

Local Public Hearing Vol 6 - September 3, 2014

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STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Local Public Hearing
September 3, 2014
Cameron, Missouri
Volume 6

In the Matter of the)
Application of Grain Belt)
Express Clean Line, LLC, for)
a Certificate of Convenience) Case No. EA-2014-0207
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)

JUDGE MICHAEL BUSHMANN,
Presiding Regulatory Law Judge

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Chairman Robert Kenney
Commissioner Stephen Stoll
Commissioner Daniel Hall
Commissioner Scott Rupp
Commissioner William Kenney

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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 (Proceedings commenced at 11:01 a.m.)

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Good morning. Today is
4 Wednesday, September 3, 11:00 a.m. We are at Cameron,
5 Missouri. Missouri Public Service Commission has set
6 this time for a local public hearing in the case
7 captioned as In the Matter of the Application of Grain
8 Belt Express Clean Line, LLC, for A Certificate of
9 Convenience and Necessity Authorizing it to Construct,
10 Own, Operate, Control, Manage, and Maintain a High
11 Voltage Direct Current Transmission Line and an
12 Associated Converter Station Providing an
13 Interconnection on the Maywood - Montgomery 345 kV
14 Transmission Line. That's file number EA-2014-0207.

15 My name is Michael Bushmann. I'm the
16 regulatory law judge that will be presiding over
17 today's hearing.

18 With me this morning is Commissioner --
19 Chairman Robert Kenney and Commissioners Stephen
20 Stoll, Bill Kenny, and Daniel Hall, Scott Rupp.

21 Mr. Chairman, did you want to make any
22 announcements?

23 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Just -- just
24 briefly -- can -- can everybody hear me?

25 AUDIENCE: Yes.

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1 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Good morning.

2 AUDIENCE: Good morning.

3 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: And thank you, Judge.

4 Judge Bushmann will provide some additional
5 in a moment.

6 I just wanted to take this you opportunity
7 to thank you all for taking time out of the middle of
8 your weekday morning to come and participant in this
9 process. This is the fifth of eight hearings, and
10 each of the four has been extraordinarily well
11 attended, and we have been very appreciative about
12 having the opportunity to have everyone voice their
13 representative opinions about this case.

14 All five of us are here today, as you can
15 see, and each of the other commissioners will have an
16 opportunity to say something, if they like, but I just
17 wanted to thank you for taking the time to be here and
18 to let you know that your voices are important.

19 There's a court reporter here that will be
20 transcribing each and every word that you say once
21 you're sworn in, and you will have the opportunity to
22 review the transcripts of these local public hearings
23 as we deliberate once the evidentiary hearing is
24 completed in November.

25 So, on behalf of the Commission, thank you

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1 very much for being here and we look forward to
2 hearing your testimony.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Let's the have attorneys
4 make their entries of appearance.

5 For Grain Belt Express Clean Line, LLC?

6 MR. STEELE: Jonathan Steele.

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: For the Office of Public
8 Counsel?

9 MR. OPTIZ: For the Office of Public
10 Counsel --

11 (Microphone malfunction.)

12 MR. WILLIAMS: Nathan Williams,
13 P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Before taking any
15 testimony today, I'd like to provide you with some
16 information about the Commission any and why the
17 commission is holding this public hearing.

18 Grain Belt Express applied to the
19 Commission for approval of its plants to construct a
20 high voltage direct current transmission line and
21 associated faculties within Buchanan, Caldwell,
22 Carroll, Chariton, Randolph, Monroe, and Ralls County,
23 Missouri, as well as an associated converter station
24 in Ralls County.

25 The Commission may grant permission if it

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1 finds that the construction is necessary or convenient
2 for the public service. The Commission cannot decide
3 any questions about imminent domain, including whether
4 a particular property can be taken or the amount of
5 compensation that would be paid. Those questions can
6 only be addressed in circuit court.

7 The commission has already scheduled an
8 evidentiary hearing for November of this year to take
9 evidence regarding Grain Belt Express's application.

10 It is also scheduled here, in each of the
11 counties effected by the proposed transmission line,
12 to give members of the public the chance to state
13 their support or opposition to the project. That is
14 the purpose of today's hearing.

15 For those of you who would like to provide
16 testimony today, I'm going to call the names listed on
17 this item sheet. If you have signed in and testified
18 in a previous hearing, I'll move you to the end of the
19 list. And if I don't mention it to you, if you would
20 remind me, I would appreciate it.

21 When I call your name, please come to the
22 podium. I'll put you under oath and ask you to state
23 your name and where you live and then you can offer
24 your comments to the Commission.

25 There are a lot of people here today that

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1 would like to speak, so please try to keep your
2 remarks to under five minutes so that everyone has a
3 chance to testify.

4 I will give you a five-minute warning, and
5 then try to include your remark from there. The
6 Commissioner won't be able to answer any of your
7 questions today because they have to remain impartial
8 until the evidence is presented at the evidentiary
9 hearing.

10 If you do have questions, please speak to
11 the representatives of Grain Belt Express or the
12 Commission staff or any of the other parties who are
13 here.

14 My final request is to be please be polite
15 and courteous to everyone that is speaking today and
16 treat them as you would like to be treated.

17 The first name on the list to provide
18 testimony is Becky Yager.

19 Ms. Yager, could you come forward to the
20 podium, please?

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

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state

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1 your name and spell your last name?

2 MS. YAGER: My name is Becky Yager
3 Y-a-g-e-r.

4 MR. WILLIAMS: We can't hear.

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Why don't you try that
6 name again?

7 MS. YAGER: My name is Becky Yager.

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

9 MS. YAGER: Centralia, Missouri.

10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may go ahead.

11 MS. YAGER: I live in Centralia, Missouri,
12 also work in Centralia, Missouri with Hubbell Power
13 Systems.

14 AUDIENCE: Can't hear. Can't hear at all.

15 MS. YAGER: Is this better?

16 AUDIENCE: Yes.

17 MS. YAGER: Okay. So my name, again, is
18 Becky Yager. I've live and work in Centralia,
19 Missouri, for Hubbell Power Systems. We are a
20 manufacturer of your utility line equipment.

21 So for a project like this, we are able to
22 provide everything that basically connects the cable
23 to the structure. So the transmission insulators and
24 all of the hardware that goes along with it.

25 There's also opportunities that we

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1 provide -- [inaudible] -- for the foundation that the
2 structures can be anchored into the ground with as
3 well. So for a project like this, it could bring our
4 company jobs as far as manufacturing, engineering,
5 customer service, as well as our distribution center,
6 because we ship the vast majority of our products out
7 of Centralia, Missouri.

8 I'm trying to think and make sure I get
9 everything I need to say.

10 Besides just the direct jobs that this
11 would be able to provide for our company and the areas
12 around it we're also able to reinvest back into our
13 company.

14 Right now we already started putting some
15 of the investments the local area in Centralia. We
16 have a new customer service center, where we house
17 right now, I believe, 50 to 60 customer service
18 associates that can do all the business for Hubbell
19 Power Systems. We're also in the middle of upgrading
20 and our research facilities and our test laboratories
21 that are actually located in same area as the test
22 laboratory, and I believe they have started to upgrade
23 some of the buildings in the factories as well.

24 That's all I have for you today, and thank
25 you very much.

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1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Can you stay right
2 there for a second?

3 MS. YAGER: I can.

4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Are there any questions
5 from attorneys or commissioners?

6 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Ms. Yager, thanks for
7 being here. A couple of quick questions.

8 Did you say the number of jobs that would
9 be created as a result of this?

10 MS. YAGER: I don't have the number of jobs
11 on this, because I don't believe we know at the time
12 what the final design is going to be.

13 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Okay.

14 AUDIENCE: So I don't know the exact number
15 of jobs.

16 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Do you know whether
17 the jobs that would potentially be created that would
18 continue to exist after the project is concluded?

19 AUDIENCE: I don't know. It's going to
20 depend on the state of the business at that point in
21 time. I've will tell you I worked for Hubbell Power
22 Systems for 17 years, and I don't think it would be a
23 normal practice, depending on the area, to hire in for
24 temporary. Hopefully, we will continue with those
25 positions and invest them into the company and

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1 continue those jobs on further.

2 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Great. Thank you for
3 your time.

4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may be seated now.

5 AUDIENCE: Thank you.

6 AUDIENCE: We're still having some trouble
7 hearing back here.

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Next is Victor Burks.

9 VICTOR BURKS,
10 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
11 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as
12 follows:

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

15 MR. BURKS: Victor Burks.

16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And I need you to speak
17 right into the microphone.

18 MR. BURKS: Victor Burks, B-u-r-k-s.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?

20 MR. BURKS: I currently reside in Olathe,
21 Kansas.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

23 AUDIENCE: They're still having trouble
24 back there. Tip it up to your mouth more.

25 MR. BURKS: Is that better?

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1 AUDIENCE: Closer.

2 MR. BURKS: That makes me feel little
3 uncomfortable.

4 Is that better?

5 AUDIENCE: Yes.

6 MR. BURKS: My name is Victor Burks. And
7 at I'm a property owner at 2186 at Highway 26 in
8 Miller County, Missouri. And if I could tell you just
9 a quick story of why that address is important.

10 From 1929 to 1931, a hydroelectric power
11 project was put into service. And Union Electric,
12 which became Anahiem [phonetic] started that thing,
13 and this was Bagnell Dam. That electricity generated
14 by that project had to get somewhere from a relatively
15 rural area, which was down around the Lake of the
16 Ozarks to St. Louis. Part of that project are
17 transmission lines constructed that ran from Bagnell
18 Dam to St. Louis. And those transmission lines passed
19 within one quarter mile of the property address that I
20 gave earlier.

21 The reason I think that is important is
22 that I grew up every summer for my first 19 years of
23 my life on that farm and drove underneath those power
24 transmission lines as they crossed Highway 17 just
25 northwest of my grandparent's property.

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1 As you can see, I'm almost 50 years old and
2 I've had no major health issues other than probably
3 eating too much. I've also got an uncle that lives on
4 a property or across -- or adjacent to that same
5 highway that drives under those power transmission
6 lines, and he owned a business Eldon, Missouri, and he
7 drove underneath that thing countless times. That
8 electricity has been pulling through those power lines
9 now for 83 years, and I still have an interest in
10 ownership of that.

11 My grandparent's have passed. They did,
12 what I would consider, an older age. Almost being 50,
13 now 65 doesn't seem that far off. My grandmother
14 lived to be 83. I've got aunts and uncles that are
15 well into their 70s and 80s with no major health
16 issues.

17 As a kid I can remember my grandfather
18 telling me that that's where they raised electricity,
19 or farmed it, and then shipped it off to the St. Louis
20 like they did crops that he was doing at the time.

21 In closing, I just want to say I personally
22 support this project because I think it represents a
23 logical and necessary addition to the Nation's power
24 grid. It's taking it from it's source to the end
25 user. It will benefit not only the state, but the

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1 region and the nation in general.

2 That's all I have.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from
4 attorneys or commissioners?

5 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: No. Thank you.

6 Thank you, Mr. Burks.

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Luke Lowenstein.

8 MAN IN THE AUDIENCE: I just have a
9 question.

10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Mr. L, did you want to
11 testify today?

12 MR. LOWENSTEIN: My name is Luke
13 Lowenstein, and I'd like to defer my time to Katie
14 McKay.

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Well, the next one
16 on the list is Katie McKay. So, Katie, can you come
17 forward, please?

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

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

24 MS. MCKAY: Katie M-c-

25 AUDIENCE: Talk louder. We can't hear you.

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1 MS. MCKAY: Katie McKay, M-c-K-a-y.

2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?

3 MS. MCKAY: In Cameron, Missouri.

4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

5 MS. MCKAY: Good morning. My name is
6 Katie McKay. I'm a licensed CPA in the State of
7 Missouri. I'm also the board member and treasurer of
8 the Missouri Land Owners Alliance not for profit group
9 fighting the Grain Belt Express power plant. I would
10 like to address four claims made by Clean Line that
11 simply appear to be, at best, half truth.

12 I personally discovered in December 2013
13 that our family farm was on a proposed line, which
14 would have run past the front porch of my families
15 homestead of 30 years. On March 3, 2014, my father
16 and I attended a Clean Line public awareness meeting
17 in Gower, Missouri. At that meeting we asked for
18 permission to record the discussions, and Clean Line
19 representative, Mark Lawlor, agreed that this would be
20 okay.

21 I have a copy of the recording with me that
22 I wish to present as evidence. It is upon this
23 evidence -- (inaudible) -- I base my testimony today.

24 Item 1, in our introduction, the Clean Line
25 representative stated that an all property owners

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1 along the proposed had already been contacted. In
2 fact, we are on a route, and Clean Line never
3 contacted us.

4 Item 2, at 12 minutes and 43 seconds, we
5 ask a question about possible foreign ownership of the
6 easements across our farm. In that discussion, Mark
7 Lawlor denied that a foreign ownership of my easement
8 would ever happen. Later we learned from they
9 Mid-Illinois PSC testimony that Clean Line is 40
10 percent owned by national grid, a British company that
11 can buy the line at any time, finished or not.

12 At 29 minutes and 30 seconds, we asked if
13 any energy other than clean wind energy would be on
14 this line. At 31 minutes and 40 seconds we asked
15 again, and we were told at 32 minutes and 10 seconds,
16 I quote, "Yes. I can tell you this will be all wind
17 energy." Later we discovered the FERC rules to the
18 contrary.

19 Item Number 4, at 2 minutes and 45 seconds
20 we inquired about the tax benefits Clinton County will
21 receive. At 3 minutes and 50 seconds Mark Lawlor
22 provided a conservative estimate to Clinton County
23 between \$400,000 to \$600,000 in annual revenue. On
24 June 21, 2014, Mr. Lawlor went on record in the St.
25 Joseph news press by stating, "By our estimates Grain

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1 Belt Express would bring in approximately \$550,000 of
2 revenue to Clinton County starting in the first year
3 of operation.

4 In reality, according to Rosella Schad and
5 Randy Wright of the Missouri State Tax Commission, at
6 this point in the process, it is impossible to
7 estimate property tax assessments in the first year or
8 any year of operation for this project. The
9 assessment computation is complex and considers the
10 project's hard and soft costs and analysis of their
11 operating -- (inaudible) -- and capitalization
12 structure in place on January 1 of each year of
13 operation. None of these variables are known today.

14 Since there is no hard evidence to verify
15 Clean Line's revenue claims, I chose to look at two
16 existing pipelines in Clinton County that are in
17 service today to help me estimate the property tax to
18 windfall [Phonetic] to Clinton County. TransCanada
19 Keystone pipeline and the Platte Pipeline both span
20 approximately 21 miles in Clinton County, roughly over
21 the same path Grain Belt Express will traverse.

