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GRAIN BELT EXPRESS CLEAN LINE ANNOUNCES PROPOSED ROUTE IN MISSOURI
AFTER THREE YEARS OF SEEKING INPUT ON POTENTIAL ROUTES, THE PROJECT MOVES A
STEP CLOSER TO CREATING JOBS, CONSUMER BENEFITS, AND SUPPORTING PUBLIC SERVICES

HOUSTON (March 26, 2014) – Grain Belt Express Clean Line LLC (Clean Line) today released a proposed route in Missouri for the Grain Belt Express project, an approximately 750-mile overhead, direct current transmission line that will deliver low-cost, renewable energy from western Kansas to Missouri and states farther east. The proposed route is the result of an extensive public involvement and routing process, during which Clean Line met with landowners, tenants, conservation and agricultural organizations, elected officials, community leaders, government agencies, and others, recognizing that these stakeholders have valuable insight that should be considered in the routing process. The proposed route includes eight Missouri counties: Buchanan, Clinton, Caldwell, Carroll, Chariton, Randolph, Monroe, and Ralls.

Clean Line began gathering stakeholder input to develop the route in 2011 by holding community roundtable meetings across Missouri. Multiple potential routes were then developed, and landowners across the project area were invited to provide feedback. Since July 2013, more than 1,300 people attended public open houses or submitted routing input online or via telephone. Clean Line is committed to an open, transparent development process that keeps landowners, elected officials, community leaders and the media informed about all facets of the project. “We look forward to continuing to build long-term relationships with landowners as we work to minimize impacts to their land and compensate them fairly for a transmission line easement. Our compensation package includes the option of ongoing annual payments for any structures built on their property,” said Michael Skelly, Clean Line President.

Clean Line gathered a wide range of information through agency coordination, public involvement, existing geographic information sources and field reconnaissance. The Missouri Chapter of The Nature Conservancy’s Director of Conservation Doug Ladd said, “The Nature Conservancy commends Clean Line for its open, proactive approach in integrating conservation and natural resource issues in planning utility infrastructure routing and development to meet the nation’s energy needs. This should be used as a model for avoiding and mitigating potential conflicts in advance, and demonstrates that energy development can be compatible with effective conservation of irreplaceable natural resources.”



Today Clean Line included the proposed route for the Missouri portion of the Grain Belt Express with its application for a certificate of convenience and necessity in a filing with the Missouri Public Service Commission. Filing this application positions the project one step closer to creating new jobs, paying significant taxes to rural communities, and helping Missouri meet its Renewable Energy Standard by providing Missourians access to low-cost, clean energy.

Grain Belt Express will provide substantial economic benefits in Missouri, including a direct investment of approximately \$500 million in the state, creating hundreds of jobs for the construction of the transmission line and providing significant revenues to local taxing districts. “We’re pleased that the proposed route for Grain Belt Express includes Carroll County because this project will bring much-needed jobs to the region and tax revenues for our schools, roads, fire departments, and other public services,” said Sharon Metz, Director of the Carrollton Area Economic Alliance.

Clean Line is committed to working with qualified local businesses to build the Grain Belt Express. Many of the components for the Grain Belt Express Clean Line will be made in Missouri. The company has preferred supplier agreements with three Missouri manufacturers, ensuring the project will create new jobs at factories that employ roughly 1,000 Missourians in St. Louis, Sedalia and Centralia. In St. Louis, ABB Inc. will manufacture transformers for the project’s collector system, where new wind farms will connect to the line. In Sedalia, General Cable will manufacture 23 million feet of steel core for the transmission line conductor and manage ongoing inventory and logistics. To support Clean Line’s goal of developing a local supply chain, General Cable will purchase aluminum rod for the conductor from Noranda Aluminum in New Madrid. In Centralia, Hubbell Power Systems will manufacture hardware and insulator rods and manage deliveries along the 750-mile line. Clean Line seeks similar agreements with local construction and maintenance contractors.

For more information about the Grain Belt Express project, including the Missouri Public Service Commission application, the routing study, maps of the proposed route, and details on landowner compensation and local area meetings, please visit www.grainbeltexpresscleanline.com.

About Clean Line Energy Partners: Clean Line’s mission is to connect abundant, renewable energy resources to areas that have a high demand for clean, reliable energy. Clean Line is developing a series of



high voltage transmission projects to move renewable energy to market. For more information please visit www.CleanLineEnergy.com.



