

At a session of the Public Service Commission held by telephone and internet audio conference on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2020.

**File No. EA-2021-0087**

ATXI's motion explains that Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-20.045(6)(K) would require ATXI to file, along with its application, an affidavit or other certification verifying that it has complied with a rule requiring notice be given to landowners directly affected by the transmission line routes and substation locations. If a county contains 25 or more people entitled to notice of the transmission project, paragraph 20 CSR 4240-20.045(6)(K)3 of that regulation would further require ATXI to hold a public meeting

“in a building open to the public and sufficient in size to accommodate the number of persons in the county entitled to receive notice of the application”. Perry and Cape Girardeau Counties both contain more than 25 people entitled to receive notice of the transmission project. Due to public health concerns related to the COVID 19 pandemic, ATXI proposes that it be allowed to conduct the required public meetings virtually.

ATXI has already hosted several interactive public webinars regarding the transmission project and plans to host additional Virtual Public Meetings by webinar on January 21, 2021 at 12:00 P.M. and at 7:00 p.m. ATXI indicates it will provide notice of the meetings to the affected members of the public as it is required to do by the regulation.

At the direction of the Commission, the Commission’s Staff (Staff) filed a recommendation regarding the motion on December 29, 2020. Staff recommends the Commission grant the requested waiver. Several public comments have been submitted to the Commission contending that an in-person hearing is necessary because many affected residents would not be able to participate in a virtual hearing because they do not have reliable access to the internet. Staff notes that waiving the requirement for an in-person meeting will not limit the ability of members of the public to receive information and to make their voices heard. The proposed waiver of the rule requirement does not change ATXI’s obligation to inform the public of when and how they may participate in the meetings. Further, anyone with a telephone, even if they do not have access to the internet, will be able to participate in the planned meetings.

The Commission concludes that due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the risk associated with having an in-person public meeting at this time, ATXI should not be required to conduct an in-person public meeting to satisfy the public meeting requirement

imposed by 20 CSR 4240-20.045(6)(K)3. As it is permitted to do by Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-20.045(7), the Commission finds that good cause has been shown to waive the in-person meeting requirements of Commission Rule 20 CSR 4240-20.045(6)(K)3. All notice and other requirements of that rule are not waived and remain in effect.

Because ATXI plans to conduct a virtual public meeting and tele-town hall on January 21, 2021, this order will be made effective in less than 30 days.

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:**

1. ATXI is granted a waiver of in-person public meeting requirements of Commission Rule 4240-20.045(6)(K)3.
2. This order shall be effective January 9, 2021.



**BY THE COMMISSION**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff  
Secretary

Silvey, Chm., Kenney, Rupp, Coleman, and  
Holsman CC., concur.

Woodruff, Chief Regulatory Law Judge

**STATE OF MISSOURI**

**OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.**

**WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission, at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 30<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2020.**



  
**Morris L. Woodruff**  
**Secretary**

**MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**December 30, 2020**

**File/Case No. EA-2021-0087**

**Missouri Public Service  
Commission**

Staff Counsel Department  
200 Madison Street, Suite 800  
P.O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
staffcounselservice@psc.mo.gov

**Office of the Public Counsel**

Marc Poston  
200 Madison Street, Suite 650  
P.O. Box 2230  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
opcservice@opc.mo.gov

**Ameren Transmission  
Company of Illinois**

Frank A Caro  
900 W. 48th Place, Suite 900  
Kansas City, MO 64112  
fcaro@polsinelli.com

**Ameren Transmission  
Company of Illinois**

Andrew O Schulte  
900 W. 48th Place, Suite 900  
Kansas City, MO 64112-6411  
aschulte@polsinelli.com

**Missouri Public Service  
Commission**

Nicole Mers  
200 Madison Street, Suite 800  
P.O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
nicole.mers@psc.mo.gov

**Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).**

**Sincerely,**



**Morris L. Woodruff  
Secretary**

---

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.