the --
16
17
    excuse me. I'm approaching with Exhibit 481 and
    481-C.
18
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Just to clarify, 481,
19
20
    that's the public version of the same document.
21
    Correct?
22
                 MR. HEALY: That is the public version.
23
    481-C does contain some confidential terms on the last
24
   page that I'd ask only the attorneys to the case be
   aware of.
25
```

```
1
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Thank you.
 2
   BY MR. HEALY:
                 And, Mr. Grotzinger, have you had an
 3
           0.
 4
    opportunity to look at what I handed you marked as
 5
    Exhibit 481 and Exhibit 481-C?
 6
           Α.
                 Yes.
 7
                 Can you identify that for the record?
           Ο.
 8
           Α.
                 That's the amendment I just referenced.
 9
                 Okay. And are those amendments true and
           Ο.
    correct?
10
11
                 Yes, they are.
           Α.
12
                 MR. HEALY: Move for the introduction,
    Judge, of those exhibits.
13
14
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Exhibit 480 and 481,
15
   public and confidential, have been offered. Are there
    any objections to those exhibits?
16
17
                 Seeing none, those are both admitted.
                 (Exhibits 480 and 481 were received into
18
19
    evidence.)
20
                 MR. HEALY: And I'd move for the
    introduction of Exhibit 480, testimony.
21
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Well, I just did both.
22
23
                 MR. HEALY: I'm sorry, Judge. Tender the
    witness for cross.
24
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: First cross would be
25
```

1	Grain Belt Express.	
2	MR. ZOBRIST: No questions.	
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Public Counsel.	
4	MR. POSTON: No questions.	
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Commission Staff.	
6	MR. THOMPSON: No questions. Thank you,	
7	Judge.	
8	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Farm Bureau.	
9	MR. HADEN: No questions, Your Honor.	
10	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Missouri Landowners.	
11	MR. AGATHEN: Yes. Thank you, Judge.	
12	CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. AGATHEN:	
13	Q. Good morning, Mr. Grotzinger.	
14	A. Good morning.	
15	Q. Before I forget, I have a question that	
16	just came to mind this morning. Are you familiar with	
17	the company ABB, Inc.?	
18	A. Yes.	
19	Q. Did you hear this morning that they were	
20	sold to a Japanese firm?	
21	A. I I had heard that, yes.	
22	MR. HEALY: Objection, Judge, as to	
23	relevance. I'm not sure how this has anything to do	
24	with Direct Supplemental Testimony.	
25	MR. AGATHEN: Well, the question has been	

```
answered.
1
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: The question has been
 2
    answered. Was there a further motion you wanted to
 3
   make?
 5
                 MR. HEALY: No, Judge. Just the line of
 6
    questioning would cease, I'd be fine with that.
 7
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Is there relevance to
8
    the line of questioning?
 9
                 MR. AGATHEN: Yes. AB [sic] Inc. was one
    of the companies that Grain Belt has said that they
10
    will be relying on for purchases of materials and
11
12
    supplies related to the line. If they are now sold,
    that circumstance may certainly change.
13
                 MR. HEALY: And, Judge, again, has
14
15
   nothing to do with Mr. Grotzinger's Direct
    Supplemental Testimony.
16
17
                 MR. AGATHEN: But there is open cross
18
    obviously.
19
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN:
                                  It's not directly
20
    related to his testimony, but it does relate to a
   material change according to what Mr. Agathen is
21
    saying. So the witness can answer questions about
22
23
    that to the extent that he has knowledge.
24
                 MR. AGATHEN: I have no further questions
25
   on that subject.
```

1	JUDGE BUSHMANN: All right.
2	BY MR. AGATHEN:
3	Q. In your contracts with Grain Belt and
4	MJMEUC, MJMEUC can purchase up to 200 megawatts of
5	capacity for transmission from Kansas to Missouri.
6	Correct?
7	A. Yes.
8	Q. And the energy component will come from
9	the Iron Star wind project?
10	A. We've contracted for up to 100 or 136
11	megawatts under the Iron Star contract.
12	Q. Have you contracted yet for en any
13	energy beyond that 136 megawatts?
14	A. We have not.
15	Q. Have you solicited any bids since August
16	of 2016 for additional energy?
17	A. Not not related to this.
18	Q. Beginning at the bottom of page 1 of your
19	testimony, you describe an amendment to your contract
20	with Grain Belt for the 200 megawatts of capacity; is
21	that correct?
22	A. That's correct.
23	Q. And that's the document attached to your
24	Supplemental Direct Testimony as Schedule JG-9?
25	A. Yes.

1 And as you state, Grain Belt agreed to Ο. 2 lower the price for the second 100 megawatts to the same price you had agreed to for the first 100 3 Is that essentially correct? megawatts. 5 Α. Yes. 6 Ο. That amounts to a 30 percent decrease in 7 the price of the second 100 megawatts? 8 Α. Yes. 9 Ο. And a 17.6 decrease in the overall cost of the full 200 megawatts? 10 11 Α. Yes. 12 O. I'm sorry. What was --13 Α. Yes. Is it fair to assume it was 14 Q. Thank you. 15 not Grain Belt which first suggested an additional reduction below its normal rate for service in 16 Missouri? 17 18 Α. Yes. And you first con-- contacted Grain Belt 19 Ο. 20 about the possible price reduction this past July. 21 Correct? 22 I'm not sure of the exact date, but that sounds about right. 23 24 What led you to believe that Grain Belt Ο. would be willing to reduce the price in your contract 25

even further below the normal rate?

- A. Well, with the -- the ongoing good relationship there and successes we've had and the expectation that the timing has -- was slightly different than we'd originally anticipated.
 - Q. Meaning what about the timing?
 - A. We'd anticipated a 2021 in-service date.

 And I heard yesterday again that more like 2023, maybe
 '24 as potential dates.
- Q. And so, in essence, to compensate you for that additional schedule delay or potential schedule delay, you asked them for a reduction in your rate?
- A. As somewhat as a risk -- risk mitigation and the potential that we would need some bridging arrangements to cover the difference in the periods.
- Q. Would it be fair to say the final revised rate was the result of a negotiation between MJMEUC and Grain Belt?
 - A. I think that's fair.
- Q. Would you briefly describe how the negotiating process played out? Was it a give and take across the table?
- MR. HEALY: Objection, Judge. There's a
 Joint Defense Agreement that still exists between the
 parties and I think this is attorney/client privilege,