GRAIN BELT EXPRESS CLEAN LINE

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- OVERVIEW
- BENEFITS**
- SCHEDULE
- LOCATION
- HVDC TECHNOLOGY
 - HOW HVDC WORKS
 - HISTORY OF HVDC TRANSMISSION
 - TRANSMISSION LINE STRUCTURES
- ROUTING PROCESS

BENEFITS

The Grain Belt Express Clean Line will bring about tremendous economic development in the communities that host the line, create thousands of temporary jobs and hundreds of permanent jobs, and dramatically reduce pollutants by millions of tons.

In addition to job creation benefits, consumers in Missouri, Illinois, Indiana and states to the east--both residential customers and businesses--will benefit from lower electricity prices resulting from the increased competition in electricity supply that the project will bring. This is because direct current transmission line technology enables the direct delivery of clean power at a competitive cost.

Please select a benefit from the list below for more details.

Jobs	»»
New Investment	»»
New Wind Energy Generation	»»
Homes Powered	»»
Pollution Reduction	»»
Water Savings	»»
Technology	»»

It is estimated that the Grain Belt Express Clean Line will create more than 5,000 construction jobs to construct the transmission line and wind farms and more than 500 permanent jobs to maintain and operate the wind farms and the transmission line. The Grain Belt Express Clean Line will create employment opportunities in many sectors including manufacturing of turbines, towers and cable, and hospitality.



Jobs	>>
New Investment	>>
New Wind Energy Generation	>>
Homes Powered	>>
Pollution Reduction	>>
Water Savings	>>
Technology	>>

The Grain Belt Express Clean Line is a \$2 billion electric transmission line project that will create a new link between abundant renewable energy resources and areas with strong demand for power.

Each of the counties that host the transmission line will benefit from increased tax revenue, which can be used for schools and roads.

To read how we estimated economic benefits, [click here](#).

Jobs	>>
New Investment	>>
New Wind Energy Generation	>>
Homes Powered	>>
Pollution Reduction	>>
Water Savings	>>
Technology	>>

The Grain Belt Express Clean Line will make possible approximately \$7 billion of investment in renewable power projects that could not otherwise be built due to limitations of the existing electric transmission grid.

The collective wind farms made possible by the transmission line will support the manufacturing of new wind turbines and enable significant financial contribution to local communities through employment opportunities, direct government payments and landowner payments.

The Grain Belt Express Clean Line will deliver 3,500 megawatts of low-cost, renewable power, enough clean energy to power approximately 1.4 million homes per year.

To read how we estimated economic benefit, [click here](#).

Jobs	>>
New Investment	>>
New Wind Energy Generation	>>
Homes Powered	>>
Pollution Reduction	>>
Water Savings	>>
Technology	>>

The Grain Belt Express Clean Line will deliver three Hoover Dams worth of energy per year, enough for more than 1.4 million homes, based on average electricity consumption.

The wind energy delivered by the transmission line will put downward pressure on wholesale electricity prices because it will be cost competitive with other sources of generation. Residential, commercial, and industrial customers in Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, and states farther east are likely to benefit from the increased market competition.

Jobs	>>
New Investment	>>
New Wind Energy Generation	>>
Homes Powered	>>
Pollution Reduction	>>
Water Savings	>>
Technology	>>

The Grain Belt Express Clean Line will be capable of distributing 3,500 megawatts of new, clean wind power. Wind power generation allows other generators to run less and burn less fuel by eliminating the need for the equivalent amount of energy to be derived from fossil fuels, thereby reducing pollution. The Grain Belt Express Clean Line is estimated to reduce carbon dioxide pollution by 10 million tons per year, nitrogen oxides pollution (a contributor to smog) by 6,000 tons per year, and it will reduce emissions of sulfur dioxide (a precursor to acid rain) by 16,000 tons per year. [Read how we estimated environmental benefits.](#)

Jobs	>>
New Investment	>>
New Wind Energy Generation	>>
Homes Powered	>>
Pollution Reduction	>>
Water Savings	>>
Technology	>>

The Grain Belt Express Clean Line will reduce water withdrawal from lakes and rivers by 4 billion gallons per year. Because thermal plants require a large amount of water to cool and power steam turbines, displacing nonrenewable generation saves a tremendous amount of water. [Read how we estimated water use reduction.](#)

Jobs	>>
New Investment	>>
New Wind Energy Generation	>>
Homes Powered	>>
Pollution Reduction	>>
Water Savings	>>
Technology	>>

By utilizing direct current technology, the Grain Belt Express Clean Line will complement the existing alternating current (AC) system. Direct current transmission lines are more efficient than comparable voltage AC lines. Direct current transmission substantially lowers energy losses when moving large amounts of power over long distances, while using narrower easements (less land) than comparable AC lines.

The Grain Belt Express Clean Line will also increase electric reliability by utilizing direct current converter stations which allow operators to control the flow of power. [Read more about direct current technology.](#)