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STATE OF MISSOURI  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Local Public Hearing

December 8, 2016  
Marceline, Missouri  
Volume IV

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 ) File No. EA-2016-0358  
Voltage, Direct Current Transmission )  
Line And An Associated Converter )  
Station Providing An Interconnection )  
On The Maywood-Montgomery 345kv )  
Transmission Line. )

JUDGE MICHAEL BUSHMANN, Presiding  
REGULATORY LAW JUDGE

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Steven Stoll  
Commissioner Scott Rupp

REPORTED BY: Monnie S. Mealy, CCR, CSR, RPR  
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A P P E A R A N C E S

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: We're on the record.

3 Good afternoon. This is the December 8th, 2016,  
4 and we're in Marceline, Missouri.

5 The Missouri Public Service Commission has  
6 set this time for a local public hearing in the  
7 case captioned In the Matter of the Application of  
8 Grain Belt Express Clean Line, LLC, for a  
9 Certificate of Convenience and Necessity  
10 Authorizing it to Construct, Own, Operate, Control,  
11 Manage and Maintain a High Voltage Direct Current  
12 Transmission Line and Associated Converter Station  
13 Providing Interconnection of the Maywood-Montgomery  
14 345 KV Transmission Line. The File Number is  
15 EA-2016-0358.

16 My name is Michael Bushmann. I'm the  
17 Regulatory Law Judge presiding over this hearing.  
18 Here with me are Commissioners Steve Stoll and  
19 Scott Rupp. Commissioner Stoll, would you like to  
20 make any comments?

21 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Just briefly. I want  
22 to welcome everybody here. And just to let you  
23 know that, obviously, we're here to hear your  
24 comments and concerns about the case before us.

25 All Commissioners couldn't be here today.

1 Some will be here -- not here, but at all the  
2 public hearings next week. We have everything  
3 that's being written down.

4 And there will be a transcript of all the  
5 proceedings, and we do look through those if we are  
6 unable to attend the local public hearing. So,  
7 again, thanks for coming, and I look forward to  
8 your comments.

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: At this time, I'll take  
10 entries of appearance. For Grain Belt Express  
11 Clean Line?

12 MR. HARDEN: Joshua Harden.

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: For Commission staff?

14 MR. WILLIAMS: Nathan Williams.

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Office of Public Counsel?

16 MR. OWEN: James Owen.

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Missouri Land Owners  
18 Alliance?

19 MR. AGATHEN: Paul Agathen. For the  
20 record, Judge, I'm representing four other clients  
21 here as well.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. And Show Me  
23 Concerned Land Owners?

24 MR. LINTON: David Linton.

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would Counsel for any of

1 the other Intervenors present please make your  
2 entry of appearance now. Doesn't seem to be any.

3 As an introductory matter, I'd like to  
4 suggest that everybody that has a cell phone make  
5 sure that it's on silent, please, so that we don't  
6 have any interruptions during the hearing.

7 Before giving any testimony, I would like  
8 to provide you with some information about why the  
9 Commission is holding this public hearing.

10 The Commission has already scheduled an  
11 evidentiary hearing for March of next year to take  
12 evidence regarding Grain Belt Express' application.

13 We have also set hearings for the counties  
14 that are affected by the proposed transmission line  
15 to give members of the public a chance to state  
16 their support or opposition to the project, and  
17 that's the purpose of today's hearing.

18 For those who would like to provide  
19 testimony today, I'm going to call the names on the  
20 sign-up sheet. And when I call your name, please  
21 come forward to the podium. I'll put you under  
22 oath and ask you to state your name and where you  
23 live, and then you can offer your comments to the  
24 Commission.

25 The Commission has established some ground

1 rules for this hearing. We try to give everybody a  
2 chance to provide testimony within a reasonable  
3 period of time.

4 A person can only testify at one hearing.  
5 So if you testify at the hearing and your name  
6 appears on the sign-up sheet at a later hearing,  
7 you will not be called to testify again.

8 Your testimony is limited to five minutes  
9 per person. I'll have a timer next to me that will  
10 help keep track of the time and will give you a  
11 warning if your time is up.

12 If you haven't finished your comments, you  
13 can submit all of your comments in writing or by  
14 calling the Commission. The Commission staff is  
15 available at the front and they'll be able to give  
16 you some information on how to do that. You can't  
17 donate your time to another witness who has run out  
18 of time.

19 The Commissioners won't be able to answer  
20 any of your questions today because they have to  
21 remain impartial until after the evidentiary  
22 hearing.

23 If you have any questions, please address  
24 those to the Commission staff in the front or the  
25 representatives of the company.

1 In order for Commission staff to have  
2 sufficient time to set up for another hearing that  
3 we have this evening, this hearing will end no  
4 later than 4:00. And I hope we don't have to go  
5 that long.

6 My final request is to please be polite  
7 and courteous to all people that testify today and  
8 treat them as you would like to be treated.

9 The first name that I have on the sign up  
10 sheet is Carol Ross. Ms. Ross, come forward,  
11 please. Raise your right hand.

12 CAROL ROSS,  
13 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
14 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

15 TESTIMONY OF CAROL ROSS

16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
17 and spell your last name?

18 MS. ROSS: My name is Carol Judson Ross.  
19 The last name is spelled R-o-s-s.

20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

21 MS. ROSS: I live in Brunswick, Missouri,  
22 Chariton County.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

24 MS. ROSS: Honorable Commissioners, I  
25 live, along with my husband, on a farm that has

1 been in my family and continuously lived on for 170  
2 years.

3 My husband and I were both employees in  
4 Thomas Hill Power Plant, my husband for over 25  
5 years as Electrical Department Superintendent for  
6 the majority of that time, myself for over 15 years  
7 as an Operator generating electricity.

8 I'm also proud to be an American where a  
9 company can be formed and make a profit. However,  
10 I object to a company that wants to make a profit  
11 by taking away land from unwilling landowners.

12 This company -- this Clean Line Energy is  
13 trying to sell this project as green. Taking in  
14 consideration all of the resources that are mined,  
15 the processing that goes into all of the components  
16 necessary, I wonder how green it is.

17 Of concern to me, especially today, is the  
18 fact that it covers many acres, farm lands,  
19 timbers, wetlands. A special concern is the  
20 neighboring acres where the landscape can be  
21 obstructed, possibly the use obstructed, and they  
22 receive no compensation. The value of the farm  
23 land or other land will decrease.

24 Operating farm machinery around a power  
25 line is both hazardous to people and equipment.



1 Clean Line has stated that they will drop 500  
2 megawatts in the State of Missouri. Power is  
3 amount over time. So is this 550 megawatts for ten  
4 hours? Ten megawatts for 50 hours? Is this 500  
5 just a number to make it sound big?

6 Because when they say a 4,000 megawatt  
7 line, multiplied by 24 hours, they have for sale  
8 96,000 megawatt hours in one day's time. So the  
9 500 number just really has not much meaning.

10 The cost of electricity also includes  
11 maintenance of the distribution grid. By making  
12 only one access to this line that crosses three  
13 states, they're precluding other utilities from  
14 using this transmission line.

15 It's solely to take cheap Kansas power and  
16 put it into a market out east where they can  
17 generate large profits.

18 With that being said, in my opinion, this  
19 project is neither convenient nor necessary for the  
20 residents of the State of Missouri. I feel it  
21 would be a gross misuse and abuse of the power of  
22 eminent domain to use it for this project. Thank  
23 you very much for allowing me to state my opinion.

24 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your  
25 testimony.

1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Laura Lemon?

2 LAURIE LINNEMAN,

3 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
4 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

5 TESTIMONY OF LAURIE LINNEMAN

6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
7 and spell your last name.

8 MS. LINNEMAN: Laurie, Linneman. That's  
9 L-i-n-n-e-m-a-n.

10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

11 MS. LINNEMAN: Salsbury, Chariton County.

12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

13 MS. LINNEMAN: Mr. Chairman, Members of  
14 the Commission, my husband, Darin, and I purchased  
15 the farm we live on shortly after high school over  
16 30 years ago.

17 Over that period of time, we built a home  
18 and a nice farming operation. And when I say built  
19 a home, I mean that literally. My husband and his  
20 dad built our home.

21 We've lived there with our three children.  
22 This transmission line that's proposed to be built  
23 is within 500 feet of our home. And it will cut  
24 directly through the heart of our land splitting  
25 the pasture right down the middle.

1           Our home was strategically built so we  
2 would have a great view of our land from our back  
3 yard. This eyesore would ruin it being seen  
4 directly out our back door taking out half the  
5 trees on our property. All we would see are  
6 enormous towers and power lines.

7           While the possibility of eminent domain is  
8 scary and the sight and convenience of this power  
9 line would be devastating, our main concern are the  
10 health risks.

11           Our youngest son, Dustin, had a kidney  
12 transplant when he was just a baby, and he is on  
13 multiple immunosuppressant drugs. He's taking over  
14 ten different medications every day three times a  
15 day, and he will for the rest of his life as well  
16 as monthly and multiple trips to the doctor.

17           This alone compromises his health. There  
18 is a multitude of research studies that talk about  
19 the negative effects of electromagnetic fields on  
20 one's health, but these have been ignored.

21           We are submitting several of these  
22 articles for your information. For example,  
23 researchers found that children living within 650  
24 feet of power lines had a 70 percent greater risk  
25 for leukemia than children living 2,000 feet away

1 or more.

