

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

In the Matter of the Application of Ameren)
Transmission Company of Illinois for Other Relief,)
or, in the Alternative, a Certificate of Public) No. EA-2015-0146
Convenience and Necessity Authorizing it to)
Construct, Install, Own, Operate, Maintain and)
Otherwise Control and Manage a 345,000-volt)
Electric Transmission Line in from Palmyra,)
Missouri to the Iowa Border and Associated)
Substation near Kirksville, Missouri.)

**POSITION STATEMENT
BY THE
MIDCONTINENT INDEPENDENT SYSTEM OPERATOR, INC.**

1. *Does the Commission possess authority to approve ATXI’s application?*

Yes. The Commission stated in its Order Regarding Motion to Dismiss that the Commission is the proper authority to issue a certificate of convenience and necessity (“CCN”) according to Section 393.170.1, RSMo, and that ATXI is a proper entity to receive a CCN from the Commission.¹

2. *Does the evidence establish that the Mark Twain transmission line project, as described in ATXI’s application in this docket, and for which ATXI is seeking a certificate of convenience and necessity (“CCN”), is “necessary or convenient for the public service within the meaning of that phrase in section 393.170, RSMo?*

Yes. The Commission should grant ATXI a CCN, as sought in the Application in this docket. The Application, testimony, and schedules provided by ATXI, MISO, the Commission Staff, and other parties supporting the issuance of the CCN demonstrate that the proposed 345 kV transmission line and related facilities (“Mark Twain Project” or “Project”) satisfy the criteria

¹ Order Regarding Motion to Dismiss at 3 (November 4, 2015) (“November Order”).

typically examined by the Commission for the grant of a CCN under Section 393.170, RSMo.

The Project is 1) needed, 2) ATXI is qualified to provide the proposed project, 3) ATXI has the financial ability to provide the service, 4) the proposal is economically feasible, and 5) the service provided by the Project promotes the public interest.²

With particular regard to the public interest requirement, the Mark Twain Project was vetted as part of MISO's regional transmission organization planning process to determine that the Project is necessary to meet local load serving needs of the system in the area, promotes the development of a reliable and efficient competitive electric market, and helps ensure that renewable portfolio standards of all states in the MISO footprint can be met while distributing economic benefits from reduced congestion and production costs within the region. The Project will bring broad benefits to Missouri from its construction and operation.

3. Do §§ 393.170 and 229.100, RSMo., require that before the Commission can lawfully issue the requested CCN the evidence must show the Commission that where the proposed Mark Twain transmission line project will cross public roads and highways in that county ATXI has received the consent of each county to cross them? If so, does the evidence establish that ATXI has made that showing?

No. In the November Order, the Commission stated that it “may approve the CCN before assent of the county commissions is shown”³ Pursuant to this Commission order, no evidence on this issue need be presented at the hearing.

4. If the Commission decides to grant the CCN, what conditions, if any, should the Commission impose?

² See, e.g., *In re Tartan Energy Company*, 3 Mo. P.S.C. 173, 177 (1994).

³ November Order at 5.

MISO understands that ATXI has consented to most of the conditions recommended by the Staff. MISO supports the conditions consented to by ATXI, in the form stated by ATXI.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jeffrey L. Small

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was filed on EFIS and sent by email to all counsel of record this 20th day of January, 2016.

/s/ Joshua Harden _____

Attorney for Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc.