

In the Matter of:
The Application of Ameren Transmission Company of Illinois, etc.

EA-2021-0087, VOL. I

June 21, 2021



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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

STATE OF MISSOURI

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Procedural Conference

June 21, 2021

Jefferson City, Missouri

Volume 1

In the Matter of the)	
Application of Ameren)	
Transmission Company of)	
Illinois for a Certificate)	Case No. EA-2021-0087
of Public Convenience and)	
Necessity to Construct,)	
Install, Own, Operate,)	
Maintain, and Otherwise)	
Control and Manage a)	
138 kV Transmission Line)	
and associated facilities)	
in Perry and Cape)	
Girardeau Counties,)	
Missouri)	

JANA JACOBS, Presiding
REGULATORY LAW JUDGE

REPORTED BY:
Tracy Taylor, CCR No. 939
TIGER COURT REPORTING, LLC

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A P P E A R A N C E S

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1 JUDGE JACOBS: We're going on the record
2 today for this procedural conference in File Number
3 EA-2021-0087.

4 Today's date is June 21, 2021. This case
5 concerns the application of Ameren Transmission
6 Company of Illinois for a certificate of convenience
7 and necessity for a transmission line and associated
8 facilities in Perry and Cape Girardeau counties.

9 The conference was set for 1:15 p.m. and
10 the time is now 1:17 p.m. My name is Jana Jacobs. I
11 am the Regulatory Law Judge assigned to this matter.
12 This conference is being conducted in person in the
13 Governor Office Building in Jefferson City, Missouri,
14 but I'm also using my projecting voice today because
15 we are also doing this conference by telephone
16 conference.

17 The purpose of the conference is to allow
18 the parties to meet to discuss a procedural
19 conference. The conference will also allow us to
20 discuss a local public hearing in this case.

21 We have a court reporter present who will
22 prepare a transcript of the on-the-record portion of
23 this conference. Once I leave the room and we're no
24 longer on the record, the room and the telephone
25 conference are available for the parties to stay

1 together and continue to discuss the case.

2 For those of you who are appearing at the
3 conference by phone today, please just introduce
4 yourselves before speaking. I think we're going to
5 have quite a few male voices potentially on the line,
6 so that can be hard for the court reporter to
7 distinguish those folks. So if you just want us to
8 remind us who's speaking before you speak up.

9 Okay. So first, I will begin by asking
10 the parties to enter their appearances for the record.
11 And I believe some of you have already handed the
12 court reporter your cards. Those of you on the line
13 can go ahead and let the court reporter know you're
14 identifying information. And we'll start with the
15 Company. Who's entering an appearance for the Company
16 today?

17 MR. SCHULTE: This is Andrew Schulte,
18 S-c-h-u-l-t-e, with Polsinelli Law Firm,
19 P-o-l-s-i-n-e-l-l-i, and on behalf of ATXI. And do
20 you need the phone number and e-mail address?

21 JUDGE JACOBS: I think all of that
22 information is in the case file, so I think that can
23 be retrieved from that -- from EFIS. It's -- that
24 part of the file is public.

25 MR. SCHULTE: Yes. Yes, that is correct.

1 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay. So that works for
2 me then.

3 MR. SCHULTE: And then also on the phone
4 on behalf of ATXI, also with Polsinelli, is Frank
5 Caro, C-a-r-o. And his information is also on EFIS in
6 this proceeding. And we heard earlier from Eric
7 Dearmont, D-e-a-r-m-o-n-t. And --

8 JUDGE JACOBS: And Eric's first name?

9 MR. SCHULTE: Eric is not -- excuse me?

10 JUDGE JACOBS: Eric's first name? I
11 think there's a couple ways to spell that.

12 MR. SCHULTE: Yes, correct. Thank you.
13 E-r-i-c.

14 JUDGE JACOBS: Thank you. And go ahead.

15 MR. SCHULTE: And Mr. Dearmont is
16 in-house with the Company, but not entering his
17 appearance as an attorney today.

18 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay. Thank you. Anyone
19 else you wanted to introduce at this point?

20 MR. SCHULTE: That's everyone for ATXI
21 today.

22 JUDGE JACOBS: Thank you, sir.

23 Go ahead with enfr-- I'm sorry, entries
24 of appearance for Staff, please.

25 MR. PRINGLE: Thank you, Judge. This is

1 Travis Pringle appearing on behalf of Staff. I'm
2 joined by Madeline McKernan, our summer associate; as
3 well as Staff members Claire Eubanks, Michael Stahlman
4 and Shawn Lange.