22 For this testimony, I consider this a fair
23 comparison. The Missouri State Tax Commission and
24 Clinton County Assessors and Clinton County Collectors
25 also agree that these companies are similar in nature

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1 in their eyes.

2 Interestingly, the assessed value of taxes
3 paid in 2013 by the TransCanada Keystone was ten times
4 that of Platte pipeline. The Missouri state tax
5 commission explained that due to the agents of each
6 line and respective companies financial statements on
7 January 1 of each year, property taxes will go down as
8 the equipment ages and depreciates. Financial strong
9 companies are assessed at a greater value than
10 financial weaker companies.

11 Nobody really knows what assessments will
12 be applied to Grain Belt Express because Clean Line
13 has only incurred soft costs so far. There are no
14 windmill investments yet, no lines built yet, no
15 agreements with paying customers yet. Besides all of
16 this, Clean Line has never even built a transmission
17 line, and we don't have any guarantee that it will
18 work.

19 Let's switch gears from this hypothetical
20 tax discussion to reality. Here's the bottom line of
21 how Missouri property taxes work in the simplest form.
22 There are only two basic rules. If you do have
23 property tax in a taxing jurisdiction, you do pay tax
24 to that jurisdiction. If you don't have property in a
25 taxing jurisdiction, you do not pay the tax to that

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1 jurisdiction. Clean Line will only pay taxes to
2 taxing jurisdictions crossed by their line. Their
3 line will miss most of the taxing jurisdictions in
4 Clinton County and in the State of Missouri.

5 Okay. I did a little bit of research, and
6 I have the top ten list of Groups that will receive no
7 benefit from the Clean Line.

8 Number Ten: Eight cities in Clinton
9 County; Cameron, Gower, Polk, Lathrop, Osborn,
10 Plattsburg, Trimble, and Kearney will receive no
11 benefit.

12 Number Nine: Cameron Special Road District
13 will receive no benefit.

14 Number Eight: Cameron Voted Road District
15 will receive, again, no benefit.

16 Number Seven: Plattsburg Special Road
17 District will receive no benefit.

18 Number Six: Plattsburg voted Road District
19 will, again, receive no benefit.

20 Number Five: Grindstone Watershed will
21 receive no benefit.

22 Number Four: Dekalb Clinton Ambulance
23 District will receive no benefit.

24 Number Three: Seven fire districts;
25 Cameron, Easton, Edgerton, Polk, Lawson, Osborn,

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1 Stewartsville, again, no benefit.

2 Number Two: Six school districts; Cameron,
3 Osborn, Lawson, Kearney, Smithville, and Stewartsville
4 will all receive no benefit.

5 And the number one group who will receive
6 no benefit are the Clinton County residents who live
7 next to the line and have to look at it for perpetuity
8 and receive no benefit.

9 (Applause.)

10 In collusion, Clean Line's claims about tax
11 benefits to Missourians are presented with a
12 broad-brush stroke based upon incomplete information.
13 They failed to mention that the majority of
14 Missourians will receive little or no tax benefit.

15 Considering the fact that Clinton County
16 will receive zero electricity from this line, I fail
17 to see either the convenience or the necessity of this
18 line to the majority of Clinton County residents.

19 Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You said you have an audio
22 CD. Did you want to include that as part of the
23 record of the hearing?

24 MS. MCKAY: Yes.

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You want to bring that

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1 forward?

2 The attorneys will have five business days
3 from the day that these are issued into EFS to make
4 any objections, if you wish to.

5 Are there any questions from attorneys or
6 commissions?

7 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Thank you very much for
8 your well-thought-out and presented material.
9 Appreciate it.

10 I just wanted to ask the question: If the
11 line were to be moved and all of those jurisdictions
12 were to receive some type of monetary benefit, would
13 you and your group be in support?

14 MS. MCKAY: I would not be in support.

15 COMMISSIONER RUPP: Okay. Thank you.

16 AUDIENCE: No, no, no, no, no, no, no, no.

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Do we have a question?

18 Thank you.

19 Steve -- I'm going to try to say this --

20 Simoncic. I may not have pronounced that correct.

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

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state

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1 your name for the record and spell your last name.

2 MR. SIMONCIC: Steve Simoncic,
3 S-i-m-o-n-s-i-c.

4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

5 MR. SIMONCIC: Sedalia, Missouri.

6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

7 MR. SIMONCIC: Good morning, everyone, and
8 thank you for the opportunity to speak at the Missouri
9 Public Service Commission hearing today.

10 As I said, my name is Steve Simoncic, and
11 I'm the human resources manager for General Cables
12 Sedalia, Missouri, plant. On behalf of more than
13 1,400 associates of General Cable, including 185 of
14 those who live and work in Missouri, I'm here to speak
15 in favor of the Grain Belt Express Clean Line
16 transmission project.

17 This project may use more than 23 million
18 conductor feet of General Cables conductor, utilizing
19 manufacturing assets in our Sedalia, Missouri plant
20 over a two-year period. It's these types of projects
21 which continue to attract talent to the Sedalia team.
22 New infrastructure projects like Grain Belt Express
23 are critical to General Cables overall success. In
24 the supporter agreement, General Cable will invest in
25 our Sedalia facility where approximately 185

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1 Missourians are employed.

2 In addition, General Cable supports Clean
3 Line's goal of developing a local supply chain. We
4 will purchase aluminum rod in Missouri from our
5 supplier partner, Noranda Aluminum. This partnership
6 will support the capacity expansion of Noranda smelter
7 near New Madrid, Missouri. Our associates at Sedalia
8 will take great pride in knowing that the product they
9 will manufacture for this Clean Line project will stay
10 right here in Missouri delivering clean power at
11 competitive costs.

12 Missouri is a manufacturing state, and low
13 electricity prices are important to manufacturers
14 currently here or considering coming to Missouri. A
15 project like Grain Belt Express Clean Line can move
16 the whole Missouri base within the electrical
17 transmission and distribution supply chain forward.

18 Big infrastructure projects like this help
19 our company decide where to invests and where to hire.
20 This project will help keep our Sedalia plant running
21 for approximately two years and up to date with the
22 latest technology.

23 With partners like Clean Line Energy,
24 General Cables transpower transmission aluminum
25 conductor will transmit energy from renewable sources

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1 near and far to population centers in the Grain Belt
2 region and beyond. We need to encourage these
3 investments and these transmission systems. It's good
4 for the environment, and it's good for the State of
5 Missouri.

6 Thank you, again, for your time this
7 morning.

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

9 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Mr. Simoncic -- did I
10 say it correctly?

11 MR. SIMONCIC: That's correct.

12 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Thank you for taking
13 the time to be here for your testimony.

14 Did you indicate the number of jobs that
15 would potentially be created for General Cables for
16 this project?

17 MR. SIMONCIC: I don't have a specific
18 number of jobs in Sedalia, Missouri, but we do believe
19 it will make a strong impact on our facility.

20 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: And to the extent that
21 any new jobs are created, do you have any indication
22 that those jobs will continue after the project is
23 completed?

24 MR. SIMONCIC: We do believe, with
25 additional work and support, that we will be able to

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1 maintain those jobs in the Sedalia facility.

2 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: And you mentioned some
3 partnering with Noranda Aluminum on this project?

4 MR. SIMONCIC: That's correct.

5 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: You guys have already
6 had conversations with them about the impact of this
7 project on the smelter in New Madrid?

8 MR. SIMONCIC: Yeah. I do not have
9 expertise in that area.

10 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Sure. Okay. Thank
11 you for your time, and thank you for your testimony.

12 MR. SIMONCIC: You bet.

13 COMMISSIONER HALL: Good morning. What
14 assurances has your company been given that if this
15 transmission line is put in place that you will get
16 business from it?

17 MR. SIMONCIC: Yes. The Sedalia facility
18 will manufacture part of the aluminum conductor for
19 this business.

20 COMMISSIONER HALL: So that's already under
21 contract?

22 MR. SIMONCIC: I don't have any specifics
23 on that regarding the contract.

24 AUDIENCE: (Laughing.)[Inaudible.]

25 COMMISSIONER HALL: Thank you.

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1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any other questions?

2 Thank you, sir. You may be seated.

3 MR. SIMONCIC: Thank you.

4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Stephen Dilorenzo?

5 STEPHEN DILORENZO,

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

7 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as

8 follows:

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name for
10 the record and spell your last name.

11 MR. DILORENZO: Stephen Dilorenzo,
12 D-i-l-o-r-e-n-z-o.

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live.

14 MR. DILORENZO: Clinton County, Missouri,
15 Stewartsville.

16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

17 MR. DILORENZO: First of all, I'd like -- I
18 have -- (inaudible) --

19 COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry, sir --

20 MR. DILORENZO: -- so pro -- what?

21 COURT REPORTER: Can you slow down a little
22 bit for me and speak into the microphone?

23 MR. DILORENZO: Okay. The gentleman over
24 here that's so pro about the energy coming from
25 Bagnell Dam and going to St. Louis, your job -- your

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1 fiduciary is to look at the greater good. That means
2 Missouri, not the whole United States of America, like
3 this company wants to do. State of Missouri. Greater
4 good. They produced power at Bagnell Dam. They took
5 it to St. Louis. That's greater good for Missouri.

6 If I had to, I might -- (inaudible), like
7 he said. That's the greater good of Missouri. This
8 is nothing but a land grab by Corporate America. Once
9 again, there is no greater good of land grabbing.

10 I have farms south of Plattsburg who have
11 BP Oil Company on it. A hundred years ago, they
12 signed a contract 1932 probably \$250. I will never
13 see the end of that contract. I receive nothing.
14 They come and go on my land as they please. I had a
15 60-foot easement a couple years ago. They talked to
16 one of -- (inaudible) -- do some work. And same thing
17 with me, not asking nicely, but when I complained to
18 them, they said, "Well, we cleaned up your land. You
19 should be happy." I'm not my happy. They took
20 some -- (inaudible) -- and put them in a ditch.
21 Didn't make me happy.

22 I then asked for appeal. Their response
23 basically was, "See our lawyers. Get my lawyer to see
24 their lawyers." I don't have a lawyer. So I lost
25 that fight right off the bat.

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1 Next of all, I'm sure you can guess my age.
2 My hour glass has been turned upside down. There is
3 more and in the bottom than there is in the top. You
4 gentleman have the huge obligation of looking -- not
5 for me. I won't see the end of my contract south of
6 town. These people here won't see the end of this
7 contract. It's a total open-end contract. They do
8 what they want when they want on this land. They have
9 un- -- (inaudible) -- responsibility of vacating their
10 lands and their lines. That is there job, not our
11 job. Your job is to protect our lands, which we now
12 own and respect and love and will be giving to our
13 children. Not my child, not my grandchild, not his
14 grandchild. Not the little girl back here crying.
15 Not even her baby. The babies that come before us at
16 some time, destined later on down the road, that's the
17 immense obligation that you people have in your hands
18 to decide stop this land grab. To stop these
19 companies from maximizing their profits. If they want
20 to the produce the energy, make it in Kansas. Sell it
21 in Kansas. They can do that there. They have a need.
22 They have companies out there -- (inaudible].
23 No. They want to maximize their profits by
24 taking it clear across the United States, and do
25 whatever they want for hundreds of years. This thing

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1 has no end. At least BP had a hundred years. I don't
2 know what's going to happen with that because I'm not
3 going to see it. This has no end.

4 The obligation you people have in your
5 hands is huge. I would not want it, but you have
6 taken it on. Please protect our children, our
7 grandchild, the unborn. That's what we're looking at.
8 This country needs to be protected. You have that in
9 your hands. Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Thank you.

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Eric Cenovich? I hope I'm
14 pronouncing that right.

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

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state
20 your name for the record and spell your last name?

21 MR. CENOVICH: Eric Cenovich,
22 C-e-n-o-v-i-c-h.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live.

24 MR. CENOVICH: Overland Park, Kansas.

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may proceed.

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1 MR. CENOVICH: I appreciate your time and
2 letting me speak at this meeting.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Can you speak right up
4 into that microphone?

5 MR. CENOVICH: Yes.

6 I'm a partner, a shareholder, in a
7 corporation in Missouri that is specialized in the
8 surveying and mapping business and engineering
9 company. These are the types of projects that
10 generate jobs and revenue for us to be able to stay in
11 business. Recent years have been tough
12 economically-wise for us, and it isn't a matter for us
13 so much creating jobs, but just retaining the
14 high-tech, high-paying jobs that we have, and to be
15 able to go forward and have these type of special
16 projects. It isn't a long-term-type situation that
17 generates -- creates a job for many years. Most of
18 the people working on it will only be working on it
19 for a few months or maybe a longer period of time, but
20 it's these type of project that we need to keep the
21 sequential workload back or ongoing through the
22 process.

23 We not only will be using the people here
24 in Missouri -- Missouri residents that we have on
25 staff to do this job, but we also will be

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1 subcontracting to the more local firms up here in the
2 area of Cameron and St. Joseph to perform
3 specialized -- a range of services above section
4 corner recovery, and things that are specialized in
5 nature up here. So this will benefit us for just an
6 economic standpoint, being able to stay in business
7 and also provide part of its benefits to local people
8 as we are performing our services on site up here for
9 the hotels that we'll be staying in, the gas that
10 we'll be buying, the sales tax we'll be paying.

11 I appreciate your time.

12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

13 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Cenovich, do I
14 understand correctly that your firm has some kind of
15 agreement with Grain Belt Express to do survey work
16 for the Grain Belt Express projects?

17 MR. CENOVICH: Not at the time. This is
18 just a potential project for us.

19 (Laughing.)

20 MR. WILLIAMS: So you might be a potential
21 bidder on some kind of contract in the future.

22 Is that what you're saying?

23 MR. CENOVICH: That's correct.

24 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you.

25 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Mr. Cenovich, thank

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1 you for being here.

2 You said you are one of the partners -- or
3 corporation that you're a shareholders in is a
4 Missouri corporation?

5 MR. CENOVICH: In Kansas City.

6 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: That was my question.
7 It's located in Kansas City?

8 MR. CENOVICH: Correct.

9 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: How many employees do
10 you have.

11 MR. CENOVICH: In the Kansas City office we
12 have 65.

13 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: All right. Thank you
14 for your time.

15 MR. CENOVICH: Thank you.

16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir.

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

21 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Please state your name
22 and spell your last name.

23 MR. TEMPLETON: Kent Templeton,
24 T-e-m-p-l-e-t-o-n.

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

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1 MR. TEMPLETON: I live in Polo, Missouri.

2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

3 MR. TEMPLETON: And I really have a problem
4 talking loud, so I'll talk loud enough for everyone to
5 hear me. I was reading through your -- what your
6 commission is charge of doing, the list that you gave
7 us here. And it says here that you're going to be
8 looking at the facts. And I take my attitude on what
9 I'm going to tell you you know, and thought I should
10 write down these as I say them over this process.