```
some of this.
1
 2
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Sustained.
   BY MR. AGATHEN:
 3
                 At the time you were negotiating with
 4
 5
    Grain Belt on the reduced rate, were you aware of the
 6
    contract they'd already signed with a company called
   Realgy, R-e-a-l-g-y?
 7
 8
           Α.
                 I'm not sure that I was.
 9
                 Well, the amount of the -- dollar amount
           Ο.
    of the rate with Realgy is confidential so we don't
10
    want to talk about the actual rate here. But were you
11
12
    aware at the time of the dollar amount of the rate
    which Grain Belt had agreed to with Realgy for the
13
14
    25 megawatts of service from Kansas to Missouri?
15
                 I don't believe I was.
           Α.
16
                 Did you ask them about that rate?
           O.
17
           Α.
                 No, I did not.
                 Were you aware of the contract?
18
           Ο.
19
                      Not at that time.
           Α.
20
           O.
                 Another change in your amendment
    agreement with Grain Belt was to require that they
21
   post additional security for performance of their
22
23
    contract; is that correct?
24
           Α.
                 Yes.
                 And is that what is referred to at
25
           O.
```

paragraph 2 of your amended contract with Grain Belt 1 2 as the credit support? I believe it is. I'm trying to find --3 Do you have a copy with you of your 4 Ο. response to our Data Request Number 1? 5 6 Α. I do not. 7 Mr. Grotzinger, I'm handing you a copy of O. a document which consists of your responses to some of 8 9 our data requests. And I would like you to read into the record Request Number 1 and your response. 10 Request Number 1? With reference to 11 Α. 12 paragraph 2 of the interim agreement and amendment included as Schedule JG-9 to Mr. Grotzinger's 13 14 Supplemental Direct Testimony, please explain all of the reasons why MJMEUC requested the credit support. 15 16 And you want me to read the answer as 17 well? 18 Yes, please. Q.

19

20

21

22

23

24

- MJMEUC requested the credit support as compensation for any opportunities that might be missed by MJMEUC as a result of any potential delay in the completion of the Grain Belt project or in the event the Grain Belt project might not be completed.
 - Ο. That's the end of your answer?
 - Yes, that was the end of the answer. Α.

1 sorry.

- Q. Thank you, sir. Your amended contract with Grain Belt, the one at your Schedule JG-9 was executed on November 12 of 9-- 2018; is that correct?
- 5 A. That was the original one that was filed, 6 yes.
- Q. So that was three days after Grain Belt signed the contract to sell the entire project to Invenergy. Correct?
- 10 A. Could be. I'm not certain of the timing 11 of that.
- Q. Well, the record will show that it's three days after.
- 14 A. Okay.

- Q. If you'll accept that subject to check.
- A. I'll accept that.
- Q. So when you signed your new contract with Grain Belt, included you adding the requirement for the additional credit support, you were aware that Invenergy was hoping to become the new owner of the Grain Belt project, were you not?
- 22 A. I believe I was.
- Q. To your knowledge, did the rate

 concessions granted to you by Grain Belt play any role

 in the sale of the project from Grain Belt to