5 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay. And then appearing
6 for Office of Public Counsel?

7 MR. WILLIAMS: Nathan Williams appearing
8 on behalf of the Office of the Public Counsel and the
9 public. My information has been provided to the court
10 reporter.

11 JUDGE JACOBS: Thank you.

12 Mr. Schulte, are you able to hear
13 Mr. Williams today?

14 MR. SCHULTE: Yes. I've been able to
15 hear everybody. Am I coming in clearly?

16 JUDGE JACOBS: Yes, you are. Great.
17 Thank you.

18 Okay. We also have an intervenor in this
19 case, Terry and Mary Frances Scholl, who are
20 represented by counsel, but Ms. Bell is not present at
21 this time.

22 MS. BELL: No, I'm present, Your Honor.

23 JUDGE JACOBS: Oh, I apologize. I'd
24 asked a couple times to see who joined and so I
25 apologize. Ms. Bell, did you want to enter your

1 appearance, please?

2 MS. BELL: Sorry. Yes, Your Honor. So
3 Stephanie Bell with Ellinger and Associates. And my
4 information is available on EFIS on our motion to
5 intervene. I am appearing on behalf of Mary Frances
6 Scholl and Terry L. Scholl. Thank you.

7 JUDGE JACOBS: Thank you. And you did
8 say that was Ellinger and Associates? I think you cut
9 out a little bit.

10 MS. BELL: Yes. Correct, Your Honor.

11 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay. Thank you,
12 Ms. Bell.

13 Okay. So I do think we have all the
14 parties here. So we've set this procedural conference
15 to discuss this procedural schedule and then a local
16 public hearing. So does anyone have anything they
17 want to take up before we go on to those matters?

18 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes and no. I have a
19 question for the Commission about local public
20 hearings.

21 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay.

22 MR. WILLIAMS: There was a time when they
23 were being done virtually because of COVID-19. And I
24 don't know if that's changed and if the Commission has
25 a preference for live or virtual or some combination.

1 If there's any guidance the Commission could give,
2 that would be appreciated.

3 JUDGE JACOBS: I think the only guidance
4 that I'm able to give at this point is that it's
5 probably going to be case specific. So I think the
6 Commission's going to continue to be attentive to what
7 the parties believe is appropriate in a specific case.

8 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you.

9 JUDGE JACOBS: Yeah. Okay. And that's
10 really one of the reasons why it was important to have
11 this session today, to find out what the parties are
12 thinking about that specific issue.

13 All right. Did anyone have anything
14 else?

15 MR. PRINGLE: Nothing from Staff.

16 JUDGE JACOBS: Anything from you,
17 Ms. Bell?

18 MS. BELL: Yes. I believe we had a
19 substitute procedural conference from ATXI to offer.
20 I will let -- I had a conflict with the original
21 proposed schedule we had. And the substitute
22 procedural schedule is okay with me, but I don't know
23 that it's been filed in the case yet.

24 JUDGE JACOBS: I haven't seen a filing.
25 I have seen the ATXI earlier proposal, but it sounds

1 like you all have been having some additional
2 discussions, which is great. I have not seen that
3 proposal yet.

4 So what I'll do is you guys can, you
5 know, finalize it hopefully with this conversation
6 today. And then I was hoping to ask you to submit a
7 proposed procedural -- procedural schedule in a week,
8 so next Monday if that would be possible.

9 MR. SCHULTE: That sounds reasonable on
10 behalf of ATXI, Judge Jacobs. We did circulate a --
11 an alternative proposal to the parties in advance of
12 today's pre-hearing conference and so we can discuss
13 that. We were waiting to file until we had the
14 conversation today.

15 JUDGE JACOBS: I appreciate that. Thank
16 you.

17 So Ms. Bell, you indicated you wanted to
18 bring up the procedural schedule. Did you have any
19 other preliminary issues to discuss at all?

20 MS. BELL: I do not, Your Honor.

21 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay. Thank you.

22 And I didn't get a chance to ask the
23 Company. Mr. Schulte, did you have any preliminary
24 issues or -- that you wanted to discuss other than a
25 procedural schedule or local public hearing issues?

1 MR. SCHULTE: Nothing else, Your Honor.
2 Thank you.

3 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay. So there was one
4 thing I wanted to clarify with the Company. So I've
5 observed in multiple places in your application and in
6 some of -- in your subsequent pleadings you've
7 indicated that you're asking for an order to be
8 effective by December 30th, 2021.

