

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,) **File No. EA-2016-0358**
Control, Manage and Maintain a High Voltage, Direct)
Current Transmission Line and an Associated Converter)
Station Providing an Interconnection on the Maywood -)
Montgomery 345 kV Transmission Line)

ORDER DIRECTING FILING OF STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Issue Date: December 6, 2018

Effective Date: December 6, 2018

On December 3, 2018, the Commission's Staff filed a Staff Supplemental Rebuttal Report responding to the supplemental direct testimony of Grain Belt Express and other parties. Staff also updated its recommendations to the Commission based on changed circumstances since its previous rebuttal report in this case. On the issue of whether Grain Belt Express has the financial ability to construct the proposed project, Staff analyzed the proposed purchase of Grain Belt Express by Invenergy Transmission. Staff states that Grain Belt Express' capital needs during the development stage will be funded by cash on hand at Invenergy Transmission's parent company, Invenergy Investment Company, LLC, and possibly equity capital from other investors. When Staff requested actual and pro forma financial statements for Invenergy Transmission and the parent company to assess the current and anticipated capitalization of those companies, Grain Belt Express objected and refused to provide the requested information. As a result, Staff states that it cannot provide a complete recommendation to the Commission on Grain Belt Express' financial ability to construct the project.

The financial ability of Grain Belt Express and its proposed purchaser to construct and operate the proposed transmission line is one of the most important issues for determination in this remand proceeding. The Commission requires a complete recommendation from its Staff on this issue, so the Commission will direct Staff to provide that recommendation. If Staff believes it does not have sufficient information to form that recommendation at this time, then Staff must inform the Commission of what information it is lacking and request that information through a motion to compel discovery.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

1. The Commission's Staff shall file a revised Staff Supplemental Rebuttal Report that provides a complete recommendation as described in the body of this order no later than 12:00 p.m. noon on December 10, 2018. If necessary and in lieu thereof, Staff shall file a motion to compel discovery requesting any information required for it to provide such a complete recommendation, no later than 12:00 p.m. noon on December 10, 2018.
2. Any party wishing to respond to a Staff motion to compel discovery shall file that response no later than December 10, 2018.
3. This order shall become effective when issued.



BY THE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Michael Bushmann, Senior Regulatory
Law Judge by delegation of authority
pursuant to Section 386.240, RSMo 2016.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 6th day of December, 2018.

STATE OF MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

I have compared the preceding copy with the original on file in this office and I do hereby certify the same to be a true copy therefrom and the whole thereof.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Public Service Commission,
at Jefferson City, Missouri, this 6th day of December 2018.




Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

MISSOURI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

December 6, 2018

File/Case No. EA-2016-0358

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Enclosed find a certified copy of an Order or Notice issued in the above-referenced matter(s).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. Woodruff". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Morris L. Woodruff
Secretary

Recipients listed above with a valid e-mail address will receive electronic service. Recipients without a valid e-mail address will receive paper service.