```
1
    Invenergy?
 2
                 MR. HEALY: Objection, Judge. I think
    that calls for speculation.
 3
    BY MR. AGATHEN:
 5
           Q.
                 To your -- to the best of your knowledge.
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: I'll overrule it to the
 6
 7
    extent that he has knowledge of it
 8
                 THE WITNESS: I'm not aware of that.
 9
    BY MR. AGATHEN:
                 The credit support agreement we mentioned
10
           Ο.
    was executed just this past Friday; is that correct?
11
12
           Α.
                 Yes.
13
                 And that's the document you're sponsoring
           0.
    as Exhibit 481?
14
15
           Α.
                 Yes.
                 It's titled Amendment Number 2 to Long
16
           0.
    Term Transmission Service Agreement. Correct?
17
18
           Α.
                 Yes.
                 Can we call this the second amendment?
19
           Q.
20
           Α.
                 Yes.
                 Amendment Number 1 being the document at
21
           Ο.
    your Schedule JG-9. Correct?
22
23
           Α.
                 Okay.
24
                 Were you involved in the negotiations
           Ο.
    resulting in the second amendment?
25
```

1 Α. Yes. 2 0. For the other side it's signed by Mr. Zadlo of Invenergy. Correct? 3 4 Α. Yes. 5 Ο. Were your negotiations of the second 6 amendment conducted primarily with people from 7 Invenergy? 8 MR. HEALY: Objection, Judge. I think, 9 again, this calls for things that are covered by Joint Defense Agreement, may lead to attorney/client 10 privileged information. 11 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Your response? 13 MR. AGATHEN: I have none, Your Honor. just don't know the extent of that agreement and 14 15 whether it applies here or not. JUDGE BUSHMANN: I think it does, so I'll 16 sustain the objection. 17 BY MR. AGATHEN: 18 That second amendment basically provides 19 Ο. 20 subject to certain other provisions, that by the end of next year, Grain Belt or perhaps Invenergy will 21 deliver to you an acceptable credit support document; 22 23 is that correct? 24 Yes. Α. 25 Ο. And you're able to draw on that credit

- 1 support if what is called a trigger event occurs. Is
 2 that generally correct?
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. And a trigger event is defined at page 1 as either, A, the abandonment of the project after the year -- after the end of 2019, or B, Grain Belt or a successor fails to give notice to proceed with construction by December 31st of the year 2022; is that correct?
- 10 A. Yes.
- Q. So does that mean that under the trigger event provisions, Grain Belt or its successor has four more years before they must be ready to proceed with construction of the project?
- MR. HEALY: Objection, Judge, inasmuch as it calls for speculation or a legal conclusion.
- 17 BY MR. AGATHEN:
- Q. Is that what the terms -- strike that.
- 19 Is that what the terms of this document
- 20 | state?

- 21 A. It does require a 2022 target date -- or 22 construction date, yes.
- Q. Why did you agree to give them four years to get to that point?
 - A. That was a negotiated process to come to

- 1 that level. And we thought that was a reasonable time
 2 to have it in place and yet provided us some
 3 assurances of a reasonable delivery of the project.
 - Q. If you could have picked any date on your own and didn't have to negotiate it, it wouldn't be that date, would it?
 - A. As I stated, we preferred a sooner day.
 - Q. At Section 2.5.7 of the second amendment at page 4, there's a provision called Transfer PPA.
- 10 Do you see that?

5

6

7

8

- 11 A. Yes.
- Q. And if I understand it, this generally
 deals with the transfer of rights to energy under the
 agreement between MJMEUC and the Iron Star wind
 project; is that correct?
- 16 A. Yes.
- Q. To your knowledge, what is the basic
 purpose of the provisions dealing with this Transfer
 PPA?
- 20 A. It -- from our perspective, it provides 21 some mit-- risk mitigation.
- Q. And why is that?
- A. It would allow some flexibility in providing supplies -- in bridging supplies to our members.

1	Q. Would you not have had that same level of
2	assurances without this provision?
3	A. No.
4	Q. Why not?
5	A. I think that it relates to the it
6	relates to the financial credit support assurances
7	that we had and the claims on that.
8	Q. The financial
9	A. The credit support.
10	Q. From Invenergy?
11	A. That's correct. From Grain Belt, yes.
12	Q. To your knowledge, has the Iron Star wind
13	project agreed to the transfer of its contract under
14	the provisions of Section 3.8 at page 5 of your second
15	amendment?
16	MR. HEALY: Objection, Judge. Again, it
17	calls for speculation as well as a legal conclusion.
18	MR. AGATHEN: I'm asking just to his
19	knowledge.
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Overruled.
21	THE WITNESS: I don't have knowledge that
22	they've agreed to that.
23	BY MR. AGATHEN:
24	Q. To your knowledge, are there any other
25	major provisions in the second amendment which