9 So I think actually it's a little bit
10 more ambiguous than that. You've asked for an order
11 from the Commission by December 30th, 2021 and you --
12 and Mr. Jontry's testimony indicates it's critical
13 that the certificate is granted by December 30th,
14 2021. But as I'm sure you're aware, Commission orders
15 don't take effect immediately.

16 So my question for you is, on what date
17 is the Company hoping to have a Commission order be
18 effective? So assuming a 30-day effective day, an
19 order issued December 30th would be effective about a
20 month later, that would put it to the end of January.
21 So I just want to clarify what it is that the
22 Company's asking for on that point. Can you help me
23 with that?

24 MR. SCHULTE: Well, if -- if I'm
25 incorrect about this, Mr. Dearmont can speak up. As

1 we've laid out the procedural schedule, we've asked
2 for an order to be issued by December 30th, 2021. And
3 so if the effective date is up to 30 days after that,
4 I believe that would be acceptable to the Company.
5 But if that's not correct, Eric, do you have any
6 further thoughts on that?

7 MR. DEARMONT: No. I appreciate it. No,
8 I agree with that characterization. Yeah, effective
9 date end of January would -- would be great. Thank
10 you.

11 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay. I appreciate that
12 clarification. Thank you.

13 Does anybody -- any other party have
14 anything else to say on that point? Okay. Apparently
15 no other comments on that point.

16 So I think the next thing to discuss
17 would be a local public hearing. So there is --
18 hasn't actually been filed a formal request for a
19 local public hearing in this case. It appears to me
20 it seems to be at least Commission practice and very
21 typical for a local public hearing to take place so I
22 think perhaps everyone's just assuming it's going to.

23 And although there hasn't been one
24 requested, the Company did come forward proposing that
25 a hearing would be conducted by video and telephone

1 conference. That was before we had an intervention.
2 Has that request to conduct a local public hearing
3 virtually, has that changed or evolved at all since
4 the parties' filing, Mr. Schulte?

5 MR. SCHULTE: We are flexible. If the
6 Commission is moving towards in-person, local public
7 hearings, then we would be willing to accommodate
8 that. If -- if local public hearings are still being
9 held virtually, then -- then that's fine as well.
10 We're -- in other words, we're flexible on the format.

11 And we wanted to go ahead and build
12 something into the schedule recognizing that a local
13 public hearing would probably be appropriate and so
14 we've done that. We would note that we think only one
15 local public hearing is necessary in this case because
16 the project only covers two counties and is only
17 15 miles long.

18 And so picking a location near the
19 route -- the proposed route would be I think
20 sufficiently convenient for any of the interested
21 landowners, given the relative short distance of the
22 project.

23 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay. I'm going to ask
24 the other parties if they have any comment to make on
25 whether a virtual public hearing or in-person hearing

1 is appropriate here or perhaps dual hearings, offering
2 both formats. So do any other parties have any other
3 comments to make about that now that we've heard from
4 the Company? I'll start with Office of Public
5 Counsel.

6 MR. WILLIAMS: Under the current
7 circumstances, I think it makes sense to have the
8 capability at least for people to appear virtually.
9 And from what I've heard from Ameren's solicitation of
10 public input prior to filing the case, it's my
11 understanding there were individuals who are
12 wanting -- or complaining about not having an
13 in-person opportunity.

14 So given what the Governor has done with
15 the state of emergency and so forth, personally I
16 think it makes sense to have both options available.

17 JUDGE JACOBS: So do I understand you
18 correctly that OPC would support a dual option?

19 MR. WILLIAMS: Certainly wouldn't oppose
20 it, but yes. I think it's a matter probably for
21 discussion amongst the parties, but.

22 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay. And did Staff have
23 anything to say on that?

24 MR. PRINGLE: At this time I'm not aware
25 of a preference. We've been doing it virtually for a

1 year so we're ready to do it that way, but also
2 in-person. There's nothing against that either.

3 MR. WILLIAMS: Judge, if I may?

4 JUDGE JACOBS: Sure.

5 MR. WILLIAMS: I'll also point out in my
6 view, the main jurisdiction the Commission has over
7 transmission lines in Missouri is sighting. So for
8 that reason it also makes sense to have a local public
9 hearing, per se.

10 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay. So does -- do the
11 intervenors have any comment?

