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STATE OF MISSOURI
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Local Public Hearing
September 4, 2014

Hamilton Community Arts Theatre
Hamilton, Missouri

Volume 8

In The Matter Of The)
Application Of Grain Belt)
Express Clean Line LLC)
For A Certificate Of)
Convenience And Necessity)
Authorizing It To) FILE NO. EA-2014-0207
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,)

MICHAEL BUSHMANN, Presiding
SENIOR REGULATORY LAW JUDGE

ROBERT S. KENNEY, Chairman,
STEPHEN M. STOLL,
WILLIAM P. KENNEY,
DANIEL Y. HALL,
SCOTT T. RUPP,
COMMISSIONERS

REPORTER BY: Maria Taylor

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A P P E A R A N C E S

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PROCEEDINGS

(Proceedings commenced at 11:04 a.m.)

JUDGE BUSHMANN: Let's go on the record.

Morning. It's Thursday, September 4th at 11 o'clock a.m. We're in Hamilton, Missouri. Missouri Public Service Commission has set this time for a local public hearing in the case captioned as "In The Matter Of The Application Of Grain Belt Express Clean Line LLC For A Certificate Of Convenience And Necessity Authorizing It To Construct, Own, Operate, Control, Manage, And Maintain A High Voltage, Direct Current Transmission Line And An Associated Converter Station Providing An Interconnection On The Maywood-Montgomery 345 kV Transmission Line.

File number EA-2014-0207. My name's Michael Bushmann. I'm the regulatory law judge that will be presiding over the hearing this morning. With me are Chairman Robert Kenney and Commissioner Steven Stoll, Bill Kenney, and Daniel Hall. Mr. Chairman, would you like to make any opening remarks?

CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you, Judge.

Good morning, everybody. I want to thank you for being here and for participating in this process. This is the seventh local public hearing

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1 that we've held in this matter. We have one
2 additional one this evening at six in Carrolton,
3 Missouri, and that will include a string of eight.

4 We've tried to be as inclusive as possible
5 by holding as many hearings as possible in each of the
6 affected counties. The information that you will
7 provide and testimony will be transcribed by the court
8 reporter, and all the commissioners will have an
9 opportunity to review that testimony as a part of our
10 deliberations once the evidentiary hearing is
11 concluded or held, rather, in November.

12 So again, thank you for taking the time to
13 be here. We appreciate your participation and look
14 forward to hearing your testimony.

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Let's have attorneys make
16 their entries of appearance. For Grain Belt Express?

17 MR. STEELE: Jonathan Steele for Grain Belt
18 Express Clean Line LLC.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Office of Public Counsel?

20 MR. OPITZ: Tim Opitz for the Office of
21 Public Counsel, P.O. Box 2230, Jefferson City,
22 Missouri 65102.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: For commission staff?

24 MR. WILLIAMS: Nathan Williams, Post Office
25 Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

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1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Missouri Land Owners
2 Alliance?

3 MR. AGATHEN: Paul Agathen from Washington,
4 Missouri, and Judge, I also represent David McKnight.

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any other attorneys
6 representing parties in this action I've not called?

7 Before taking any testimony today I wanted
8 to provide you with some information about the
9 Commission and why the Commission is holding this
10 public hearing.

11 Grain Belt Express applied to the
12 Commission for approval of its plans to construct a
13 high voltage direct current transmission line and
14 associated facilities within Buchanan, Clinton,
15 Caldwell, Carroll, Chariton, Randolph, Monroe, and
16 Ralls County, Missouri. As well as an associated
17 converter station in Ralls County.

18 The Commission may grant permission if it
19 finds that the construction is necessary or convenient
20 for the public service. The Commission cannot decide
21 any questions about eminent domain including whether
22 particular property can be taken or the amount of
23 compensation that can be paid. Those questions can
24 only be addressed in circuit court.

25 The Commission has already scheduled an

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1 evidentiary hearing for November of this year to take
2 evidence regarding Grain Belt Express' application.

3 It has also scheduled hearings in each of
4 the counties affected by the proposed transmission
5 line to give members of the public a chance to state
6 their support or opposition to the project. That's
7 the purpose of today's hearing.

8 For those of you who would like to provide
9 testimony, I'm going to call the names listed on the
10 sign-up sheet. If you signed up but testified in a
11 previous hearing, please wait until the end of the
12 list to testify so that others may who have not
13 already testified.

14 When I call your name, please come down to
15 the microphone and stand here in front. I'll put you
16 under oath and ask you to state your name and where
17 you live, and then you can offer your comments to the
18 Commission. There are a lot of people here today who
19 would like to speak, so please keep your remarks to
20 under five minutes so that everybody has a chance to
21 testify. I'll give you a five-minute warning, and
22 then try to conclude your remarks shortly after that.
23 The commissioners won't be able to answer any of your
24 questions today because they have to remain impartial
25 until after the evidence is presented as at the

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1 evidentiary hearing.

2 If you do have questions, please speak to
3 representatives of Grain Belt Express or Commission
4 staff or any of the other parties that are here. My
5 final request is to please be polite and courteous for
6 everyone who's speaking and treat them as you'd like
7 to be treated.

8 Let's go ahead and start with the
9 testimony. The first name that I have on the list is
10 Mark Mutchel.

11 SPEAKER: Can you turn the mic up just a
12 little, please?

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: I'll certainly try.

14 MIKE MUTCHLEI,
15 of lawful age, produced, sworn, and says:

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

18 MR. MUTCHLEI: Mike Mutchlei,
19 M-U-T-C-H-L-E-I.

20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?

