

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

**MISSOURI FARM BUREAU FEDERATION'S
REMAND STATEMENT OF POSITION**

COMES NOW the Missouri Farm Bureau Federation (“Missouri Farm Bureau”) and for its Remand Statement of Position in this case, states as follows:

POSITIONS

- 1. Does the evidence establish that the Commission may lawfully issue to Grain Belt Express Clean Line LLC ("Grain Belt") the certificate of convenience and necessity (“CCN”) it is seeking for the high-voltage direct current transmission line and converter station with an associated AC switching station and other AC interconnecting facilities?**

No. Missouri Farm Bureau’s position is that Grain Belt Express Clean Line LLC (“Grain Belt”) is a consortium of private investors. It is a business venture that does not merit certification by the Missouri Public Service Commission because it is a private business serving purely private interests. Neither its purpose nor the potential benefits to Missouri citizens enumerated by Grain Belt justify the authorization to exercise eminent domain power. Moreover, the potential benefits are outweighed by the concerns expressed by many of Missouri Farm Bureau’s members along with hundreds of others who participated in the Commission’s local public hearings and submitted comments in

opposition to the project. There is no new evidence submitted by any party since the remand of this matter that has changed the status of the proposed project from that of a private project the proposes to exercise eminent domain power for private profit and private interests.

2. Does the evidence establish that the high-voltage direct current transmission line and converter station for which Grain Belt is seeking a CCN are “necessary or convenient for the public service” within the meaning of that phrase in section 393.170, RSMo.?

No. The evidence does not show that there is a legitimate need or demand for the few services that Grain Belt now proposes to provide within Missouri, and the Grain Belt project is therefore neither “necessary or convenient.”

The evidence set forth in the original hearings in this matter, and the evidence submitted so far on remand, both demonstrate that the proposed project fails on all five points of the *Tartan* test: there is no need for the proposed line, Grain Belt is unqualified and financially incapable of completing the project, the project is not economically feasible, and the project does not promote the public interest.

3. If the Commission grants the CCN, what conditions, if any, should the Commission impose?

For the reason set out in its response to Issue 1 and 2 above, Missouri Farm Bureau does not believe that the Commission should grant a CCN to Grain Belt.

However, if the Commission does grant a CCN, Missouri Farm Bureau believes that the CCN should contain a condition prohibiting Grain Belt from exercising eminent domain for the project. Missouri Farm Bureau is also supportive of the conditions that the Commission's staff set forth in the original proceedings in this matter, both as to conditions to which Grain Belt has agreed and has not agreed.

4. If the Commission grants the CCN, should the Commission exempt Grain Belt from complying with the reporting requirements of Commission rules 4 CSR 240-3.145, 4 CSR 240-3.165, 4 CSR 240-3.175, and 3.190(1), (2) and (3)(A)-(D)?

At this time, Missouri Farm Bureau takes no position on this issue. However, Missouri Farm Bureau reserves the right to take a position after hearing and considering all of the evidence in the upcoming remand hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

HADEN & HADEN LLC



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify the copies of the foregoing have been e-mailed to all parties on the official service list for this case on this 13th day of December, 2018.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brent E. Haden". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brent" and last name "Haden" being more legible than the middle initial "E.". The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

Brent E. Haden