12 MS. BELL: Yes. I believe the Commission
13 has previously waived some of the in-person hearing
14 requirements and so we strongly feel like there should
15 be an in-person requirement now that vaccines are
16 available. And like Public Counsel mentioned, the
17 Governor's position and the CDC's position has changed
18 so we feel strongly there should be an in-person
19 requirement.

20 We don't object to the option, but also I
21 would point out that in this area specifically,
22 broadband is not widely available. And so with
23 respect to the previous hear-- you know, the internet
24 access and phone access is not necessarily sufficient.
25 So an in-person hearing I feel like would be --

1 particularly in this area would be beneficial.

2 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay. And that raises a
3 question. I was hoping to get some feedback from the
4 parties because I think the Commission might be
5 interested in this when they decide how to approach a
6 local public hearing.

7 And that is, how was the reception to the
8 virtual option that was provided before? I understand
9 that before a meeting was held, folks were not happy
10 about that option. But after the meeting was held, I
11 mean did you have a good turnout? Did it actually
12 work for people? Or did you discover that the virtual
13 option was ignored?

14 So can anyone tell me anything about how
15 the virtual hearing that the Company held in the
16 previous part of the process went?

17 MR. SCHULTE: Sure. This is Andrew
18 Schulte on behalf of ATXI. And the turnout for the
19 virtual open houses -- and there were three rounds of
20 virtual open houses and virtual town halls. And those
21 are detailed in the testimony of Emily Highland, which
22 has been filed in this case. And the turnout was very
23 strong for those.

24 Given the concerns that some landowners
25 had regarding broadband access, there was -- there

1 were dial-in options for those proceedings. And then
2 we also did a telemeeting so that participants could
3 hear questions from other participants and -- and then
4 get in a queue to ask their questions or make their
5 comments by telephone. So we did do it -- it was not
6 only broadband accessible, but it was telephonic
7 accessible as well.

8 And the turnout was good for all of
9 those. So -- but we do think that -- I mean while
10 some individuals may prefer in-person events, at least
11 broadly speaking, the virtual and telephonic ones were
12 successful.

13 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay. Do any other
14 parties have anything else to say about that? All
15 right. I might not be doing a very good job of
16 keeping track of who's spoken up on different issues
17 so if you have anything else that you would like to
18 say on the record to the Commission about how it
19 should approach local public hearings for this
20 particular case, now's your chance.

21 So does anybody else have anything else
22 they think that I need to know in order to help the
23 Commission decide how to approach local public
24 hearings in this case -- or hearing, singular?

25 MR. WILLIAMS: I'll give you a

1 suggestion. You might look at what transpired in the
2 prior ATXI case in northeast Missouri and the Grain
3 Belt cases, how the Commission handled those and. It
4 was quite a bit of turnout.

5 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay.

6 MR. WILLIAMS: Those were pre-virtual, of
7 course.

8 MR. PRINGLE: If I can have one moment to
9 confer with Staff.

10 JUDGE JACOBS: Sure. So Mr. Pringle is
11 talking to folks with Staff right now, so we'll just
12 give him the chance to do that. Thanks for your
13 patience.

14 MR. PRINGLE: Yeah. Thank you for that,
15 Judge. Staff can do either one.

16 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay. Staff remains
17 flexible?

18 MR. PRINGLE: Yes.

19 JUDGE JACOBS: All right. Good to hear.
20 So Ms. Bell or any other party on the line, is there
21 anything else that you want to convey to the
22 Commission before we move on to talking about the
23 procedural schedule?

24 MS. BELL: No, Your Honor. Like I said,
25 we previously filed something I believe, but we were

1 in strong opposition to waiving the requirement for
2 the in-person hearing before. This is our first
3 opportunity for in-person hearing so we would strongly
4 the Commission to allow that as an option.

5 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay. Thank you very
6 much, Ms. Bell.

7 The other comment that I would make just
8 so parties are prepared for how this will probably
9 develop is that the local public hearings take place
10 before the Commission. So that necessarily involves
11 the Commission's schedule and it involves the
12 Commission's, you know, office and scheduling where it
13 takes place and things like that.

14 So I think what we would be looking for
15 from the parties is proposals for a good location or
16 good locations where this could happen if it's
17 necessary to do it in person.

18 And then keeping in mind that whatever
19 time frame is selected, in addition to taking into
20 consideration the Commission's schedule, will also
21 have to allow ample time to give the public notice so
22 that they can show up.