2 Several studies have identified exposure  
3 to extremely low frequency electric magnetic fields  
4 as a potential risk factor for neuro-degenerative  
5 diseases.

6 According to the National Council on  
7 Radiation Protection, there is no safe way to block  
8 MFs, and the only protection is distance from the  
9 source.

10 Hundreds of well-researched medical and  
11 scientific studies have revealed many kinds of  
12 increased health risks, including leukemia, many  
13 other cancers, Alzheimer's, nervous system  
14 disorders, miscarriages and birth defects, immune  
15 system deficiencies and heart disease, just to name  
16 a few.

17 We are not willing to let our son be the  
18 guinea pig for this unnecessary monstrosity. He  
19 would most definitely be at a higher risk because  
20 of his immune system being compromised, and even  
21 healthy people living within a close distance would  
22 be at risk.

23 We also have a cattle operation with 50  
24 percent of our herd being located on this farm.  
25 The power line would put the pasture -- or the

1 power line would obstruct the pasture where this  
2 herd grazes.

3 Scientific research has indicated a  
4 decrease in milk production and low birth weights  
5 of calves where the herd is located near a high  
6 voltage transmission line. It has also been cited  
7 that cattle will not cross beneath a power line  
8 high voltage.

9 This transmission line is also proposed to  
10 cross the property that we rent and also have  
11 cattle on. Our cattle operation is a large part of  
12 our annual income, and this would greatly hinder  
13 this part of our business.

14 We have nowhere else to relocate these  
15 cattle. We will be forced to leave our home and  
16 our farm which we have worked so hard to build into  
17 something successful.

18 This power line will enormously decrease  
19 the value of our lands, and we cannot, in good  
20 conscious, sell our home to someone without  
21 divulging the potential health risks and decreased  
22 value of the property.

23 Therefore, we are looking at a huge loss  
24 in assets. And the very small, insulting  
25 compensation plan that Clean Line has proposed will

1 not even put a dent in our loss.

2 Simply put, we do not want to be forced  
3 out. And at this point, we have no idea where we  
4 could go. It is our hope to pass this land onto  
5 our kids and our grandkids. That was our dream.

6 Please do not allow the private company to  
7 come in and crush what we have worked so hard for  
8 for an unnecessary, unwanted, unsolicited service.  
9 Please show your concern for the families living  
10 along this proposed route and put their health  
11 above the private company's monetary gain.

12 Allowing them access like this would only  
13 open the door for countless numbers of other  
14 private companies wanting to do the same. I urge  
15 you to deny Grain Belt Express. Thank you.

16 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Mike Hubsky.

18 MIKE HUBSKY,  
19 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
20 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

21 TESTIMONY OF MIKE HUBSKY

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state  
23 your name and spell your last name?

24 MR. HUBSKY: Mike Hubsky, H-u-b-s-k-y.

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

1 MR. HUBSKY: North Kansas City, Missouri.

2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

3 MR. HUBSKY: I'm here -- we represent Bar  
4 Electric. We've been a Missouri-based contractor  
5 since 1954. We built transmission lines and  
6 substations like this all across the United States.

7 We have about 600 people working here in  
8 the Missouri area, 400 in Kansas City and 200 in  
9 St. Louis.

10 For us, this is a chance to bring our  
11 workers back from California, Maine, Maryland, all  
12 the other places back to Missouri to actually do  
13 the work.

14 We see about 1,300 jobs out of this, good  
15 paying jobs. We train people so they can go on in  
16 the future and work in the industry in other areas  
17 and bring money back into Missouri.

18 When we go on a piece of -- a person's  
19 property, we treat it as our own because a lot of  
20 the time our linemen and journeymen actually do own  
21 property and they treat it like they would their  
22 own.

23 And the more we destroy something, the  
24 more we have to clean up so it costs us more. So  
25 it's an incentive for us to keep it clean and keep

1 the owner happen, the property owner, as we're  
2 doing the work.

3 We have our main office in Kansas City.  
4 You guys are welcome to come look at it see what we  
5 do. We can answer any questions you guys might  
6 have about transmission lines, substations and how  
7 business is done, right of-ways we put in.

8 We see this as a great opportunity for  
9 local suppliers, gravel suppliers and others in the  
10 local area to create more business for them. Thank  
11 you.

12 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

13 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Thank you.

14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Justin  
15 Pollard.

16 JUSTIN POLLARD,  
17 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
18 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

19 TESTIMONY OF JUSTIN POLLARD

20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
21 and spell your last name.

22 MR. POLLARD: Justin Pollard, last name  
23 P-o-l-l-a-r-d.

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

25 MR. POLLARD: Caldwell County, Missouri.



1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

2 MR. POLLARD: All right. Thanks.

3 All right. Let's see here. All right.

4 Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commission, first off,  
5 thanks for holding these meetings. Appreciate the  
6 time out of your day. Obviously, it takes some  
7 time to travel around the state.

8 Since we are limited on time here, I'd  
9 like to go ahead and say that I do want to voice my  
10 opposition to this project of Clean Line and the  
11 proposed Grain Belt Express project, and I ask that  
12 you please deny their application for a Certificate  
13 of Convenience & Necessity. I wanted to get that  
14 on the record since we are short on time.

15 So as I mentioned, I am a resident of  
16 Caldwell County, like many others in opposition to  
17 this project. I've got a lot of concerns.

18 So I'm a third generation farmer. My wife  
19 and I actually have full-time all farm careers. Of  
20 course, we're raising the third generation of this  
21 family farm as well. So time is a precious  
22 commodity for our family as well as others.

23 And I think it's important to be here  
24 today to find the time to come and voice my  
25 concerns because, like I said, this project, we'll

1 talk about it here in a second, but there's a lot  
2 of things that I don't agree with here.

3 I'd also to like to make mention that  
4 there's a lot of people in this town who are in  
5 opposition that have spent a lot of time  
6 sacrificing a lot of time away from their families,  
7 their careers, their friends.

8 Obviously, they've sacrificed monetarily.  
9 And they've also, some of them, sacrificed their  
10 quality of life. And it's all to defend something  
11 that's really theirs and they shouldn't have to  
12 defend.

13 And I think it's important to think about  
14 that during the last application process and this  
15 one as well. Like many people have said, all we  
16 want to do is raise our family in a quiet community  
17 and carve out a living enjoying life.

18 As I mentioned, there's about three things  
19 here. Because time is limited, I'll put them in  
20 three bodies like a lot of people that are opposed  
21 to this project.

22 And it actually directly impacts our  
23 operation in two counties, so Clinton County and  
24 Caldwell County. Like I said, third generation  
25 farmers.

1           The first one is the company, I think it's  
2 no secret, is a private company, private investors,  
3 domestic and probably foreign as well. And,  
4 really, at the end of the day, what they're looking  
5 at doing is pushing the project through to make  
6 money, make millions of dollars.

7           And at the end of the day, they -- they're  
8 looking to make money off of the backs of the  
9 landowners. And at the end of the day, Missouri is  
10 going to look like a mule because we look like an  
11 extension cord in this process.

12           So the other piece of it is that at the  
13 end of the day, a private individual or company  
14 should not be allowed to take my land or threaten  
15 my livelihood. At the end of the day, that's the  
16 bottom line of the first piece of this.

17           The second piece is the negative effects,  
18 the risks that are known and unknown. I think it's  
19 been pretty well-documented that there are safety  
20 risks involved with a project like this.

21           And I don't want to be a crash test dummy.  
22 And the way I look at this is if somebody wants to  
23 build a high voltage DC line that we know almost  
24 nothing about, maybe Clean Line execs need to live  
25 under these for about 75 years, and then I'll take

1 a look at it. The reality is we shouldn't be the  
2 crash test dummy.

3 This is going to cross -- the DC is going  
4 to cross an AC grid I don't know how many thousands  
5 of times. What's that safety factor look like?

6 The other piece of it is -- and this is  
7 where it crosses part of our property -- is it's  
8 going to follow three pipelines. I think you guys  
9 are probably all aware of what happened in Platte  
10 County last week. What happens if one of these  
11 braces on a towers falls and pierces a pipeline?  
12 It's a natural gas pipeline. Okay?

13 At the end of the day, I shouldn't be a  
14 crash test dummy. I don't think anybody here would  
15 say without shadow of a doubt that that couldn't  
16 happen. Okay? You never say never.

17 The last piece of this is how does it  
18 directly affect me? Like I said, it crosses our  
19 operation in two counties. It splits through.

20 It just so happens that in my career, I'm  
21 actually -- I work in Ag. research and development,  
22 and I've spent a fair bit of time working with  
23 technology.

24 It's likely to change going forward. So I  
25 see it on both sides. I see it from the -- from

1 the industry side, and I see it from the farmer's  
2 side.

3 And when you look at where we're going and  
4 the future points to prescription based stuff,  
5 simply basically built by spatial clerks, GISA,  
6 that's a very -- there's lots of words in that  
7 sentence, but the reality of it is that these lines  
8 where they're going to cross operation, not only  
9 mine, but others are going to directly impact my  
10 ability to be -- to be sustainable and to be  
11 competitive in the rural marketplace.

12 The other piece of this is land values.  
13 If you look at land values for the last 20 or 30  
14 years where we've gone from two to \$400 an acre to  
15 six or \$8,000 an acre, that's in 30 years. And I  
16 would say that that's probably been brought down  
17 some even in the recent downturn.

18 But the reality is if I have to go down  
19 30, 60, 90 or a hundred years, I can't -- I can't  
20 guess what it's going to do to me other than I know  
21 it's not going to be a positive piece.