11 I don't think I'll have any trouble getting
12 everybody you see in green to agree with me about how
13 deceptive Grain Belt has been on this project. This
14 will cross my family farm in five places, yet we never
15 learned of the route in permanent. Never learned of
16 the route. Not one time. Have not been contacted by
17 anybody who represents them. Excuse me. My legs are
18 shaking because I'm discussed with that procedure.

19 Fact number two, the project of Bagnell Dam
20 went to St. Louis. You know, is it fair that we
21 listened to all the people talk about the jobs --
22 maybe 200 or 300 jobs, is what we're talking about,
23 part time work to permanently effect land owners
24 across the four states. That does not seem fair to me
25 at all nor justified. I've listened to the initial --

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1 if you ask any questions at all, it's about these
2 jobs. That one gentleman testified about 14,000
3 associates, yet he went down to 185 jobs. And of
4 those jobs, it's going to be part-time work, at best.
5 You know, it's not going to create any jobs of any
6 lasting major benefit for the State of Missouri or any
7 other state that it crosses.

8 It's just not -- and anybody can see that.
9 It's not about the public good to try to affect this
10 many thousands of acres and thousand of people for
11 some short-term work that has not even been guaranteed
12 by Grain Belt Express. And in their past -- in their
13 past deceptive practices, I don't think they even
14 think they are going to get it in the first place.

15 "Money," it says in here is really not the
16 issue. But this thing is all about the money. That's
17 the only thing they want is the money. Private gain.
18 It's private gain. Springfield work, aluminum work,
19 something like that. It's all about the private gain.

20 In closing, you know, like I said, it's
21 going cross me four times. I'm going to lose the
22 value of my farms, each of these four places -- each
23 of these five places, I'm going to lose the value. So
24 I'm terribly disgusted by that, and it's permanent.
25 For generations and generations to come, with this

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1 power line over the corner of this farm, it can never
2 be developed for any other purpose. Not at all.

3 And when you look at that, what is the
4 value of that? How they can justly compensate me for
5 that? We live in an area around Polo, Clinton County,
6 where people leave the city. They go to work as
7 salesman and architects, but they come out here to
8 live out in the open. They don't want this power line
9 here where they live.

10 Well, so in closing, I wish that you'd look
11 at these facts and adjust these facts accordingly, and
12 not be misled by the misrepresentations of 14,000
13 down to 200 or 300 part-time jobs.

14 Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

17 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Mr. Templeton, thank
18 you for your time. How did you ultimately find out
19 that the project would potentially cross your
20 property?

21 MR. TEMPLETON: I first started -- when I
22 first heard about the Clean -- the Grain Belt was when
23 I first started seeing the signs going up on the road,
24 and Jennifer Gables called me to informed me that, "I
25 think, maybe, this may be crossing you," but nobody

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1 talked to me. The pipelines cross. This is going to
2 cross virtually where the pipelines go. And they had
3 contacted me when they were getting ready to do it,
4 but nothing from Clean Line. Nothing.

5 Then they had several proposed routes. You
6 know, Kilalay [phonetic] contacted me. All of those
7 routes cross me in some fashion. The route they
8 finally picked crosses us five times. It goes to 260
9 feet from a house, which is the distance over the
10 second baseman's head, and here's this thing going to
11 be right here at this house. That's also going put it
12 about 500 feet from the town Calhoun, which is little
13 town of a you know, a couple hundred. But, still,
14 it's right there.

15 And wherever -- that any building -- or
16 anything from -- you know, we need people to move to
17 our schools. People come out. They buy their corner
18 off of the farm, build their dream home, get their
19 little piece of the country. That will never happen
20 with this line in sight.

21 It produces energy in Kansas. They should
22 just take it to Denver, just like Bagnell Dam took it
23 to St. Louis.

24 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: And is it still the
25 case that you haven't been contacted by --

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1 MR. TEMPLETON: Well, I'm on their
2 don't-call list now, after I went to several of these
3 meetings. There was a gentleman back here today. He
4 asked me -- he says "Why are you on our don't-call
5 list?" I said, "I think it's self-explanatory. I
6 don't want to go to bed mad every night."

7 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: And then one last
8 question. It's my understanding that there was an
9 existing right-of-way along Highway 36.

10 Do you have any opinion or would you
11 opinion change if the route was routed along an
12 existing right-of-way along the highway.

13 MR. TEMPLETON: No. I don't think my
14 opinion would change at all, because I don't feel like
15 this project can at all be necessary for Missouri. It
16 would be the same thing as taking the hydroelectricity
17 out of the dam and taking it to Denver. Why would
18 that ever be in the public good for anybody? All
19 we're doing is bailing out Indiana for their charge of
20 developing their own renewable energy. There is no
21 need for this project. There's just no need for it.

22 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: All right. Thank you,
23 Mr. Templeton.

24 (Applause.)

25 COMMISSIONER HALL: I'm sorry. One more

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1 question. Could you explain to me, to someone who has
2 not spent a whole lot of time on the at farm, how the
3 transmission hole could affect farming operations
4 other than right around the hole?

5 MR. TEMPLETON: Well, farming is developing
6 into a high-tech business. Possibly -- the gentleman
7 talking about the work he's going to get for surveying
8 out. We use GPS to limit the amount that we spray,
9 where we spray. You know, I go underneath the power
10 line of a farm right in Kansas City, and I go
11 underneath a huge power line to go into the Ford
12 plant. When I go under that power line, it will shut
13 my system off. So everything has to be adjusted for
14 that.

15 There is a danger to be -- they can be hit.
16 You know, there is danger to -- you know, they make
17 the systems where they won't work efficiently as they
18 would. Of course, in this part of the country, we can
19 farm around anything, because there's a tree or
20 something everywhere but these big huge structures out
21 there will permanently effect the flammability of that
22 land.

23 You know, sometimes they go along the edge,
24 but most of this route that they pick just goes. And,
25 you know, we'll hit them eventually. You know, I

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1 mean -- you know, in my crew [phonetic] every year, I
2 buy at least two light bulbs somewhere. You know,
3 they'll get hit. There's without a doubt. And it
4 could be a terrible price to pay when they do.

5 COMMISSIONER HALL: Thank you.

6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Dale Sandlin?

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

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

13 MR. SANDLIN: Dale Sandlin, S-a-n-d-l-i-n.

14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside?

15 MR. SANDLIN: Faucett, Missouri.

16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

17 MR. SANDLIN: I'd like to thank the
18 committee for going on the road. It's a sign of good
19 leadership, and I just thank you coming out here and
20 giving us an opportunity to the speak.

21 You probably -- (inaudible) -- about roads,
22 trains, power lines, and the development of the
23 nation, and I agree there is roads and trains and
24 power lines, and I just kind of question why we're
25 going to mow down another 200-foot strip of hardwood

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1 trees, of the oaks, walnuts, hard maples. We're real
2 close to the Blunt Wood Forest [phonetic] where we
3 already have all these easements in place.

4 So the footprint will be lost. Also the
5 farmland. We're looking at 95 percent of the farmland
6 for the Texas A&M [Phonetic] to be utilized. The
7 population, rural, doubles every 30 years. So if you
8 look at the farmland at the actual corn belt, aquifers
9 to the west of here is going dry in the next 40,
10 50 years.

11 The water in California [Phonetic] is
12 getting low, so I just want to the try to protect the
13 farmland. The value of the property, perception is
14 everything. It doesn't matter if the power line is
15 dangerous or not. The perception is that it is, so
16 perspective buyers -- anybody in looking for real
17 estate -- can see a nice house on the brochure, show
18 up, see a shack next door or a big pit or whatever;
19 they just drive on by. And you can't, unfortunately,
20 tell the buyers that, "Well that power line, it's only
21 a quarter feet away, but it's perfectly safe," because
22 the perception is that it's not. And it destroys the
23 value forever as long as that power line is there.

24 So you look at some of the farmers. They
25 save all their life. A farm is their 401(k). They

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1 save and pay it off in the end. Many of them have to
2 sell it for long-term care, medical at the end of
3 their life. So, basically, we're stripping their
4 retirement when we devalue their land like this. So
5 let's look at what our options are.

6 Who has paid to -- I'm not opposed to get
7 green energy wherever it's got to be. We just got to
8 be smart about it. We can't destroy lives. So we can
9 look -- we can have the farmers pay. I don't think we
10 can rely on any national grid to give those that will
11 pay -- (inaudible) -- a business, and no business ever
12 starts up to lose money to save the world, save the
13 plant. National grid pays \$2.31 over dividend over 6
14 percent. This is just a dividend. You've got 745
15 million shares outstanding, a billion and a half goes
16 out every six months from it. That's according to the
17 numbers of SWAB. So there a lot of money there. So I
18 think that we should deny the status; deny them, and
19 they'll have to go to the State and say, "How much
20 does it does it cost to burry this thing down the
21 36 Highway? They'll pass it on to the consumer, but
22 then the many can support the green energy project
23 instead of just a few farmers.

24 Also, the number of jobs -- I've worked for
25 corporate America. I've seen the bottom line. It all

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1 comes down to the dollar. So you'll see what I mean.
2 Every state of the job -- (inaudible) -- and this
3 cable company, but they better be ready to bid to the
4 lowest bidder -- (Audience coughing)[Inaudible] --
5 problems are corporate America. It's all about the
6 dollar.

7 And I want to thank you very much, again,
8 for your time. Thank you very much.

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any question?

10 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your
11 testimony.

12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

13 Eva Jane Schuster?

14 EVA JANE SCHUSTER,
15 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
16 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as
17 follows:

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

20 MS. SCHUSTER: Eva Jane Schuster,
21 S-c-h-u-s-t-e-r.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live.

23 MS. SCHUSTER: Gower, Missouri.

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

25 MS. SCHUSTER: As I said, my name is Eva

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1 Jane Schuster, and I'm a Clinton County, Missouri,
2 land owner, and I'm here to tell you the cost of 750
3 mile over head transmission line by Grain Belt Express
4 has targeted my farm as part this project. I'm
5 opposed to this line for many reasons, and I'm going
6 to put light on a few of those.

7 First, on a personal note, I'm not able to
8 farm, but I have one farmer who rents the pasture
9 land, another who rents cropland. Nine out of
10 ten -- (inaudible) -- to supplement my income.

11 My question is: Will this land still
12 appeal to my renters if huge poles and high voltage
13 lines cross through my farm? What will these lines do
14 to the value of the farm for years? And what damage
15 will be involved in construction and maintenance of
16 those lines? And what, if in a few years, Clean Lines
17 decides to abandon the lines? What happens then?

18 Second, I'm concern for all the other land
19 owners who would be affected by this line. Two
20 families adjacent to my farm built lovely homes
21 because of the rural setting. One of these family is
22 my daughter and son-in-law. A high power voltage line
23 in their backyard will do nothing for the aesthetic or
24 monetary value of their home and property.

25 Third, my concern is also for the estimated

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1 700 land owners across three states which will be
2 affected by this project. It would seem that the
3 individual who purchased the property maintains it,
4 pays taxes on it -- one should have control over what
5 it's used for and what happens to it.

6 Grand public utility status for a project
7 with property -- which would allow domain easements
8 does not seem fair to any land owner. I would
9 certainly want every home to have the advantage of
10 electrical power. I remember the life-changing
11 experience to our family 55 years ago when they ran
12 electricity to my parents' country farm.

13 But to interrupt the lives and farms of
14 individuals in three states to send power toward the
15 east coast -- surely there must be a better way.

16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

17 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your
18 testimony.

19 (Applause.)

20 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Thank you.

21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

22 Chris Painter?

23 CHRIS PAINTER,
24 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
25 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as

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1 follows:

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

4 MR. PAINTER: Chris Painter, P-a-i-n-t-e-r.

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?

6 MR. PAINTER: Gower, Missouri.

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

8 MR. PAINTER: I just came here because I
9 want to support my community. I'm opposed to this
10 line because I have not met a single person who is in
11 favor of it. Also, I'm oppose on deeper objections.
12 This is a private company that is coming in to develop
13 this for personal gain. It's not for us. And these
14 are the people, and this is a country of the people,
15 and their opposed. And I don't believe that they
16 should be given the right to do this. We're entitled
17 to be secure in our homes and in our farms. And I
18 believe that we -- I believe that I live in the most
19 beautiful place on earth, and it just sickens me to
20 think that everyday I'll have to get up and look at
21 those towers when we draw no benefit from it.

22 I'm a schoolteacher in Gower -- and by the
23 way, I'm not speaking for the school. I'm speaking
24 for myself. -- and rarely am I gone. You can ask the
25 students that I teach, but I took a personal day to

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1 come here to support my community. And I just --

2 (Applause.)

3 And I guess I just find it ironic that we
4 will have to get up every day and look at these
5 hideous towers so that electricity can be generated
6 and transmitted to eastern cities to a subdivision
7 that would probably fine a person for parking an old
8 truck on the street.

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

10 Thank you, sir.

11 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your
12 testimony.

13 (Applause.)

14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Jim Sandlin?

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

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

21 MR. SANDLIN: My name is Jim Sandlin,
22 S-a-n-d-l-i-n.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside.

24 MR. SANDLIN: Faucett, Missouri.

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may proceed.

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1 MR. SANDLIN: Thank you for allowing us to
2 speak.

3 The line will cross my place in three
4 different tracts. It includes a ten-acre tract, and
5 it includes two different 40-acre tracts right down
6 the middle. It's not to the left or right. It's
7 right down the middle of the track. So, basically, it
8 ruins that track for further development and we've had
9 a lot of building subject to Buchanan County, but it
10 would essentially ruin those tracks.

11 Two of the tracts are warm season grasses,
12 and they require a burning off every three years or so
13 to maintain same quality. Well, I went to the school
14 to learn how to burn the things. It is a very real
15 danger in high voltage lines because of arching, the
16 smoke -- the smoke and the power lines can arch down
17 to the grown, and it kills people. They spent quite a
18 bit of time and showed a video of it happening. And
19 so that's a very real threat and danger.

20 Also, soil compaction extends another issue
21 here. Clean Line hasn't -- I haven't heard them
22 address in that this big equipment coming in, is --
23 you know, they it impacts the grounds. It takes years
24 to recover from that.

25 And sometimes utilities will say, you know,

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1 "You take your combines in the field." Well, yeah,
2 but we don't do it when it's muddy or there's snow on
3 the ground or in spring or March. We use more sense
4 than that, and they don't wait on the weather because
5 they are on a timeline; they keep going. And so soil
6 compaction is a real problem. I've not heard any
7 potential soil compaction -- compensation for soil
8 compaction from Clean Line at all. Kansas City Power
9 & Light in Andrew County, they compensated my brother
10 in law for soil compaction for a three-year period
11 when they went across his farm.