23 So if your proposed -- if your procedural
24 schedule is going to include some suggested dates for
25 local public hearings, I would suggest that you give

1 us a range of acceptable dates instead of just one.
2 Because if we end up in a situation where we have a
3 Commissioner who really feels like they need to be
4 there but that just happens to be a very bad date for
5 them, then we have to come back and start over. So
6 it's just better if you can give us some room to
7 wiggle in. Okay?

8 Anybody have anything else on local
9 public hearing before we move on?

10 MR. SCHULTE: Yes, Judge. This is Andrew
11 Schulte again. With regard to notice, the Commission
12 does not have any standard notice procedure.
13 Occasionally the applicant is directed to publish
14 notice in newspapers or provide a mailing to impacted
15 parties. And then at other times, the Office of
16 Public Policy and Outreach at the Commission itself is
17 directed to contact the local officials and the local
18 news outlets to notify the public of the -- of the
19 local public hearing.

20 Is there a -- is there a notice practice
21 that you would recommend here? When it is a
22 publication or a mailing, it's typically ten days in
23 advance. If you had any advice along those lines
24 along the timing or the forum, that may be helpful.

25 JUDGE JACOBS: So I will have to go back

1 and look at whether the last transmission case
2 required the Company to issue some kind of notice, but
3 ten days' notice is basically, in my experience,
4 considered the absolute minimum for most Commission
5 proceedings. So you know, that -- that's the minimum.
6 And then you have to build in, of course, how long it
7 even takes the Commission to issue the order that sets
8 the local public hearing.

9 A lot of the orders in this case might be
10 expected to be issued out of agenda rather than by
11 delegation, so that means they could only be issued on
12 an agenda date, which can potentially build in
13 additional days.

14 So I -- I would allow ample time found
15 in -- you know, for this -- these suggested local
16 public hearing dates. That will allow the Commission
17 maximum flexibility with maximum notice to the public.
18 And then the Commission's order is going to tell, as
19 it typically does, its public information folks to let
20 the media and representatives know, the usual suspects
21 that get notified. And it's also going to give plenty
22 of time for anyone else to get notice out about the
23 hearing.

24 So I think if you just propose something
25 that's got a decent lead time on it, we'll be okay.

1 Where we run into problems is a proposal that's
2 supposed to happen twelve days later or something like
3 that. That can be hard to do.

4 So I'm not aware of anything in your
5 timeline that at this point should make it hard to
6 give ample notice for this kind of local public
7 hearing.

8 And I think maybe I didn't answer your
9 question there because you're kind of asking me if the
10 Company is going to be required to fulfill some kind
11 of notice obligation. This hearing is taking place
12 before the Commission, so I think the Commission is
13 essentially taking on that notice burden.

14 MR. WILLIAMS: Judge, if I may?

15 JUDGE JACOBS: Yeah.

16 MR. WILLIAMS: I think there have been
17 transmission line cases where the Commission ordered
18 the Company to at least notify the --

19 JUDGE JACOBS: The known land owners?

20 MR. WILLIAMS: -- owners of -- landowners
21 along the road.

22 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay. Thank you.

23 MR. WILLIAMS: That may be what An--
24 Mr. Schulte is referring to.

25 JUDGE JACOBS: Right. And in that case,

1 you know, a good lead time makes sense. Right?
2 Because that gives the Company time to generate those
3 notices. So I would take that into consideration.
4 And I apologize that I wasn't aware of that previous
5 practice, but -- so Mr. Schulte, did I --

6 MR. SCHULTE: Thank you.

7 JUDGE JACOBS: -- help you at all or just
8 make things worse?

9 MR. SCHULTE: No. That -- that is
10 helpful.

11 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay.

12 MR. SCHULTE: Yeah, that -- we'll take
13 that into account.

14 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay. All right.
15 Anything else on local public hearing?

16 All right. So then we are off to
17 proposed procedural schedule and it sounds like the
18 parties are already talking to put something together.
19 So the only thing that I would note is I did look at
20 the schedule that had been proposed. So I would just
21 make some observations about that that might help you
22 in your -- your as you make your next proposal.

23 Obviously you can always look at the
24 Commission hearings calendar, which also has some
25 other events on it. But there is a rate case that's

1 scheduled. Now it's beginning on November 29th so
2 that opened up October quite a bit. There is another
3 hearing, however, October 12th and 13th. And then I
4 would point out that there's a NARUC conference
5 November 8th, 9th and 10th. And then, of course,
6 November 11th is Veterans Day. So that week is not a
7 great week to try to get anything done.