```
significantly affect your original agreement to
1
 2
   purchase capacity on the Grain Belt line?
                 I -- I think you've referenced the
 3
           Α.
 4
    significant ones.
 5
           Ο.
                 On a different subject, have you read the
 6
   Direct Testimony of Invenergy witness Mr. Kris Zadlo?
 7
                 I believe I've read it, yes.
           Α.
 8
           Q.
                 At page 12 of his testimony, he estimates
 9
    that construction of the line will begin in the year
    2020 and that it will take approximately four years to
10
   build the line after construction begins. So based on
11
12
   his estimates, the line will not be completed until
    some time in about 2024 or roughly five to six years
13
    from now; is that correct?
14
15
           Α.
                 I had --
16
                 (The court reporter interrupted for
17
    transcript accuracy.)
18
                 THE WITNESS: I -- yes, I did hear that
    and read that, yes.
19
2.0
    BY MR. AGATHEN:
                 MJMEUC originally signed on with Grain
21
           Ο.
    Belt, in part at least, to replace a supply contract
22
23
    which relied on an Illinois coal-fired plant; is that
    correct?
24
```

A fleet of plants, but yes.

25

Α.

And that contract expires in 2021, does 1 Ο. 2 it not? Yes, it does. 3 Α. So is it fair to say that the Grain Belt 4 Ο. 5 line is not expected to be available to you until 6 about three years after your coal contract expires? 7 Based on the information here, yes. Α. 8 Q. What arrangements have you made to 9 replace the 100 megawatts from the coal plant until the grain line belt -- excuse me, until the Grain Belt 10 line might finally be operational? 11 12 Grain Belt Express was one portion of the replacement. We have additional portions that -- some 13 14 have been put in place, others have not. And we would likely look in the future for bridging arrangements 15 for the energy or just to buy from the market for a 16 17 portion of that energy in the short term. 18 So you don't have any specific plans in Ο. mind at this point to replace --19 20 Α. No--21 Ο. -- the portion you were relying on from Grain Belt? 22 23 Α. No specific plans. 24 In your capacity planning work, when does Ο.

MJMEUC plan for the Grain Belt project to be fully

1 operational?

8

9

- A. We -- we have a minimal reliance on it
 for capacity needs. Primarily we were looking at it
 for energy supply in the 2021 for replacement of the
 Illinois power contract. So we did not have a major
 need for capacity. And such as that, the delays would
 not harm us from a capacity planning standpoint.
 - Q. Well, in your capacity planning process, what date are you now predicting that the Grain Belt line will be fully operational?
- A. Based on the information I've heard, it will be based on the 2024 time frame.
- Q. That's all I have. Thank you, sir.

 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions from the
 Bench.
- 16 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: I have none.
 17 QUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONER HALL:
- 18 O. Good morning.
- 19 A. Morning.
- Q. I am looking at page 2 of your
 Supplemental Direct Testimony and it references
 Schedule JG-3 and then updated in JG-10. And my
 understanding is that this is calculations to
 determine the savings to your ratepayers that would
 result from receiving energy on the Clean Line; is

that correct?

- A. That's correct.
- Q. What I don't understand is that it purports to compare the price that you would be charged under -- under the contract with Clean Line and a traditional SPP-to-MISO point-to-point service agreement.
- A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Why is that the appropriate thing to compare it to?
- A. When we were in this -- I was attempting to compare a Kansas wind project with the attributes of Kansas wind, the high capacity factor and the relatively low cost with a delivery into MISO. So I was taking into account the transmission costs to get from SPP to MISO.
- Q. But if you were to compare the -- the -- if -- if this project doesn't go through and you're -- and you have to find that energy somewhere else, where you would find that energy and the price of that energy compared to the Clean Line price, that would be the -- the impact on your ratepayers. Correct?
- A. Yes. And the SPP projects would be a consideration and a factor. They may not be the lowest cost. We have not revised and updated that.

But they have historically been very competitive
even -- even with the transmission costs across SPP.

- Q. Wouldn't it be cheaper just to go right to MISO -- the MISO market and try to -- try to get energy from MISO?
- A. Not necessarily. The characteristics of wind within MISO --
- Q. Well, but -- but -- putting -- putting aside the wind aspect. Just generation in general. If there's -- if there's a need for 200 megawatts of generation and you don't care what kind of generation, wouldn't it make more sense just to go to MISO and -- and see -- and compare that price?
- A. It -- it would avoid the transmission cost, but we would have to factor in the comparison of potentially lower cost generation within SPP, but with -- including the additional transmission cost as compared to the MISO alternatives.
- Q. So you -- but you have not done an analysis comparing the price that you would pay under this contract to your best guess for the second lowest price?
- A. I think one of the other exhibits in the past did a relative comparison of some options that could be utilized. So I think in -- within my

testimony and within the original testimony, there are some attempts for comparing that. And in those attempts, Grain Belt is still the lowest cost alternative that we've been able to find.

2.0

- Q. And that makes sense in that -- in that the levelized cost of energy for -- for the Kansas wind is lower -- at least according to Mr. Berry, is lower than -- than any other -- other type of generation. Is that --
- A. I would agree -- I would agree with that.
- Q. But we don't know how much -- we don't know exactly how much ratepayers would save under this contract because we don't know what we're comparing it to?
- A. Not in all cases. I've done the -- you know, attempted for the MOPEP pool to compare it to the options that I had available and so I've done a more in-depth analysis for them in that -- those exhibits. But I have not done it on a specific need for the other cities. What I've included here is what the transmission savings would be should they choose a Kansas wind or an SPP wind project.
- Q. So I believe based on your -- on your testimony, it's -- it's my understanding at least that you're -- you're not sure what you will do if this

```
project doesn't go through in terms of replacing the
1
 2
    200 megawatts?
                 At this point we have not put in a
 3
           Α.
 4
   particular replacement contract or anything. With the
 5
    expectation and optimism that this would proceed, that
 6
   we have not attempted to replace it.
 7
           Ο.
                 Okay. Thank you.
 8
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Commissioner Rupp?
 9
    OUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONER RUPP:
                 Good morning, sir.
10
           Q.
11
           Α.
                 Morning.
12
                 Yesterday in his opening your attorney
           Ο.
   made a comment that if this project went through, you
13
14
    would have 23 percent renewables in your -- in the
15
   MOPEP performance. What is it currently?
                 It currently is approximately 10 percent.
16
           Α.
17
           Ο.
                 Okay.
                        Thank you.
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Commissioner Coleman?
18
19
                 COMMISSIONER COLEMAN: No questions.
20
    Thank you.
21
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Recross based on
22
    Commission questions. Grain Belt.
23
                 MR. ZOBRIST:
                               Thank you, Judge.
    RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. ZOBRIST:
24
                 Mr. Grotzinger, in response to actually
25
           O.
```

Commissioner Rupp's question, as well as Commissioner
Hall's, in your previous testimony did you talk about
the demand for renewable energy within the MJMEUC
family?

A. Yes, I did.

- Q. Okay. And just briefly, what is that demand? What are your consumers wanting?
- A. Our consumers have asked for additional to be able to -- for their commercial sustainability programs, have asked to be able to identify either with recs or in other fashions to being supplied renewable energy. I think as I testified earlier, we had -- at that time in the process of implementing a program based on wind that we -- Kansas wind that we had available in the MOPEP pool. That's fully subscribed and so we're looking for additional supplies to meet that need.

Since that time, we've added a solar portfolio option for those since we're the largest -- we operate the largest pool of solar resources in the state. So we've now made that available to the retail customers as well.

- Q. And if you know, what particular municipalities have these renewable energy standards?
 - A. They're not renewable energy standards.