12 The other thing I want to say is I think
13 this is an improper use of immanent domain. It's a
14 private for-profit company taking land for the
15 almighty dollar. This is about money. It's not about
16 getting the people of Indiana electricity. This line
17 passes over a million people on the way to get to
18 Indiana, and all of it's used electricity. But their
19 not going to sell it to us because our rates are lower
20 than what Indiana people pay. So Indiana is where the
21 money is, and that's why it's going there.

22 This line has put our life on hold. My son
23 wants to the build a house on the back side of the
24 place. And the spot he wants to build, this thing --
25 this line is cutting the place right down the middle.

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1 It's just putting it on hold, whether to build or not
2 to the build. I guess before if we built a tree
3 house, so they continue across there [Phonetic]. I
4 don't know.

5 But it just ruined a lot of prime building
6 sites and just -- I -- I agree with some of the others
7 that I don't see where this benefits Missouri
8 anywhere. And it might set a dangerous precedence for
9 whatever companies that are going to go coming across
10 the state to the get to the east coast.

11 So I thank you for allowing us to speak.

12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

13 Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Next name -- there's two
16 of them actually. David and Aleigha Free. I'm not
17 sure which one of you or if both want to testify.

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

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name.

23 MS. FREE: Nick, David, and Aleigha
24 [phonetic] Free.

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: How do you spell your last

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1 name?

2 MS. FREE: F-r-e-e.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside?

4 MS. FREE: We reside in Agency, Missouri,
5 which is in Buchanan County.

6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Please go ahead.

7 MS. FREE: We, like everyone else here that
8 are opposed to this HVDC line, have concerns about a
9 possible health risk issues. Since there is no
10 experience with the proposed 1 million HVDC power lines
11 in the U.S., this should be a concern of the PSC as
12 well. Another concern we have is the negative impact
13 to our wildlife population, which includes deer,
14 eagles, hawks, pheasants, quail, haring, ducks, geese,
15 bobcats, fish, chickens, dogs and cats, to name a few,
16 as well many, many different bird species migrating
17 through our beautiful state every spring and fall.
18 How many of them will die trying to navigate around
19 the lines? How will the HVDC and possible radiation
20 effect migratory birds passing through the Missouri?

21 The aesthetics of the lines and towers
22 proposed will cross within a quarter mile of our home.
23 The senseless and careless destruction of trees and
24 plants, grasslands, timberlands and crop land would
25 destroy our beautiful Missouri landscape. There is no

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1 such thing as a perfect design. Problems always arise
2 during the real world production or build-out phase of
3 the project. Space shuttle tile issues, automotive
4 recalls on a daily basis, lithium battery exploding
5 issues, et cetera, to name a few. What major issues
6 will be found during the building out?

7 Would you be willing to have these lines
8 running through your back yard? The impact on the
9 beauty of our property and farmland would be
10 destroyed, and the damage to our wildlife population
11 will be grave if the PSC allows it. There is no price
12 that can replace it, and there is no benefit or
13 necessity to justify the use of eminent domain, or to
14 allow these HVDC lines to pass through our State of
15 Missouri.

16 We demand that the PSC deny Clean Line
17 Energy's application for public utility status and
18 uphold our land ownership rights.

19 AUDIENCE: Yes.

20 MS. FREE: Please preserve and protect the
21 sacred beauty of all the land owner's property across
22 the beautiful State of Missouri for future generations
23 to come. Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? Thank you.

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1 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your
2 testimony.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Christy Lowenstein.

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

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state
9 your name for the record and spell your last name.

10 MS. LOWENSTEIN: It's Christy Lowenstein,
11 L-o-w-e-n-s-t-e-i-n, and I live here in Cameron,
12 Missouri.

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

14 MS. LOWENSTEIN: My name is Christy
15 Lowenstein from Cameron. I'm a registered nurse with
16 a 15 month old and another one due next month, who are
17 also not big fans of the project. I want to thank
18 everybody for the opportunity to express how we feel
19 about the Grain Belt Express proposed project.

20 I would like to first read the philosophy
21 of the publication called Countryside, the magazine of
22 modern homesteading, because I feel it sums up how
23 many of us opposed to this project feel.

24 "Our Philosophy: It's not a single idea,
25 but many ideas and attitudes, including a reverence

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1 for nature and a preference for country life; a desire
2 for maximum personal self-reliance and creative
3 leisure; a concern for family nurture and community
4 cohesion; a belief that the primary reward of work
5 should be well-being rather than money; a certain
6 nostalgia for the supposed simplicities of the past
7 and an anxiety about the technological and
8 bureaucratic complexities of the present and the
9 future; and a taste for the plain and functional."

10 Many of us in opposition are self-reliant
11 family farms who are anxious and technological and
12 bureaucratic complexities of a company that just
13 doesn't seem to fit the definition of a utility. To
14 carry the threat of imminent domain for those who
15 stand in their way of constructing and operating one
16 of the largest and most powerful high voltage direct
17 transmission lines with towers 100 to 200 feet high.

18 Missouri should take pride in our own
19 renewable energy resources, harness those efforts, and
20 keep profits local. I hope that we're making a
21 decision and the commissioners take pride in the very
22 reason why they were afforded their position.

23 My grandfather was a PSC commissioner
24 throughout the 1960s, and he was chosen, just like
25 each and every one of you, by a Missouri governor, who

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1 appointed you for your integrity and your knowledge of
2 the regulatory processes involved in constructing and
3 maintaining utility companies to provide the maximum
4 benefit for not only Missouri but for the health,
5 safety, and welfare of those host of issues.

6 Thanks again for your time.

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

8 (Applause.)

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

10 Carol Lovelace?

11 CAROL LOVELACE,

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

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state
16 your name and spell your last name?

17 MS. LOVELACE: Carol Lovelace,
18 L-o-v-e-l-a-c-e.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

20 MS. LOVELACE: Lathrop, Missouri, with a
21 farm between Lathrop and Kearney.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

23 MS. LOVELACE: I'm here to testify on
24 behalf of my parents, who are no longer here to
25 protect their land. I'm here to testify for my

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1 children, who currently reside on my farm, and for
2 myself, the owner of this land. Land that we've loved
3 and held close like another members of our family.

4 My parents worked very hard to purchase and
5 develop this land. They put their blood, sweat, and
6 tears into it. It's so heartbreaking to see this land
7 taken over by a private, for-profit company who will
8 be set to make millions or billions of dollars at the
9 expense of we lonely people. It will basically ruin
10 the value of the farm. There are 86 acres, and they
11 will be divided right across the middle of the
12 property. These lines will render it useless for
13 building, should we want to build further on this
14 farm. If we want to -- (inaudible) -- or do anything,
15 they're right in the middle of the farm.

16 I feel it would be very difficult,
17 basically impossible, to sell this property with those
18 monstrosities right in thing middle of the land. The
19 line is going to be way too close to the farmhouse
20 where my daughter, son-in-law, and grandchildren live.

21 How dangerous will this be at their house?
22 I've understood that these lines larger than any
23 others we've seen. I'm not certain, but that's what
24 I've been told. Do we really know? I don't think we
25 do at this point. This is a big concern for us.

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1 We've also had concerns, "What if there is another big
2 tornado that comes through and takes these power lines
3 down with the houses being so close?"

4 Another thing is we have a large natural
5 gas pumping station that's just on the back side
6 across the fence of our farm. What about that in the
7 case of a large storm, and these lines go down? How
8 dangerous will it be to be under these lines? All of
9 this because a private for property company wants to
10 build across our land. How fair is this?

11 It runs -- no. It takes away our home, our
12 investments, while they are set to make millions or
13 billions off of us. How fair is this? I do very
14 respectfully ask you, "How would you feel if this was
15 your home and your land?" If we, our neighbors, and
16 others in Missouri needed this power to survive to
17 heat our homes, to keep us warm during the winter, or
18 to light our homes, and they couldn't do that without
19 this line, I might look at it a little bit
20 differently, but that's not the case.

21 If the residents out east need power -- and
22 I've heard that Clean Line doesn't yet
23 have -- (inaudible). I'm not certain of that, but
24 that's what I've heard, then I feel that the people in
25 the eastern part of the United States can build their

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1 own windmills, generate their own power.

2 Please do not let them ruin what can and
3 may be a devastation for some of my neighbors'
4 livelihood.

5 Thank you very much for your time.

6 (Applause.)

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? Thank you.

8 Ruth Lowenstein?

9 RUTH LOWENSTEIN,

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

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

15 MS. LOWENSTEIN: Ruth Lowenstein,
16 L-o-w-e-n-s-t-e-i-n.

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

18 MS. LOWENSTEIN: Cameron.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

20 MS. LOWENSTEIN: My husband and I live on a
21 farm just south of here in Clinton County. We were on
22 a proposed route, but that's no longer the case, but
23 that hasn't changed my mind about this Grain Belt
24 Express project. I had -- I remember feeling the
25 anxiety and despair upon hearing that my property

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1 rights could be infringed on by an out-of-state,
2 out-of-country unknown entity. I experienced
3 sleepless nights of thinking of the health effects --
4 unknown health effects of my family, also property
5 devaluation, and just the destruction of a life we
6 created over so many years, so I knew how others must
7 feel who are on the line.

8 I couldn't just stop caring. That could be
9 me. It could be my farm. At that time, I made a
10 decision to continue to fight this. Not just as a
11 farmer, not just as Clinton County, but as a
12 Missourian who loves Missouri.

13 Missouri is an awesome state; great people,
14 wonderful cities, and lots of cool things to see, but
15 one of the most unique aspects of Missouri is the
16 number of family farms here.

17 We rank number two nationally in the number
18 of farms. Missouri's leading industry is agriculture.
19 Missouri agriculture employs 298,320 people, according
20 to the 2012 census of agriculture.

21 Another jewel of Missouri is our tourism.
22 In an annual report -- (inaudible) -- reported that
23 tourism is an \$11.4 billion industry for the Show Me
24 State. Missouri tourism generated \$638 million in the
25 Missouri state tax revenue, and it employed 281,5- --

1 265 [phonetic] Missourians.

2 These two major industries that would
3 definitely be negatively affected by the Grain Belt
4 Line collectively employ 406,145 Missourians. These
5 are billion dollar industries in our state, and they
6 generate many millions of dollars in tax revenue for
7 Missouri.

8 So I have to ask myself, "Why would anyone
9 in a position of power allow these wonderful
10 industries to be harmed in any way?" Why wouldn't the
11 leaders of our state change Missouri agriculture,
12 which is, by the way, our number one industry. It's
13 offensive to me that Clean Line is even giving
14 consideration in the light of the damage that it would
15 do to our state.

16 I've heard different numbers thrown out
17 about Clean Line about jobs, even today, and at the
18 meetings I've been to. There is no firm number. I
19 have heard maybe 500 temporary, maybe to 50, 60
20 permanent job. I mean, who knows?

21 You know, just yesterday, in an interview,
22 a Clean Line rep said, "Oh, a lot of jobs will be
23 right here in Missouri." Well, how many? We know how
24 many jobs are in agriculture in Missouri. How many
25 jobs in agriculture could be affected or lost? How

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1 many agriculture dollars would be lost? Agri-tourism
2 is booming in our state. Agri-tourism benefits
3 everyone. The farmers make a living, and the people
4 from the city can enjoy an afternoon in a beautiful
5 rural setting that they don't normally get to have.

6 Just last weekend, I attended a family
7 wedding at a winery in rural Missouri. The scenery
8 was just breathtaking. It was so beautiful there.
9 And I spoke with the owner. They turned it into a
10 winery about ten years ago, and not only his family is
11 employed there, but he's hired many employees. This
12 is the combination of agriculture, tourism, and
13 natural beauty of our state combined. Missourians
14 won't have beautiful memorable spots such as this to
15 visit if people like -- [inaudible] -- are allowed to
16 rip through our countryside.

17 Missourians greatly value their agriculture
18 and farmers. They valued it enough to amend our state
19 constitution on August 5 of this year. By voting in
20 Amendment 1, The Right to Farm, the people of Missouri
21 voted to protect the rights of farmers. On the
22 ballot, the language appeared, "Should the Missouri
23 constitution be amended to ensure the rights of
24 Missouri citizens to engage in agriculture production
25 and ranching practices shall not be infringed."

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1 Well, I would say that 200-foot-tall,
2 3,500-megawatts HVDC line that cuts through productive
3 farmlands is defined as intrusion [phonetic].

4 (Applause.)

5 How can this group of wealthy venture
6 capitalists along with a foreign-owned energy company
7 be allowed to trump our state constitution?

8 (Applause.)

9 I don't -- I do understand that we have --
10 we have a need for renewable energy. We have the need
11 for renewable energy. I know that was voted in. What
12 I don't understand is why we're not -- [inaudible] --
13 all the wind generated electricity from the Grain Belt
14 Express. If they're promising 500 megawatts to rural
15 counties, then I guess we know that they are willing
16 to build a converter station.

17 Why not build one in St. Joseph, Missouri?
18 That would definitely help meet our cities' and our
19 state's renewable energy goal, and it would be very
20 convenient for the rest of Missouri to not be used as
21 a transmission super highway.

22 Or even better yet, why don't they keep it
23 in Kansas and give it to the people of Kansas, and we
24 can find our own renewable sources in Missouri, keep
25 jobs in Missouri for the people in Missouri like

1 Bagnell Dam?

2 (Applause.)

3 Why run a line all the way to the east
4 coast when we could use that renewable energy here?

5 Well, I guess that's the bottom line of Clean Line
6 wants, and that's pretty clear to everyone here.

7 I'm afraid that if Clean Line gets the
8 green light on this project, then this will just be a
9 beginning. What private company will step in next and
10 use and abuse Missouri for their personal gain?

11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Five minutes.

12 MS. LOWENSTEIN: Dear Commissioners, I
13 implore you, keep Missouri the jewel of the area.
14 Keep agriculture number one. Protect it. Preserve
15 the natural beauty of our state that bring in so many
16 tourism dollars.

17 I beg you, please don't let a private
18 company with a slick marketing tool and a polished
19 sales pitch use our beautiful state to line their
20 pockets. The people of Missouri are counting on you.

21 Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions?

24 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Ms. Lowenstein,
25 thanks for being here and thanks for your testimony.

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1 Would your opinion change at all if they
2 did have additional substations other than just in
3 Ralls County.

4 MS. LOWENSTEIN: Oh, no.

5 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Okay. And would your
6 opinion change at all if the line were routed along an
7 existing right-of-way such as, like, Highway 36?

8 MS. LOWENSTEIN: No. Because there is
9 landowners on Highway 36 also with homes and families.

10 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Thanks again for your
11 time and your testimony.

12 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: James Crenshaw?

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

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

21 MR. CRENSHAW: My name is James Crenshaw,
22 C-r-e-n-s-h-a-w.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

24 MR. CRENSHAW: Lathrope, Missouri.

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

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1 MR. CRENSHAW: I'm a -- [inaudible] --
2 farmer and retired school teacher. And, as I listen
3 to these good folks testify in favor of this
4 situation, I thought about a meeting I went to one
5 time where an old maid got up and talked about sex
6 education. The main thing is, she had no experience
7 in that field, and these folks don't live here.
8 They're nice people, but they're comparable to the old
9 maid with a textbook -- [inaudible]. When you got
10 through, there wasn't anything on the pages.