8 So there are some other parameters to
9 consider when you put together your schedule.
10 Position statements are used to brief the Commission
11 before the hearing. And I understand that position
12 statements are often very challenging for the parties
13 to put together so this is crunch time, but they are
14 very useful to the Commission. So it's really
15 important that those position statements are filed
16 with enough time for the Judge to help prepare the
17 Commission for the hearing.

18 And the most recent practice has been to
19 prepare a case discussion memo that goes to the
20 Commission one agenda meeting before that hearing is
21 supposed to start. So please keep that in mind when
22 you propose your schedule. If your schedule doesn't
23 keep that in mind, then unfortunately, sometimes it
24 will be adjusted and possibly in a way that you
25 would -- you would prefer to have worked out

1 yourselves. So I'll just alert you to that -- that
2 issue.

3 I would say typically if you give 10 to
4 14 days between your position statements and the
5 hearing start, that's going to give enough time. I
6 know that sounds like a lot, but that is really what
7 is necessary. And I think the hearings usually do go
8 better when everyone is prepared, and that includes
9 the Judge and the Commission.

10 The other thing I'd mention is that
11 standard transcripts are available ten business days
12 after hearings. So just keep that in mind when you
13 propose your briefing dates. I think your schedule
14 that you had proposed did, in fact, consider that.
15 There's always the option for parties to pay for
16 expedited transcripts, but we have to get special
17 permission if the Commission is going to pay for them,
18 so the standard is ten business days.

19 So it sounds like you guys are already
20 working on this. And filing something by Monday would
21 be fine for everyone. Is that correct?

22 MR. SCHULTE: Yes. That -- that should
23 be doable. And I'm sorry. I may have missed the
24 number of days that position statements should be
25 filed in advance of hearing?

1 JUDGE JACOBS: Ten to fourteen depending
2 on what the calendar looks like. Keeping in mind that
3 we need to have an agenda meeting in between that
4 filing and the beginning of hearing so that there's
5 time for the Judge to present a memo to the
6 Commission.

7 MR. SCHULTE: Understood. Thank you.

8 JUDGE JACOBS: Okay. Thank you. Did
9 anybody have any other questions or comments on the
10 procedural schedule? The floor is open to all.
11 Anything from the Company? Anything from --

12 MR. SCHULTE: Nothing further, Judge.

13 JUDGE JACOBS: Thank you, Mr. Schulte.
14 Anything from Staff?

15 MR. PRINGLE: Nothing further from Staff,
16 Judge. Thank you.

17 JUDGE JACOBS: Thank you.
18 Anything from Office of Public Counsel?

19 MR. WILLIAMS: Not at this time.

20 JUDGE JACOBS: Thank you.
21 Anything from Intervenors, Ms. Bell?

22 MS. BELL: No, Judge. Thank you.

23 JUDGE JACOBS: Thanks a lot.
24 Okay. So that was all I wanted to
25 discuss today. Did anybody -- did this bring up

1 anything else that anyone thinks could be useful at
2 this time? Do you guys want to use this conference
3 line to continue talking once we close the proceeding
4 or not?

5 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

6 MR. PRINGLE: Yes.

7 JUDGE JACOBS: So I'm going to leave this
8 line live. And this is last call for anything to talk
9 to me about on the record. Doesn't sound like anybody
10 wants to talk to me anymore so thank you. We are
11 going off the record.

12 (Whereupon, the procedural conference was
13 adjourned.)

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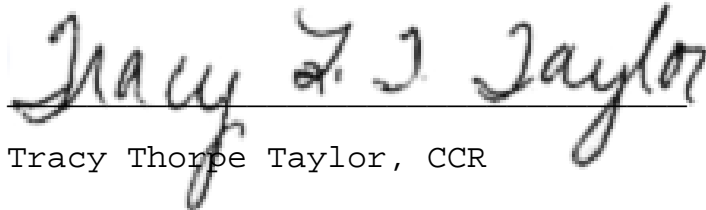
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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, Tracy Thorpe Taylor, CCR No. 939, within the State of Missouri, do hereby certify that the testimony appearing in the foregoing matter was duly sworn by me; that the testimony of said witnesses was taken by me to the best of my ability and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction; that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this matter was taken, and further, that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties thereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.


Tracy Thorpe Taylor, CCR

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