

**STATEMENT OF POSITION  
OF  
F. NEIL MATHEWS, INTERVENER  
CASE NOS; EA-2024-0302**

**AMEREN TRANSMISSION COMPANY OF ILLINOIS (“ATXI”)-  
NORTHERN MISSOURI GRID TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM FOR  
FDIM AND APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE  
AND NECESSITY**

**STATEMENT OF POSITION**

**COMES NOW Intervener F. Neil Mathews and his Statement of Position on  
the issues before the Pubic Service Commission in this case, states as follows:**

**Q. What is the purpose of the Statement of Position by F. Neil Mathews?**

**A.** The purpose of my Position Statement is to express my opposition to the routing of the proposed electric transmission lines and towers across my farm and to support the land and homeowners who have concerns about the ATXI’s rerouting of the proposed electric transmission lines from DO-27 to DO-28. The Missouri Public Service Commission has a duty to act and the authority to address the issues affecting the property of the Missouri landowners in Worth County Missouri. In addition, I wish to address why my position on the routing of the transmission lines and towers are important to 140 years of the Mathews family farm ownership for both the living and deceased family members and to recommend alternatives for the Commission to consider about the routing and siting of the proposed 345-volt lines and towers.

**STATEMENT OF ISSUES AND POSITION**

**Q1/2. What concerns, if any, alleged by the intervenor regarding routing and siting issues affecting properties of the intervenor landowners does the Commission have the authority to address including the alleged violations of Commission rule 20 CSR 4240-20.046(6)(K)? For alleged concerns regarding routing and siting issues affecting properties of the intervenor landowners that the Commission has the authority to**

1       **address, what relief, if any, is warranted including any modifications to**  
2       **the route associated with ATXI application or additional conditions?**

3       A1/2 There are no valid reasons for the reroute from the original DO-27 route to  
4       the new substituted DO-28 route. I originally had been informed by reliable  
5       parties in Worth County that the route would be the westerly track known as  
6       DO-27 in Summer/early Fall 2024. I relied upon this information from  
7       reliable sources inside Worth County that the DO-27 route had been publicly  
8       presented as the final route in April 2024 that would be proposed for  
9       acceptance by the Missouri Public Service Commission reviewing the  
10      application of ATXI for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity. Also,  
11      the records reflect that DO-27 was the one route that had been presented at  
12      the regional meeting in Worth County conducted by ATXI officials and/or  
13      their representatives.

14      The landowners can't be held responsible for a lack of timely notification by  
15      ATXI that there had been a change. The accuracy of their communication  
16      and the presentations were the responsibilities of ATXI and it took no action  
17      on correcting the problem and left landowners uninformed as to the new  
18      route DO-28 being submitted and currently under discussion. No timeline of  
19      changes in the route or communication attempts has ever been presented to  
20      date by ATXI.

21      The routes apparently were changed in Summer 2024 and ATXI apparently  
22      felt no need to notify the newly affected landowners who were not  
23      responding knowing full well that this lack of communication and lack of  
24      timely notification might become an issue later on. It is unacceptable to  
25      have this level of miscommunication, and ATXI needs to be denied a  
26      Certificate of Convenience and Necessity as a result of their disregard for  
27      Worth County landowner concerns. The Missouri Public Service  
28      Commission has the authority to address this concern and deny the Company  
29      a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity.

30      **Q3. What relief do I as a landowner seek from the Commission with**  
31      **authority to grant this relief?**

1 A3. This family farm has survived financial hardships, depressions, floods,  
2 drought, and hard times for 140 years and has real historical significance and  
3 meaning to the family members who hold a current role and a responsibility  
4 to those ancestors who survived challenges and hard times of their own on  
5 this land staying alive, out-of-debt, and holding on to the land. There are  
6 very few companies and property owners who survive 140 years in doing  
7 anything in America today. The ghosts of ancestors past would be aghast at  
8 the proposed desecration of this 140-year-old farm being overrun with  
9 proposed noisy (corona discharge) from 345-volt power lines and towers if  
10 they were alive today. The old log cabin/house is buried inside the planned  
11 route of the currently proposed DO-28 345-volt power lines and towers. I  
12 ask for your reflective consideration for finding another route solution for  
13 this family-owned Missouri farm that maintains the family history and  
14 connections to the land. And, most important is that my family's future  
15 plans include building a family retreat center where the proposed easement  
16 would be located, developing ponds and walkways around these 40 acres,  
17 and maintaining prairie grass acres for a nature center for future generations  
18 and a set-aside pollinator acreage. A few years ago, a waterline was brought  
19 from east of Missouri Highway M to the west forty in anticipation of these  
20 projects. None of these future building plans are compatible with 345-volt  
21 powerlines and towers on this property as an easement would prevent these  
22 activities.

23 Q4. **Do you have a concluding recommendation for the Commission?**

24 A4. Yes, I recommend that the Commissioners deny the Certificate of  
25 Convenience and Necessity requested by Ameren Transmission Company of  
26 Illinois (ATXI) and require the development of another route, micro-siting  
27 1,320 feet around my farm, or revert back to using the original DO-27 route.  
28 I would work with the ATXI Routing Team if they were open to micro-siting  
29 and/or finding other alternatives to avoid crossing my farm.

30 F. Neil Mathews submits his Statement of Position for thoughtful  
31 consideration.

32 /s/ F. Neil Mathews