11 Number two, the Great Lakes --
12 [inaudible] -- which is now Williams Brothers Oil on
13 36 Highway was built in 1930. My father was on the
14 school board, and they said, "Isn't that wonderful,
15 all that tax we'll get."

16 Well -- well, this was in 1958. When he
17 got to taxes, they didn't have a permanent doorknob.
18 They were under construction. So they paid zip.

19 Number three, you never trust a bald headed
20 barber selling hair restorers. And that's what these
21 folks are doing. They didn't have any figures. They
22 had more dreams. They were like Christopher Columbus.
23 He was the first politician in the world. When he
24 took off, he didn't know where he was going. When he
25 got there, he didn't know what he had found. When he

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1 got home, he didn't know what it meant. And he did it
2 all on borrowed money. They are going to borrow our
3 land to make their money.

4 The fourth thing, Charles de Gaulle, many,
5 many years ago, -- [inaudible] -- him for a high level
6 conference. And the man got there, and he said,
7 "Now, -- [inaudible] -- go, we're going to perhaps
8 have a crisis with Cuba."

9 And he said, "One moment."

10 The man said, "What's that?"

11 He said, "Well, are you here to consult or
12 to tell me what you're going to do?" We hope and pray
13 that you're here to consult with us -- [inaudible] --
14 so we can work with you.

15 The two last questions are rhetorical,
16 because I know you can't answer. I assume by the
17 disclosure at the bottom here that you have confidence
18 in all these different people. They are
19 professionals. Has anybody done a statistical study
20 on like comparable situations, either in Missouri or
21 other states, to see if there is a correlation from
22 health problems, perhaps, animal difficulties,
23 property values, and so on?

24 The second thing, will there be a
25 statistical study that will show if there's benefits

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1 from this type of a construction?

2 I'm reminded of three grandkids that went
3 to see Grandpa, and they said, "Let's go to the
4 circus."

5 "We'll take you."

6 When they got there, they forgot their
7 billfolds, so grandpa bought the tickets. And, of
8 course, when the peanut salesman went through, they
9 didn't have any money. And they looked real wistful,
10 and grandpa bought the peanuts. And that's exactly
11 what's happened today.

12 These folks are fine people, but they don't
13 live in Clinton County. They don't have a house or a
14 farm or a barn or a favorite cow that this thing is
15 going to go over. They have got a cash registerer.
16 It's well and good -- [inaudible] -- gets jobs.

17 This is Cameron. This is Clinton County.
18 I'm not greedy. I'm just tight.

19 I want to thank you for very much that you
20 came to listen to us.

21 And if you bring her back, we'll have a
22 special hearing up here every week. I guarantee you.

23 I thank you.

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Question?

25 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Thank you.

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1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: We've been going for a
2 little while. Why don't we take a short break? We'll
3 be in recess until about 12:30.

4 (Recess.)

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: The next witness I have on
6 the list is Keith Owings [phonetic]? Keith Owings?

7 Is Keith Owings in the back?

8 AUDIENCE: They've already -- [inaudible].

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Greg Logan?

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

14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state
15 your name and spell your last name?

16 MR. LOGAN: Greg Logan, L-o-g-a-n.

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

18 MR. LOGAN: St. Joseph, Missouri.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Please go ahead.

20 MR. LOGAN: The main reason I advised to
21 speak in favor of Green Belt is for the simple fact of
22 the jobs that it will create and the taxes that will
23 be paid. I don't know who all gets them, but there
24 will be taxes paid. And the fact that this will be
25 utilized by Missouri residents due to the fact that

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1 the converter station will be built in Ralls County.

2 That's all I've got at this point.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

4 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

5 Ken Ken: Thank you, sir.

6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

7 Bruce Moss?

8 BRUCE MOSS,

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

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

14 MR. MOSS: Bruce Moss, M-o-s-s.

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

16 MR. MOSS: Hannibal, Missouri.

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Please go ahead,
18 and speak directly into the microphone. Okay?

19 MR. MOSS: First of all, I'd like to thank
20 you Commissioners for being here today and giving us
21 old farmers the opportunity to air our concerns with
22 Grain Belt.

23 I just retired from farming last fall,
24 fourth generation on some of the same land. I've got
25 a couple of grandkids that are a few years old that

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1 will be six generations on it. My father and
2 grandfather were both really, really -- [inaudible] --
3 farmers, as I was. Their motto was, "Leave it a
4 little better than you found it through conservation."
5 And over the years, I've tried to do that myself.

6 My point is that a young man, a good friend
7 and a very good farmer, that's farming our farm right
8 now, has a big investment in equipment. If Grain Belt
9 is allowed to put these huge transmission lines
10 through, it's going to make it more difficult for him
11 to farm because he's going to have to farm around it.
12 He's also going to have issues with the GPS on his
13 planter, on his sprayer, and on his combine.

14 Another one of my concerns is the health
15 issue. I cannot believe, in my mind, that all this
16 stray voltage that is going to be coming off of this
17 is good for humans or animals.

18 The aesthetic value, I can't begin to
19 describe that. It's going to start to ruin the
20 landscape of Missouri forever. These folks aren't a
21 utility. They are a privately-owned company. If
22 they're granted eminent domain, they can pretty much
23 do as they damn-well please. They can move this thing
24 anywhere they want to, and they can do anything they
25 want to. And what's going to prevent the next

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1 billionaire from coming along and coming up with a few
2 dollars and saying, "Gee, I'm going to put up a
3 utility line or something else"?

4 Again, thank you folks for hearing our
5 concerns.

6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

7 Thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: It looks like Lane or
10 Lane?

11 AUDIENCE: I'd like to defer my time to --
12 [inaudible].

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Mr. White is next
14 on the list.

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

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state
20 your name and spell your last name?

21 MR. WHITE: Pete White, W-h-i-t-e.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live,
23 sir?

24 MR. WHITE: Oak Grove, Missouri.

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may go ahead.

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1 MR. WHITE: I've been a journeyman lineman
2 since 1993. I construct these power lines. I speak
3 on behalf of approximately 425 Missouri residents like
4 me who chose this career. And by choosing this
5 career, we chose a career that we travel the country
6 building power lines, and we're not home a whole lot
7 of the time.

8 We're always glad of a change to do some
9 projects close to our house, of course, because, of
10 course, we're home with our families. And if this
11 process moves forward, we'd be glad to build it for
12 you.

13 That's it.

14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

15 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you.

16 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your
17 testimony.

18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Eric Lovelace.

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

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

25 MR. LOVELACE: My name is Eric Lovelace.

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1 Lovelace is spell L-o-v-e-l-a-c-e.

2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

3 MR. LOVELACE: I currently reside in
4 Prairie Village, Kansas. Although I grew up in
5 Lathrop, Missouri, and my mother, Carol Lovelace, has
6 already give her testimony this morning, and she did
7 it very eloquently, and I don't think I could add much
8 to the family position.

9 For the past 20 years, I've worked on Wall
10 Street. I was out in New York City all that time. I
11 worked for various investment banks, Salomon Brothers,
12 Deutsche Bank, BT Alex Brown, and I worked at other
13 audit-type [phonetic] companies. And during that
14 time -- I'm well-versed in big companies screwing
15 people. I see it all the time, and this is a huge
16 screw job to the people of Missouri and this area.

17 Why do I say that? Well, let me bring up a
18 little bit of a history lesson. Remember when the
19 Dutch sailed into New York Harbor, and they bought
20 Manhattan Island for \$24 and trinkets from the
21 Indians? That's basically what's happening here.

22 They're offering to pay several thousand
23 dollars for right-of-ways for towers, or whatever it
24 may be, but the impact on the landowners is going to
25 be horrible. It's going to decrease the value of land

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1 by at least half, I would guess.

2 If you ever drove up and down the New
3 Jersey Turnpike, it's a wasteland. These huge towers,
4 these monstrosities, are going up and down the east
5 coast. It makes the quality of life unbearable for
6 the people that live around those areas. And I
7 honestly believe that that is what is happening to
8 this corridor of Missouri. We already have a natural
9 gas pipeline that is going through Missouri. It seems
10 to me Clean Line is piggy-backing on this. They are
11 running parallel to it.

12 And I'd like to hand out something to you.
13 I don't know if I have enough copies. But this is a
14 copy of the map of right off of Grain Belt. It's
15 through a website. And if you go to the second page,
16 what I'd like to point out is that the black line is
17 the proposed line. The -- I guess the tan line is the
18 current gas pipeline, the gas image [phonetic] and
19 natural gas pumping station is right there.

20 Our family farm is written in red is
21 located right next to it. This pipe line and this
22 huge pumping station -- I don't know if you've ever
23 been there, but it is a huge complex that pumps
24 pressure and natural gas through the area.

25 I don't know. I'm not an engineer. I

1 couldn't tell you what types of things could happen to
2 cause this to be a -- [inaudible] -- but to me this is
3 just something that is waiting to happen. You get a
4 tornado, you get a gas leak, this high voltage line
5 causes spark, boom. Who knows what the destruction
6 would be in this area.

7 With this type of planning and poor
8 forethought just goes to show to me that these people
9 really don't have the interest of anybody in mind
10 except their own pocket. Look who's testified today.
11 Anyone who has testified, at least in my opinion, has
12 a financial interest in this.

13 We all know this is a farce. These are
14 temporary projects. You know, it's one and done.
15 Grant it, the general -- [inaudible] -- renewable
16 resource. That's like sending a janitor up here, you
17 know. He couldn't even answer any questions. It's
18 just representation of companies hoping to make a
19 little bit of money, and then they are gone.

20 The people of this community whose families
21 will live these power lines for generations, reducing
22 the quality of life, and it's just something we don't
23 want to have happen here. And it's just going to
24 become a super highway of projects that we don't want
25 to have.

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1 These poor people back here, they must be
2 tired. We're tired of having to battle this. And if
3 this project is let go through, what about the next
4 one and the next one and the next one?

5 It's going to be -- this area is not going
6 to be what it used to be, and it's not going to be
7 good quality of life. You guys are the linchpin.

8 Compromise is the word, I think, that
9 they -- if they could go through the ground, I think
10 they would probably wouldn't have a lot of opposition
11 to this. There is a simple compromise where --
12 [inaudible] -- huge towers. I think that's the major
13 reason -- or the opposition, at least in my opinion.
14 That's all I have to say.

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Was it your intention to
16 have this photograph be included in the record of the
17 hearing?

18 MR. LOVELACE: Yes. Mostly for information
19 purposes. I personally -- I'm generally against the
20 project, but what I'm specifically pointing out is
21 something I'm concerned about for my family and the
22 people around it with this pumping station being so
23 close to this line.

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: What I'll do is I'll admit
25 it into the record subject to the right of the

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1 attorneys to object within five business days after
2 it's issued.

3 MR. LOVELACE: Thank you.

4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

5 Thank you.

6 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Thank you.

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Larry King?

8 LARRY KING,

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

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

14 MR. KING: Larry King, K-i-n-g.

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live,
16 sir?

17 MR. KING: I live in Cameron, Missouri, and
18 Clinton County South.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

20 MR. KING: I want to thank you for allowing
21 us to come and speak today. I've been told that Grain
22 Belt is owned 60 percent by a billion-dollar Sip
23 [phonetic] Brothers in Houston, Texas, and the other
24 40 percent is owned by Ford Money, and I've heard that
25 that company has an option to purchase before, during,

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1 or after construction of this.

2 So the 200-foot easement could very easily
3 end up being owned and controlled by foreign
4 investors. Grain Belt is going to give a farmer a
5 one-time check for 200 foot across his farm for
6 lifetime of controlling that 200 feet. Grain Belt
7 could sell that easement to other companies that we
8 don't really want coming through either.

9 This Grain Belt line presents unknown
10 health safety. I believe that it's going to lower the
11 property taxes, property values. And when you lower
12 the property values, you lower the taxes that Clinton
13 County with receive. And I believe that the small
14 amount of tax dollars that comes in to Clinton County
15 general revenue is not worth disrupting the land or
16 the landowners. Many of them landowners are my
17 customers, my friends, my neighbors, and my
18 constituents, and I'm here to stand up for them also.

19 I appreciate what the young lady, earlier
20 on today that came and brought the banner that says,
21 "No tax dollars." That young lady did her homework.
22 She didn't take just the word of Mark Lawlor that
23 works for a billion dollar company. And I'll tell you
24 Clinton County has had numbers come across of what the
25 tax dollars are going to be, and it's from here to

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1 there. But that young lady didn't just listen to a
2 representative of a billion-dollar company. She went
3 to the Clinton County courthouse. She talked to a
4 lady there by the name of Shelly King, who has worked
5 in that office for eight years and is now the current
6 collector, and she got the real and correct numbers
7 about tax dollars coming into Clinton County.

8 See I don't believe that Missouri or
9 Clinton County is going to receive any power from this
10 line. I've seen the letter from 11 governors on the
11 east coast that says they do not need or do not want
12 the power that comes from this line.

13 And I'll say this about jobs: We've had
14 two pipelines come through Clinton County in the last
15 six or eight years. One is a 42-inch that pumps
16 natural gas, and one is a 30-inch that pumps crude oil
17 from Canada. And, yes, it created jobs called
18 mushroom creation. A few jobs while they were
19 building that pipeline, but I can't pay my bills on
20 hair cuts that I got from those few jobs back then
21 when that company -- when line was done, those job
22 left, and that's the way the jobs here this time will
23 happen. It will be a mushroom growth, which is no
24 good.

25 I ask you -- I pray for you as

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1 commissioner, and again I thank you all for being
2 here. You have a thankless job. You're going to make
3 someone unhappy, but I beg you and ask you not to sell
4 our Missouri land to foreign investigators.

5 Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions?

8 Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Thank you.

10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: [Inaudible.]

11 AUDIENCE: He's gone.

12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Raven Monnig?

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

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state
18 your name and spell your last name?

19 MS. MONNIG: Yes. It's Raven Monnig.
20 Monnig is spelled M-o-n-n-i-g.

21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

22 MS. MONNIG: I live in Moberly, Missouri.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

24 MS. MONNIG: I'm a small business owner
25 with four children from Moberly, Missouri. Excuse me.

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1 My land was on one of the initial Clean Line routes.
2 I grew up in a small farming community of Glasgow,
3 Missouri with four sisters, one of which is being
4 directly impacted by Clean Line. Clean Line will run
5 through tracts of their land, and the 140- to 200-foot
6 lines will be only 700 yards from her family -- from
7 her farm, her home, her house.

