

EXHIBIT IV

**Ameren Energy Communications, Inc.
Power Line Communications
Experimental License WC2XXK
Confirmation No. EL12223
File No. 0093-EX-PL-2002**

**Fourth Report
May 24, 2004**

Ameren Energy Communications, Inc. ("AEC") respectfully submits this, its fourth and final progress report, pursuant to the terms of its Experimental License, WC2XXK, for power line communications ¹ granted on June 5, 2002. The license will expire on June 1, 2004, and AEC does not intend to file an application to renew the license.

I. The BPL Test Installation

Equipment selected for testing

During this fourth six-month period, AEC completed an upgrade of its BPL equipment on February 18, 2004. All of the BPL equipment now in use has been certified by the vendor, Main.net Communications, Ltd. ("Main.net"), as complying with Part 15 of the Commission's rules.

Others involved in the tests

Pursuant to an agreement with AEC, Big River Telephone Company ("Big River") continued to act as the network operations manager for the tests. Big River arranged for interconnection of the BPL test system to the Internet backbone via T-1 wireline connections and continued to act as the Internet Service Provider ("ISP") for purposes of the testing, including providing technical support to test users via Internet and telephone technical support.

Pursuant to a research arrangement with AEC, Southern Illinois University - Carbondale continued to assess the design and performance of the BPL system and provide technical expertise. This arrangement has enabled AEC to provide substantive and meaningful comments, based on actual network experience, in ET Docket Nos. 03-104 and 04-37.

AEC affiliates continued to provide technical support for the tests, including testing the BPL equipment for electrical safety and developing installation and operational protocols.

¹ Also known as "Broad-band over Power Line" ("BPL").

Description of the test installation

AEC and its test partners have installed a BPL system in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, that passes approximately 300 homes. As the test network was being installed, AEC notified households within the service area that they could participate in the tests. AEC stopped accepting test participants after acquiring between 50 and 60 participants. As required under the conditions of AEC's experimental license, each participant signed an agreement acknowledging that the service is experimental in nature and could be cancelled at any time. Participants do not pay for the service; however, they agree to cooperate with AEC in gathering data for the tests.

The BPL network consists of five "cells." A cell is a group of homes served by a backhaul connection point. In this case, the backhaul connection points use wireline T-1 connections. During the period of this report, AEC provided BPL service to 53 trial customers. Approximately two-thirds of the facilities are deployed overhead and one-third underground.

Each cell consists of a BPL modem at the backhaul connection point, BPL modems acting as repeaters at points between the backhaul connection point and the end user, and a BPL modem within the premises of the end-user, plugged into a wall outlet and connected to their personal computer generally with an Ethernet cable. Network management is done via software provided by Main.net and operated by Big River.

II. Customer Acceptability Testing

Over nearly two years of operation, the system has experienced few technical or operational problems. The Cape Girardeau region is prone to snow, rain, thunderstorms and high winds, yet these weather conditions have not had an adverse impact on the system. During the period of this report, there was only one system outage and that was due to the failure of a router, not to a failure of BPL equipment *per se*.

The cumulative end-user customer acceptability test results continued to be positive. Trial customers experienced broadband service in the range of 300 to 800 kbps, both upstream and downstream. Customer feedback has been positive and the most common inquiry has been when the system will become commercially available to non-trial participants.

III. BPL Emissions Testing

Field Testing

In April, 2004, AEC was informed that Commission personnel were onsite in Cape Girardeau conducting field tests and looking for interference of the nature described by the National Association for Amateur Radio in comments filed with the FCC in ET Docket 03-104. At the conclusion of these tests, AEC was informed by the Commission that no BPL signals were observed in the high frequency spectrum.²

² A signal was observed on 13745 kHz, which was identified as the BBC.

Interference Complaints

AEC and Big River have not received any complaints of interference from test participants or third parties during the tests. AEC representatives have spoken with amateur radio operators as well as persons who listen to police scanners and shortwave radios. None of these contacts reported interference.