22 And to try to sit here and look at this  
23 project and understand what it's going to do for  
24 me, I think there's lot of negatives there. At the  
25 end of the day, I can't predict it, and it

1 obviously will impact my competability.

2 So, again, I want to basically ask you to  
3 deny the Grain Belt Express application. Thank you  
4 for your time.

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

6 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Stacy McKenney.

8 STACY MCKENNEY,  
9 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
10 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

11 TESTIMONY OF STACY MCKENNEY

12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
13 and spell your last name.

14 MS. MCKENNEY: Stacy McKenney,  
15 M-c-K-e-n-n-e-y.

16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

17 MS. MCKENNEY: Clarksville, Missouri.

18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

19 MS. MCKENNEY: I work at a saw mill here  
20 in Missouri. We buy and invest in timber and logs  
21 from loggers and landowners in Missouri to build  
22 products that protect and preserve agriculture  
23 lands in the process of developing transmission  
24 line projects.

25 I know firsthand landowners' loyalty to

1 protect it, and soil compaction is avoided when  
2 proper equipment is used. I, along with  
3 approximately 30 other people employed at our  
4 location could benefit from this project along with  
5 the MFA drivers that delivers us fuel, the loggers  
6 we buy logs from, employees we buy parts from,  
7 Orschelen's employees where we buy supplies,  
8 Missouri land owners that we buy timber from, and  
9 it's projects like this that is keeping their  
10 timber at a good value.

11 And I could go on and on. It's these  
12 types of projects that keeps us employed by  
13 business owners.

14 I know one of our major expenses at the  
15 sawmill is our electricity. So we could benefit  
16 from cheaper electricity, and I, as a Missouri  
17 resident, support Clean Line as I would like the  
18 benefit of cheaper electricity. Thank you.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Deb Long.  
20 Deb Long?

21 MS. LONG: I'm sorry. I couldn't hear  
22 you.

23 DEB LONG,  
24 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
25 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

1 TESTIMONY OF DEB LONG

2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
3 and spell your last name.

4 MS. LONG: Deb Long, L-o-n-g.

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where are you from?

6 MS. LONG: Brunswick.

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

8 MS. LONG: I agree with everything that  
9 has been said, and I won't make you listen to it  
10 again.

11 There are a couple things that -- that I  
12 do wonder that has not been stated. And one of  
13 those is what if this project does come through?

14 I understand that there's short-term  
15 benefits for employment and this, that and  
16 whatever. But if it does go through, these towers  
17 are on our property forever.

18 And if Clean Line has 15 LLCs and they can  
19 sell it to another company, then when this  
20 technology becomes obsolete, then who takes those  
21 towers down? And how are we to hold them  
22 accountable?

23 With the pipelines, which we have three on  
24 our property, and there's concern on that, too,  
25 because they are too close. It's 300 feet from our



1 house.

2 But my biggest concern that has not been  
3 shared is, yes, there's short-term benefits. But  
4 in the long-term, there are some really big  
5 obstacles.

6 When you look at -- and I tried to find  
7 the -- the article, 56 cubic yards of concrete per  
8 tower, whose responsibility is it to take those out  
9 and off your land when it's all done? I appreciate  
10 your time. Thank you.

11 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Larry  
13 Pollard?

14 LARRY POLLARD,  
15 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
16 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

17 TESTIMONY OF LARRY POLLARD

18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
19 and spell your last name.

20 MR. POLLARD: Larry Pollard,  
21 P-o-l-l-a-r-d.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live, sir?

23 MR. POLLARD: Chariton County, Missouri.

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

25 MR. POLLARD: I'm a resident of Chariton

1 County, Missouri. I support the Clean Line  
2 project. My testimony is mostly from a green view.

3 There is or will be testimony supporting  
4 positive economic values for Chariton County in the  
5 State of Missouri. I won't even address those  
6 items in more depth.

7 But I will count out -- point out that  
8 this line offers an annual tax revenue for Chariton  
9 County of \$1.5 million in the projections they  
10 have. That's significant and represents about 10  
11 percent of the County budget for those type of  
12 things, public schools, roads and bridges, the  
13 health, the health care, senior citizens and that  
14 sort of thing. So it's a pretty significant amount  
15 of economic value for Chariton County.

16 The cost of energy has been a problem  
17 since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution in  
18 1960. We like those benefits. Things were easily  
19 ignored and written off. A few times we reversed  
20 the roles, but it continued the way the economy  
21 we're in was needed.

22 In the beginning, we didn't know the  
23 environmental health trade-off. When we compare  
24 the -- compare the benefits of those trade-offs, we  
25 reach a point in our history where we cannot

1 continue freely trading our environmental health as  
2 to generate and continue fossil burning. It's time  
3 to recognize that of those fossil fuels.

4 I support the Clean Line project related  
5 to my county and my state divorce themselves of  
6 independent fossil energy, be they foreign or  
7 domestic.

8 I want to take -- set aside time just a  
9 little bit as I remind you again of the  
10 environmental degradation we've historically dealt  
11 with.

12 I mention air contaminants. Think of the  
13 respiratory health issues, cardiovascular illness,  
14 pneumonias, acute bronchitis and asthma. Don't we  
15 notice in the news the smoke and the face masks in  
16 China? They are neither natural nor cosmetic  
17 leaks.

18 They are caused by humans oxidizing fossil  
19 carbons. There is a good figure -- I'd like to  
20 deal with figures that is hidden -- deals with the  
21 hidden -- annual hidden costs of health costs to  
22 fossil carbons in the United States.

23 In other words, what is the cost, health  
24 cost, of using fossil carbons in the United States?  
25 It's \$886 billion a year. And I spell that with a

1 capital B here. That's 60 percent of gross  
2 domestic product.

3 Now, that figure, I guess you can play  
4 around with that somewhat. You can put that out  
5 there. I mean, it's a good decrease in domestic  
6 product.

7 Or you can say burning fossil fuels is  
8 causing good things to happen in the health  
9 industry in terms of supporting it.

10 Some information, throw this point out  
11 there, the economics we living in. They cry about  
12 the money going into subsidies related to uneven  
13 inflation.

14 True that it's uneven, but it is for some  
15 of these renewals. It's a subsidy ignored for  
16 money and all the fossil fuels.

17 I'm concerned of the way things cost. A  
18 number of people have put forth the -- climate  
19 related to greenhouse gases and oxidation of fossil  
20 energy. Some people deny it.

21 I say there's sufficient information about  
22 those risks that we don't take the risks to -- to  
23 continue to ignore it until the possible effects of  
24 reckless behavior. And the blatant gamble is  
25 inappropriate. Thank you.

1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir.

2 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Roland Henke.

4 ROLAND HENKE,

5 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
6 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

7 TESTIMONY OF ROLAND HENKE

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
9 and spell your last name.

10 MS. HENKE: Roland Henke, H-e-n-k-e.

11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

12 MR. HENKE: 27955 Woodson Avenue,  
13 Salsbury, Missouri.

14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

15 MR. HENKE: I'm my family's sixth  
16 generation Chariton County resident. We've farmed  
17 all our lives.

18 And the application that is being  
19 presented for you, I strongly oppose that Clean  
20 Line does not get a Certificate of Necessity and  
21 Convenience.

22 It would devastate aspects of our farming  
23 operation. Aerial application on our crops in July  
24 and August of any size is out. The easements will  
25 not allow aerial applications within a quarter

1 mile.

2           So it -- I -- a half-section of my 320  
3 acres is completely of aerial applications for  
4 pharmacides, which is -- which will definitely make  
5 an efficiency -- cut the efficiency down of our  
6 farming operation.

7           Also, and we've heard -- and what we'll  
8 always hear it is the World Health Organization has  
9 classified high voltage line as Class 2  
10 carcinogens. All lives worth saving. Let's not  
11 risk them.

12           Our family legacy does not have room for  
13 unsightly, unhealthy, dangerous land irrigation,  
14 property de-valuation and stories of big money,  
15 bullying their way against all the families of  
16 Missouri.

17           I will quote Thomas Jefferson in a letter  
18 wrote to George Washington in 1787. Agriculture is  
19 our wisest pursuit because it will, in the end,  
20 take care of you most with real wealth, good morals  
21 and happiness.

22           Land is evidence of our faith. Through  
23 land, we see the cycle of life and death. In the  
24 Bible, Ecclesiastes 32 reminds us there is a time  
25 to plant and a time to uproot. And in this way,

1 land is bound up in our most deeply held beliefs.

2 Clean Line employees tried to convince me  
3 to sign easements on numerous locations. And I  
4 stood there with five different Clean Line  
5 employees asking would they raise their children  
6 under or near these lines like the landowners of  
7 Missouri will be forced to do?

8 Every one walked away from me and never  
9 said a word. So I ask the Missouri Public Service  
10 Commission to do the same. Walk away from the  
11 bullies that have infected our lives for the past  
12 four years.

13 And they -- they say they've got something  
14 for everybody. The wind power off the East Coast  
15 is much closer. But even the coastal people who  
16 are -- is a mile away from anything, they don't  
17 want it. They say it cuts down on their -- their  
18 fuel.

19 Well, we have to work and we have to live  
20 around it and raise our families. Just in the  
21 neighboring county, Randolph County, we have -- I  
22 have a good friend that has been raising cattle the  
23 same as our family.

