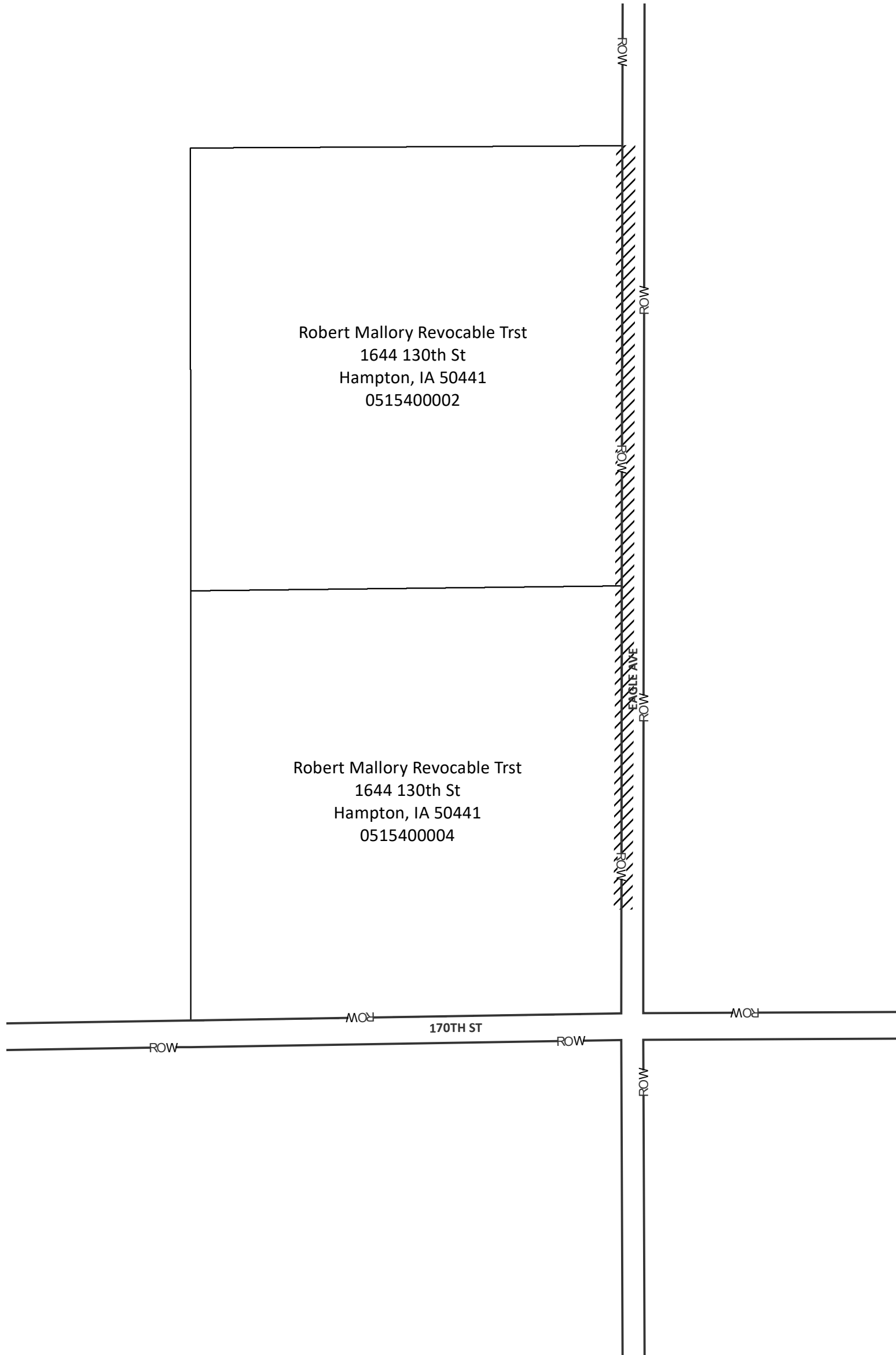


EXHIBIT "A"



THE EAST 57' VEGETATION MANAGEMENT EASEMENT AREA OF THE FOLLOWING PARCEL IN
SEC 15 T92N R22W, FRANKLIN COUNTY, IA



PROJECT:
Jerry L Plagge - Quinn

OWNER:
Robert Mallory Revocable Trst

Total Easement Area: 3.00 acres

EXHIBIT NOT TO SCALE

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT EASEMENT

For good and other valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, **The Robert Mallory Revocable Trust under date of November 4, 1998**, 1644 130th St., Hampton, IA 50441 (“Grantor”), does hereby warrant and convey unto ITC Midwest LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, 27175 Energy Way, Novi, MI 48377 (“Grantee”) a perpetual easement (“Easement”), upon, under, over and across the “Easement Area” within the “Premises” as described below and shown on Exhibit A, together with all the rights and privileges for the full enjoyment or use thereof for the purpose described below.

