

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

**In the Matter of the Application of Grain )  
Belt Express Clean Line LLC for Certificate )  
of Convenience and Necessity Authorizing it )  
to Construct, Own, Operate, Control, )  
Manage and Maintain a High Voltage, )  
Direct Current Transmission Line and an )  
Associated Converter Station Providing an )  
Interconnection on the Maywood- )  
Montgomery 345 kV transmission line. )**

Case No. EA-2014-0207

**RESPONSE OF GRAIN BELT EXPRESS TO ORDER DIRECTING FILING**

Applicant Grain Belt Express Clean Line LLC (“Grain Belt Express” or “Company”) states the following in response to the Commission’s May 12, 2014 Order Directing Filing:

1. Grain Belt Express agrees with Staff and the other the parties who are urging the Commission to schedule a prehearing conference so that a procedural schedule can be promptly established in this case. As the Office of the Public Counsel has stated, the development of a procedural schedule “that would allow a full and fair hearing on the merits” of the Company’s application is in the best interest of all parties. See OPC Statement of Support for Prehearing Conference at 2 (May 12, 2014).

2. Grain Belt Express recognizes that conducting local public hearings in this case is appropriate and agrees with Staff, as well as the Office of the Public Counsel that “a reasonable number of local public hearings” should be scheduled. Id.

3. Staff requests to be relieved from submitting on May 30, 2014 a report and recommendation regarding the Company’s Application, as directed in the Commission’s order of March 27, 2014. See ¶ 13, Staff Response to Order Directing Filing (May 15, 2014).

4. Grain Belt Express does not oppose Staff's request. The Company will work with Staff and the other parties to arrive at a procedural schedule that calls for Staff's recommendation to be provided on a timetable that affords sufficient due process while recognizing the need for a reasonable and prompt resolution of these important issues without undue delay.

WHEREFORE, Grain Belt Express Clean Line LLC submits this response to the Order Directing Filing of May 12, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Karl Zobrist

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**Attorneys for Grain Belt Express Clean Line  
LLC**

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Application was served upon all parties of record by email or U.S. Mail, postage period, on May 15, 2014.

/s/ Karl Zobrist

Attorney for Grain Belt Express Clean Line LLC