

Missouri Public Service Commission  
Data Request

**Data Request No.:** 0001  
**Company Name:** Grain Belt Express, LLC-Investor (Electric)  
**Case/Tracking No.:** EA-2023-0017  
**Date Requested:** 9/14/2022  
**Issue:** General Information & Miscellaneous - Certificates of Convenience/Feasibility Analysis  
**Requested From:** Andrew Schulte  
**Requested By:** Kevin Thompson  
**Brief Description:**

**Description:** 20 CSR 4240-20.045 (2)(D) states: An electric utility must exercise the authority granted within two (2) years from the grant thereof. Please provide all activities the Company has undertaken to exercise the authority granted in EA-2016-0358 and the dates that the specified activity began and terminated. For each activity, please identify the county and address in where the activity occurred. DR by Shawn Lange ([shawn.lange@psc.mo.gov](mailto:shawn.lange@psc.mo.gov)).

**Due Date:** 10/4/2022

**RESPONSE:**

Between the effective date of the Report and Order on Remand in Case No. EA-2016-0358 (*i.e.* April 19, 2019) and the end of the two year period established by Section 393.170.3 RSMo and referenced by 20 CSR 4240-20.045(2)(D) (*i.e.* April 19, 2021), Grain Belt Express conducted the following activities in exercise of its certificate of convenience and necessity (“CCN”).

1. Constructing access roads of approximately 800 feet in total with such work commencing on April 9, 2021 at approximately State Hwy C & County Rd 141, Braymer, MO 64624 in Caldwell County and April 12, 2021 at approximately Hwy 3, Huntsville, MO 65259 in Randolph County.
2. Installing foundations for transmission towers on property owned in fee simple in Chariton County at approximately Allen Rd & St. Joseph Ave, Keytesville, MO 65261 and Clinton County at approximately NE 280<sup>th</sup> St & NE Estep Rd, Turney, MO 64493, with such work commencing on April 13, 2021 in both counties and completed on April 17 and 20, 2021, respectively.
3. Acquiring easement agreements and issuing easement payments to landowners after the issuance of the CCN pursuant to the conditions of the CCN, including the Code of Conduct, the Missouri Landowner Protocols, and the Missouri Agricultural Impact Mitigation Protocols, as those terms are defined in the Order granting Grain Belt Express’ CCN.

4. Triggering binding obligations pursuant to Grain Belt Express' contract with PAR/Quanta.
5. Conducting acoustic field survey for state and federally protected species between July and August 2020 and between March and April 2021.
6. Acquiring real estate in fee simple, including the purchase of one acre in Chariton County on April 5, 2021 and 70 acres in Clinton County on April 9, 2021.
7. Drilling 38 geotechnical borings, completed as of April 16, 2021 (and an additional three in February 2022). See Confidential Attachment 1 to this Response for maps of the locations of the borings. Attachment 1 has been labeled Confidential because it contains Confidential Critical Energy Infrastructure Information ("CEII") pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-2.135(2)(A)(7).
8. Executing a Road Use Agreement with Carroll County on April 16, 2021.<sup>1</sup>
9. Establishing field offices to support development efforts, and in 2021, adding administrative staff to support regular office hours for addressing landowner questions and concerns.
10. Continuing dialogue with state and local officials and other stakeholders.
11. Active engagement with federal and state environmental regulatory agencies.
12. Updates and refinements to tower locations taking into account landowner comments, crossings of existing infrastructure, and minimization of environmental impacts.
13. Updates to structure designs in accordance with recently published guidelines for structural loading of electrical transmission lines.
14. Selection of engineering, environmental permitting, field work and land services contractors who are now actively performing contract services.
15. Launching [www.GrainBeltExpress.com](http://www.GrainBeltExpress.com) project website and Facebook page, which provide project updates and announcements to the public, and addressing questions received via the website in a timely manner.
16. Creating project-specific collateral materials used as informational hand-outs for local stakeholders and landowners along the project route.
17. Sponsoring local Missouri events including several local county fairs and a golf tournament supporting county economic development.

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<sup>1</sup> Carroll County's previously issued assent pursuant to Section 229.100 RSMo. remains in effect.