21 MR. MUTCHLEI: My residence is 401 Camelot
22 Drive in Liberty, Missouri 64068.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please, go ahead.

24 MR. MUTCHLEI: Approximately four years ago
25 my wife and myself decided we wanted to buy some

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1 property in which we could spend some time on the
2 weekends with our children, teach them some fishing
3 and hunting skills and hiking, and we spent about
4 two-and-a-half years looking for that property. We
5 found a piece of property located just south of
6 Kingston, we really liked the piece of property, and
7 we thought the asking price was very fair so we put in
8 for a full asking price as an offer. Well, of course,
9 the sellers came back and accepted our offer.

10 However, when they provided the seller's
11 disclosure, they disclosed that the property was going
12 to be intersected or impacted directly by one of the
13 proposed paths of Clean Line Grain Belt Express. So
14 immediately, we stepped back and say, whoa, what are
15 we going to do here? We added contingency to our
16 contract, and if I could enter my contract, my land
17 contract, into evidence, and I will read, if I can
18 read it. I will read directly from our contract here.

19 I'm sorry. I can't read it. It's so
20 small, and the lighting is poor here. What it states
21 is the seller must provide evidence that Clean Line or
22 Grain Belt Express would not impact the property;
23 otherwise, we would back out of the entire deal.

24 There wasn't an issue about land value. It was an
25 issue about whether or not the seller could actually

1 sell the property.

2 We were asked -- we were giving full price.
3 The value had not diminished, but the salability of
4 that property had dropped to zero. The sellers
5 unfortunately were an elderly gentleman that needed
6 money for medical expenses, and luckily for them and
7 for us, the proposed path was moved south on a
8 different route and we settled on that piece of
9 property with them.

10 However, that didn't stop my concerns. I'm
11 a Missouri citizen, and I appreciate, Your Honor, the
12 Chairman and Commissioners for listening to us as
13 Missouri citizens, you're representing the Missouri
14 public and our rights as citizens of this great state.

15 And so I stand here and fight for those
16 rights, not only the right to protect what I own, but
17 the rights of those people who already own that
18 property and would like to sell it, perhaps, retire,
19 and sell that property, they won't be able to do that.
20 They're going to be stuck in a position where they
21 can't sell the property, not a matter of value.
22 People that come out solo, people are going to look at
23 it and say, I'm not going to buy that piece of
24 property. I'm going to go north or south. I'm going
25 to go to Kansas or maybe Illinois. I'm not going to

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1 stay in this location. And we're going to lose that
2 incentive and that ability to sell property to
3 interested people who may want to move to the state or
4 which to stay in the state, and that's my concern.

5 Like I said, I have evidence that it
6 doesn't affect, necessarily the value, I can't prove
7 the value, but I can show by my contract that it
8 directly impacted the ability of the seller to sell
9 the property outright. Thank you.

10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You say you have evidence
11 that you wanted to submit into the record?

12 MR. MUTCHLEI: That is correct.

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: What are the two documents
14 that you'd like to --

15 MR. MUTCHLEI: Well, I have one document,
16 and it's the real estate land contract which has a
17 contingency noted in here which states that we would
18 not accept the sale of the property, we would not buy
19 the property if Clean Line or Grain Belt Express
20 impacted our property.

21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Is there any confidential
22 information in there that you need to redact before
23 you submit that?

24 MR. MUTCHLEI: I don't believe so. I did
25 cross out the signatures and initials so those won't

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1 be seen, but everything else I believe is okay to
2 submit. I didn't see any personal information that
3 needed to be crossed out.

4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Can you bring it up here?

5 Thank you. Okay. This document will be
6 received into the record subject to the attorney's
7 right to object. Attorneys will be given five
8 business days to object after the information is
9 posted to the electronic filing information system.

10 MR. MUTCHLEI: Thank you.

11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions for the
12 witness?

13 Thank you, sir.

14 Denise Bennett?

15 DENISE BENNETT,
16 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

19 MS. BENNETT: Denise Bennett,

20 B-E-N-N-E-T-T.

21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

22 MS. BENNETT: 31889 Marshall Road,
23 Jacksonville, Missouri.

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please, go ahead.

25 MS. BENNETT: Okay. I'm here to testify in

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1 support of the Clean Line project. My title is Macon
2 County Economic Development Director, and I feel this
3 project is extremely valuable to this region, the
4 north part of Missouri and the state as a whole.

5 The project is not going to go through our
6 county, but we still feel it will benefit our
7 community, the companies and the region. Obviously,
8 the jobs are very important to Missouri, as well as
9 the investment that the company is making that would
10 benefit to the community through the tax dollars. Not
11 only that but infrastructure is a big tool in
12 Missouri's tool chest for attracting companies, and
13 the more electricity that we have in our grid and
14 renewable energy, the more attractive we are to
15 companies outside of the state to try to get and bring
16 businesses here to this area.

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? Thank you.

18 MS. BENNETT: Thank you.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: The next name is Jennifer
20 Gatrel. I think you testified to the Marcelline
21 hearing. So I'm going to move you to the end of the
22 list. You can testify later.

23 MS. GATREL: Okay. I had said I was going
24 to testify very briefly, and I was going to preserve
25 my time for this. Would it be possible to testify now

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1 or do you want me to wait?

2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: I prefer that you wait
3 since you testified previously.

4 MS. GATREL: Okay. Thank you.

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Marvin Tomlinson.