24 He decided to run for the County  
25 Commissioner on one issue, to beat Clean Line. And

1 the incumbent, he was opposed by the voters. He  
2 lost his incumbency. So there's -- there's the  
3 County that the majority spoke.

4 Just like in our past election, we rural  
5 people, we spoke and we spoke big volumes. And  
6 Missouri doesn't need this energy. We've got  
7 plenty of energy out there already.

8 Our coal plants are very efficient. They  
9 -- they're clean, and we're going to lose a lot of  
10 good jobs that is close to the rural areas.

11 And I see I'm running out of time. I  
12 could go on for the rest of the day. But I do  
13 thank you for the opportunity for this, and -- and  
14 thank you all for coming.

15 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Thank you.

16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Christine  
17 Mank.

18 CHRISTINE MANK,  
19 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
20 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

21 TESTIMONY OF CHRISTINE MANK

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
23 and spell your last name.

24 MS. MANK: It's Christine Mank, M-a-n-k.

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You might want to move



1 that microphone down.

2 MS. MANK: Sure.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

4 MS. MANK: Christine Mank, m-a-n-k.

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live at?

6 MS. MANK: I reside in Boone County here  
7 in Centralia, Missouri.

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

9 MS. MANK: Respectfully, I'm asking you to  
10 deny this application. I am a Manager of Ehrhardt  
11 Family Farm, LLC, which resides in Chariton County.  
12 I represent myself and families, my sister Barbara  
13 Fitzgerald and family, Thomas H. Ehrhardt, Jr. and  
14 family and John Ehrhardt.

15 Our family represents a broad spectrum of  
16 people across the country. We are policemen,  
17 social workers, teachers, engineers. I have two  
18 doctors in the family. My husband is family  
19 physician. My sister is a realtor. I'm a social  
20 worker and teacher.

21 And what I want to address is our century  
22 farm -- this timber that is in the direct line of  
23 what's going to happen in the towers is -- since  
24 1835, we have owned property, and it is the timber  
25 except for one logging.

1           We are city dwellers, rural dwellers,  
2   Republicans, Democrats. We're all opposed to this.  
3   Our LLC is very close to where -- where this  
4   property is is very close to the edge of the town  
5   of Salsbury.

6           In fact, it's right on the golf course  
7   there. We have a love of land and beautiful --  
8   these are beautiful old trees, and we've spent time  
9   on this property and we are not vacant land owners.

10          We are very concerned about the land value  
11   decreases, the health concerns to the town, also,  
12   which is very close there. There's still unknowns.  
13   the Safety issues. This is no real benefit to  
14   Missourians.

15          When you get down to the nitty-gritty and  
16   look at the details, what benefit is this to  
17   Missourians? We do not want to log our timber.  
18   This timber has been in the family since my great  
19   great grandfather.

20          The power lines are not conducive to  
21   quality of life that Missourians cherish, the value  
22   and love of land and nature. We all love nature.

23          And I know that there's not a high priced  
24   value to that, but believe me, your quality of life  
25   in the State of Missouri is very much aligned ot

1 nature.

2 And they're suggesting that -- you know,  
3 that we put two towers on this 45-acre plot, which  
4 is, again, very almost on the edge of Salsbury,  
5 Missouri.

6 My other concern basically is that I feel  
7 that it's un-American to force landowners and farm  
8 owners and small businessmen to have this eminent  
9 domain.

10 So I'm requesting respectfully that you  
11 deny this, that you consider the many lives from  
12 the social work point of view, the young and the  
13 old that live here, that will have to live near  
14 this because they can't afford to move. They  
15 really cannot afford to move.

16 There's one elderly friend that she has  
17 spent years on her property. And, again, there's  
18 not a financial value to this, but there's an  
19 emotional value.

20 And she's spent years on this property.  
21 Her husband has passed away. And I think that this  
22 would be so cruel and inhumane. So I thank you  
23 very much for your time today and for letting us  
24 speak our minds.

25 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. David Ausmus.

2 DAVID AUSMUS,

3 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
4 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

5 TESTIMONY OF DAVID AUSMUS

6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
7 and spell your last name.

8 MR. AUSMUS: David Ausmus, A-u-s-m-u-s.

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

10 MR. AUSMUS: I live at Macon, Missouri.

11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

12 MR. AUSMUS: Thank you for having me today  
13 to talk. I work at Shafer, Kline & Warner. It's a  
14 surveying, engineering construction firm. We have  
15 three offices throughout the State of Missouri, and  
16 we employ over 200 employees locally.

17 I'm actually out in the Macon office and I  
18 service out of that office. We provide surveying  
19 and engineering construction services to  
20 municipalities throughout the State.

21 This opportunity for this line will put  
22 our people to work, enable us to hire additional  
23 people to work on this project. We have worked on  
24 pipelines in the past. We understand how to do the  
25 surveying and easement parts of this project.

1           We have helped survey and design and  
2 maintain across the country utilities throughout  
3 the United States. And we're currently in Colorado  
4 working on a project there.

5           Through these experiences, we are  
6 comfortable the project can be completed  
7 efficiently and safely. Also, having to work  
8 closer to counties and municipalities throughout  
9 Missouri, we support this project for the potential  
10 to increase electricity and lower rates for  
11 business and residents.

12           I personally support it for personal  
13 reasons. I live in Macon. We -- my house is all  
14 electric. This opportunity will help reduce the  
15 cost of electricity for me and the citizens of the  
16 -- that I'm serving.

17           This power is cheaper than the power we're  
18 -- currently is underneath contract at this point.  
19 Clean Line have looked at workmans where they go,  
20 cooperatives that provide power to -- to provide  
21 more power to the State of Missouri at a cheaper  
22 price than is currently being done.

23           I used to work for the coal mines.  
24 And with the EPA and the Government and time,  
25 fossil fuels are moving out. You know, electric,

1 all the coal miners are gone, you know, because of  
2 the high sulfa content.

3 This opportunity is bringing clean power  
4 to the State of Missouri for our -- for us now,  
5 and, for the future of our citizens and kids to be  
6 able to continue to provide power cheaply and  
7 clean.

8 This -- the infrastructure and the  
9 long-term of this project is -- you know,  
10 short-term is job creation. The long-term of this  
11 project is the tax break for the counties and for  
12 school districts to help improve their lives as  
13 well as school to do improvements.

14 So I'd like to -- I'd like to support this  
15 project and hope you allow this to occur. Thank  
16 you.

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

18 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Andrew Beck.

20 ANDREW BECK,  
21 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
22 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

23 TESTIMONY OF ANDREW BECK

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
25 and spell your last name.

1 MR. BECK: Andrew Beck, spelled B-e-c-k.

2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live,  
3 sir?

4 MR. BECK: I'm sorry?

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

6 MR. BECK: Kansas City, Missouri.

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

8 MR. BECK: Just real quick. I won't take  
9 much of your time here. I am not from this area,  
10 and I really do appreciate the passion from the  
11 folks that live here.

12 I can say from a -- again, as a contractor  
13 on the job, I can say that my company would benefit  
14 immensely from the jobs created from this -- this  
15 particular project.

16 And I can also say for the folks concerned  
17 about -- along with a person that said there are  
18 things you can do to help minimize soil compaction  
19 of the property, and in some cases increase crop  
20 yield. So that's all I have for you today. Thank  
21 you.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

23 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Scott Hughes.

25 SCOTT HUGHES,

1 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
2 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

3 TESTIMONY OF SCOTT HUGHES

4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
5 and spell your last name.

6 MR. HUGHES: Scott Hughes, H-u-g-h-e-s.

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

8 MR. HUGHES: Wildwood, Missouri.

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

10 MR. HUGHES: Thank you very much for the  
11 opportunity to come before you and provide our  
12 comments on this project.

13 I am here on behalf of the Laborers Union  
14 and the approximately 10,000 men and women in the  
15 State of Missouri who are employed by construction  
16 contractors who do this type of work and -- and a  
17 number of folks who all live along the route of  
18 this project.

19 We support this project because we believe  
20 that it is in the public interest of Missouri and  
21 Missourians for a number of reasons. One of the --  
22 the big reasons is that it will bring new  
23 infrastructure into the State of Missouri that is  
24 needed.

25 That new infrastructure can bring in new



1 types of electricity generated not only outside the  
2 State of Missouri, but, also, inside the State of  
3 Missouri.

4 If you look up in northwest Missouri,  
5 there are two large projects that are currently  
6 ongoing that are employing a lot of local folks.  
7 There's a third one that's on the books. And in  
8 total about three years worth of work up there.

9 Putting this type of infrastructure in  
10 place can open up those new opportunities for our  
11 rural community. And I grew up on a farm in a very  
12 rural part of this state and farmed in and around  
13 high voltage electric transmission lines.

14 The jobs that would be created from this I  
15 guess we'll have the opportunity to openly benefit  
16 our contractors and our folks, but, also, that  
17 money will stay local in those communities.

18 It will be beneficial to the local  
19 businesses, restaurant owners, both Chambers of  
20 Commerce. So I think -- I think it's very positive  
21 and in the public interest.

22 Then, also, the -- the benefits of our  
23 schools from the tax revenues that will come from  
24 those. Again, I came from a rural school, played  
25 football against Marceline right over there.

1           And so I understand that the -- you know, the  
2 things that rural communities and rural schools  
3 have and tax breaks -- the tax dollars can come  
4 from something like this will help those schools  
5 will be beneficial -- will be very beneficial.