Premises: The East Half of the Southeast Quarter (E½ SE¼) of Section 15, Township 92 North, Range 22 West of the 5th P.M., Franklin County, Iowa.

Easement Area: The Easement area being the East 57 feet of the Premises.

1. **Grant of Rights.** This Easement grants the following rights:
 - (i) the right to remove, cut, trim, destroy or otherwise control any or all trees, shrubs, bushes, or brush now or hereafter standing or growing upon or within the Easement Area, all at Grantee's sole and absolute discretion;
 - (ii) the right of ingress and egress over and across the Premises for any of the Easement purposes stated herein, by means of existing field roads and lanes, if any, otherwise by the use of the most reasonable and feasible route selected by Grantee in its reasonable discretion, together with the right to construct a temporary road, at Grantee's sole expense, across the route used for ingress and egress, provided that upon the later of Grantee's determination that a temporary road is no longer necessary and Grantor's request to remove, Grantee shall, to the extent reasonably practicable, restore any temporary road area to its condition at the time of entering into this Agreement; and
 - (iii) the right to extend any or all of the rights granted in this Easement to another entity or person.

2. **Damages and Repair.** Upon reasonable notice to Grantee that damage has occurred on the Premises, Grantor and Grantee shall work cooperatively to identify the damage and to determine the scope of repair or replacement work and/or amount of reimbursement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, at no time shall Grantee be responsible for any damages to the extent that such damage results from Grantor's negligence or willful misconduct. Consistent with Iowa Code and as provided in Grantee's most current damages statement, Grantee shall:
- (i) re-grade, repair and restore, at Grantee's sole expense, any portions of the Premises damaged by Grantee in the exercise of any of Grantee's rights in this Easement;
 - (ii) repair or replace at Grantee's sole expense any property damaged, including but not limited to any actual damage done to drain tiles or other farming equipment (collectively referred to as "Equipment") caused by Grantee's exercise of any of Grantee's rights under this Easement. In lieu of the foregoing, Grantor may elect to undertake such repair or replacement of the Equipment and Grantee shall reimburse the Grantor for the actual and reasonable cost of such repair or replacement; and
 - (iii) upon Grantee's completion of construction, operation, maintenance, repair, reconstruction or use of its overhead electric and telecommunications line or lines, consisting of poles, towers, crossarms, insulators, wires, guy wires, anchors and other necessary fixtures, equipment and construction for transmitting electricity, communications and all corporate purposes (the "Electric Lines"), Grantee shall reimburse Grantor, or the owner of the crops if different from the Grantor, for the value of any crops damaged by Grantee's exercise of any of Grantee's rights under this Easement.
3. **Structures, Trees, Permitted Fences.** Grantor shall not erect any buildings, structures or other objects, permanent or temporary, (collectively referred to herein as "Structures") upon the Easement Area, unless (i) such Structures do not result in a ground or other clearance of less than the minimum requirements specified by the National Electrical Safety Code and any other applicable laws or regulations or other codes in effect from time to time, and (ii) Grantor obtains the prior express written consent of Grantee. Grantor further agrees not to plant any trees within the Easement Area without prior express written consent from Grantee, nor to perform any act which will interfere with or endanger the Electric Lines.

Grantee may remove, at its sole discretion, any existing Structures from the Easement Area. In addition, Grantee may remove, at its sole discretion, any prohibited future Structures from the Easement Areas without prior notice and without responsibility for any damage that occurs as a result of such removal. In the event a fence currently exists within the Easement Areas as of the date of this Easement (each, a "Permitted Fence"), Grantee may: (1) install and maintain a gating system in the Permitted Fence, of Grantee's choice, in order to obtain access to the Easement Area for the purposes of construction and maintenance of the Electric Lines; and (2) cause such Permitted Fence to be removed as Grantee deems necessary provided that Grantee restores such Permitted Fence to substantially the same condition as it existed prior to removal.