6 MARVIN TOMLINSON,
7 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And could you state your
9 name and spell your last name?

10 MR. TOMLINSON: My name is Marvin
11 Tomlinson. Last name is T-O-M-L-I-N-S-O-N. I live in
12 Caldwell County.

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please proceed.

14 MR. TOMLINSON: What I think is really
15 important, it's not -- it's been overlooked is our
16 environment is being impacted by burning fossil fuels.
17 We have to switch to a green economy.

18 I have grandchildren, four grandchildren,
19 that I'm concerned with their future, and their
20 children's future. We need to take this step to build
21 the infrastructure so we can stop using fossil fuels.
22 And that's it.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? Thank you.

24 Janice Stonum?

25 MS. STONUM: I would like to yield, if

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1 possible.

2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay.

3 MS. STONUM: Another person, Shannon
4 Christopher.

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Larry Pollard?

6 LARRY POLLARD,
7 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

10 MR. POLLARD: Larry Pollard.

11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And how do you spell the
12 last name?

13 MR. POLLARD: P-O-L-L-A-R-D.

14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside, sir?

15 MR. POLLARD: Chariton County, Missouri.

16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

17 MR. POLLARD: I am a citizen of Chariton
18 County. I strongly support the Grain Belt electrical
19 transfer project across Missouri. Nationally we are
20 properly moving to renewable energy resources and
21 we're --

22 THE COURT REPORTER: What was that, sir?

23 MR. POLLARD: Nationally we are properly
24 moving to renewable energy sources and reducing our
25 dependence on fossil fuels, it's time. Winds of the

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1 great plains are an important source of non-carbon
2 air. The electricity has to be transported -- -
3 distributed and transported from the source to the end
4 user. We can compare it to all the gas lines, coal
5 trains, river (inaudible), transport trucks, and the
6 electrical transmission monitors. Some companies
7 represent, in quote, for profits. They have authority
8 for eminent domain of the regulation of Missouri
9 Public Commission. Project objections have surfaced.
10 Those objections have not turned my opinion. Damage,
11 real or imagined, need to be addressed. Those damages
12 will require mitigations and compensation. The
13 Missouri Public Service Commission is a regular agency
14 that should oversee this.

15 This (inaudible) the project is energy
16 generation without cars and nationally and global
17 issues. There are also local economic benefits.
18 These will be discussed or have been discussed or can
19 be discussed more thoroughly. That concludes my
20 comments.

21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? Thank you,
22 sir.

23 Marshall Stonum or Stomer?

24 MR. STONUM: I'd like to donate my time to
25 Shannon Christopher.

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1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Sherry Christopher.

2 SHERRY CHRISTOPHER,
3 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

6 MS. CHRISTOPHER: Sherry Christopher,
7 C-H-R-I-S-T-O-P-H-E-R.

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

9 MS. CHRISTOPHER: I live in Polo, Missouri,
10 Caldwell County.

11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

12 MS. CHRISTOPHER: I'm pretty angry and a
13 little emotional, so I apologize. I am a hundred
14 percent opposed to Clean Line building high voltage
15 power lines across our state. We have been sick
16 inside waking up at night.

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Move a little closer to
18 the microphone.

19 MS. CHRISTOPHER: I'm skeptical of their
20 true intentions and extremely concerned with their
21 lack of experience in putting up a line of this
22 magnitude. One of my fears is they are just a front
23 to obtain public utility status and allow eminent
24 domain to be used to get our property.

25 Their partners are the National Grid, and

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1 I'm afraid that some day a (inaudible) of land going
2 through our state would be owned by the National Grid
3 instead of our country.

4 In March we received a certified letter
5 stating that they had an interest in our property with
6 vague details. Our town's name wasn't even listed on
7 the map. About a month later my husband received a
8 call and said they wanted to meet with us, he told
9 them our land is not for sale or lease, and we didn't
10 hear anything else about it for a while.

11 I called them the end of June, first part
12 of July and asked them if they would please send us
13 some information stating their actual intent on our
14 property. I would like to see more details because we
15 own a hundred acre cattle ranch where we raise
16 wholistically fed, grass fed beef. And he said that
17 he wanted us to meet with his agent, and I said no,
18 please mail it us to. I voiced my concerns as an RN.
19 I'm well aware of the tragedy that affects families
20 when someone comes down with cancer, and he said he
21 had some research he was sending me that stated how
22 safe being around these power lines would be. I
23 didn't receive any of that information.

24 I received a brochure that was generic,
25 like a July newsletter-type brochure, stating that

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1 these meetings would be coming up and that's all I
2 received.

3 Last Saturday I got a call from Kyle, and
4 he is the agent in our area, and I agreed to meet with
5 him so we could see the details that we never
6 received. So he will be coming to visit with us
7 Saturday. We've lived in our barn house on this
8 hundred acres since 2003. We've been saving for our
9 dream home to build right there on that property. We
10 now have found out that they're planning to put these
11 towers literally over the top of us. Our property
12 line right behind our barn is 200 feet to the property
13 line. The towers are supposedly coming right across
14 there, so you know, the power lines would be right
15 over our home.

16 We were planning to build a home there this
17 spring, now it's on hold. I can remember the day my
18 husband called and told me that this was going to
19 happen, and my heart sank because I know what we're up
20 against. We raise our animals wholistically, no
21 chemicals, no hormones, no antibiotics. We've been
22 working to improve our pastures, we've been doing
23 conservation projects on this property for five years.
24 We weren't able to renew our five-year project for
25 conservation project this last week because we're

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1 afraid we'll be forced to move because we choose not
2 to live with these power lines.