8 Growing up in a farming community, you
9 learn about hard work, work ethic and respect for
10 others. I bought my first 48 acres last year. Clean
11 Line will be towering in the horizon there.

12 I came here today to make a few points. We
13 heard today from Hubbell, General Cables, a surveyor,
14 a lineman, and a few other people that stand to gain
15 temporarily from this line. Before starting my own
16 business two years ago, I worked in corporate America
17 for 13 years. I worked for City Capital, and I also
18 worked for General Electrical.

19 Working in a big company, you learn several
20 things. I think the biggest that I can share with you
21 today is that a company like General Electric, doing a
22 projects like this, would do their due diligence if
23 they'd contact landowners up front, if they would be
24 honest with them, they would probably pay them good
25 money for their land. From what I've seen and heard,

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1 this particular company doesn't have any kind of facts
2 that we can look at, nor were they up front and honest
3 with the landowners. If they go into this as
4 haphazardly as they have in the past, my worry is that
5 the companies like Hubbell and General Capable,
6 surveyors, and linemen probably will not get a chance
7 at some of these bids. They will probably be out-bid
8 by who knows which company. There are companies all
9 over the nation that will be competing for this line.

10 As a company owner whenever I'm looking at
11 a new job or a new customer I'm going to take on, I
12 have to consider a few things. How many people am I
13 going to have to hire? How are my margins going to be
14 compacted by the business I'm going to take on? The
15 question I have for this company is: Even if you do
16 get the business, what kind of margins are you going
17 to make? And we all know that they are going be
18 temporary margins. We're probably looking at one or
19 two years of a good bowl [phonetic] of cash. Those
20 margins are going to dwindle over time. They are
21 going put you out to bid numerous times and you're
22 going to have to compete over and over. I just ask
23 those companies to think about if that's the kind of
24 business that they want to bring on.

25 The second point I wanted to talk about a

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1 little bit is property tax revenue. I worked in the
2 leasing industry, which is an asset-based business, so
3 I know a little bit about taxes. Property tax revenue
4 from the sheer land that their going to own -- they're
5 already getting from the Missouri landowners and
6 farmers. They are already paying that tax. So unless
7 they are going to build new land, that money is not
8 going change. If anything, it's going to go down,
9 because of the property values are going to go down
10 with these towering lines that nobody wants to build
11 or buy or farm near.

12 The other -- [inaudible](coughing) -- which
13 I believe the young lady spoke of earlier, was the
14 depreciative asset, which would the be towers
15 themselves. The towers themselves are going to
16 depreciate over time. A company like this is that is
17 depending on tax revenue to get started is probably
18 going to depreciate those assets very quickly.

19 So Missouri might find that they get some
20 tax revenue for the first several years, and it might;
21 be a lot, but it's going to dwindle over time. So
22 their assets are going to depreciate very quickly. So
23 those taxes are going to be temporary.

24 The other thing about taxes is that I've
25 heard from numerous sources that this Clean Line is

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1 going to depend a lot on federal and state tax
2 revenues -- [inaudible](coughing) -- and Clean Line.
3 And I heard a number around \$600 million. I want you
4 guys to think about that. Missouri people are already
5 federal paying and already paying state taxes. They
6 are going be giving Clean Line their tax money. Clean
7 Line is a private company. It's not a public utility.
8 So these this private company is going to benefit from
9 our tax revenue and also take our land. So just think
10 about that a little bit and see if that's what we
11 really want to do.

12 I would rather see the money go to a public
13 utility of some kind. I'd like the State of Missouri
14 step up and come up with our own plan kind of like the
15 dam we were talking about earlier. Those are public
16 projects that could earn the same kind of revenue
17 from -- [inaudible](coughing) -- government and keep
18 want money here in Missouri. Keep the land owners
19 with their land and benefit -- I don't even know. The
20 benefits just farly [sic] outweigh the benefits of a
21 private company coming in.

22 The other point I want to talk about is
23 imminent domain. Where I come from, if you want
24 something that does no belong to you, like land, you
25 call the landowner, you make them an offer. If Clean

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1 Line wants the land, let them negotiate for it one on
2 one with these landowners. Let them decide what to do
3 with their family farms and their property. Taking
4 what does not belong to you is never okay where I come
5 from.

6 I would like to ask you all just a couple
7 more questions. Whether in green shirts, white,
8 purple, or blue, Commissioners before you decide, ask:

9 Number one, what will this private
10 for-profit company do for you, your family, and your
11 neighbors? Further more, is it temporary? Are the
12 jobs temporary? Is the tax revenue temporary? And
13 are you giving up a great thing like Missouri land and
14 Missouri farms, pride, in exchange for a lot of
15 heartache form a company who has not been upfront and
16 honest with your people, who stands to gain a lot from
17 you but to give back very little.

18 The second question I want to ask you is:
19 What do you your area farmers and landowners do for
20 you? They take care of our public land. They support
21 our local way of life. They support our schools, our
22 churches, our roads and bridges. They provide a
23 valuable commodity that we are all proud of. They
24 farm our land. They produce grain. They sell
25 livestock. They pay their taxes.

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1 I want to ask you one more question -- or
2 actually two more questions.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Five minutes.

4 MS. MONNIG: That same land, what would
5 a -- [inaudible] -- be due to take care of your land,
6 and would they treat the like your local farmers do?

7 And the last question I have is: What
8 would Missouri do without our farmers and without
9 control of our land?

10 That's all I have. Thank you for your
11 time.

12 (Applause.)

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions?

14 Thank you.

15 Wayne Beach?

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

20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state
21 your name and spell your last name?

22 MR. BEACH: Wayne Beach, B-e-a-c-h.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live.

24 MR. BEACH: I live in Maryland -- Missouri.
25 It's Kingston address.

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1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

2 MR. BEACH: About July of 2013, in this
3 building, I attended a meeting presented by Grain
4 Belt, and I discovered that one of their proposed
5 lines would have been within 150 feet of my front
6 door. That got me concerned. And I wanted to -- and
7 because that line would not be on my property, but
8 that closes to my door, I thought, "How does this
9 really effect me?" So today I'm going to seek your
10 indulgence for a few moments to talk about something
11 that I don't know much about, but you're going to find
12 before I'm through, that what I don't know and what is
13 unknown is why I'm vehemently opposed to this project.

14 Mr. Burks testified that he has driven
15 underneath power lines all of his life and has had no
16 adverse effect. As earlier as 1979, it was documented
17 and published that high voltage AC is linked to cancer
18 in children according to an Internet publication I
19 read.

20 So the question in my mind is: What about
21 high voltage DC? High voltage DC does have a corona
22 effect. It is not the same as high voltage AC, and
23 the problem is that much of the effect of high voltage
24 DC corona is still unknown. I found that in Kunming
25 [phonetic], China around 2009, there was a test. They

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1 built a test line, 800 meters long, to check the
2 effects of high voltage DC. And the high voltage they
3 used was only 800,000 volts, not 3.5 billion as Clean
4 Line wants to use. They used internationally excepted
5 formulas to determine the results that will they
6 expected to happen. They checked radio interference,
7 audible noise, electric fields, and ion current
8 density on the ground below the lines. All of this is
9 okay from a scientific standpoint. From a layman like
10 me, the concern season this:

11 In every case the actual readings were
12 higher than what was calculated, and that told me, a
13 layman, that science does not know for sure what the
14 real effects of this high voltage DC is, and they
15 don't have the means to calculate it.

16 I also found that, in one of the website, a
17 safety precaution that said -- well, if you do
18 maintenance, or, particularly, refuelling on equipment
19 below one of these high voltage line, you best ground
20 your equipment first. I thought about that, and, you
21 know, with electric currents when you do something,
22 safety counts.

23 The question I would have is: How far away
24 from that line do I have to be before I don't have to
25 ground my equipment to refuel it? And I'm going to

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1 bet no one can tell me.

2 Well, someone might say it's a lot like
3 Nancy Pelosi's statement about Obamacare. If you want
4 to know what's in it, pass it. If you want to know
5 what the know the effects of a 3 billion-watt line,
6 build it. That's irresponsible. It doesn't do the
7 job.

8 I'm going to make this, in conclusion,
9 similar to the current that's being handled. At this
10 point in time, there is a lawsuit against a
11 pharmaceutical company for building a drug that, if
12 given to young boys, creates women's breast tissue.
13 That's irresponsibility. It was because of money. A
14 pharmaceutical company built and issued, without
15 proper testing, this money from the pharmaceutical
16 company. And it's equally irresponsible to build a
17 3.5 billion watt line not knowing the real effects on
18 humans and animals.

19 Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions?

22 Thank you.

23 Jason Leman [phonetic]?

24 Dixon Weaver [phonetic]? I think I'm
25 saying that correctly.

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1 Malinda Baker?

2 MALINDA BAKER,

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

6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you move the
7 microphone down? Down a little bit further. Thank
8 you.

9 Now state your name, and spell your last
10 name.

11 MS. BAKER: My name is Malinda Baker, and
12 I'm from Polo, Missouri.

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

14 MS. BAKER: I see a lot of risk and
15 uncertainty and heartache because of Clean Line's lack
16 of planning. And the -- [inaudible] -- would probably
17 call this very unacceptable.

18 We want to the stabilize the eastern grid,
19 reducing blackouts and generate more renewables, yet
20 is 11 eastern governors don't want -- [inaudible] --
21 national corridor as documented July 12, 2010, to the
22 U.S. Senate. Well, Clean Line has a lot of nerve
23 ignoring all these elected officials. In 2012 they
24 lobbied for fighting authority from -- [inaudible].
25 Clean Line has a lot of nerve stating they are clean

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1 when a line cannot be restricted to renewable and
2 transmission must be nondiscriminatory to all
3 generators. How much revenue should they really --
4 have they received based on their [inaudible].

5 Before -- [inaudible] -- Clean Line --
6 [inaudible] -- they clearly stated that a line could
7 not be restricted it to renewable. Because --
8 [inaudible] -- inconsistent, the mass on any line
9 would be 30 or 40 percent.

10 Clean Line has as lot of nerve asking
11 Missouri to transmit energy knowing of our own
12 regional efforts to promote local wind energy
13 generation. We don't want a transmission company
14 competing with us for jobs, tax revenue, and clean
15 energy development. Clean Line has as lot of nerve
16 routing their lines outside of existing corridors and
17 refusing to invest in varying lines using the new
18 technology such as HVDC -- [inaudible] -- which over
19 40 years could save hundreds of millions of dollars in
20 outages.

21 I disagree with Clean Line's engineering
22 interconnection agreements and rallying, and
23 construction financing should be decided and signed
24 before public utility status is requested. Looking
25 at -- look at Keystone pipeline. How about their

1 routes -- [inaudible]. Clean Line is not a utility
2 electric providing us much electricity in Missouri and
3 is not the -- and allow the government able to take
4 land here. There is a stabilizing eastern grid.
5 Power is available from Canada. Massive inexpensive
6 amounts of renewable clean hydropower is available to
7 the northeast. Hydro-Quebec is the words largest
8 hydroelectric producer. The Quebec name is
9 transmitted directly to -- [inaudible]. There's a
10 clean loading patch [phonetic] in Quebec to Southern
11 New England. The Hudson power -- [inaudible] -- to
12 deliver power from Quebec to Astoria. There's a Lake
13 Erie project from Ontario running under the lake bed,
14 which would connect Ontario -- [inaudible] -- and to
15 the U.S. Only too expensive converter stations are
16 needed.

17 There are others that proposed rain
18 [phonetic] cables. 335 miles under the seabed. There
19 is a the power bridge for the state of --
20 [inaudible] -- that I land in connection between
21 Delaware and New Jersey potentially between Virginia
22 and New York. The count of these transmission lines
23 is even more, I'm sure. Rita Alberta [phonetic]
24 Canada has made burying lines very popular, and I
25 think set the precedent. Generating more renewables,

1 multiple local energy sources, even if they're
2 expensive are increasingly used and can make an
3 existing grid more fault tolerant to weather and other
4 disasters that can disconnect distance suppliers.

5 We're talking solar, wind, hydropower,
6 power biofuel all combined. And take all these
7 industries and prices drop. More utility customers
8 are building similar panels and reducing their need
9 for power that is elsewhere provided. There are
10 thousands of megawatts in the renewable energy project
11 waiting for connection. The -- [inaudible] -- new
12 transmission lines and keep clean emergency
13 development. Developers are looking at the additional
14 cost of the transmission upgrade and are not able to
15 afford the implementation of the actual power
16 development production projects themselves.

17 Stanford -- [inaudible] -- have figured out
18 how to better simultaneously use the live energy of
19 the sun to generate electricity in a way that it would
20 make solar power more than twice as effective as
21 existing methods and potentially cheap enough to
22 compete with oil.

23 I differ with Clean Line. The best
24 renewable resources are located right at the largest
25 population centers, which are usually located next to

1 rivers or bodies of water. A hydrokinetic turbine is
2 an integrated turbine generator used to produce
3 electricity in a free flow environment without a dam.

4 Per Wikipedia, "If the viable river and
5 estuary turbine locations are made into hydroelectric
6 power sites researchers estimate that the United
7 States' rivers and estuaries could provide up to
8 130,000 gigawatt-hours per year, about half the yearly
9 production of the country's dams."

10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Five minutes. If you
11 wanted to submit your testimony, you could also.

12 MS. BAKER: It's not in very good form on
13 these pages.

14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You can go ahead and
15 finish.

16 MS. BAKER: Similarly to the east coast
17 states, we have -- we have land -- [inaudible] --
18 rivers to generate hydroelectric.

19 I differ with Clean Line because the growth
20 of the energy industry depends the -- [inaudible] --
21 new transmission corridor. Our focus is one with the
22 eastern governors. It's in generating, not transporting
23 it. It's in creating our own energy job, tax -- and
24 tax revenues for renewables. Overbuilding of
25 transmission capacity cannot be justified.

1 Overbuilding transmission line, the huge and
2 unnecessary expense to electricity controllers or
3 energy developers. In particular, we do not want
4 to rate payers to pay for an abandon project possibly
5 with abandoned power on farms.

6 [Inaudible] of lawmaker OS1462 [phonetic]
7 said it was a policy of the United States that the
8 national transmission system should be guided by the
9 goal of maximizing the net benefit of the electricity
10 system taking into consideration the ability to
11 co-locate facilities on existing right-of-ways, the
12 competing land use priorly.

13 The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
14 said, "Existing right-of-ways are the standard
15 preference." Existing utility corridors, highway and
16 roadway corridors, and recreational trails with
17 limitations, and last, new corridors.

18 HVDC light line variable is approximately
19 two times the cost of overhead lines. There's 50 to
20 80 percent less outages. That's right. Perhaps
21 hundreds of millions of dollars -- [inaudible]
22 (coughing). There will be more electricity --
23 [inaudible] -- because the ground line loses 5 to
24 7 percent -- the line above the ground loses 5 to 7
25 percent of electricity as it flows down the lines.

