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For Immediate Release

Kirkwood Electric Agrees to Wind Energy Purchasing Arrangement

June 20, 2016

Kirkwood, Missouri: The Kirkwood City Council voted on June 16 to authorize Kirkwood Electric to negotiate the purchase of long-term transmission service from Grain Belt Express, at a cost savings to Kirkwood ratepayers. Grain Belt Express is an overhead power line company that will deliver low-cost wind energy to Missouri.

Earlier this month, the Missouri Joint Municipal Electric Utility Commission (MJMEUC), a public power agency that serves municipalities throughout Missouri, announced that a subset of their members would buy electricity from the wind transmission project, saving their ratepayers about \$10 million annually. Kirkwood Electric will now be added to the list of municipal utilities that will purchase power capacity from Grain Belt Express.

“As a public power agency, Kirkwood Electric continuously looks for ways to save our customers money, while diversifying our energy portfolio,” said Mark Petty, Director of Kirkwood Electric. “From residential consumers to small businesses, we continue to hear demand for more renewable energy at a lower cost. If approved by Missouri regulators and the Kirkwood City Council, the Grain Belt Express will make both a reality for Kirkwood’s utility customers.”

The City of Kirkwood is located in southwest St. Louis County and is the only municipality in the County to own and operate its own electric utility. In June, a group of 67 Missouri municipal utilities agreed to purchase long-term transmission service on the Grain Belt Express. The agreement is expected to save ratepayers at least \$10 million annually, according to an analysis performed by the MJMEUC.

To learn more about Grain Belt Express, visit their Website at www.grainbeltexpresscleanline.com. To learn more about the MJMEUC, visit www.mpu.org.

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