3 This was going to be our retirement income,
4 and we were planning to retire in about 10 to 15 years
5 and continue to raise grass fed beef to supplement our
6 retirement income so we are not dependent on the
7 Social Security or the hope our pension plan will
8 still there be there.

9 The heart of my issue with the proposed
10 power line, and you can do your own research, is the
11 study of the serious health risk. There is a probable
12 link between cancer and leukemia in humans and
13 studies. I've never had cancer, but being a nurse
14 I've cared for many people with cancer, and it's a
15 tragedy to see someone have to go through that kind of
16 suffering.

17 The fact that they are still doing research
18 and some studies show inconclusive results, and
19 especially the fact that a power line of this
20 magnitude has never been built and has health effects
21 documented shows me they have still have a lot of
22 questions about it.

23 I have also a paper, I just did a little
24 research. Cattle herd numbers in the United States
25 have reduced dramatically over the last several

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1 decades. They would be taking our herd, we have an
2 80-head herd right now and we're growing. It would
3 continue to erode the cattle herd for the beef supply
4 in the United States. You can look that up on the
5 computer easily yourself.

6 I also have several excerpts, and I won't
7 try to read all of them, but there were some that were
8 really concerning to me. These are studies done off
9 .gov studies, some of them are HubMed. If you are
10 concerned about EMF exposure, your first step should
11 be to find out where the EFM exposures are and move
12 away from them or limit the time you spend near them.

13 The electric power industry contributed
14 about half of the 45 million dollars spent on EMF
15 rapid program to research the health effects of these
16 lines, and basically have proven that they don't
17 really know for sure.

18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Five minutes.

19 MS. KILMER: I'd like to yield my time to
20 my mother, please.

21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: What's your name?

22 MS. KILMER: Jocelyn Kilmer.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Go ahead.

24 MS. CHRISTOPHER: The same study from the
25 NIEHS study they did with the EMF rapid program, it

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1 says, Using criteria developed by the International
2 Agency for research on cancer, a majority of the
3 members of a working group concluded that exposure to
4 power frequency is a possible human carcinogen. We
5 are not sure which aspects of the magnetic field
6 exposure (inaudible) future research may reveal that
7 even off of EMF reductions measured based on today's
8 limited understanding are inadequate or irrelevant.

9 So as you can see, there's a lot more
10 studies that need to be done before a power line needs
11 to be put up of this magnitude. So I am asking you to
12 please, please do not grant them the right to become a
13 public utility. They should not be allowed to derail
14 landowners, reduce our property value, force us to
15 move for our fear of health risk.

16 We've heard studies that it reduces the
17 fertility of cattle. That's our livelihood. You will
18 hear from my husband, and you're going to derail that
19 man's whole life since he's been a little boy of what
20 he wanted to grow up and become. I think you're
21 affecting a lot more people than us, and I think it
22 needs to be recognized that the people who want the
23 line to go through are not the ones that are having to
24 live under it. And that's all I have.

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

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1 Shannon Christopher.

2 SHANNON CHRISTOPHER,
3 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

6 MR. CHRISTOPHER: Shannon Christopher,
7 C-H-R-I-S-T-O-P-H-E-R.

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

9 MR. CHRISTOPHER: Polo, Missouri.

10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

11 MR. CHRISTOPHER: I want to -- there's a
12 whole lot that boils up inside of a man, and there's a
13 whole lot of things that you can say at this
14 opportunity that you just can't squeeze into a small
15 amount of time. I represent a whole lot of people
16 here, not just myself. I do want to take this moment
17 and thank you all to hear my opinion and these other
18 people behind me, both sides.

19 It's not just about one person here today,
20 everything you just heard from the others and you're
21 about to hear from me is one person's view, but it's
22 the same thing that affects many.

23 My property is only so -- a certain size,
24 but my neighbors on either side of me deal with the
25 exact same issues that I'm dealing with. And it would

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1 be redundant to stand up here and to have you hear 700
2 ranchers, cattlemen, landowners, property owners,
3 gardeners, address you with the same issues over and
4 over. But essentially, that's what we're missing out
5 on is -- there's every neighborhood to my each
6 direction, east and west of that line has the same
7 concerns. A lot of them don't have the ability to get
8 up or want to speak. It's a big challenge for public
9 speaking. I'm not very good at it, but I'm willing to
10 stand up and do the best I can.

11 I've got a few bullet notes here that are
12 incredibly hard to fit on a note pad, but I'm going to
13 tell you how this is going to affect my life.

14 All I've ever wanted to do is raise cattle
15 and do what I've done for other men in my life, they
16 mentored me, and then as I took it upon myself and put
17 myself through college because I wanted to raise
18 cattle and know how to do it, and do it well, and I
19 put myself through. I made the investments to do
20 that. I bought land, not with power lines on it, I
21 bought land that was conducive to growing good forage
22 and to be a place where I could raise a family and
23 look out for the health and the concern, that had good
24 waters on it and a good place to raise cattle, a good
25 community, which I am in. Those things were very