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1 Many millions of dollars could go to the
2 electricity companies rather than being wasted. Half
3 a billion from devalued real estate would be
4 minimized, and highway and utility corridor rents
5 [phonetic] would be paid.

6 It reduces the emissions. If people think
7 you're getting cancer from cell phones, just think
8 what an HVDC line will do. Many of the farms are
9 seniors and medical impact devices are a concern. In
10 the US, there's in 100 -- [inaudible] -- per kilometer
11 of overhead power per year, hundred 75 million
12 [phonetic].

13 Competing land use. The farmers were here
14 and they invested first. They worked no matter how --
15 [inaudible] -- weather, and they are doing their jobs
16 to put the food on the table of million of Americans
17 and nations running the food industry, including --
18 [inaudible] -- agriculture -- [inaudible] -- testing
19 owners, and in the light of world famine and hunger,
20 and the ever present World Food Bank is not
21 acceptable.

22 Check Wikipedia. The U.S. controls almost
23 half of the world's grain export. In 2040 the
24 population is projected to reach 9 billion.

25 Missouri can't farm and ranch the best ways

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1 possible on shared land. Their not interested in what
2 lines Clean Line's pockets. Missouri -- Minnesota
3 statute requires utilities to buy the entire property
4 if it will be negatively impacted by a transmission
5 project.

6 You asked about the impact on soil
7 compaction, and that came out in the Illinois Commerce
8 Commission where the agriculture association said it
9 would cause soil compaction, impact grain, impact
10 aerial application, irrigation systems, GPS signals
11 and data systems and farm equipment, and hinder the
12 ability to farm efficiently.

13 A tree farmer there testified that soil was
14 sensitive and conducive to -- [inaudible] -- emission
15 and erosion, such as the construction of the project
16 through an area of trees and would result in
17 significant vegetation correction as well as valuable
18 timber clearing.

19 Okay. Weather outages. [Inaudible] -- by
20 putting HVDC lines anywhere across this tornado ally
21 is very questionable. These towers are way up in the
22 air, but, of course, not as far as up in the air as
23 the operational document Clean Line would have for
24 four converter stations -- or has for four converter
25 stations. We have many severe storms. I'm sure you

1 know about that; the November 2013 storm, the
2 January 27, 2009, storm. The Nelson River DC
3 transmission known as Manitoba was hit by a tornado in
4 1997, and 19 towers of the DC line were damaged. So
5 they're not immune to the storms.

6 In summary, I would like to say, please
7 support the 11 eastern governors who do not want this
8 national transmission corridor built out. Please
9 develop and encourage low head hydropower in our
10 rivers to generate energy, jobs, and taxes. Please
11 require any HVDC lines to be buried, perhaps using the
12 pipelines in existing corridors, preferably utility
13 and highway corridors, and don't take any company
14 seriously unless they have committed and signed
15 engineering, technical, management, and financial
16 documents and legally contain a minimum of
17 interconnection documents and the converter
18 commitments.

19 Thank you for this time to speak. I do
20 have the letter from the 11 governs. Have you seen
21 this?

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Did you want to include
23 that as part of the record?

24 MS. BAKER: Yes. And I would also like to
25 include documents on HVDC Light Underground Technology

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1 written by the Northern Pass people.

2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Do you want to
3 bring those forward?

4 Okay. Those will be received into the
5 record subject to the right of the attorneys to
6 object.

7 Any questions for Ms. Baker?

8 Thank you ma'am.

9 (Applause.)

10 Joyce Vetter?

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

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state
16 your name and spell your last name?

17 MS. VETTER: Joyce Vetter V-, as in Victor,
18 e-t-t-e-r.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where it you reside,
20 ma'am.

21 MS. VETTER: Just North of Plattsburg,
22 Missouri.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Please proceed.

24 MS. VETTER: I do have a suggestion.
25 Everyone who has been in favor of this looks, to me,

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1 like if you guys went South you wouldn't have in
2 problem. In talking to Sedalia, Centralia, the
3 Ozarks, you could just zip right there. That's not
4 really what I called for. I just happen to notice
5 they were all from that area.

6 I own the Plattsburg Airport, so I do have
7 a small business. The airport has been there since
8 the 1950s, as much as we can tell. We purchased it in
9 and around the 1980s and built a house there and have
10 improved the airport. We now have more planes than
11 it's ever had probably, except when flying was really
12 at its height the 1950s.

13 We went to Gower and spoke with GBE when we
14 first heard about this just to see where it was going
15 to lie in position with our airport, which is quite
16 obvious why we would have concern. We're not talking
17 about a single tower. We're talking about long
18 strands of wire and towers. When we spoke with GBE --
19 and I did not tape it or write it all down -- he asked
20 and he showed us, and he said, "Would you be up" --
21 you know, "is this a problem?" And I said, "It would
22 be much better if it was north." And he said, "No
23 problem." Well, last I heard, they moved it closer,
24 not further away.

25 Our airport supports the community. We

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1 have had planes fly out of there to do chemicals over
2 the fields. Those are very heavy weighted airplanes.
3 When they take off, they do not -- you know, when they
4 are fully loaded trying to get off the ground, we have
5 normal people -- teacher, people who work at Ford.
6 These are normal pilots, just normal every day people.

7 This will greatly impact the value of my
8 airport that we have worked on so hard through the
9 years. And I actually even have an e-mail from
10 someone who wanted to buy the airport and suggested
11 that if we didn't sell right away that it could
12 possibly not bring the value that it would bring now.

13 So it's just, you know -- I understand the
14 power lines. Not a problem. But like GBE tried to
15 tell me in Gower, "Well, this is progress. This is
16 the future. This is progressing." If that's true,
17 bury them. That's progressing. That's the future.

18 (Applause.)

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

20 MR. STEELE: Do you know who from GBE you
21 spoke with?

22 MS. VETTER: No. I'm sorry. I didn't even
23 plan on speaking or anything. I just wrote these
24 notes while I was sitting in the audience. He was a
25 young gentleman. I've seen him at several meetings.

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1 He wrote it in his notebook, and we thought, "Okay.
2 Fine. They will take this under consideration," and
3 the next think we know, it's further.

4 MR. STEELE: And what's your understand of
5 the distance between the airport and the proposed
6 lines?

7 MS. VETTER: I can't tell you that off the
8 top of my head.

9 MR. STEELE: Are you talking miles or less
10 than a mile or no idea at all?

11 MS. VETTER: I'm just not good at that, and
12 I didn't come prepared for that. You can look and
13 see. I just didn't come prepared. I'm sorry. I
14 just --

15 MR. STEELE: Thank you.

16 MS. VETTER: If you show me a map, I can
17 tell you.

18 MR. STOLL: Thank you.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, ma'am.

20 (Applause.)

21 Robert Peters? Mr. Peters?

22 Shaun Unthank?

23 SHAUN UNTHANK,
24 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
25 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as

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1 follows:

2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state
3 your name and spell your last name?

4 MR. UNTHANK: My name Shaun Unthank,
5 U-n-t-h-a-n-k.

6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside?

7 MR. UNTHANK: South of Kansas City in
8 Louisburg, Kansas.

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

10 MR. UNTHANK: I'd just like to say the
11 white shirt is purely coincidental. I just happen to
12 have one in the closet that was clean.

13 First of all, I want to ask my God for
14 wisdom for all of you on the Commission. I thank God
15 also for this country that the allows us to speak
16 freely like this. It's a very unique nation, and I
17 just wanted put that out there.

18 Just to answer a lot of the commentary that
19 we have, I will say I totally agree that the line is
20 all about money and profits. It's about money and
21 profits on both sites. The good landowners here are
22 trying to keep the value of their land, but I'd also
23 like to say it's the profits of what we have left over
24 after paying the bills. They're not evil. They are
25 the only means for creating excess money to maintain

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1 improve our standard of life. I cringe when I hear
2 the profits are bad, because they are the only way for
3 us to improve our life or move up in our economic
4 class.

5 I don't have any land. Neither do my
6 parents. I was never -- [inaudible] -- grandparents.
7 We never have excess profits. We lived in a
8 subdivision in a city. In our history we never had
9 enough to go out and buy a section of land or even
10 40 acres. I'd love to. Most of us in the city in the
11 subdivisions don't.

12 Nine years ago I took a risk. I started in
13 Grandview, Missouri. I sell equipment to electric
14 utility companies. I have a degree in electrical
15 engineering. I found transmission lines, and I
16 thought, "Hey, this is a way I can actually move up a
17 little bit."

18 We have six families that work with us. Of
19 those six people that work there, we have 17 children.
20 We hope to break even this year, because of a
21 downturn. Last what year we actually made some money,
22 and we got to have a nice little get together with it.

23 It's a Missouri small business. We use
24 Kris Davis in St. Joe. We buy about half a million
25 dollars a year with them. We do a lot of business

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1 with Burns & McDonnell in Kansas City. We work with
2 Par and Capital [phonetic], both contractors, quite a
3 bit in the Missouri area. All these are private
4 companies. They are owned and worked by people, not
5 by nameless corporations.

6 This is all about the profits, but I need
7 profits to and so do our employees. I can buy tools
8 to be more efficient. I can run my air conditioner.
9 I can pay my taxes for my -- [inaudible]. I can pay
10 my brother's salary as a Harrisonville police officer.
11 I can use the roads. I can buy trucks. I can buy
12 tractors, things made in Kansas City, and even a
13 television to relax a little bit.

14 I use the right-of-way of the public roads
15 every day. I use the water. I use the electricity,
16 and so do all of us. I don't think anybody in here
17 would vote to remove their current electric service if
18 they just wanted the power lines out of there. We
19 really can't exist as an economy without electric
20 service. The fact is we need them. We have to have
21 electricity, and we have to have it at a reasonable
22 price. Once we have our own comfort and our own --
23 [inaudible] -- hairdryers or air-conditioners, only
24 then do we vote against it.

25 I need support my church and my pastor's

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1 income otherwise my church goes away. I have to save
2 for retire, pay for college, my medical expenses,
3 40 percent taxes. I'm 100 percent ready for all --
4 [inaudible]. I need income. This line coming in is a
5 chance for one small business to keep going. Is it
6 all about profits.

7 I want to walk away from my business one
8 day. I want to be a preacher, but first I want to the
9 get my kids through college. I want to pay off my
10 house once I get enough profits to do so.

11 I'm for the XL pipeline with votes in
12 Nebraska, South Dakota. I have no interest there.
13 I'm for the lines being built by unions in Kansas
14 City, New Jersey, and New York. I'm for the lines
15 here because my company and these families need it.

16 I have no guarantee of any business here.
17 I actually ran into this company on the web when I was
18 out looking for more business trying to figure out a
19 way to make money. They said, "Hey, we've got
20 something coming up here in Missouri. Would you be
21 glad to come and speak? And I said, "Sure," because I
22 need money. My company needs money and these family
23 that work for us do too. So, again, I've got no
24 guarantee.

25 To the Commissioners, I might suggest you

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1 may be able to stipulate some local contractor
2 preference or Missouri preference or supplier
3 preference.

4 That's all I've got. Thank you.

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

6 Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Sue Cratic [phonetic]?

10 No Ms. Cratic?

11 Jennifer Miller?

12 JENNIFER MILLER,

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

16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state
17 your name and spell your last name?

18 MS. MILLER: Jennifer Miller, M-i-l-l-e-r.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where did you live?

20 MS. MILLER: Lenexa, Kansas.

21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Please go ahead.

22 MS. MILLER: I work for PSI, which is a
23 geotechnical engineering company with offices in
24 Texas, and Oklahoma and Kansas City, Missouri,
25 St. Louis, Illinois, and Indiana and on. We are two

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1 technical engineering firms. We are not contracted to
2 do work for Clean Line energy at this time; however,
3 our industry pursue project opportunities such as this
4 far in advance of construction services. We estimate
5 each of Clean Line's energy transmission lines to
6 retain and create 6 to 10 full time employees in
7 addition to subcontracting opportunities throughout
8 the length of the line. And we only comprise a
9 quarter of the percent of the cost of an entire
10 project. So we're just one small component, but we
11 still can help employee people.

12 For what it's worth, I grew up in Oregon
13 [phonetic] County. My parents still reside in a
14 community that many industries have abandoned. A
15 long-term projects, such as this, would help the local
16 tax base of small communities through employment.

17 And that's all I have.

18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions?

19 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Courtney Schami?

22 Are you are you Patrick?

23 MR. SCHAMI: Yes.

24 PATRICK SCHAMI,

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

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

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state
4 your name and spell your last name?

5 MR. SCHAMI: My name is Patrick Schami,
6 S-c-h-a-m-i.

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

8 MR. SCHAMI: I'm from Kansas City,
9 Missouri -- a current resident of Kansas City,
10 Missouri.

11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

12 MR. SCHAMI: So I'm from Kansas City.
13 Obviously, my community is a little bit different than
14 this. I'm not a landowner, but I see this as a
15 project that benefits Missouri as a whole. I'm from
16 Missouri. I believe that we should promote projects
17 that would help our state grow and prosper, and I see
18 this as a project where you have a company coming in
19 to invest in a transmission line. That investment,
20 that increase in economic activity, will then be taxed
21 and bring in tax revenue for the state. To me, this
22 is a no-brainer.

23 Now, Missouri is located in the --
24 [inaudible] -- so wind energy is heavily concentrated
25 in the Midwest. So you have a lot of wind turbines

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1 and wind farms popping up in the Midwest. And as
2 these wind farms grow and turbines are developed, you
3 need to way to transfer all of the surplus energy. We
4 should look at what these transmission lines would do.

5 It's actually surprising we don't have a
6 giant multi-state transmission line for wind energy,
7 and I believe this is something that will probably
8 happen within the next five to ten years anyway. So
9 it would be a real shame if some of this were to be
10 built and Missouri were not included in the project.

11 So I believe that we should support this
12 project, because it's something that could bring in
13 new job, more tax revenue, and be something that
14 actually benefits Missouri as a whole.

15 Thank you very much.

16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any question?

17 Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 Courtney Sheehan?

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

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state
25 your name and spell your last name?

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1 MS. SHEEHAN: Courtney Sheehan,
2 S-h-e-e-h-a-n.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Can you get right in front
4 of the mic? Thank you.

5 And where do you live?

6 MS. SHEEHAN: Kansas City, Missouri.

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

8 MS. SHEEHAN: Like the others who came
9 before me here recently, I believe that this project
10 is an opportunity for North Missouri. It has the
11 potential to bring in \$500 million in investment in
12 jobs in the manufacturing and construction and other
13 industries. It could bring in increased revenues from
14 property taxes through the Grain Belt. It could be
15 allotted to pay for schools, roads, and other local
16 services. All the landowners remain sole owner and
17 utilize -- [inaudible] -- property.

18 I just believe it's an opportunity, and
19 that's all I got.

20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

21 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Thank you.