6           Again, we support this project. We  
7 believe that it is needed because of -- it brings,  
8 like I said, much needed investment into our  
9 state's infrastructure, our construction grid, low  
10 cost power to this state that -- that otherwise  
11 might not be available.

12           And then it will also have some positive  
13 impacts for jobs for our local community and our  
14 ratepayers. Thank you very much.

15           JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Steve  
16 Thompson. Steve Thompson.

17                                 STEVE THOMPSON,  
18 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
19 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

20                                 TESTIMONY OF STEVE THOMPSON

21           JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
22 and spell your last name for the record.

23           MR. THOMPSON: Steve Thompson,  
24 T-h-o-m-p-s-o-n.

25           JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? Where

1 do you live?

2 MR. THOMPSON: I live in St. Louis.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

4 MR. THOMPSON: I'm here on behalf of  
5 myself and the company I work for. I'm lending my  
6 support to this project. The delivery of clean  
7 energy is very important to our society.

8 On my way up here, I passed the Callaway  
9 County Nuclear Plant. It's been there for quite a  
10 while. The longer that plant sits there, the  
11 closer we become to another --

12 THE COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry. Can you  
13 get closer to the microphone?

14 MR. THOMPSON: Certainly. That's the type  
15 of accident we don't need happening. The  
16 infrastructure put in place for clean energy is  
17 very important and needed in the State of Missouri.

18 The creation of jobs is also good for the  
19 State. The revenues that will be generated from  
20 this line will help most all the counties across  
21 the State that it impacts. This will create more  
22 jobs.

23 That's all I have to say, and thank you  
24 for your time.

25 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

1 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Thank you.

2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Clay Long. Clay long.

3 CLAY LONG,

4 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
5 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

6 TESTIMONY OF CLAY LONG

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: State your name and spell  
8 your last name.

9 MR. LONG: Clay Long, L-o-n-g.

10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

11 MR. LONG: In Brunswick, Missouri.

12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

13 MR. LONG: We purchased our home over ten  
14 years ago. It overlooks the Grand River. The  
15 unobstructed view is what drew our attention to  
16 this property.

17 The real estate description is peace and  
18 serenity abounds. After almost 4,000 sunsets, we  
19 would attest to this. Grain Belt Express would run  
20 directly adjacent to our property following three  
21 underground pipe petroleum and natural gas  
22 pipelines which cross our property.

23 Of these three, one is the largest high  
24 pressure natural gas line in North America,  
25 carrying approximately 1.8 billion cubic feet acre.

1           This line is less than 400 feet from our  
2 back door. The proposed -- proposed HVDC line  
3 would, if located in the center of the proposed  
4 easement, would be 200 feet more or less from this  
5 high pressure line and the above ground above it.

6           The Tall Grass pipeline is not immune to  
7 failure. And neither would the HVDC line be  
8 immune. The potential for a catastrophe would be  
9 off the charts.

10           Clean Line has previously testified that  
11 these lines and towers do not affect property  
12 values. Some even claim they will enhance the  
13 value.

14           This logic defies common sense. I am  
15 confident no real estate agent has ever heard the  
16 words, Find me a home where you can see miles and  
17 miles of high voltage power lines.

18           I would like to submit maps of the  
19 property location as well as a report compiled by  
20 the Missouri Department of transportation project.  
21 The effects of ground voltage or straight through  
22 -- excuse me -- or straight current on  
23 infrastructure caused by high voltage DC  
24 transmission lines.

25           Thank you to for your time and Merry

1 Christmas. We remain steadfast against the Grain  
2 Belt Express line.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. You said you  
4 had something you wanted to submit?

5 MR. LONG: Please. I have two. Location  
6 of my property and this report from the Missouri  
7 Department of Transportation. Three documents.

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: If you would give that to  
9 the court reporter, please. That will be Exhibits  
10 22 and 23?

11 THE COURT REPORTER: 22 through 24.

12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Bruce Inglis.

13 BRUCE INGLIS,  
14 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
15 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

16 TESTIMONY OF BRUCE INGLIS

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
18 and spell your last name.

19 MR. INGLIS: Bruce Inglis, I-n-g-l-i-s.

20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

21 MR. INGLIS: Huntsville, Missouri,  
22 Randolph County.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

24 MR. INGLIS: The proposed line, I'm in  
25 favor. It crosses our -- it will cross our farm.

1 At the reason being I can remember -- I'm probably  
2 one of the few people here that can remember living  
3 without electricity. We got our electricity on our  
4 farm in Salisbury, Missouri, when I was 20 years  
5 old. And before that, on a hot, squeltering a  
6 hundred degrees, no fans, the only fan in the house  
7 was the one my mother made like this to keep the  
8 baby cool. And I can remember that.

9 So to keep our -- our grid modern and with  
10 affordable electricity, I'm in favor of it. And  
11 one of the main reasons, I asked friends and  
12 neighbors why they might be against it. They said,  
13 Well, it's ugly, and I don't want to look at it.

14 I can understand that. But I don't  
15 particularly see anything pretty about a railroad  
16 track or a highway, but we need them. And anyway,  
17 Kansas, Illinois, Indiana -- I realize this is the  
18 Grain Belt transmission line, and I think it is  
19 time for the Show Me state to allow this project to  
20 move forward. Thank you.

21 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Andrew Canody.

24 ANDREW CANODY,

25 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole

1 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

2 TESTIMONY OF ANDREW CANODY

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
4 and spell your last name.

5 MR. CANODY: Andrew Canody, C-a-n-o-d-y.

6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

7 MR. CANODY: I live in Taswell County,  
8 Illinois.

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

10 MR. CANODY: Good afternoon, and thank you  
11 for the opportunity to speak today. I'm a Kansas  
12 Professional Services, an employee-owned  
13 engineering and planning services firm. We have  
14 offices in Kansas, Illinois, Indiana. We're in  
15 support this project as well as Missouri.

16 In addition to the manufacturing and  
17 construction of jobs, transmission lines like Grain  
18 Belt bring hundreds of scientific and engineering  
19 jobs to the area.

20 Our company has been providing engineering  
21 support services for transmission lines and  
22 substations in Missouri and throughout Missouri.  
23 Projects such as this have been essential for  
24 providing a source of work for technical, civil,  
25 structural, water resource engineers, our land



1 surveyors, our environmental science. It keeps  
2 them gainfully employed and paying taxes.

3           There are approximately 30 employees  
4 living and working and residing in the State of  
5 Missouri in fact Missouri employees currently  
6 working with General Electric on the river station  
7 in Oklahoma, Arkansas and Tennessee.

8           Some of the services we've been providing  
9 are subservice investigation, work for transmission  
10 structures.

11           The utilities we've worked with recognize  
12 the value of using engineers who are familiar with  
13 the local geology, and in our case, you have  
14 working relationships with the subcontractors,  
15 drilling firms in Missouri. We use firms from  
16 Missouri and other states, and we'd like to work  
17 with these same firms in Missouri.

18           In addition to the value of the  
19 transmission projects, the money spent on employing  
20 local firms like us -- other firms like us is  
21 reinvested by the employees, our field  
22 representatives, surveyors, engineers, owners of  
23 the gas stations, restaurants, hotels.

24           Regardless sustainability and since a  
25 charter member of Institute Sustainable

1 Infrastructure, ISI was founded by the American  
2 Public Works Association, American Society of Civil  
3 Engineers, American Council of Engineering  
4 Companies.

5 We enhance them to align our projects with  
6 sustainability. Overall, these projects are not  
7 only important to enhance them, but also to my  
8 coworkers, to me and my family. Thank you again  
9 for the opportunity.

10 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Cameron  
12 Scott.

13 CAMERON SCOTT,  
14 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
15 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

16 TESTIMONY OF CAMERON SCOTT

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
18 and spell your last name.

19 MR. SCOTT: Cameron Scott, S-c-o-t-t.

20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

21 MR. SCOTT: Pettis County.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

23 MR. SCOTT: I'd like to thank you the  
24 Commission for giving me the opportunity to speak.  
25 Myself, I am a Missouri lineman, and my father was,

1 and my son is. I have a couple cousins that are  
2 also in line work. So it's in been in our -- our  
3 family for a long time.

4 And I would like to express my support for  
5 this Clean Line project for the reason of the jobs  
6 that it brings to Missouri.

7 I've worked all over the country. I've  
8 seen what it can do for smaller towns with the  
9 restaurants and the gas stations and just local  
10 mechanic shops, auto parts dealers. And I do thank  
11 you for your time.

12 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

13 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Thank you.

14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Warren Brown.

15 WARREN BROWN,  
16 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
17 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

18 TESTIMONY OF WARREN BROWN

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
20 and spell your last name.

21 MR. BROWN: Warren Brown, B-r-o-w-n.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

23 MR. BROWN: St. Clair, Missouri.

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

25 MR. BROWN: So I grew up here in

1 Mid-Missouri, grew up on a small family farm, up in  
2 Rolla where I received my engineering degree and  
3 worked my entire career at Hubbell Power System out  
4 of Centralia, Missouri, just east of here.

5 We manufacture products for the electric  
6 utility industry, transmission, substations,  
7 distribution, infrastructure.

8 And I'm here to support the project today  
9 for two reasons. One is the need. For the first  
10 half of my career, I worked with utilities in the  
11 State of Kansas, so I see a lot of these wind farms  
12 being constructed, and I've seen that really  
13 blossom.

14 But the big issue for Kansas and, really,  
15 the country because it's probably one of the  
16 largest areas of renewable energy that we have is  
17 how we pipe that out.

