



CITY OF  
**KIRKSVILLE**

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June 22, 2015

Mr. Robert S. Kenney, Chairman  
and Members of the Public Service Commission  
Missouri Public Service Commission  
200 Madison Street  
P.O. Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

Dear Chairman Kenney and Public Service Commission Members:

RE: Ameren Transmission Company of Illinois (ATXI) – Mark Twain Transmission Project  
– Kirksville, MO Case Number EA-2015-0145

The full membership of the City Council of Kirksville, along with City staff have had the opportunity to review materials and meet with officials from the Ameren Transmission Company of Illinois (ATXI) to learn as much as possible about the Mark Twain Transmission Project. Unfortunately, some members of our board believe that Ameren of Illinois has not communicated clearly and upfront to questions asked. We believe that upfront and honest communication is key to success. Please see correspondence from the City Council to Peggy Ladd, Ameren Transmission.

Regardless, we understand that the Public Service Commission has outlined five (5) criteria for which you will be evaluating the ATXI application and have given us the opportunity to make comment. Criteria five is as follows: "The service must promote the public interest." We have expressed our objections from the onset regarding the use of eminent domain, emphasizing that it would not be in the best interest of the public and have communicated such to Ameren with no response to their plans to use or not use this practice. We have also received numerous affecting comments from residents with concerns the impact this project could have on them as individual property owners and residents residing in and along the path of this transmission line.

We have heard repeatedly that Ameren will be able to impose eminent domain in its efforts to complete this project. As a governmental body, we know that we have the ability to use that tool should we have to, but our community takes individual property rights very seriously, and we have worked extremely hard to avoid this practice. As elected officials, we have an obligation to respond to our citizens and explain why we would exercise the

practice of eminent domain. We struggle with the potential possibility that a private company, such as Ameren Transmission, would have the right to exercise such power. This is a concerning possibility and after repeated questions asked by our staff and Council members, we are no closer to understanding what authority if any, will be granted and if the use of eminent domain is an expected component of this project.

Your fourth component, we fear, contradicts our concern for the use of eminent domain. The expectation that "The applicant's proposal must be economically feasible" may encourage the use of eminent domain. We ask the Commission to not allow this and factor the economic feasibility without the use of eminent domain.

A second component to our concern and requested consideration is the safety of the project. Certainly we have other transmission lines within our community, but those have been here for many, many years. Our expectation and request of the Commission is that you evaluate and expect that ATXI make every effort to ensure safety in construction, operation and maintenance of transmission lines; that lines and line infrastructure are designed and constructed to withstand extreme weather conditions; and that protective devices, such as at-line terminals, stop the electricity flow under abnormal operating circumstances

The City of Kirksville is very interested in the development of our community and surrounding area. We have always worked well with all of our utility companies and appreciate the services they provide to our community. We do, however, expect these companies to consider the welfare of our citizens and utilize the same principals when it comes to completing projects and not be allowed to take property from our citizens.

We appreciate the opportunity to share our comments and await the recommendations and rulings of the Public Service Commission.

Sincerely,



Richard Detweiler  
Mayor

Enclosure

pc: Glen Moritz, Mayor Pro Tem  
Jerry Mills, Council Member  
Rick Steele, Council Member  
Phillip Biston, Council Member



November 17, 2014

Ms. Peggy L. Ladd  
Director, Ameren Transmission Stakeholder Relations  
Ameren Transmission  
9400 Ward Parkway  
Kansas City, MO 64114

Dear Ms. Ladd:

RE: Mark Twain Transmission Project – Kirksville, MO

Several members of our Council, along with City staff, have had the opportunity to review materials provided to the City and meet with officials of the Ameren Transmission Company to learn as much as possible about the Mark Twain Transmission Project. Unfortunately we have not been able to get answers to all of our questions and feel it important to communicate several things to the company.

First and foremost, as elected officials for our City, we deem it vital that we understand issues facing our community and surrounding area, and even though at this point the project is not planned for inside the city limits, knowing all the issues helps us to serve our citizens. Should Ameren Transmission determine that a revised route is necessary that would bring any portion of the project within our city limits, we request immediate notification. This notification will help all of us in the long run.

Secondly, we have heard repeatedly that Ameren will be able to impose eminent domain in its efforts to complete this project. As a governmental body, we know that we have the ability to use that tool should we have to, but our community takes individual property rights very seriously and in the last 20 years has used eminent domain only to acquire a parcel of property near our airport mandated by the Federal Aviation Administration. As elected officials we have an obligation to respond to our citizens and explain why we would exercise the practice of eminent domain. We struggle with the potential possibility that a private company such as Ameren Transmission would have the right to exercise such power. If you are allowed, what other privately owned corporate businesses would be allowed to use eminent domain? This is concerning and after repeated questions asked by our staff and Council members, we are no closer to understanding what authority, if any, you have been granted.