

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

In the Matter of the Application of Grain Belt)
Express Clean Line LLC for a Certificate of)
Convenience and Necessity Authorizing It to)
Construct, Own, Operate, Control, Manage, and)
Maintain a High Voltage, Direct Current) Case No. EA-2014-0207
Transmission Line and an Associated Converter)
Station Providing an Interconnection on the)
Maywood - Montgomery 345 kV Transmission)
Line)

STAFF’S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LOCAL PUBLIC HEARINGS

Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission, in response to the Commission’s May 28, 2014, order directing the parties to address the scheduling of local public hearings by June 5, 2014, recommends that the Commission schedule at least one local public hearing in each of the eight Missouri counties the transmission line Grain Belt Express Clean Line LLC is proposing would traverse: Buchanan, Clinton, Caldwell, Carroll, Chariton, Randolph, Monroe and Ralls counties.

Staff recommends the Commission schedule the first local public hearing at its earliest convenience and the last at least a week before Staff and other parties file rebuttal testimony—by to the jointly proposed procedural schedule September 8, 2014 (rebuttal testimony is due September 15, 2014).

Given the strong public interest in this case and, thus, the high likelihood of high turnout at the local public hearings, Staff suggests that the Commission anticipate lengthy public hearings and consider allowing those with land that would be traversed or that is within five miles of the proposed transmission line route to testify earlier than

others. The Commission may also consider starting the hearings in the afternoon and continuing them into the evening, with a recess for a meal.

Eastern Missouri Landowners Alliance DBA Show Me Concerned Landowners has informed and authorized Staff to advise the Commission that it joins in Staff's recommendations regarding local public hearings in this case.

Missouri Farm Bureau Federation has informed and authorized Staff to advise the Commission that it joins in Staff's recommendations regarding local public hearings in this case.

United for Missouri, Inc., has informed and authorized Staff to advise the Commission that it joins in Staff's recommendations regarding local public hearings in this case.

The Missouri Landowners Alliance has informed and authorized Staff to advise the Commission that it joins in Staff's recommendations regarding local public hearings in this case.

Matthew and Christina Reichert, and Randall and Roseanne Meyer have informed and authorized Staff to advise the Commission that they join in all of Staff's recommendations regarding local public hearings in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Nathan Williams
Nathan Williams
Deputy Staff Counsel
Missouri Bar No. 35512

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been mailed or hand-delivered, transmitted by facsimile or by electronic mail to all counsel of record on this 5th day of June 2014.

/s/ Nathan Williams