```
They are merely requests by their customers to be able
1
 2
    to identify the sustainability goals and relate to the
 3
   renewable energy that are being supplied to them as
   part of the portfolio.
                 Does the City of Columbia have these
5
           Ο.
6
    goals in place, for example?
                 Yes, they do. When I spoke, I was
 7
           Α.
8
   meaning our MOPEP pool. The City of Columbia does
9
   have a renewable portfolio standard.
                 And so me-- and some members of the MOPEP
10
           Ο.
   pool have these goals as well?
11
12
                 They have -- do not have the renewable
           Α.
   portfolio goals, but they do have the interest of
13
14
    their customers to be supplied with renewables.
15
           Q.
                 Great. Thank you.
                 MR. ZOBRIST: Thank you, Judge.
16
17
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Public Counsel.
18
                 MR. POSTON: No questions.
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Commission Staff.
19
20
                 MR. THOMPSON: No questions. Thank you.
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Farm Bureau.
21
                 MR. HADEN: No questions, Your Honor.
22
23
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Landowners.
24
                 MR. AGATHEN: Thank you, Judge.
   RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. AGATHEN:
25
```

1 Just one question, Mr. Grotzinger. O. 2 follow-up to questions from Commissioner Hall, if I -if you could go back to the point in time when you 3 were looking at signing up with Grain Belt, so to 5 speak, you did not put out bids for the supply of 6 capacity, did you? 7 Α. Not at that time, no. 8 Q. At any time after that? 9 Not -- not for replacing that supply to Α. MOPEP, if that's what you're referring to. 10 11 Ο. Thank you, sir. 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Further questions? further questions, Mr. Agathen? 13 14 MR. AGATHEN: I'm sorry, Judge. 15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Redirect by MJMEUC. 16 MR. HEALY: Just a couple of questions, 17 Judge. REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. HEALY: 18 Mr. Grotzinger, just roughly how many 19 20 projects generation and transmission have you helped develop for MJMEUC members? 21 Either evaluate or look at, it's hard to 22 Α. 23 quantify exactly, but might be dozens. 24 Okay. When doing that, do you always Ο. 25 attempt to mitigate the risk for members?

- 1 A. Absolutely. That's -- that's part of the 2 selection process.
- Q. Is the Grain Belt project a long term solution to needs or short term need -- solution to needs?
- A. We definitely view it as a long term solution.
- Q. If I could have you turn to Schedule
 JG-12 in your Amended Direct Supplemental -- or your
 Direct Supplemental.
- 11 A. Okay.

- Q. Commissioner Hall asked you about prices in MISO and non-renewable alternatives. If I can direct you to the Assumptions from Leidos study. It says 2021 average energy price. What's that figure?
 - A. The average annual is 51.48.
- Q. And can you describe what that is and what that expectation is?
- A. That was based on the Leidos study,
 the -- the average price that they saw in MISO in
 their study.
- Q. And more particular, is that MISO central as determined in that study?
- A. Yes. I think that was the focus part of that.

1 And would that be your expectation of the Ο. 2 particular price range we'd be looking at in MISO? Today it might appear a little high to my 3 Α. 4 judgment, but that was their forecast, yes. 5 Ο. Okay. And follow-up question of 6 Mr. Zobrist. Has the demand for renewable energy 7 increased or decreased since the last hearing? 8 Α. I believe it's continued to increase. 9 And we've seen the demand for recs and, you know, the value of that and -- as a hedge to potential carbon 10 tax type legislation as an ongoing benefit. 11 12 No further questions. Ο. 13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: That completes your 14 testimony, Mr. Grotzinger. You may be excused. I 15 think we're ready for our last witness. MR. AGATHEN: Thank you, Your Honor. 16 The 17 Missouri Landowners Alliance calls Julia Kisser. 18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please raise your right 19 hand. 20 (Witness sworn.) JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may be seated. 21 JULIA KISSER, being first duly sworn, testified as 22 23 follows: DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. AGATHEN: 24 25 0. Good morning.

Good morning. 1 Α. 2 Q. Could you please state your name and spell it for the record, please? 3 4 Yes. It's Julia Kisser, J-u-l-i-a, last 5 name is K-i-s-s-e-r. 6 0. Did you prepare Supplemental Rebuttal 7 Testimony for submission in this case? 8 Α. Yes, I did. 9 Do you have before you a copy of what has Ο. been marked as Exhibit 379? 10 11 Α. That's correct. 12 And does that consist of two pages of Ο. testimony, your affidavit and Schedules JK-1, 2 and 3? 13 14 Α. Yes. 15 Is that the testimony you prepared for O. this case? 16 17 Α. Yes. If I were to ask you the questions in 18 Ο. your prepared testimony, would your answers today be 19 20 the same as those that you wrote in that testimony? Yes, they would. 21 Α. 22 And to the best of your knowledge and 0. 23 belief, do the three schedules in your testimony represent what they purport to represent? 24 25 Α. Yes.

1	MR. AGATHEN: Your Honor, I move for the
2	admission of Exhibit 379 and tender the witness for
3	cross.
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any objections?
5	MR. ZOBRIST: Yes, Judge. May I have an
6	opportunity to voir dire the witness?
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may.
8	VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION BY MR. ZOBRIST:
9	Q. Ms. Kisser, as I understand your
10	testimony, you simply went out on the internet at the
11	direction of Mr. Agathen and located the three
12	schedules to your testimony?
13	A. That's correct.
14	Q. Okay. Are you aware of whether the first
15	schedule, JK-1, the order from the Kansas Corporation
16	Commission, whether that has been superseded in that
17	docket?
18	A. I was not aware of it at the time.
19	Q. Okay. And with regard to Schedule JK-2
20	and 3, these are in one case a summary of responsive
21	testimony and in the other case responsive testimony
22	of two witnesses in a proceeding before the
23	Corporation Commission of Oklahoma; is that correct?
24	A. Yes.
25	Q. Okay. And so that proceeding does not