4. **Public Improvements.** Grantor further reserves the right to dedicate and have or permit to be improved, maintained, and used for the purposes of streets, curbs and gutters, sewers, water and underground utilities and pipelines other than field tiles/drainage

apparatuses for farming (hereinafter called "Public Improvements"), the portion of said Easement Area not occupied by the structures supporting Grantee's electric system, provided that said Public Improvements do not in the opinion of Grantee impair the structural or electrical integrity of, or ability to, maintain said electric system or materially alter the existing ground elevations; and provided further that all such Public Improvements shall not result in a ground or other clearance of less than the minimum requirements specified by the National Electrical Safety Code and any other applicable laws or regulations or other codes in effect from time to time. Grantor, its agents or successors must submit plans of Public Improvements or other installations within the Easement Area for review, compliance, and written consent by Grantee prior to installation of the proposed Public Improvements.

5. **Representations and Warranties.** Grantor represents and warrants to Grantee that it is the sole owner(s) of the Premises; that it holds the Premises by title in fee simple; that it has the full authority and power to grant the Easement to Grantee; and that the Premises are free and clear of all liens, encumbrances, claims and charges (including, but not limited to, judgment liens, judicial liens, mechanic's liens, harvester's liens, miner's liens, landlord's liens, attorney's liens, tax liens, and special assessments). Grantor covenants to warrant and defend the Premises and Easement against any liens and the lawful claims of all persons asserting, claiming or having any liens. Grantor hereby relinquishes all rights of dower, homestead and distributive share in and to the Easement.
6. **Integration/Severability.** It is agreed and understood that this Easement contains all agreements, promises and understandings between Grantor and Grantee and that no verbal or oral agreements, promises or understandings shall be binding upon either Grantor or Grantee in any dispute, controversy or proceeding at law, and any addition, variation or modification to this Easement shall be void and ineffective unless made in writing signed by the Grantor and Grantee. In the event any provision of the Easement is found to be invalid or unenforceable, such finding shall not affect the validity and enforceability of the remaining provisions of this Easement. The failure of either party to insist upon strict performance of any of the terms or conditions of this Easement or to exercise any of its rights under the Easement shall not waive such rights and such party shall have the right to enforce such rights at any time and take such action as may be lawful and authorized under this Easement, in law or in equity..
7. **Captions.** The captions contained in this Easement are inserted for convenience only and are not intended to be part of the Easement. They shall not affect or be utilized in the construction or interpretation of the Easement.
8. **Governing Law.** This Easement and the performance thereof shall be governed, interpreted, construed and regulated by the laws of the State of Iowa.
9. **Limited Use/Non-Use.** Limited use or non-use of the rights granted herein shall not prevent later use to the full extent herein conveyed.
10. **Perpetual Conveyance.** This conveyance shall be permanent, shall run with the land and shall be binding upon the parties' successors, personal representatives, heirs, and assigns.
11. **Right of Cancellation.** Grantor shall have the right to cancel this Easement by mailing to Grantee a notice of cancellation by certified mail, with return receipt requested, to Grantee's principal place of business. Said notice must be received by Grantee within seven (7) days, excluding Saturday and Sunday, of the date of this agreement Grantor acknowledges that by signing this Easement, it has been notified by Grantee of its right to cancel this Easement and acknowledges receipt from Grantee of a duplicate copy of the "Notice of Cancellation." Grantee agrees that it will not record this agreement until after

the cancellation period has expired. This right of cancellation may be exercised only once for this transmission line project.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Grantor has executed and delivered this agreement and the agreement shall be dated as of the date of Grantor's execution of the agreement.

GRANTOR:

Print: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____

Print: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____

STATE OF _____)
)ss:
COUNTY OF _____)

This instrument was acknowledged before me on this ____ day of _____, 20__ by

as _____
of The Robert Mallory Revocable Trust under date November 4, 1998.

STATE OF _____)
)ss:
COUNTY OF _____)

This instrument was acknowledged before me on this ____ day of _____, 20__ by

as _____
of The Robert Mallory Revocable Trust under date November 4, 1998.