



Company Name: Grain Belt Express Clean Line LLC
Case Description: Application for Certificate of Convenience and Necessity
Case: EA-2014-0207

FILED
December 5, 2014
Data Center
Missouri Public
Service Commission

Response to MLA's First Set of Data Requests Directed to Michael Skelly:

Data Request No. 29: If the Project is completed, is it your understanding that the FERC will have the authority thereafter to direct Grain Belt and/or Clean Line to add one or more additional lines to the Project in order to accommodate generation near the Kansas interconnection which is still constrained by inadequate transmission?

RESPONSE: Grain Belt Express will likely be subject to Section 15.4 of the FERC *pro forma* Open Access Transmission Tariff, or some similar version of this section. It reads as follows:

15.4 Obligation to Provide Transmission Service that Requires Expansion or Modification of the Transmission System: If the Transmission Provider determines that it cannot accommodate a Completed Application for Firm Point-To-Point Transmission Service because of insufficient capability on its Transmission System, the Transmission Provider will use due diligence to expand or modify its Transmission System to provide the requested Firm Transmission Service, provided the Transmission Customer agrees to compensate the Transmission Provider for such costs pursuant to the terms of Section 27. The Transmission Provider will conform to Good Utility Practice in determining the need for new facilities and in the design and construction of such facilities. The obligation applies only to those facilities that the Transmission Provider has the right to expand or modify.

Based on the provision, Grain Belt Express believes it will likely have an obligation to expand like most open access transmission providers. However, the Company believes that if an expansion is required, Grain Belt Express would have some ability to elect the means of expansion—i.e, uprating the converters and line rather than building a new line. Further, the obligation to expand is limited by the fact that it “applies only to those facilities that the Transmission Provider has the right to expand or modify.” FERC cannot direct Grain Belt Express to expand its facilities if Grain Belt Express does not possess the legal or regulatory authority to expand those facilities.

Source: FERC *pro forma* Open Access Transmission Tariff

Attachment: None

Response by: David Berry

Exhibit No. 317
Date 11-2-14 Reporter KB
File No. EA-2014-0207