18 Anybody that's been in western Kansas,  
19 there's not a lot of population, so not a lot of  
20 demand there. And the infrastructure that we have  
21 today just does not have that capability and will  
22 quickly limit us from having that resource. So the  
23 need is there.

24 Clean Line's building this line today  
25 could very well be any other company. The one

1 thing I do want to commend them on is using a DC  
2 line. Thomas Edison, the original invention is the  
3 most efficient way to transmit electricity for long  
4 distances. So to transmit this much energy the way  
5 typical utilities are doing it would have to have  
6 multiple lines, multiple land owners being  
7 impacted, so this is going to limit the footprint  
8 to get this power across the country back to the  
9 population centers and all the benefits that many  
10 of those spoke to.

11 And I also want to speak to the benefit.  
12 With public power systems one thing, again, that  
13 Clean Line has done different than -- than local  
14 utilities here because they haven't looked at this  
15 cost when they've teamed up with suppliers and  
16 manufacturers and partners, they really looked to  
17 try to team up with those that are here local.

18 And on many big transmission projects that  
19 we work with all the time, and it comes down to  
20 very competitive bids where it's price only, and  
21 that opens up the foreign competition. And as the  
22 dollar has gotten stronger here recently, it's  
23 harder and harder to compete.

24 Clean Line took the approach to partner  
25 with us this instance upfront and early on for the

1 project. For us here in Missouri and our Centralia  
2 facilities, we're looking at 65 full-time positions  
3 company-wide. Fifty of those would be here in  
4 Missouri and Centralia. So a huge benefit to us  
5 and local families.

6 We are a union run shop, so these are good  
7 paying jobs, you know, that will support a family.  
8 So definitely it support from that aspect.

9 The gentleman before me is a journeyman  
10 lineman. My brother also received a journeyman  
11 lineman certificate here at the beginning of this  
12 year. So a lot of short-term benefits from a  
13 construction base.

14 In addition to that, somebody mentioned  
15 concrete and the amount of concrete used for  
16 foundations. We're right now talking with Clean  
17 Line and some of their engineering firms to use our  
18 piered systems, again manufactured here in  
19 Missouri, that would screw in foundations and  
20 reduce the need for concrete.

21 These can also be removed in the life of  
22 the project. That would add another 15 jobs to  
23 some -- we're just talk starting to talk about it.  
24 But that is an opportunity that Clean Line is  
25 willing to discuss with us.

1           So for those reasons, I would support the  
2 project. As a person with a family farm, I just  
3 hope that -- as with the landowners here today, I  
4 understand the sacrifice that this project is  
5 asking. And for some of those, that's a major  
6 sacrifice, so let me be the first family to say  
7 thank you for those that will benefit from this  
8 project. Thank you.

9           JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Dennis Van  
10 Dyke.

11                                   DENNIS VAN DYKE,  
12 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
13 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

14                                   TESTIMONY OF DENNIS VAN DYKE

15           JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
16 and spell your last name.

17           MR. VAN DYKE: Dennis Van Dyke, V-a-n  
18 D-y-k-e.

19           JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

20           MR. VAN DYKE: Marceline, Lynn County.

21           JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

22           MR. VAN DYKE: I rise in favor of this  
23 project. I was here today because I'm the Chairman  
24 of this facility. And in order to set it up, I  
25 really had to be here, and I wanted to get some

1 information about this project. I hadn't heard a  
2 lot about it.

3 And the information I've picked up, I  
4 understand from the opposition, their concerns. I  
5 live on a farm, 40 acres west of town here.

6 We have a power line, high voltage power  
7 line, that crosses our property. Our house is  
8 within 400 feet of it. We also have a pipeline  
9 across our property.

10 We've lived with these things for -- well,  
11 we've lived there 35 years, and I hope we don't  
12 show any effects of it, but, you know.

13 I believe that we live in site that  
14 sometimes requires the sacrifice of a few in order  
15 for the -- the betterment of the greater numbers.

16 I know that it is a sacrifice for those  
17 that -- that the power lines will cross. But we  
18 have to have these improvements and infrastructure.  
19 Look at this community, Marceline itself, I've been  
20 very involved with this community over the years.

21 And over the last three years, we've seen  
22 a population shrink here. And everybody in the  
23 area north of I-70, practically every town is  
24 shrinking.

25 Marceline's reason particularly is because



1 of high electricity rates. The high electricity  
2 rates in Marceline have driven -- our population  
3 has shrunk from 2700 in the 2000 census to 2200 in  
4 the last census. And it hasn't changed.

5 We need this cheaper power to help  
6 generate prospective future jobs. I believe that  
7 when an industry is looking to build or locate  
8 somewhere, that's one of the biggest things that  
9 they look at is, What's the cost of energy? And  
10 then what's the availability of that? What's the  
11 availability of manpower?

12 The -- this is an opportunity to get  
13 cheaper power through here, and I believe as the --  
14 as maybe we grow and get jobs in this area, these  
15 kind of -- these kind of projects will either  
16 increase the amount of power that we make available  
17 this area or there will be another one. But it is  
18 necessary to get power cheaper. Thank you.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Thank you.

21 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Don Bruemmer?

23

24

DON BRUEMMER,

25 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole

1 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

2 TESTIMONY OF DON BRUEMMER

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
4 and spell your last name.

5 MR. BRUEMMER: Don Bruemmer,  
6 B-r-u-e-m-m-e-r.

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

8 MR. BRUEMMER: I'm from Jefferson City,  
9 Missouri, Cole County.

10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

11 MR. BRUEMMER: I'm a fourth generation  
12 family farm owner. And I represent the electrical  
13 industry in Central Missouri.

14 I have a transmission line through my  
15 farm, and everything is fine. We live with it.  
16 I'm in favor of this line for the infrastructure  
17 and the jobs that it brings. Thank you for your  
18 time.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Mitch Nordstrom..

22 MITCH NORDSTROM,

23 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
24 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

25 TESTIMONY OF MITCH NORDSTROM

1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
2 and spell your last name.

3 MR. NORDSTROM: My name is Mitch  
4 Nordstrom, N-o-r-d-s-t-r-o-m.

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

6 MR. NORDSTROM: St. Joseph, Missouri,  
7 Henry County.

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

9 MR. NORDSTROM: Thank you for the  
10 opportunity to speak to you guys here today. I  
11 work all over the state and travel a lot, so this  
12 was close and I could stop in.

13 I just wanted to let the PSC know that I  
14 am in favor of the Clean Line project and encourage  
15 you to approve and give approval for this project.

16 I'm a proponent of free energy  
17 infrastructure all the way around. The development  
18 that is going on across this nation has already  
19 provided jobs and is moving us away from harmful  
20 environmental effects of coal and everything else.

21 I'm also an electrician. I'm a wire man.  
22 I do inside construction. And this -- this project  
23 won't necessarily create work for me or any of the  
24 people from my area, but it will create work for  
25 people all across the state of Missouri.

1           The -- the -- the project will provide  
2   quality employment throughout the construction  
3   process and, again, in the maintenance of the  
4   transmission line.

5           Maybe more importantly is I think it will  
6   help position Missouri for economic development as  
7   we move forward. Clean Line and green energy is a  
8   big deal now all across the states.

9           I know with the election, a lot of stuff  
10   going on, we've heard a lot about rights to work  
11   bringing jobs back, keeping America great, making  
12   America great, this, that, and the other.

13           I think by having a reliable sense of  
14   clean energy here in the state, we position  
15   ourselves for economic growth.

16           And I -- I just want to also say that  
17   we've already heard it has -- or it will create  
18   jobs here in Missouri. We heard that a couple  
19   speakers ago.

20           And I also want to say, and the others  
21   before me have said it, I do sympathize with the  
22   land owners that are affected by this project.  
23   But I also want to thank them for their passion and  
24   for their sacrifice should the project be approved.  
25   Thank you. I appreciate the time to speak.

1 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Thank you.

2 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Why don't we  
4 take a short break? We'll be in recess for about  
5 ten minutes.

6 (Break in proceedings.)

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Let's go back on the  
8 record. Before we give any more testimony I  
9 believe, Ms. Linneman, you have an exhibit that you  
10 wanted to provide to the Commission?

11 MS. LINNEMAN: Yes. There are -- I think  
12 there's seven of them.

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay.

14 MS. LINNEMAN: Do you -- okay.

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: That will be Exhibits 25  
16 and numbers will be marked sequentially after that.

17 (Exhibits 25 through 31 were marked for  
18 identification.)

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: The next witness on the  
20 list is Mike Fanning.

21 MIKE FANNING,  
22 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
23 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

24 TESTIMONY OF MIKE FANNING

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: State your name and spell

1 your last name.

2 MR. FANNING: Mike Fanning, F-a-n-n-i-n-g,  
3 from Argyle, Missouri in Maries County.

4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

5 MR. FANNING: I would like to say that I  
6 am in support of Grain Belt Express transmission  
7 line. The reason being is that we have to keep our  
8 electrical infrastructure up to date in the United  
9 States.

10 And don't quote me totally on these  
11 numbers, but I think when I graduated high school  
12 in 1980, there was around 220 million people in the  
13 United States. I think now there's somewhere  
14 around 340 approximately.

15 And we don't want any more power shortages  
16 and start getting the industry back into the United  
17 States. Right now, we don't seem to have that  
18 problem. But before we lost a lot of industry, it  
19 seemed like we was having black-outs quite often.