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1 important to me. Now, that is being questioned and
2 being eroded. My property values. This is my
3 retirement. This is everything. I built the
4 infrastructure. I'm two-thirds into this life plan,
5 two-thirds into it. I'm about ready to pull the pin.
6 I had to have a city job to pay for my dreams. Here I
7 am today on my knees in front of you asking please
8 don't destroy what I have built and trying to do in
9 the great state of Missouri, and I thought as a
10 landowner, these are my rights to do these things
11 without somebody imposing their will on me without me
12 having a say so. I just don't understand that. When
13 I got out of college, I went to the military, I served
14 my country. And what did I do, what was my belief in
15 doing that? That was for the rights of every person
16 that lived in the United States of America, that's who
17 I went to work for every day. And my belief was that
18 I was protecting the back porches of every household
19 in here to have the rights, the freedoms that we were
20 given in this country. I see that being diminished
21 and diluted, and that is beyond acceptable. That's
22 one thing we cannot give up is our rights to choose.
23 When you buy a piece of land, who other
24 than you has the right. We all pay our -- I pay my
25 taxes. I obey all the rules in society, I should have

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1 no reason, no one should be able to come in and
2 dictate and remove my plan, future plans, our current
3 plans.

4 That's -- this project is of a scale and of
5 a caliber that's never been done before, it's not a
6 utility company coming to you to ask that -- like
7 KCP&L that's been doing it for years. That concerns
8 me greatly. Any time you do something for the very
9 first time, is not always going to be the best, that's
10 just -- we've got a lot to learn. There's a whole lot
11 of things there that's going to have some
12 ramifications and some consequences about, you know,
13 that we're going to learn from and get better.

14 Hopefully, the people that don't live under
15 these lines can have some compassion for the people
16 that do. These lines are going to be directly over
17 the barn I live in right now because I had to buy --
18 everything has come through my work and sweat equity.
19 I've had to buy the land first, had to build the barn
20 to put my livestock and equipment in for my
21 investments to protect it, to take care of my
22 livestock properly, but then the last but not least is
23 when I could get on my feet, I would build my family
24 home that we would retire in and stay on this
25 property. Which has been absolutely -- and I ask you

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1 to put yourself in not just my position, but every
2 landowner this comes across. It's easy to say when
3 you live a mile or two or three or four or continued
4 further, when you pay with a pile of flesh, it means a
5 heck of a lot more when I'm standing there bloody than
6 when somebody else doesn't give a stray. It's easy to
7 say we should bring these things and do these things.
8 I agree that we should find alternative ways and get
9 away from the fossil fuel, I agree with that. Let's
10 just find a healthy way that it doesn't jeopardize
11 someone's livelihood or their health or find -- let's
12 do the research and make sure that we're making the
13 right decisions, not just a knee-jerk reaction. Let's
14 find out that their grandchildren that play under
15 these lines across the state of Missouri are going to
16 be healthy because right now there's statistics that
17 somehow leukemia rates are greatly increased by
18 children.

19 For example, these are facts, up in South
20 Dakota, there's power lines that run across that are
21 much smaller in scale, but the cattlemen up there and
22 there's a gentleman here that can support this, you
23 can talk to cattlemen all over this state or anywhere
24 you want to go, and you can't drive a cattle
25 underneath these power lines. They won't graze. The

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1 electron magnetic field interrupt their grazing. They
2 do not breed. When an open cow does not give me a
3 calf every year, that is a substantial money loss.
4 Where is the men, where is the justification, where is
5 -- are they going to be when my cattle don't breed and
6 my income gets significantly dropped? Nobody can
7 answer that. Sorry for me, sorry for my brothers and
8 sisters that this is happening to, and if they give me
9 \$50,000 for coming across my property, and my property
10 value drops 350,000, anybody want to do that math,
11 because it don't come out for the landowner that has
12 obeyed the laws, paid his taxes, developed his life
13 plan, two-thirds through his life plan. I'm 50. I
14 don't get to restart and do this over again. I'm
15 committed. I've got the infrastructure, the barns,
16 the tractors, the trucks, the livestock purchased.
17 I'm committed. I can't afford to lose. And they
18 can't either. And it's not just about me. I'm just
19 the guy up here presenting the information to you
20 asking you to consider people like myself in this
21 situation.

22 And as you've heard, there's a whole lot of
23 other situations that doesn't involve livestock, but
24 it does involve property values decreased. Nobody
25 wants to buy it. Who would buy ground that looks in

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1 the paper and when this comes and it's -- and you see
2 it for miles, who's going to say, hey, you know that
3 piece of ground over there, you know, right underneath
4 that great big power line, you know, boy, I think that
5 looks nice. I -- I would -- I would ask any of you --
6 I don't believe you would want to buy or purchase that
7 piece of ground because we all choose -- if we have a
8 choice and there's a lot of other ground around, we're
9 going to go somewhere else so all of our property is
10 reduced.

11 I don't know what that value is, but it's
12 greatly reduced and if you can't run your retirement
13 plan on it, boy, you're taking it in the mouth twice.

14 The foreign country issue is something that
15 brings me just speechless. The United Kingdom has
16 40 percent of it and has a right to purchase more at
17 any time across -- I, for one, am American made.
18 That's what I buy, that's what I support, and I'm not
19 looking to give up an easement through my property or
20 this state of Missouri to the United Kingdom, to
21 another country? Boy, there is a question that needs
22 to be answered and a whole lot of facts needs to come
23 out about that, but I don't know many of the people
24 behind me that thinks that's a very good idea. A
25 tornado, these things are 200 foot tall, 150, 250 foot

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1 tall, seven across a mile, what happens, because we
2 don't know these things but I'm going to present a
3 question to you. We have tornados in the state of
4 Missouri. When the tornados or high winds spins these
5 up with this mega wattage that's more stronger than
6 the Hoover Dam, the power that comes out of the Hoover
7 Dam in Las Vegas, Nevada, this is a magnitude far
8 greater than that, so when the tornados bring these
9 wires down and it lands on my barn which is directly
10 underneath, this thing is going to go up like a Roman
11 candle with my children, my grandchildren, we've got
12 five children. I would like to know the safety
13 issues, and how this is going to take effect.