18. Establishing a local outreach program aimed at growing the network of local support among Missouri landowners and community leaders and stakeholders, including a project Facebook page.
19. Beginning the condemnation process by sending a 60-day notice letter required by the Eminent Domain Procedures Act, Section 523.250 RSMo.
20. Advanced interconnection requests with SPP, MISO, PJM and AECI.
21. Filing Annual Status Updates with the Commission on April 17, 2020 and April 16, 2021, as addressed in response to Staff DR No. 5.
22. Other development activities, engineering, stakeholder engagement, and commercial negotiations, totaling a financial commitment of \*\*\$ [REDACTED] \*\* as of April 19, 2021. This amount has been labeled Confidential because it contains market-specific information protected under pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-2.135(2)(A)(4).
23. Acquired LiDAR and orthoimagery for the transmission line corridor in December 2020

In addition to the above activities, since April 19, 2021, Grain Belt Express has continued to exercise its CCN through the date of this response through the following actions:

1. Acquired 72% of all easements required for the Kansas and Missouri portion of the Project.
2. Satisfied, ahead of schedule, the Kansas Corporation Commission's established deadlines for easement acquisitions as a condition of retaining siting authority in Kansas.
3. Worked with various stakeholders in support of Illinois legislation permitting Grain Belt Express to file for a certificate of public convenience and necessity ("CPCN") at the Illinois Commerce Commission ("ICC").
4. Met all prerequisites and prepared and filed its Application for a CPCN at the ICC, Docket No. 22-0499, filed on July 26, 2022.
5. Worked in cooperation with various agricultural and landowner groups culminating in the enactment of House Bill 2005 in Missouri.<sup>2</sup>
6. Continuing to advance interconnection requests with SPP, MISO, PJM and AECI, and executed an interconnection agreement with AECI as discussed in the response to Staff DR Nos. 2 & 3.
7. Continuing dialogue with state and local officials and other stakeholders.
8. Executed a Road Use Agreement and assent with Clinton County on April 5, 2022.

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<sup>2</sup> Available at <https://house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills221/hlrbillspdf/3627S.07T.pdf>.

9. Executed a Road Use Agreement with Buchanan County on April 14, 2022.<sup>3</sup>
10. Continuing engagement with all federal and state environmental regulatory agencies.
11. Continuing to update and refine tower locations and access routes, taking into account landowner comments, crossings of existing infrastructure, and minimization of environmental impacts.
12. LIDAR Aerial Surveys and boundary surveys along route.
13. Ongoing negotiation of crossing agreements with easement holders throughout the project area in Missouri.
14. Other development activities, engineering, stakeholder engagement, and commercial negotiations, totaling a financial commitment of \*\*\$ [REDACTED] \*\* as of August 31, 2022. This amount has been labeled Confidential because it contains market-specific information protected under pursuant to 20 CSR 4240-2.135(2)(A)(4).
15. Conducted an additional three geotechnical borings on the Missouri side of the Missouri River crossing, complete as of February 11, 2022, and an additional seven borings at the site of the proposed Monroe County converter station, complete as of March 10, 2022. See Confidential Attachment 1 for maps of the locations.
16. Completed field work for an ALTA survey of the project route.
17. Began full-scale lattice tower testing in March 2022
18. Conducting environmental field studies between April 2021 and April 2022 for state- and federally-protected species, wetlands, waterbodies, and cultural resources.

#### VERIFICATION OF RESPONSE

The response provided to the foregoing Data Request has been collected from various sources at Grain Belt Express, LLC and affiliated companies, and are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signed: /s/ Shashank Sane  
Shashank Sane

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<sup>3</sup> Buchanan County's previously issued assent pursuant to Section 229.100 RSMo. remains in effect.

Executive Vice President of  
Transmission  
Invenergy, LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing was served upon all parties of record by email this 4th day of October 2022.

/s/ Andrew O. Schulte  
Attorney for Grain Belt Express, LLC

Attachment 1 to the Response  
contains confidential critical  
energy infrastructure  
information and has been  
redacted in its entirety pursuant  
to 20 CSR 4240-2.135(2)(A)(7)