20 And in stating my case here, however, I do  
21 want to say that I am a landowner, also, and I feel  
22 that the landowners should be fairly and justly  
23 compensated for the easement that's going to be --  
24 that running through their properties if it's --  
25 this deal transpires. So thank you.

1 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Thank you.

2 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Dorothy Boss.

4 DOROTHY BOSS,

5 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
6 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

7 TESTIMONY OF DOROTHY BOSS

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
9 and spell your last name.

10 MS. BOSS: Dorothy boss, B-o-s-s.

11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

12 MS. BOSS: What?

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

14 MS. BOSS: Salsbury, Missouri.

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

16 MS. BOSS: I basically agree with  
17 everything that the others have said in objecting  
18 to the Clean Line being built.

19 I am against the Clean Line because I do  
20 not feel that a private company should be able to  
21 use eminent domain to acquire land that they need  
22 to further their profit.

23 Some people here have talked about the  
24 short-term benefits of having the line come  
25 through, but they do not talk about the long-term

1 effects.

2 And a lot of these effects are negative,  
3 and we don't really know a lot of the effects of  
4 this line. I would like to thank you for the  
5 opportunity to express my opinion and state my  
6 opposition to this line coming through. Thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. David  
10 Emmerich.

11 DAVID EMMERICH,  
12 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
13 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

14 TESTIMONY OF DAVID EMMERICH

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: State your name and spell  
16 your last name.

17 MR. EMMERICH: David Emmerich,  
18 E-m-m-e-r-i-c-h.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

20 MR. EMMERICH: Salsbury.

21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

22 MR. EMMERICH: The Clean Line proposed  
23 across the State of Missouri, I am not really a  
24 hundred percent against. I am against a private  
25 company having the right of eminent domain.



1           A public utility has customers and a  
2 source. Clean Line has no source and no customers.  
3 They have a proposed route through the state. And  
4 when they first proposed this, they were leaving no  
5 electricity in the state of Missouri.

6           A public utility has customers. This  
7 system is private enterprise needing eminent domain  
8 to make their thing work. They can build that  
9 highway, that line, up any highway, right-of-way  
10 without private taking.

11           I served on a Board of the Rural Water  
12 District. Any time we couldn't get an easement, we  
13 went out on the public right-of-way. The  
14 difference is a public right-of-way, we were, the  
15 Water District, responsible for our pipe.

16           On private land, the -- the landowner, if  
17 he cut the line, he had to pay to get it fixed.  
18 All the right of eminent domain has given this  
19 company is the right to take. Thank you.

20           COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

21           JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Butch  
22 McKenzie.

23    BUTCH MCKENZIE,  
24 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
25 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

1 TESTIMONY OF BUTCH MCKENZIE

2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
3 and spell your last name.

4 MR. MCKENZIE: Butch McKenzie,  
5 M-c-K-e-n-z-i-e.

6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

7 MR. MCKENZIE: I live in Keytesville,  
8 Chariton County.

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

10 MR. MCKENZIE: Well, the only thing I do  
11 agree with is big business. But better to have  
12 green line than no line.

13 The coal that we burn has warmed up the  
14 earth. It has already warmed up all over, and it  
15 ain't going to stop until we start changing.

16 I'm here to say we can't be dinosaurs. I  
17 know change is hard, but we're going to have to  
18 bite the bullet and change.

19 The secure line coming through of the DC  
20 line, your car hit by a car with battery in it and  
21 it produces DC -- DC current.

22 I don't know what the big deal is. I've  
23 got it at my house. I've got solar panels that  
24 cover the -- out there by the barn, and it runs my  
25 house. I haven't got a problem with it. I just

1 can't see why people can't just get along and do  
2 it. If we don't change, we're going to -- we're  
3 done. Thank you.

4 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Rick Voss.

6 GREG BOSS,  
7 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
8 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

9 TESTIMONY OF GREG BOSS

10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
11 and spell your last name.

12 MR. BOSS: Greg Boss, B-o-s-s.

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

14 MR. BOSS: Salsbury.

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

16 MR. BOSS: My wife and I are landowners in  
17 Chariton and Randolph County. We are not affected  
18 by this, but we are very much opposed.

19 We have a young son who I hope to take  
20 over the farm someday. If clean line gets granted  
21 the power of eminent domain, what's next? What's  
22 next for him?

23 This not only affects me. It affects the  
24 next generation. And we don't know from here on  
25 out, generation after generation. I mean, I just

1 don't want to have to see him dealing with this  
2 type of thing in years to come.

3 We deal with pipelines on our property.  
4 The one that was put in there two years ago, you  
5 want to talk about a lack of respect for you.

6 Those construction companies have no  
7 respect, absolutely none, for our family, for the  
8 land, the livestock, pets, none. They left the  
9 land in shambles. We're still dealing with the  
10 problems.

11 I can only imagine what this project will  
12 do in and future projects down the road we're not  
13 used to dealing with at this time.

14 I know some say that they are for it.  
15 They don't really care about the land. All they  
16 care about is a few dollars upfront, forget the  
17 land, take the money and run. We're not that way.

18 The route that they are taking on the map,  
19 if you look at it, in Kansas comes from down in the  
20 southern Kansas comes up and around St. Joe area  
21 and drops back down through Mid-Missouri and takes  
22 a northerly turn up the state. And from there on,  
23 I'm not really sure.

24 Why do we have all these extra miles of  
25 line being put in? Mark Lowell (phs.) in his

1 interviewed saying that Salsbury is for clean line.  
2 The mayor of Salsbury has stated Salsbury has taken  
3 no stand on this.

4 If you listen, too, around here, most  
5 people that are for it, they're not affected by  
6 this as it goes across their property. They don't  
7 have to live with this for the rest of their lives  
8 in years to come.

9 All I'm asking you is please deny Clean  
10 Line the power of eminent domain. Thank you for  
11 your time. I appreciate it.

12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Debbie Henke.

13 DEBBIE HENKE,  
14 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
15 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

16 TESTIMONY OF DEBBIE HENKE

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: State your name and spell  
18 your last name.

19 MS. HENKE: Debbie Henke, H-e-n-k-e.

20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

21 MS. HENKE: Salsbury, Missouri, Chariton  
22 County.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

24 MS. HENKE: Mr. Commissioners, like all  
25 residents of Chariton County, this proposed line

1 will go through a mile of our family farm. It's  
2 directly north of our son's home. And of the two  
3 farms it will go through, the first farm was his  
4 home as a teenager. It was his first step in  
5 carrying out the fifth generation of farming in our  
6 family.

7 This is also where we plan to build a  
8 house someday. Well, we've been waiting four  
9 years. They have literally put their life on hold  
10 for four years because this line is in the -- this  
11 is in the direct path of the line for this land.

12 We also have two grandsons which show  
13 great interest in becoming sixth generation of  
14 farmers. Everything we do in our farm is  
15 protecting for the future. We are stewards of the  
16 land. We're the heartland, and we help feed the  
17 world.

18 And I hate to see all these acres and  
19 acres of land not being put to farm use. And right  
20 now, our electricity some of the cheapest in the  
21 state where we live, 16 percent of what they allow.

22 So what kind of future will we have if we  
23 allow private company to force their way by eminent  
24 domain on the land we have worked so hard for all  
25 our lives? How many more companies will follow

1 suit if this line goes through? It won't stop more  
2 from coming. Approval of this line opens a  
3 Pandora's box for eminent domain.

4 I realize that like pipe lines, when they  
5 come through, there are jobs opened up, but not for  
6 our local people. Yes, the restaurants, hotels,  
7 gas stations, that kind of thing. But our local  
8 people -- do not get the jobs. It's usually people  
9 they have brought in that are specifically designed  
10 and taught to do these jobs, so we really don't  
11 gain anything except short-term.

12 And these towers are huge. It's nothing  
13 like has been built before. A lot of these people  
14 talk about living on power lines, but not of this  
15 size.

16 So we really don't know the effects and  
17 how it -- they're going to be taken care of and,  
18 also, in a few years, what happens to them.

19 So I urge you to please deny this line for  
20 the future of farming in this state and my  
21 grandsons' futures. Thank you for your time.

22 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Kurt Bennett.

24 KURT BENNETT,

25 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole

1 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

2 TESTIMONY OF KURT BENNETT

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
4 and spell your last name.

5 MR. BENNETT: Kurt Bennett, B-e-n-n-e-t-t.

6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

7 MR. BENNETT: Salsbury.

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

9 MR. BENNETT: The farm I have that it is  
10 in question as I am the owner is in -- closer to  
11 Keytesville. But I am opposed to this because, you  
12 know, we try to take care of the land. We farm it.  
13 We clean it. We just take care of it.

14 And now they basically want to come in and  
15 put poles on it. Clean up everything. So I just  
16 want to thank you for your time, and I wanted to  
17 state the fact that I was opposed to this.

18 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Thank you.

19 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Mary Ellen  
21 Krippen? Mary Ellen? Steve Edwards?

22 STEVE EDWARDS,

23 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
24 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

25 TESTIMONY OF STEVE EDWARDS



1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: State your name and spell  
2 your last name.

3 MR. EDWARDS: Steve Edwards,  
4 E-d-w-a-r-d-s.

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

6 MR. EDWARDS: Salsbury, Chariton County.

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

8 MR. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman and  
9 Commissioners, I'm opposed to the Grain Belt  
10 Express power line.