14 The bottom line is, what's next? Once this
15 door gets opened and you grant them public utilities
16 commission and then they get to run free reign. And
17 private gain for eminent domain is a sin. That's not
18 what this -- eminent domain was set up for. Big
19 corporate America should not be able to impose little
20 small guys like me -- stomp us out. No farms, means
21 no food. I don't know anybody in here that can do
22 very good without having a lunch, breakfast, or a
23 dinner today. No food is a big deal. And it starts
24 out on small scale, but you're stomping the farmers if
25 you make these decisions. There's consequences to all

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1 decisions, let's look at them and make sure we're
2 doing the right things, make sure we've equally
3 weighed them on all sides, not just my side, and I
4 know you are, but this is our opportunity. Once
5 again, I thank you for hearing our concerns and an
6 extremely heartfelt -- and there's so much more I
7 could say, but I'm going to keep it short and try to
8 be very concise. I ask that we just protect our
9 rights to our land and give us the right to protect
10 our families and our health and our family's health
11 and our property values.

12 What else -- what else can happen to a
13 person in a family that's more of a kick in the gut
14 than this? I mean, we have to see it, you have to
15 deal with the health effects, and the property value
16 and your retirement plan. Wow, I can't think of a
17 bigger kick in the stomach, and with that, I ask that
18 God be with each Missouri landowner and God bless
19 Missouri.

20 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thanks for your
21 testimony.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: James Feil.

23 JAMES FEIL,
24 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and

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1 spell your last name.

2 MR. FEIL: James Feil, F-E-I-L.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside?

4 MR. FEIL: Cowgill, Missouri.

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please, go ahead.

6 MR. FEIL: You know, I'm here today not
7 just for me, but for all my neighbors and friends and
8 family. I'm no medical expert. I don't know if these
9 power lines are going to cause us to have three-eyed
10 kids or anything like that. But I can tell you I'm
11 from a fourth and fifth generation farm as well as
12 most of my neighborhoods.

13 We've worked for generation after
14 generation to get these farms the way we want them and
15 then the fact that you guys want to come through here
16 or some company does and put power lines through --
17 we're all proud to be from Missouri. We're all proud,
18 or at least I am, to be from Caldwell County. Without
19 a doubt it's one of the poorest counties, but it's one
20 of the proudest counties that you'll find in Missouri.
21 And I'd hate to see it come to the point, you know,
22 you can only push somebody so far and not think they
23 won't push back. It's an embarrassment for me to see
24 what happened down in Furgeson, Missouri, but if you
25 don't think that it's not possible for something of

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1 that magnitude to happen right here in Caldwell
2 County, you're mistaken. And I don't mean this as a
3 threat to anybody or anything like. It's just a
4 simple fact. You have generation after generation
5 after generation of landowners, and we're not going to
6 sit down and take this without fighting back, and
7 we're going to do what it takes.

8 And I hope that you guys can see that, you
9 know, we don't want this. You know, I look out in
10 this audience today, and there's not hardly a member I
11 don't know, that I went to school with their brothers
12 or sisters or uncle or someone. We all know one
13 another. We are a tight, tight group here in Caldwell
14 County, and we're telling you as a county, we do not
15 want these power lines coming through our county.
16 That's my testimony.

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

18 Thank you.

19 Leonard Vanderpool? Or Underpool?

20 Linda McElwee, M-C-E-L-W-E?

21 MS. McELWEE: Two Es.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Two Es? Sorry about that.

23 MS. McELWEE: Thank you for getting it
24 right. Most people don't.

25 LINDA McELWEE,

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1 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

4 MS. McELWEE: Yes, I'm Linda M-C, capital
5 E-L-W-E-E.

6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside?

7 MS. McELWEE: I live in Cowgill, on a farm
8 outside of Cowgill.

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please proceed.

10 MS. McELWEE: Thank you, sir.

11 First of all, I want to say welcome to
12 Caldwell County. I appreciate the time and energy
13 that you have exerted to bring these hearings to us.
14 It would be so easy for you to sit at a desk in
15 Jefferson City and stamp whatever, but I think it
16 shows great courage and character for you to face
17 people that you know are opposed to a thing and you're
18 going to have to be the people that make that
19 decision.

20 First of all, a lot of us were born here,
21 and went away to school and chose to come back. We
22 have a lot of people who have come here for the chance
23 to look out in the morning and see a beautiful sunrise
24 or the horizon or the sunset without opposition and
25 obstacles. Grain Belt Express doesn't understand that

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1 and doesn't care. I have an issue with the easements.
2 The easements that will be given to this project are
3 signing away our rights to that land forever, and if
4 Grain Belt Express cannot fulfill their obligation,
5 they have the right to sell that easement to anybody
6 for any reason, and they don't care. I worked as a
7 public health nurse for 26 years and ran the county
8 health department, and in that time I was privileged
9 to work with CDC on many projects and National
10 Association of County and City Health Officers about
11 20 years ago. We had a cluster of deaths in young
12 men, and as we began to look at the medical histories
13 of these seven young men, they all had strange and
14 rare cancer. The common denominator in these deaths
15 was that they were all linemen.

