

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the Application of Grain Belt Express)
Clean Line LLC for a Certificate of Convenience and)
Necessity Authorizing it to Construct, Own, Operate,)
Control, Manage, and Maintain a High Voltage, Direct)
Current Transmission Line and an Associated Converter)
Station Providing an Interconnection on the Maywood –)
Montgomery 345 kV Transmission Line.)

Case No. EA-2014-0207

NOTICE OF COMMUNICATION

Issue Date: June 9, 2014

Attached are letters from Diane David Ragsdale and Diane Ragsdale sent to Commissioner Kenney regarding EA-2014-0207 in the matter of the application of Grain Belt Express Clean Line LLC for a certificate of convenience and necessity authorizing it to construct, own, operate, control, manage and maintain a high voltage, direct current transmission line and an associated converter station providing an interconnection on the Maywood-Montgomery 345 kV transmission line.

These filings are made in compliance with this Commissioner’s interpretation of the “standards of conduct” in 4 CSR 240-4.010 and 4.020 relating to ex parte and extra record communications and does not otherwise imply or reflect the position of the Missouri Public Service Commission or any other Commissioner.

Respectfully submitted,



William P. Kenney, Commissioner



Rachel M. Lewis
Advisor to Commissioner William P. Kenney

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,
on this 9th day June, 2014.

May 30, 2014

Case #2014-0207

Dear Missouri Public Service Commission: Chairman Robert S Kenney, Commissioner Stephen M. Stoll, Commissioner William P. Kenney, and Commissioner Daniel Y. Hall,

I am a single mother that has raised my family in my home and where I have lived over 18 years. I have put my life savings into restoring and improving my property after the devastating tornado of 2006. I am a retired school teacher of over thirty years and working as a full time LPN to pay off my home in the country. I have been a landowner and voter in Randolph County for forty years.

I received a letter the beginning of April of this year informing me that the Grain Belt Express (Private Company) has proposed power lines will run along the border of my property. This is within 276 feet of my home. After contacting the Grain Belt representative, she responded by saying "It is not a concern to you, since it is not on your property". I feel like I have no say so in this process.

I am very much opposed to the Grain Belt Express Clean Line transmission line and ask that you please DENY them Public Utility status. Missourians do not need the electricity and would not benefit from it. It would violate our property rights, reduce our property value far more than compensation, spoil our rural landscape, cause hundreds of acres of deforestation, create obstacles to farming, limit future land use options, and cause potential health risks to human and livestock.

Five of eight counties along the proposed line have rescinded support to Grain Line Support. Thus far, commissioners from Clinton, Caldwell, Audrain, Pike, Monroe, Macon, and Ralls have rescinded permission. Randolph, Carroll and Buchanan Counties have not rescinded. I have met with our commissioners on different occasions, written them letters. The Randolph Presiding Commissioner stated "We have no influence on the decision that will be made by the Missouri Public Service Commission." My concern and question then would be: "Why was a letter of Support of Grain Belt Express signed by all three of the Randolph County Commissioners and sent to the Missouri Public Service Commission?" (2012). I have asked that the Randolph County Commissioners to rescind their support and allow the experts (Missouri Public Service Commission) make the decision whether or not this company moves forward. Our Randolph Commissioners are not representing the majority of Randolph County Citizens. I know this because I helped in gathering over 450 signatures in little over a week on a petition presented to the Randolph County Commissioners on May 15th, asking them to rescind their support for Grain Belt Express and move to a neutral position. (an additional 144 signatures gathers two days following. When I approached Randolph County Citizens with the petition, many did not know what Grain Belt Express was, or they were adamantly opposed to Grain Belt Express. The commissioners have been asked how many people they have talked to about his project and Commissioner Crutchfield answered "thirty" farmers. The follow up question was "Out of the thirty people you talked to, how many supported Grain Belt Express?"