```
relate to Grain Belt Express Clean Line; is that
 1
    correct?
 2
 3
                 MR. AGATHEN: I'd object, Your Honor.
    That calls for a legal conclusion.
 4
 5
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN:
                                   Sustained.
    BY MR. ZOBRIST:
 6
 7
                 Do you have that schedule before you?
           Ο.
 8
           Α.
                 Yes.
 9
                 Okay. Would you look at the title page
           Ο.
    of Schedule JK-2?
10
11
           Α.
                 Yes.
12
                 It is the application of the Public
           Ο.
    Service Company of Oklahoma. Correct?
13
14
           Α.
                 Yes.
15
                 And it is for the approval of the cost
           Ο.
    recovery of the Wind Catcher Energy connection project
16
    for a determination that there is a need for the
17
    project. Correct?
18
                 I'm not sure where you're looking at
19
20
           Just the summary on the first page?
21
                 Right. Just -- I'm -- what we lawyers
           Ο.
    call the style of the case. So right after it says
22
    Public Service Company of Oklahoma -- do you see
23
    that in the first two lines?
24
25
           Α.
                 Yes.
```

1	Q. Okay. And then in the third line it
2	says, For the approval of the cost recovery of the
3	Wind Catcher Energy connection project. Correct?
4	A. Yes.
5	Q. Okay. And scanning down the rest of the
6	style of that case, is there any reference to Grain
7	Belt Express Clean Line?
8	A. Not that I see on this page.
9	Q. Okay. And you're not offering any
10	testimony here today on why these pleadings relate to
11	this proceeding, are you, ma'am?
12	A. I am not.
13	Q. Okay.
14	MR. ZOBRIST: Judge, based on that, there
15	is a lack of foundation and there is a lack of a
16	showing of rev relevance. And I object to these
17	to this exhibit and to the schedules.
18	JUDGE BUSHMANN: The objection is
19	overruled. The objection will go to the weight, not
20	the admissibility. So 379 is admitted.
21	(Exhibit 379 was received into evidence.)
22	MR. HEALY: Judge, for the record if
23	MJMEUC can be shown making the same objection. I
24	understand it's overruled, but just for the record.
25	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Very well.

1	First cross would be Farm Bureau.
2	MR. HADEN: No questions, Your Honor.
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Commission Staff.
4	MR. THOMPSON: No questions. Thank you,
5	Judge.
6	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Public Counsel.
7	MR. POSTON: No questions.
8	JUDGE BUSHMANN: MJMEUC.
9	MR. HEALY: No questions.
10	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Grain Belt Express.
11	MR. ZOBRIST: No further questions,
12	Judge. Thank you.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any Bench questions?
14	COMMISSIONER HALL: No questions. Thank
15	you.
16	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: No.
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: No need for recross.
18	Any redirect?
19	MR. AGATHEN: No, Your Honor.
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Ms. Kisser, your
21	testimony is completed. You may be excused.
22	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
23	MR. ZOBRIST: Judge, before Commissioner
24	Hall gets away, Mr. Detweiler has the statistics on
25	the easements obtained and the easements that have not

```
been obtained. And we can either put him up in the
1
 2
   witness stand or I can do it here on the microphone
   and have him concur. Whatever the Commission's
 3
   pleasure is.
5
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Do you have a preference
6
   on how you want to obtain that information if you
 7
    still want to --
8
                 COMMISSIONER HALL: Let's go ahead and
9
   put him on the stand.
                 MR. ZOBRIST: Okay.
10
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Mr. Detweiler, you may
11
12
   be seated. You're still under oath.
13
                 THE WITNESS:
                               Thank you.
   HANS DETWEILER, having been previously sworn,
14
15
    testified as follows:
   REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. ZOBRIST:
16
17
           O.
                 Okay. Mr. Detweiler, we're putting you
   back up on the stand for the limited purpose of
18
   responding to commissioner Hall's questions. And I'll
19
20
    ask the question but then I'll turn it over to the
    Commissioner if I don't quite get it right.
21
                 I believe the Commissioner asked you
22
23
   what -- for the number of the easements that have been
    obtained in Missouri at this time and the number of
24
   easements that you believe need to be obtained in
25
```

1 Missouri for the case.

- Q. No further questions.

8 QUESTIONS BY COMMISSIONER HALL:

- Q. Have any of these easements been obtained since the last hearing?
 - A. No, they have not.
- Q. Would you -- would you view it as a problem if you were unable to instigate proceedings to get an easement through eminent domain until after either all of the financing was in place or all of the capacity on the line was fully subscribed? Would that be a problem for you?
- 18 A. Yes. Potentially.
- 19 Q. Why?

9

10

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13

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17

A. So if you have not obtained an easement and if a landowner, for example, has not granted, on a voluntary basis survey rights, then you may not be able, for example, to conduct geotechnical surveys on a parcel. And if you're not able to conduct geotechnical surveys on a parcel, then you're not able

- to complete final engineering and you may not be able to convince lenders to lend you money. So you -you -- you could potentially have a chicken and egg
 problem.
 - Q. So it's your understanding that final engineering needs to be complete before financing could be completed or that's a concern?
 - A. That's a concern, that's correct.
 - Q. I didn't mean to interrupt. Is it -- is it more than a concern? I mean do you know that for a fact or is it just a concern?
 - A. I am not a construction engineer and people use the term "final engineering" to mean different things. So the -- the question is a little vague in terms of what is meant by --
 - Q. Of course, I was using your term.
- A. That's fair. That's fair. But I -- 18 I'm -- what I'm simply saying, Your Honor, is that
- 19 | it -- it's a broad term, so.
- 20 Q. Okay.

5

6

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8

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15

- A. And certainly I don't want to speak for Invenergy in terms of, you know, their understandings on final engineering.
- 24 O. Fair enough. Thank you.
- 25 A. Thank you.

