

**From:** [Missouri Public Service Commission](#)  
**To:** [Missouri Public Service Commission](#)  
**Subject:** FW: "Local" Public Hearing - Case EA-2025-0299  
**Date:** Monday, April 6, 2026 11:11:34 AM

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**From:** Brett Johnson <[btj2006@hotmail.com](mailto:btj2006@hotmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 3, 2026 11:02 PM  
**To:** Missouri Public Service Commission <[pscinfo@psc.mo.gov](mailto:pscinfo@psc.mo.gov)>  
**Subject:** "Local" Public Hearing - Case EA-2025-0299

Hi,

My name is Brett Johnson of Joplin, MO. I would like to participate in the hearing regarding new fossil fuel generation capacity @ the State Line Power Station.

I also would request that this virtual hearing be supplemented with a traditional in-person attendance option. The rationale behind this is that a virtual only public hearing is by its nature not "local" - as the notification letter heading states. There isn't an explanation of why the opportunity for public commentary has been reduced to one virtual meeting between the public, the utility, and those meant to regulate it. I contend that this surreptitious redefinition of the word local undercuts the spirit behind having these hearings through the following methods:

- 1) The flattening of emotional impact inherent to the depersonalization of telemeetings. Communication is not a verbal-only medium and a public hearing in particular does not function as "your words, my words, repeat" type script. It requires a venue with more dynamism than is allowed by the Mute All Others button.
- 2) This gatekeeps commentary of those unfamiliar with or without access to the required technology.
- 3) To be a public forum participants must be able to recognize common cause in others AND have the opportunity to connect/discuss/organize with each other while at the forum. This format blocks our capacity to operate within community by narrowing and distancing our speech.

Oh man, I did not start this email feeling so strongly but in organizing my points I'm now questioning whether this virtual only meeting option is out of compliance with state regulations and ADA requirements. Please let me know if you see a fault in my arguments or agree that they're valid and I'll do some research as well.

In the meantime please register Brett Johnson speaking on the irresponsibility of further locking in fossil fuel based generation as opposed to renewables + storage as is strongly

recommended by the IPCC, Rewiring America, Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, and I believe by one of Missouri's own Energy Strategy Reports. I'd appreciate it if you are able to forward the comparative cost analysis used in the determination to go natural gas despite the negative impacts to public health. Or if you could provide guidance for any FoIA requests I need to start making as it's my intent to review the facts that led to this decision and present any errors, inconsistencies, omissions from consideration and deviations from accepted best practices at the meeting.

I'm assuming others will comment on the timing of the request as it relates to preliminary discussions regarding the planned data center in that area and their duty to offset any costs required to add them to the grid... But if nobody talks about that then I'll tag that onto my comment as well.

Thank you for your time.

Thanks again,

Brett Johnson, PE