16 I sent a request to the Department of
17 Health to have an investigation done, and they sent me
18 back that seven was too small a number to do
19 statistics, but I will tell you, seven young men taken
20 out of a community that had the common denominator,
21 and they were all -- had a strange and rare cancer
22 that left a big hole in families and in the community.
23 I will believe until the day I die that those men died
24 because of their occupation.

25 We also come to an issue that we have, and

1 no one has mentioned it before, and that's Life
2 Flight. Because we are so remote, we count on Life
3 Flight to do our medical ambulances by air from Kansas
4 City to Trenton and Chillicothe, which are the two
5 major hospitals that will go right over this power
6 line. I talked to them a couple of weeks ago, and
7 while they are not pleased with the idea of these huge
8 towers, especially in foggy conditions, they'll work
9 around them. But I have issues when I think about --
10 my dad was in a tractor accident when I was 12, and
11 what if someone couldn't get to him because he was
12 under one of these towers somewhere or something? So
13 I think we need to think about things that we probably
14 haven't thought about before.

15 My husband and I are both born in Caldwell
16 County, came back to Caldwell County and bought a
17 farm, and that was our life's dream. Maybe crazy, but
18 nevertheless -- and for all those years he worked at
19 Ford Motor Company for 30 years, and most of those
20 years were 58 hours a week. And he would come home,
21 crawl in the tractor and bail hay until midnight and
22 get up at 4:00 a.m. And at that time I worked at the
23 hospital, and the health department. I worked two
24 jobs, and that's so we could afford to give our kids
25 the chance to live in the country. This proposed line

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1 goes across the very best pieces of our land, and we
2 have sweat a lot of years and some of the stories we
3 should never tell of the things that happened to us.

4 I think that all of us do believe in
5 renewable energy and that we have to be careful with
6 our natural resources, towers in the area are not the
7 same as cables and conduits underground. And I don't
8 think anyone has talked about that before, and I think
9 that's something that maybe ought to be considered
10 somewhere along the line.

11 I am concerned also that giving Grain Belt
12 Express public status sets a precedent in this state
13 that may not be a good thing in times to come. I have
14 no idea what are the things, but think about
15 possibilities. When I worked with CDS on projects we
16 would have brainstorming sessions, and we would sit
17 down and think what if, what if, what if, and one of
18 our exercises was what if you were a terrorist, and
19 how could you wipe out big pieces of the United States
20 population? And if you sit down and think about some
21 of those things, it will scare you to death. Same
22 thing with what you're doing for granting status to
23 Grain Belt Express.

24 I do want to thank you again for coming and
25 letting us have our say, and I beg you and implore

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1 you, do not, do not give them status because if you
2 do, it shows the people in Missouri that you don't
3 care either, and I don't believe that for one minute.
4 I believe you do care.

5 Do you have any questions for me?

6 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your
7 testimony.

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, ma'am.

9 Marji Martin?

10 MARJI MARTIN,

11 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

14 MS. MARTIN: Marji Martin, M-A-R-T-I-N.
15 Kansas City.

16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

17 MS. MARTIN: I believe this line would be
18 really good for the area. It will be good for the
19 economy. There will be more jobs for local companies,
20 there will be people who are building a line will stay
21 at motels, gas and restaurants, and landowners will
22 get fair market value for their property and get their
23 land to use. I personally own a small farm. I don't
24 have beef, but I do have wheat, and it hasn't affected
25 the price of my property. And as far as the fossil

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1 fuels, we need to get away from the fossil fuels. We
2 need to get where we get the wind energy and solar
3 transmission going, and our country is sadly lacking
4 in a lot of high transmission lines. Thank you.

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? I'd also
6 mention that I'm hearing comments during testimony. I
7 ask that you do not make any comments and be courteous
8 while a witness is testifying.

9 Next witness is Steve Schultz.

10 STEVE SCHULTZ,
11 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

14 MR. SCHULTZ: Steve Schultz, S-C-H-U-L-T-Z.

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

16 MR. SCHULTZ: Boone County, Missouri. I
17 apologize for the confusion. I'm here to speak in
18 favor of Clean Line. I didn't know I should be
19 checking my shirt color before coming in today.

20 I'm here to speak in favor for the benefit.
21 I'm hear to speak for the project for the greater
22 whole of the state of Missouri. Renewable aspects
23 will provide renewable energy to the state, as well as
24 the great resources that we have. It will put us into
25 a unique position to be able to tap into that line for

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1 increased rates from other sources or if there's a
2 reduction in nuclear or coal power plants.

3 In addition to that, if the -- the line is
4 not going over any property owned; however, if it did,
5 it would be unfortunate, and I would probably be up
6 here speaking different. There are risks that I take
7 every day in life. I have an electric outlet every
8 night by my bed. I use a cell phone next to my ear.
9 I'm a civil engineer, and I deal with treating water
10 and waste water in that. I deal with fertilizer run
11 off from crop production that has to be treated.
12 There are themes and risks in life that you have to
13 take for the greater whole, so I can have food source
14 and supply.

15 Whenever I design a highway that goes
16 through a person's property, that person is always
17 against that; however, it provides a greater route for
18 safety and safe transmission of people, students,
19 kids, and in addition to farmers being able to bring
20 grains and things of that nature to my doorstep. If
21 there's nothing else, my comments are concluded.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

23 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: No, thanks.

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

25 Carolyn Shaffer?

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1 MS. SHAFFER: I'd like to defer my time to
2 Mike Ford.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Jamey Youse?