11 Some of the reasons are there is currently  
12 a power line that crosses some of the property in  
13 which we own. They are nothing but a nuisance.

14 They are very hard to farm around.  
15 They're destructive to machinery if you happen to  
16 catch one. Add cost and time plus the loss of the  
17 -- I know it's not a large amount, but it's a small  
18 amount of land that is lost.

19 Also, being some of that crosses the  
20 pasture lands, cattle are constantly gathering  
21 around them. And when they gather in place while  
22 after a wet year like this summer, water standing  
23 there, they stand in that, and that makes it even  
24 worse. Then you have problems with foot rot, which  
25 is a cost to the producer. Also, the discomfort to

1 the animal.

2 Another thing that they say is that  
3 they're going to lower our electricity rates. Very  
4 little of the power that's being dropped off in  
5 Missouri. And they, I do not believe, will sell  
6 the electricity cheaper than what the current  
7 companies will do.

8 So, therefore, the savings to the  
9 taxpayers, I believe, is firstly held. For these  
10 reasons, I'm opposed to the proposal. I thank you  
11 for your time.

12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

13 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Thank you.

14 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Kenny Reichert,

16 KENNY REICHERT,

17 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
18 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

19 TESTIMONY OF KENNY REICHERT

20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
21 and spell your last name.

22 MR. REICHERT: Kenny Reichert,

23 R-e-i-c-h-e-r-t.

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

25 MR. REICHERT: Brunswick.

1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

2 MR. REICHERT: I, too, am a  
3 multi-generation farmer. My wife and -- my wife  
4 and I have built our operation around land that is  
5 also owned by my mother, brother and uncle.

6 After the last application was denied,  
7 Clean Line changed the route through those farms to  
8 on the west and continues through them all and  
9 exits on the east.

10 As previous farmers have stated, it will  
11 also affect our farm in our daily operations as we  
12 try to care them out. I ask that you deny the  
13 application. Thank you for your time.

14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Donna  
15 Inglis.

16 DONNA INGLIS,  
17 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
18 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

19 TESTIMONY OF DONNA INGLIS

20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
21 and spell your last name.

22 MS. INGLIS: Donna Inglis, I-n-g-l-i-s.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

24 MS. INGLIS: Randolph County.

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

1 MS. INGLIS: Before I start these prepared  
2 remarks, I want to talk to the lady and everybody  
3 here about the trees. I know something about  
4 losing trees. When Rocket Express came through our  
5 farm, the farm we bought so our children and  
6 grandchildren could hunt and fish on it, they took  
7 out 70 feet by 1500 feet, clear cut it to put the  
8 pipeline in.

9 We shed a few tears. We fought about it.  
10 But you know what? If no one ever stands up to  
11 make progress, progress is never going to happen.

12 Do we need renewable energy in the State  
13 of Missouri? We put it before the voters.  
14 Two-thirds the people that voted said we need more  
15 renewable energy by the year 2020. It's something  
16 that's going to happen. It's something that we  
17 need to happen.

18 And another speaker, and I just want to  
19 make that clear to all of you, said, Well, the land  
20 owners that are in favor of it, they just don't  
21 care.

22 No. That's not correct. We care just as  
23 much about our land as anyone does. But we decided  
24 to take a different tact because we believe in the  
25 future of green energy in our state.

1 I have an article that I will leave with  
2 the stenographer later. On December 1st, 2016,  
3 there was an article in the Moberly Monitor Index.  
4 There was a man that the newspaper got a hold of  
5 that was in favor to block the Green Belt movement.

6 He e-mailed his answers back, and I'd like  
7 to share a couple of them with you. One of his  
8 things was, Okay, well, Grain Belt, they got tax  
9 abatement for property taxes in the State of  
10 Kansas, and they could try for that in Missouri.

11 I'm a native of Kansas. They didn't apply  
12 for anything in my home state. When something like  
13 grain belt goes through, you have a ten-year  
14 abatement on property taxes. Not a choice they  
15 made. A choice that they end up with.

16 The next thing -- oh, he said -- also  
17 said, Well, they might try to do that in the state  
18 of Missouri. I'm not a lawyer. I'm not a legal  
19 eagle. But looked it up. There's no way for them  
20 to do that in the State of Missouri. Not at this  
21 point.

22 Another thing that he brought up as a  
23 reason why we should not allow this project to go  
24 through and that's because if you are close to the  
25 line, maybe over a mile away from the line, you

1 should get financial compensation.

2 We used to live on property on Highway 24.  
3 We had US 24 out the front door. We had a railroad  
4 out the back door. We had a hundred thousand foot  
5 tower within site. We didn't get any compensation  
6 nor did we think that we should nor did we think  
7 that we deserved it.

8 I think one of the greatest fears that we  
9 have today is fear of the unknown. If we can get  
10 past that, then this project will move forward to  
11 benefit us.

12 Things that you, the Commission, said  
13 Grain Belt needed to do. One of them, they needed  
14 to prove to you that this was needed in the state  
15 of Missouri.

16 They now have that. They have customers.  
17 Several municipalities have agreed and want to buy  
18 energy from Grain Belt. In addition to that, they  
19 want to power at least 200,000 homes in the Show Me  
20 state. I think that shows that they're going to be  
21 a benefit to the Show Me state.

22 Then there also is a problem with  
23 landowners, how they're being treated, whether or  
24 not it's going to be fair.

25 Grain Belt has a protocol now. In the

1 protocol, it says that land owners will be treated  
2 fairly, with fair and reasonable compensation, that  
3 they will respect the land and they will be forced  
4 into holding up what they're doing, that they will  
5 be forced into doing what they have said they will  
6 do.

7           There's a lot of angry angst about this.  
8 But maybe we need to step back for just a minute,  
9 take a deep breath and realize that Kansas City  
10 Power & Light and AmerenUE are both for profit  
11 companies. This is not something new. Thank you  
12 for your time.

13           JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

14           COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

15           JUDGE BUSHMANN: Exhibit 32.

16           (Exhibit 32 was marked for  
17 identification.)

18           JUDGE BUSHMANN: I have one more name on  
19 the list. John Bourne.

20   JOHN BOURNE,  
21 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
22 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

23   TESTIMONY OF JOHN BOURNE

24           JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
25 and spell your last name.

1 MR. BOURNE: My name is John Bourne,  
2 B-o-u-r-n-e. I live in Omaha, Nebraska.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

4 MR. BOURNE: Good afternoon,  
5 Commissioners, and thank you for letting me speak  
6 to you today.

7 I'm an international representative the  
8 IBEW based out of Omaha. I'm in charge of  
9 construction for five states, including the great  
10 State of Missouri.

11 We represent over 30,000 IBEW members in  
12 Missouri and in all facets of construction  
13 manufacturing utility and just about anything else  
14 you can think of.

15 Of course, this whole project to us is  
16 about economic development. And it's, of course,  
17 about jobs, not just construction, but all others  
18 in Missouri as the company is trying use local  
19 sourced products and materials as much as they can  
20 across the state from various factories and  
21 manufacturers.

22 Our linemen and line women are trained in  
23 an apprenticeship program in how to install these  
24 systems that you're hearing all the talk about in a  
25 safe and workmanlike manner as well as how to leave



1 as little of a footprint as possible in doing so.

2 The customer demands that we do that.

3 We've installed these DC products many times in the  
4 United States, and it's really not new technology  
5 in any way, shape or form.

6 It is a safe technology. We believe with  
7 the savings and the cost of cheaper power being  
8 brought in that jobs across the state of all types  
9 and the dollars spent on construction as well as  
10 spent during construction is and that this project  
11 is the public economic interest of the state of  
12 Missouri.

13 Thank you for taking your time. Thank you  
14 for listening to all sides of the issue. And I  
15 appreciate it. Thank you.

16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. That's all  
17 the names that I have. Is there anybody who has  
18 not testified or did not testify yesterday that  
19 would like to testify now? Come forward.

20 REBECCA EMMERICH,  
21 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole  
22 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:

23 TESTIMONY OF REBECCA EMMERICH

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name  
25 and spell your last name.

1 MS. EMMERICH: Rebecca Emmerich,  
2 E-m-m-e-r-i-c-h.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

4 MS. EMMERICH: I live in Salsbury,  
5 Missouri.

6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

7 MS. EMMERICH: Okay. I am opposed to this  
8 proposed line for many of the same reasons that  
9 everyone else has spoken against it.

10 I'm with EPA. And something that has not  
11 been brought up is they keep talking about tax  
12 benefits. But if our land prices go down, there  
13 will be a decrease in property taxes, which will  
14 definitely offset any benefit of the taxes that are  
15 brought in. Thank you very much.

16 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Anybody else? Well, I'd  
19 like to thank everyone who participated in today's  
20 hearing. The hearing is now adjourned. We're off  
21 the record.

22 (The proceedings were concluded at 1:55 p.m. on  
23 December 8, 2016.)

24

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF MISSOURI    )  
                              ) ss.  
COUNTY OF OSAGE    )

I, Monnie S. Mealy, Certified Shorthand Reporter,  
Certified Court Reporter #0538, and Registered Professional  
Reporter, within and for the State of Missouri, do hereby  
certify that I was personally present at the proceedings as  
set forth in the caption sheet hereof; that I then and there  
took down in stenotype the proceedings had at said time and  
was thereafter transcribed by me, and is fully and accurately  
set forth in the preceding pages.



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Monnie S. Mealy, CSR, CCR #0538  
Registered Professional Reporter

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