```
1
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Is there any cross based
 2
    on those questions?
 3
                 MR. HADEN: Yes, Judge.
 4
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Mr. Haden.
 5
   RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. HADEN:
                 Good morning, Mr. Detweiler.
 6
           O.
 7
                 Good morning.
           Α.
 8
           Q.
                 So just quickly here, I want to make sure
    I understood this. You said there's 39 parcels have
 9
   been acquired. Do you know what the total area is in
10
    terms of acreage for what you acquired so far?
11
12
                 I do not know.
           Α.
                 Those 39 easements, are those all just
13
           Ο.
    easements or have you acquired some land in fee simple
14
15
    as well?
                 Thirty-nine -- the number 39 refers to
16
           Α.
17
    the number of easements for the transmission line.
    There is additionally an option to purchase in fee for
18
    the converter station in Ralls County.
19
20
           Ο.
                 I'm sorry. I'm throwing paper clips
    around here. I'm going to hurt somebody.
21
22
                 MR. HADEN: I didn't get you, did I?
23
                 MS. DIETRICH:
                                No.
24
                 MR. HADEN: Okay. We'll have to put
    goggles on for this cross-examination.
25
```

BY MR. HADEN:

- Q. Okay. So you said -- before I threw that clip around, there is an option to purchase in fee, but you have not exercised that option as of today.
- 5 | Correct?

1

7

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- 6 A. That is correct.
 - Q. Okay. The other 700 that need to be acquired, what is the -- do you know what the approximate acreage or area -- land area is that that would encompass?
 - A. I don't know if the 39 parcels on average are larger or smaller than the other 700 parcels. So, you know, it's approximately -- assuming that they're roughly the same, then you've got approximately 95 percent of the route that needs to be acquired.
 - Q. So your understanding in terms of the progression and the order of this would be -- you think everything would need to be acquired before any financing can be completed?
- 20 A. No, I do not.
- Q. Okay. Well, so -- and I want to make sure I understand the answer then. You answered Commissioner Hall -- he asked you if it would be a problem if you had to wait until your financing was completed to make acquisitions and you said you

1 thought it would be. Correct?

- 2 Α. There are -- different -- different parcels have different attributes. And it may be 3 necessary to do, for example, geotechnical surveys on 5 a specific parcel before you can complete engineering, particularly given the size of the parcel, where it 6 7 may be located, if it's along a river crossing. You 8 know, key -- key -- key pieces of information like 9 that. Are there sensitive wildlife areas? All that kind of stuff. Right? 10 11
 - And so it may be possible to complete financing without having survey access to every parcel. That certainly is possible. But it may also be impossible.
 - Q. But you can get survey access without easement -- without an easement, couldn't you?
 - A. Potentially.

12

13

14

15

16

17

- Q. I mean under Missouri law, a surveyor could go survey even if you don't own it, couldn't they?
 - A. Not to my knowledge.
- Q. Okay. So you -- you -- and maybe -- you
 may not be the right person to ask, but I mean you
 envision this being -- these things run concurrently?
 That you're still trying to achieve financing even as

- you're acquiring -- even as you're acquiring parcels?

 Or that you're going to acquire all the parcels before

 you complete financing? I mean what order do you

 anticipate this would happen?
 - A. I don't believe I'm the right witness to really get into the specifics of that.

5

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19

- Q. Okay. I'm trying to remember from yesterday and I really don't remember. Are you anticipating staying on in charge of operations, or do you not know at this point?
- A. Currently in discussions with Invenergy about the potential of staying on in some capacity.
- Q. And I'm not going to ask you about the details of that. I understand -- I understand what you're saying there. I just want to make sure in terms of knowledge here, if that were to happen, if you know, I mean how do you anticipate this occurring?
 - MR. ZOBRIST: Judge, I think we're getting in the realm of speculation at this point given Mr. Detweiler's previous answers.
- MR. HADEN: I guess I'm going to his
 current state of mind as to what -- what that answer
 is. I mean I think the Commission should know that.
- 24 I think it's relevant to their analysis of the
- 25 underlying appropriateness of the permit.

```
JUDGE BUSHMANN: I'll allow the witness
1
 2
    to answer to the extent of his knowledge.
 3
                 THE WITNESS: Can you just repeat the
 4
    question?
   BY MR. HADEN:
 5
                 Sure. Let me paraphrase it this way.
 6
           Ο.
 7
   How do you think this is going to happen? As you sit
 8
   here today, what do you think is going to happen in
 9
    terms of are you going to acquire all of your
    financing first and then do it or are you going to
10
    acquire the per-- the parcels first and then get your
11
12
    financing or do you think the two are going to run
    concurrently?
13
                  MR. ZOBRIST: Judge, this calls for
14
    speculation and it goes well beyond Commissioner
15
16
    Hall's question.
17
                 MR. HADEN: I don't think it goes beyond
    Commissioners Hall -- Hall's question at all.
18
    asked specifically about would it be a problem and
19
20
    then the order these things are going to occur and I'm
    asking about the same thing, trying to get clarity.
21
22
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN:
                                  I agree it's within the
23
            The witness may answer to the extent of his
    scope.
24
    knowledge.
25
                 THE WITNESS:
                               It's yet to be determined.
```