22 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. That's all the
24 names I have on the list that signed up to testify.

25 Is there anybody else who has not signed up that would

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1 like to testify?

2 Yes sir, come forward.

3 JIM NEELY,

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

5 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as

6 follows:

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would please state your

8 name for the record and spell your last name.

9 MR. NEELY: Jim Neely, N-e-e-l-y.

10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

11 MR. NEELY: Caldwell County, Cameron.

12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

13 MR. NEELY: Thank you for having us today.

14 As the state representative for Clinton and Caldwell

15 County, you may be aware that I proposed some

16 legislation against this project moving forward. And

17 so not knowing what you know in that regard, I thought

18 it was important that you knew that there was a state

19 representative who was supportive of the landowners

20 and their individual rights.

21 And that's essentially all I wanted to let

22 you know.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

24 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

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1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: I think I saw another
2 hand. Was there someone else?

3 Yes, sir.

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

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Can you please state your
9 name and spell your last name.

10 MR. DAWSON: Charles Dawson, D-a-w-s-o-n.

11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

12 MR. DAWSON: Holt [phonetic], Missouri.

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Please go ahead.

14 MR. DAWSON: My colleague was here earlier,
15 Mr. King. He's commissioner also of our county and
16 Clinton County. We had several people come up here.
17 I don't think any of them that was -- own land. All
18 of them stand to make money. Everything you've heard
19 ou there from the people that show up and say, "We
20 have a small business. We want to make" --
21 [inaudible], I just wonder if they own land in Clinton
22 County. If -- [inaudible] -- that they're ready to
23 sell or auction, or does it go to the golden rule?
24 Those who make the gold own the rule. I ask you to
25 really think hard on this of what's happening in our

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1 county, because it will devastate it. We have people
2 here -- we was out to the youth club the other day and
3 we had farms that was a hundred years --
4 [inaudible] -- over and over for the hundred years
5 they've had. And there was numerous amounts of
6 farmers that have had the land for 100 years. I hate
7 to see that go down and our -- [inaudible] -- cut up.

8 And like one of the guys said, once this
9 goes in, there's no control over who runs it and so
10 on.

11 That's all I have to say. Thank you for
12 your time.

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions?

14 Thank you.

15 COMMISSIONER STOLL: No question. Thank
16 you for your time.

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any other witness?

18 There in the back?

19 MR. DAWSON: I have one other thing.

20 Excuse me. One more thing. Clinton County
21 commissioners are against this. I speak for me. I'm
22 sure I speak for Mr. King, are dead set against this.
23 We hear there is statute that we can deny this. A
24 Missouri statute. I don't know if that's true or not,
25 but I think we will look at that if it those goes

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1 through, and I hope you look at this long and hard.

2 Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: So you testified before?

5 MS. HENKE: Yes, I have. I just.

6 ROBIN HENKE,

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

8 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as

9 follows:

10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name.

11 MS. HENKE: Robin Henke, H-e-n-k-e, and

12 live in Elsberry [phonetic].

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

14 MS. HENKE: The point I wanted to make was:

15 All this -- there is a lot of talk for job creation.

16 So I just wanted to make a point that the jobs -- that

17 as the farmers of Elsberry, Missouri, all the jobs in

18 our community that we support and we create and if it

19 wasn't for the farmers, we wouldn't have. We support

20 our local real estate agents, our meat market, our

21 churches, jobs with digging for ponds and trenches,

22 our water, our local energy groups, insurance agents,

23 schools, ag facilitates like NFA. We have three in

24 our community that would not exist without farmers.

25 Construction workers, farmers, mechanics, equipment

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1 sales, feed dealers, and veterinarian. If it wasn't
2 for the farmers being able to support our community,
3 our community wouldn't exist. And if we lose our land
4 and our rights, then they lose their profit as well
5 as.

6 That's the main point. Thank you.

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

8 Anybody else? Yes?

9 BECKY WHITMER,
10 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
11 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as
12 follows:

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state
14 your name and spell your last name.

15 MS. WHITMER: Becky Whitmer, W-h-i-t-m-e-r.

16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

17 MS. WHITMER: In Stuartsville.

18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Go ahead.

19 MS. WHITMER: I may look familiar, because
20 two of my sisters have already spoke. I first learned
21 about this line coming through as a hunter actually.
22 My husband and I are very involved in agriculture. We
23 both bow hunt. We raffle hunt. We love it. My
24 husband does taxidermy, and one of our landowners
25 said, "Oh, we're sorry. Your favorite place to hunt

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1 is going to be affected by this. Of course, we were
2 heartbroken, but it's their property. They can do
3 with it what they want. Little did I know, the line
4 was going to change and then much more dramatically
5 impact my sister and her property. The property we
6 hunt on is no longer affected, so we were relieved,
7 but then Robin calls me very upset telling me about
8 this land they just purchased for their boys someday
9 as their inheritance is going be split in half and
10 ruined.

11 So we got hit twice and it just -- it blows
12 my mind that something that can be so -- negatively
13 impact so many people in our community could draw so
14 much attention and be even a possibility. I am
15 educator like a couple of them -- [inaudible] -- here
16 today, and I also took a personal day to come out here
17 and show support against this, because I don't
18 understand the benefit to Missouri and I hope you guys
19 consider that. Every day in my job I try to do what's
20 best for my students, what's best for my community,
21 and I know you guys are put through that as well.

22 So please just find it in -- you know, I
23 know you guys probably have a code of ethics that you
24 follow as well. I do that as school counselor.
25 Ethically and morally, I just don't understand how we

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1 can -- how people can support something that
2 negatively impacts so many and take the rights away
3 from the people who work very hard for what they have.

4 Thank you.

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions?

6 Thank you.

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

11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Will you please state your
12 name my name --

13 MS. AUGHINBAUGH: My is name is --

14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: -- and speak into he
15 microphone.

16 MS. AUGHINBAUGH: My name is Linda
17 Aughinbaugh.

18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

19 MS. AUGHINBAUGH: We live just outside
20 Stewartsville, Missouri.

21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay go ahead.

22 MS. AUGHINBAUGH: We also own property up
23 west of Stuartsville around where the new power line
24 is coming through from up north down 60, which has
25 been passed by the commission and is cited to be

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1 erected next summer. It did cross some family land
2 that we own, and it's a small parcel, 80 [phonetic]
3 acres, and it cuts across the bottom [inaudible]. We
4 have no recourse [phonetic]. This is where it will
5 go, and in the process of discovering what all was
6 involved, I did some checking. And I happen to be a
7 beekeeper, and that seems to be a buzz these days.
8 Everyone wants to save the bees. Well, in old
9 information, you know, it's not -- it's not up to date
10 [phonetic], and it's not -- you know, it doesn't have
11 this scientific proof behind it, but different
12 beekeepers at different times have noticed that -- and
13 it is published in their books -- that under these
14 transmission lines, bees can not navigate. They do
15 not bring in what they need for their sustenance, so
16 theres that.

17 And also when this had just come true and
18 we knew we were going be on the route, I came over
19 here because there would be -- for this Grain Belt
20 Express hearing. And we started through and the
21 individual who was meeting with us, we were
22 experiencing concerns, and she stated to me -- she
23 said that you will be compensated. And at that point
24 I just understood that you can purchase the land or
25 these things traverse, but you cannot hope to pay --

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1 repay the damage that is done to the countryside, to
2 the health of those living in close proximity to the
3 lines that have not yet be been proven, but a lot of
4 the people on the east coast are saying it's the new
5 concern, just like lead was a concern. Not at the
6 time. Everybody thought it was the best thing.

7 And lastly, there was mention of grounding
8 vehicles when you are under these lines. Our son is
9 involved in construction, and one day they parked one
10 of their work trucks under these lines, and it was
11 working fine. When they came back an hour later, the
12 computer was shorted out. [Inaudible] -- ground.

13 And I would just state that many people
14 living in the countryside, those who own the land are
15 being told they can be compensated, but there are
16 neighbors that do not have those lines crossing their
17 property, who I really believe will be impacted as
18 well. Their health will be affected because we are
19 electrical beings, and it's something that will
20 obstruct the electromagnetic field that is already
21 there [phonetic]. Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

24 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your
25 testimony.

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1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

2 I thought there was one more in the back;
3 is that right?

4 Come on up.

5 NANCY VOGELSBERG-BUSCH,
6 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
7 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as
8 follows:

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Can state your name and
10 spell your last name?

11 MS. VOGELSBERG-BUSCH: Nancy
12 Vogelsberg-Busch, V-o-g-e-l-s-b-e-r-g, hyphen,
13 B-u-s-c-h.

14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?

15 MS. VOGELSBERG-BUSCH: Kansas. Home,
16 Kansas. I live in Marshall County.

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Go ahead.

18 MS. VOGELSBERG-BUSCH: I really want to
19 thank you for listening to your people. As a Kansan,
20 I felt that we were really just blindsided by this
21 whole affair. I am a landowner. I farm. And I feel
22 that the landowners were the last to know what was
23 going to hit them. I feel that many Kansans are still
24 shellshocked, if you will, as to what could possibly
25 happen to them.

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1 I really, again, want to thank you the
2 Commissioners here. The Commissioners in Kansas, the
3 great [phonetic] commissioners, they just kind of
4 passed the buck on to you. Mark Sievers the chairman,
5 here he's from Colorado. I don't know how he ended up
6 being the chair of the Commissioners in Kansas, and
7 he's back in Colorado now. So we all, 1,308 impacted
8 landowners in Kansas, many, many of them are really
9 depending on you to do what is right, not only for
10 Missouri, but for Kansas and for everyone across this
11 nation.

12 I just really am pleased to see that you
13 have taken so much time to have so many meetings
14 across Missouri. We didn't get that opportunity in
15 Kansas, and so that's why I left Kansas today to come
16 here and support the Missourians to stop the Grain
17 Belt Express. Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any question. Thank you.

20 I saw one more hand.

21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Have you already
22 testified?

23 Yes.

24

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. You're still under

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1 oath. Would you like add to your comment?

2 MS. FREE: I would like to add to our
3 record.

4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
5 again.

6 MS. FREE: Aleigha Free.

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Go ahead.

8 MS. FREE: When we were making the list of
9 animals that were affected, I forget to include
10 Missouri bats. I think they have some kind of
11 radar -- or I don't have the official term for what
12 that would be, but please add that to our list of
13 animals. And when I was including cropland,
14 timberland, I also wanted to include wetlands.

15 We have ten acres of wetlands that also
16 would be effect. If you'd please add that to our
17 statement, I'd appreciate that.

18 Thank you.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Yes, sir? Do you want to
20 testify?

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

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you state your name

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1 and spell your last name?

2 MR. STUCHLIK: My name is Gary Stuchlik.
3 That's S-t-u-c-h-l-i-k.

4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live,
5 sir?

6 MR. STUCHLIK: I live in Platte. This
7 address is Polo. I live in Caldwell County.

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

9 MR. STUCHLIK: Okay. I don't have a
10 prepared statement, so if I stumble a little, I
11 apologize.

12 This line will directly go across my land,
13 and I have a small piece of land that I've lived on
14 for about 37 years. I have three pipelines that are
15 within a hundred feet -- or not a hundred feet, but
16 100 yards of my house. The original one was there
17 when I moved on the place, and it was further away
18 from the house that I originally lived in. I built a
19 new house, and then shortly after that, two more
20 pipelines came in between the old pipeline and my
21 house.

22 This proposed power line will go on the
23 other side of my house within a couple hundred yards.
24 I talked to some of their people today about reception
25 for my TV. I'm just on an antenna. I said, "are you

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1 people going to pay for me to have to have cable,
2 because it's right between me and Kansas City." They
3 said, "Well, we don't know. It all depends on" --
4 "and we can make adjustments to that." Like everybody
5 else here, I'm going to be affected, and I could go on
6 and on about that, but the bottom line to all of this
7 is we've heard a lot of testimony today, most of it
8 negative, very little positive. We've heard about a
9 few jobs, relatively small and short-term in the long
10 run.

11 The price that would be paid for giving up
12 this right-of-way is nominal, really. It's like
13 somebody offering you \$200 to cut your hand off.
14 Well, you've got \$200, but you're going to be without
15 your hand for the rest of your life.

16 I've heard about profits. Profits are
17 good. Profits are the American way. I agree with
18 that 100 percent. I also would like to point out that
19 the ownership of property is also the American way.

20 (Applause.)

21 The bottom line of this is there is a lot
22 of negative, and we don't have very much positive.
23 We've got three guys here who are lawyers. We haven't
24 heard them say anything positive about it. We have a
25 few, what I would guess, either paid off or something

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1 [phonetic][inaudible](applause) -- testimony for the
2 positive, which they've really not come up with
3 anything near the in the balance to the negative.

4 I understand from the testimony today that
5 there are governors in the east coast that really
6 don't want this. I don't believe that they even have
7 the actual power source to transmit the -- to produce
8 this power to come across these lines in the first
9 place.

10 Then there is the foreign aspect of this.
11 You know, already, you know, what 40 percent of this
12 is foreign concern [phonetic] that can very easily
13 take over the whole thing. They say it's for power
14 lines, but what else can they possibly bring in once
15 they have this established?

16 The bottom line to this -- and I'll try to
17 be short. It says right here, "Missouri Public
18 Service Commission." That's what you gentleman are
19 charged with. That is your job. All I can say -- I
20 ask you, in your heart of hearts, can you honestly say
21 that this line going across Missouri, not supplying
22 any power to Missouri, from what I understand -- if
23 I'm wrong about that, please correct me -- the taxes
24 are next to nil. The compensation for the property
25 standards, it's -- it's ridiculous.

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1 In your heart of hearts, can you honestly
2 say that this is in the true Missouri Public Service
3 interest. If you say it is, then for God's sake,
4 let's get it on, but I don't think that you can
5 honestly do that. I can't see how anybody can
6 honestly say that there is any good Missouri Public
7 Services in this project.

8 Thank you.

9 (Applause.)

10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions?

11 I'd like to thank all the withins who have
12 testified today.

13 Would any of the Commissioners like to make
14 any closing remarks?

15 CHAIRMAN R. KENNEY: Thank you all for
16 coming. We have three more of these. Tonight and
17 then two tomorrow, and then we will conclude the
18 evidentiary hearing in Jefferson City in November
19 which you can view on the web, or you can feel free to
20 come to Jefferson City. Thank you for your time. And
21 thank you for your testimony.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: We're off the record.

23 (Proceedings concluded at 1:57 p.m.)

24

25

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, Lauren N. Lawrence, a Certified Court Reporter within and for the State of Missouri, do hereby certify that the witness whose testimony appears in the foregoing deposition was duly sworn by me; that the testimony of said witness was taken by me to the best of my ability and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction; that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this deposition was taken, and further that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties thereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.

Lauren N. Lawrence, CCR #1368T

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