

Exhibit No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Issues: Adverse Effects of Route  
Witness: Thomas Knollmeyer  
Exhibit Type: Rebuttal Testimony  
Sponsoring Party: Intervenor CCOFFH

Case No. EO-2002-351  
Date: August 8, 2002

**MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**CASE NO. EO-2002-351**

**REBUTTAL TESTIMONY  
OF  
THOMAS KNOLLMAYER**

**ON BEHALF OF**

**INTERVENOR CONCERNED CITIZENS OF FAMILY  
FARMS AND HERITAGE**

**JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI**

**FILED<sup>2</sup>**  
AUG 08 2002  
Missouri Public  
Service Commission

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the Matter of the Application of Union )  
Electric Company for Permission and )  
Authority to Construct, Operate, Own, and ) Case No. EO-2002-351  
Maintain a 345 Kilovolt Transmission Line )  
in Maries, Osage, and Pulaski Counties, )  
Missouri ("Callaway-Franks Line"). )

AFFIDAVIT OF THOMAS KNOLLMAYER

THOMAS A KNOLLMAYER, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he (he/she) is the witness who sponsors the accompanying testimony entitled "Rebuttal Testimony of"; that said testimony was prepared by him (him/her) and/or under his (his/her) direction and supervision; that if inquiries were made as to the facts and conclusions in said testimony, he (he/she) would respond as therein set forth; and that the aforesaid testimony is true and correct to the best of his (his/her) knowledge.

*Thomas A. Knollmeyer*  
President of Hometown  
Lumber & Hardware Inc.

State of Missouri  
County of Osage  
SUBSCRIBED and sworn to  
before me this 26<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2002.

*Phyllis Brandt*  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 5-18-06

PHYLLIS BRANDT  
Notary Public-Notary Seal  
STATE OF MISSOURI  
Osage County  
My Commission Expires: May 18, 2006

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF  
THOMAS KNOLLMEYER**

1       Q.     Please state your name and residence address.

2       A.     Thomas Knollmeyer, Hometown Lumber and Hardware, Inc., Highway 50 West, Linn,  
3             Missouri 65051.

4       Q.     Are you a property owner in one of the three counties through which Union Electric  
5             Company is applying for permission and authority to construct, operate, own and maintain  
6             a 345 kilovolt transmission line?

7       A.     Yes, I am the owner of property which I am advised will be crossed by this new 345,000 volt  
8             transmission in Osage County.

9       Q.     What is the purpose of your testimony?

10      A.     I am providing this testimony in opposition to the application to construct this transmission  
11             line on the route requested by Ameren UE. The law requires that construction of this power  
12             line must be shown by Ameren UE to be necessary and convenient for the public service.  
13             Regardless of any necessity for a transmission line somewhere else, it is neither necessary  
14             nor convenient to the public to build the transmission line as proposed. The line can be  
15             constructed in other areas and its construction in the place and manner proposed will be  
16             destructive of family farms, family farm values, and does irreparable harm to the history and  
17             heritage of the local area and its communities.

18      Q.     Are you a member of the Intervenor group known as Concerned Citizens for Family Farms  
19             and Heritage?

20      A.     Yes, I am a member of that group and offer my testimony in support of its statement of

1 purpose, which is attached to this testimony and incorporated.

2 Q. Have you as a property owner in the path of the proposed transmission line been contacted  
3 by Ameren UE for purpose of discussing where the line would go through your property and  
4 what alternatives, if any, might be available?

5 A. No.

6 Q. How long have you owned the property in question?

7 A. 1983 - 19 years.

8 Q. Could you describe the nature of the property and its past and current use?

9 A. It is a retail business - lumber, hardware, building materials, plumbing and electrical  
10 supplies, garage doors, millwork, etc.

11 Q. Is the current use of the property income producing to you?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Is the proposed transmission line to run near or over any residence, structures, or  
14 improvements to your property?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Do you already have any power lines over your property?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Will the proposed power line, if built, affect the value of your land?

19 A. Yes. A power line of this size on my property will without question decrease the overall  
20 value of the remaining property. The power line itself, the large easement taken on a strip  
21 through that part of the property will impair present and future use of the entire parcel of  
22 property I own. The option of selling the property to get rid of the problems caused by the

1 power line is unavailable. The power line will make the property virtually unsaleable,  
2 requiring that I simply live with Ameren UE's solution to a problem that I do not feel I even  
3 share with them. While I am unsure of the health affects of such a large power line so close  
4 to my own daily activities, it is ingrained in the popular mentality that such power lines  
5 constitute a health hazard, rendering unlikely any sale of my property at all. No one will buy  
6 this property with this 345,000 volt electric line through it.

7 Q. What other adverse impacts do you feel this line will create for yourself and others?

8 A. The attached statement of purpose for Concerned Citizens for Family Farms and Heritage  
9 sums up the overall bad impact. I and my neighbors live where we do by choice. We forego  
10 the luxuries of more urban living in exchange for the peace, quiet and more rustic lifestyle  
11 of the family farm and the small local community. Every reason and purpose that my  
12 neighbors and I own property here for is drastically impaired or practically destroyed by the  
13 presence of this high voltage power line, and the constant commercial activity anticipated in  
14 building and maintaining it in the future.

15 Q. Do you know of any alternatives to the Ameren UE proposal which might change your  
16 opinion about this project?

17 A. The alternatives are all within the power of Ameren UE to implement, and I do believe an  
18 alternative exists. I believe Ameren should restudy the route and balance the interests of the  
19 community against their need to relieve overloading problems. There are other corridors  
20 equally available to Ameren to build this line which would be better able to bear the burden  
21 of the line's presence without destroying property values, life styles, businesses and family  
22 farms. My neighbors and I have no alternatives, and construction of the line as proposed will

1 change our lives and circumstances forever. We will not be able to sell even though we may  
2 not wish to stay. Given our lack of options and alternatives, and the numerous alternatives  
3 available to Ameren UE to put this line almost anywhere it wants, it is my hope that the  
4 Public Service Commission will require Ameren UE to balance their mere commercial need  
5 against our vital need to preserve the family farm and our small town way of life.

6 Q. Does this conclude your Rebuttal Testimony?

7 A. Yes.

**CONCERNED CITIZENS OF FAMILY  
FARMS AND HERITAGE**

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

Concerned Citizens of Family Farms and Heritage ("Concerned Citizens") is an unincorporated membership association of family farm owners, small property owners, small business owners and farm community residents formed to promote the interests of family farming, small town communities and rural life. Membership is open to all who share the desire to promote the interests of family farms and small communities in the rural areas of central Missouri, and those who wish to preserve the rural environment against the continuous encroachment of large commercial development and urban sprawl. Our primary concern is with preservation and protection of the family farm and its heritage in rural Missouri. Concerned Citizens oppose through all lawful means the encroachment on and destruction of family farms, which are the fundamental economic and cultural basis for the rural lifestyle. Concerned Citizens promotes all reasonable efforts to preserve and protect family farms and rural lifestyle, and vigorously opposes impairment or destruction of property which is used or useful for perpetuation of rural existence on family farms, or diversion of property from use as family farms.