```
BY MR. HADEN:
1
 2
           Ο.
                 Okay. If you were to acquire -- I mean
   we've already got 39 parcels obviously. But I mean,
 3
    if you were to acquire however many you acquire and
    then the project doesn't go forward, what would be the
5
6
   next step?
 7
                               Judge, I think that is
                 MR. ZOBRIST:
8
   beyond Commissioner Hall's question.
9
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: I agree. Sustained.
   BY MR. HADEN:
10
11
                 So I'm clear on the facts of this, the
           Ο.
12
   parcels that you're referring to, the 739, of which 39
   have been acquired, those are -- they lie along the
13
14
   route that was already submitted. And that was the
   route that -- I think you talked about it yesterday or
15
    somebody did. It changed between the '14 and the '17
16
17
   proceeding, but has not changed since the last
18
   proceeding; is that correct?
                 That is correct.
19
           Α.
20
           Q.
                 Okay.
                 Since -- since this proceeding.
21
           Α.
22
                 I'm sorry. Since --
           Q.
23
           Α.
                 Yes.
24
                 -- this proceeding but before remand.
           Ο.
25
   Correct?
```

1 Α. Correct. 2 Ο. Okay. So that corridor is -- that corridor, for purposes of what we're talking about 3 today, those parcels would all be the same ones that 4 5 we would have been talking about last year? 6 Α. Correct. Okay. Fair enough. That's all I had. 7 Ο. 8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Redirect, if there is 9 any, by Grain Belt. 10 MR. AGATHEN: Judge, I do have some questions based on questioning from the Bench. 11 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: All right. Go ahead, Mr. Agathen. 13 14 MR. AGATHEN: I'll try and make this 15 brief. RECROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. AGATHEN: 16 17 O. Of the 39 parcels where you have easements, do they generally follow a standard form 18 easement agreement that Grain Belt offers to its 19 20 respective signees? 21 Α. Yes. 22 And is there any condition in that 0. 23 standard form agreement which would allow either party to negate the easement agreement or avoid the 24

agreement or basically render it moot?

1	A. Clean Line has the ability to terminate
2	the easement agreements.
3	Q. Does the landowner have any corresponding
4	ability to do so?
5	A. I do not believe so.
6	Q. You don't know?
7	A. Subject to check, the landowner does not
8	have any ability to cancel the easement agreement.
9	Q. Subject to check with what?
10	A. I I I didn't review the easement
11	agreement this morning. It would be the purpose of
12	an easement agreement is to have something in place
13	that's going to survive the duration. So I I do
14	not believe the landowner has any ability to terminate
15	the
16	Q. But you can't check that today, can you?
17	MR. ZOBRIST: Well, Judge, I'm going to
18	object at this point. It's getting into the legal
19	details of the easement agreement, which is in the
20	record in this case.
21	JUDGE BUSHMANN: I agree. Sustained.
22	MR. AGATHEN: I have no further
23	questions.
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Redirect by Grain Belt.
25	MR. ZOBRIST: Not a chance, Judge. We're

```
all done.
1
 2
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may step down,
   Mr. Detweiler.
 3
 4
                 THE WITNESS:
                               Thank you.
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN:
 5
                                  Before we finish up and
 6
    do clean-up on scheduling, I need to go off the record
 7
    for just a couple of minutes.
 8
                 (Off the record.)
 9
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. We're back on the
    record. I don't think we have any late-filed
10
    exhibits. Initial briefs are due on January 9th with
11
12
    reply briefs due on January 16th. And Commissioner
   Hall had an additional request regarding briefing.
13
                 COMMISSIONER HALL: This is consistent
14
    with what I've been talking about for the last hour or
15
    so. And that is, I'm interested in whether or not the
16
17
   parties could negotiate some language related to the
18
    timing for instigating any proceedings to obtain
    easements through eminent domain. And I don't know if
19
20
    that -- if it's tied to financing, complete financing,
    I don't know if it's tied to when the line is fully
21
    subscribed.
22
23
                 But for me, if we were to grant this --
    this certificate, the possibility that proceedings
24
25
    could commence to get an easement in court and then
```

```
1
    this project not ultimately go through for whatever
 2
   reason is somewhat problematic. So I -- I agree with
   Staff that that is something that should be addressed.
 3
    If the parties could agree to something, that would be
 4
   great; if not, then I'd like to see it briefed.
 5
 6
                 MR. AGATHEN: Commissioner, if I could
 7
   ask a question, would you have any objection to the
 8
   MLA participating?
 9
                 COMMISSIONER HALL: Absolutely not.
                 MR. AGATHEN: Thank you.
10
                 COMMISSIONER HALL: I would welcome that.
11
12
                 MR. AGATHEN: Thank you.
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And findings of fact are
13
   due -- and conclusions of law January 18th.
14
15
                 MR. THOMPSON: January when?
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: January 18th according
16
17
    to the procedural schedule, I believe.
18
                 Any parties have anything further that
    they need to be addressed while we're still on the
19
20
   record?
                 MR. AGATHEN: I do have one item, but I
21
   don't think it has to be on the record.
2.2.
23
                 MR. ZOBRIST: Nothing for the applicant,
   Judge.
24
25
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: All right. Then we're
```

```
adjourned. Thank you.
 1
                  (Exhibits 212-C, 213, 480 and 481 were
 2
   marked for identification.)
 3
                  (WHEREUPON, the hearing was adjourned.)
 4
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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, Tracy Thorpe Taylor, CCR No. 939, within the State of Missouri, do hereby certify that the testimony appearing in the foregoing matter was duly sworn by me; that the testimony of said witnesses was taken by me to the best of my ability and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction; that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this matter was taken, and further, that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties thereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.

Tracy Thorpe Taylor, CCR

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