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

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, Maintain and Otherwise Control and Manage a 345,000-volt Electric Transmission Line from Palmyra, Missouri, to the Iowa Border and Associated Substation Near Kirksville, Missouri.

File No. EA-2015-0146

## ORDER DENYING MOTION TO STAY EVIDENTIARY HEARING

Issue Date: January 22, 2016

Effective Date: January 22, 2016

On January 20<sup>1</sup>, Neighbors United Against Ameren's Power Line (""Neighbors United") filed a Motion to Stay Evidentiary Hearing. For support, Neighbors United states that the Commission noted it would respond to the Sunshine request of January 6 no later than January 20 with a final response or progress update, but had not yet done so. The Commission responded to the Sunshine request on January 21, informing Neighbors United it was still compiling the information it requested.

Neighbors United's motion does not contain legal authority which entitles it to a continuance. A Sunshine request is not discovery. The Commission is the fact-finder and decision maker, not a party. A pending Sunshine request cannot justify a continuance.

Furthermore, nothing on the face of the Sunshine request mentions or connects the request to this case. What is more, the motion to stay does not state why Neighbors United waited until January 6 to file its Sunshine request. Finally, the Commission notes that

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Calendar references are to 2016 unless otherwise noted.

although all other parties asked for an earlier hearing, Neighbors United has twice asked for the hearing to be held on the dates it is scheduled, which are January 25-29.<sup>2</sup>

For these reasons, the Commission will deny the motion to stay evidentiary hearing.

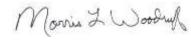
## THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The motion to stay evidentiary hearing filed by Neighbors United Against

Ameren's Power Line is denied.

2. This order shall be effective when issued.

## BY THE COMMISSION



Morris L. Woodruff Secretary

Ronald D. Pridgin, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2016.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Proposed Procedural Schedule of Neighbors United and Suggestions in Support (dated July 22, 2015); Neighbors United's Motion to Amend Procedural Schedule (dated November 19, 2015).