Commissioner Crutchfield answered 30% supported Grain Belt Express". I was very disappointed in our meetings with the Randolph County Commissioners, the commissioners openly admitted their main source of research, numbers, and information has been from "Clean" Line (Grain Belt Express). They could not answer questions and concerns of the 50 plus people in attendance. One commissioner refused to answer in questions throughout the entire meeting. We have one commissioner where the proposed line will run, which he will receive compensation. I am asking you to contact our Randolph County Commissioners and ask them rescind their support to Grain Belt Express. Please ask them to do their homework and use reliable research in their decision. Please commissioners of the Missouri Public Service Commission, help us protect our land rights and help me have a say so in this process.

I see very little, if any benefit that this company can bring to Randolph County or the state of Missouri. Please do not allow the landowners and hardworking farmers of Missouri to bear the burden for this company's pathway.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diane D. Ragsdale". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Diane David Ragsdale
Randolph County
Moberly, MO

May 30, 2014

Case #2014-0207

Dear Missouri Public Service Commission: Chairman Robert S Kenney, Commissioner Stephen M. Stoll, Commissioner William P. Kenney, and Commissioner Daniel Y. Hall,

A little over a month ago, I was notified by Grain Belt Express that their proposed lines would run within **276 feet (less than 100 meters)** of my home.

I am a breast cancer survivor and find the recent news disturbing that has been brought to my attention concerning the electromagnetic field that these lines will produce. I am also concerned about my Amish neighbors (Ben Gingerich) who recently built a new home where the lines will run. The Gingerich family has 10 young children, ranging in age from one to thirteen years old.

Dr. Dennis Smith (Randolph County) researched for 30-40 hours through *medical journals* which repeatedly cited BioInitiative 2012, an independent compilation of scientific studies by over 20 experts from 10 countries. The authors were not paid, and there was no money from industry or special interest groups. The BioInitiative report (2012) involves over, a collection of more than 1,800 studies completed on electromagnetic radiation. The study is and the most up to date and relevant to these power lines. The report states: "For children who were raised for their first five years of life within **300 meters** have a lifetime risk that is 500 percent higher for developing some kinds of cancer".

In addition, my daughter who is an Oncology Registered Nurse in Kansas City, MO has found some information omitted in Grain Belts claim to "No health Risks" in the World Health Organization report (2002). Grain Belt Express tells people: "Much of the research on static fields has focused on the strong magnetic fields associated with certain occupational exposures and the operation of MRI machines. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)³, the World Health Organization (WHO)², and others ^{1,4,5} have all concluded that the current body of research does not indicate that strong static electric or magnetic fields cause long-term health effects."

Grain Belt Express fails to mention to people information from the same report "Static magnetic fields exert forces on moving charges in the blood, such as ions, generating electrical fields and currents around the heart and major blood vessels that can slightly impede the flow of blood. Possible effects range from minor changes in heartbeat to an increase in the risk of abnormal heart rhythms (arrhythmia) that might be life-threatening (such as ventricular fibrillation)." However, these types of acute effects are only likely within fields in excess of 8 T. **It is not possible to determine whether there are any long-term health consequences even from exposure in the millitesla range because, to date, there are no well-conducted epidemiological or long-term animal studies. Thus the carcinogenicity of static magnetic fields to humans is not at present classifiable (IARC, 2002). In other words....Cancer CANNOT be ruled out.**

The resources utilized by Grain Belt Express when approaching the public has been information that is outdated and from a limited study. Grain Belt Express tends to omit information from their resources. Everyone needs to please take time to study both of these reports and educate themselves when it comes to the health risks regarding Grain Belt Express proposed megalines. The links to WHO (2002) report and the compiled study to the BioInitiative Report (2012) are listed below.

Sincerely,


Diane Ragsdale

[REDACTED]
Moberly, MO. 65270

[REDACTED]
Randolph County

Dr. Smith used Scientific Medical Publications in his research, although a compiled report to the BioInitiative Report (2012) may be downloaded at <http://www.bioinitiative.org/media/spread-the-word/>

Electromagnetic fields and public health, Static electric and magnetic fields (2002) <http://www.who.int/peh-emf/publications/facts/fs299/en/>