4 JAMEY YOUSE,
5 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

8 MS. YOUSE: My name is Jamey Youse,
9 Y-O-U-S-E.

10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

11 MS. YOUSE: I live -- I have a Clarence
12 address. I live in Monroe County.

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

14 MS. YOUSE: I work for Hubble Power
15 Systems, a large manufacturer of transmission
16 distribution substation electrical products located in
17 Centralia, Missouri. We have primarily about 600
18 different employees that work there in Centralia
19 offices, and a project such as Grain Belt Express
20 coming through would be an additional benefit not only
21 to our company, but to the communities, surrounding
22 communities, as well as, again, we have employees that
23 live in the Clarence area, and I have, and have done
24 so for 20 years of my life in that same location.

25 The benefit would bring approximately 65

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1 new jobs to my company, not only supporting those
2 communities and the families within them and provide
3 benefits to them as well, but the community, my
4 company, provides, you know, they input money back
5 into this community. Right now we're working on
6 halfway through a \$9 million project rebuilding our
7 older facilities, our test labs, engineering labs,
8 manufacturing areas within the company as well, so
9 we're putting that back into the community in support.

10 I fully support Grain Belt Express and the
11 line coming through not only on a business purpose,
12 but personally as well. I live -- I have land in both
13 Shelby County and Monroe County. I am a landowner.
14 I've had a transmission line across my land, and we
15 have farmed under it for years, never had an issue.
16 I'm also the president of the school board at Mason
17 C3. The tax benefit alone to small communities, we're
18 a 1A school, have about 340 students in our school.
19 And with reducing the amount of tax revenue that we
20 get on an annual basis, every year we get cuts more
21 and more, and for us to educate our children in a
22 manner that they need to be at and build them up so we
23 send them off to college and they're prepared for the
24 world, we've got to have that money, and it's not --
25 it's getting reduced every year, and so the additional

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1 tax benefits that we see from that land is a big thing
2 for me or on a personal basis, so I see it trifold. I
3 understand everybody's comments, you know, with land
4 and everything. I'm right there with you, but at the
5 same time, I've lived in a remote area all my life,
6 grew up, you know, for 42 years. I've been in the
7 same -- within a two-mile radius, always lived there,
8 and I'm never going to move, but I'm tired of being on
9 the back-burner for developments. You know, I'm all
10 for renewable energies and yet, I can't get broadband
11 in my neighborhood, why can't -- I want more
12 development, I -- I want renewable energy. I think we
13 need to be moving forward away from fossil fuels.
14 That's my comments. Do you have any questions for me?

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

16 MS. YOUSE: Thank you.

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, ma'am.

18 Tom Silvey?

19 TOM SILVEY,
20 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

23 MR. SILVEY: Tom Silvey, S-I-L-V-E-Y.

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

25 MR. SILVEY: I live here in Hamilton.

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1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

2 MR. SILVEY: I am the Caldwell County Farm
3 Bureau president, have been for going on ten years.
4 And I was on the board for some time before that.

5 I can tell you that I have received more
6 phone calls over this issue than any other issue since
7 I've been on the board, as well as my other board
8 members, and none of those were in favor of Grain Belt
9 Express.

10 So the Caldwell County Farm Bureau Board
11 voted to oppose Grain Belt getting utility status. We
12 believe that the benefits that -- for Caldwell County
13 and the state of Missouri that the line would provide
14 do not outweigh the loss that the landowners would
15 receive. Thank you.

16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

17 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Thank you for your
18 testimony.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir.

20 Rachel Myslivy. May not be saying that
21 right.

22 MS. MYSLIVY: It's Rachel Myslivy.

23 RACHEL MYSLIVY,
24 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and

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1 spell your last name.

2 MS. MYSLIVY: Rachel Myslivy,
3 M-Y-S-L-I-V-Y.

4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

5 MS. MYSLIVY: Jefferson County, Kansas.

6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

7 MS. MYSLIVY: First of all, I'd like to
8 thank you for the opportunity to address you today and
9 the good work that you do. I work with the climate
10 and energy project. I'm representing the climate and
11 energy project, which is a region nonprofit based in
12 Hutchinson, Kansas since 2007. My organization has
13 worked with stake holders across Missouri, Kansas, and
14 to promote renewable energy and energy efficiency
15 policy and practice. Wind energy is good for the
16 environment and safe water. Additionally, the
17 economic benefit of energy is well documented. In
18 addition to producing low-cost, clean energy, it
19 promotes thousands of jobs for manufacturing,
20 construction, operations, and maintenance.

21 Projects like the Grain Belt Express will
22 also bring a long-term benefit in the form of property
23 taxes, the taxing district, and benefits [inaudible].
24 With the Clean Line energy and Grain Belt will present
25 an additional \$7 billion of new wind farm and benefit

1 to its region.

2 The climate and energy project has attended
3 the past several of these meetings, and we have found
4 them to be fair and transparent as they deal with
5 landowners and citizens, starting landowner
6 negotiations in the early stages of development is a
7 [inaudible] landowners fairly. Missouri has the
8 chance to gain access to low-cost renewable energy and
9 current and renewable energy by approving Grain Belt
10 Express. The application will enable Clean Line
11 energy to reign the nation to Missouri communities
12 with a strong demand of clean, low cost, power while
13 reducing pollution, saving water, and growing the
14 state's economy. I thank you for your time.

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? Thank you,
16 ma'am.

17 Kelly Rotert?

18 KELLY ROTERT,
19 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

22 MS. ROTERT: Kelly Rotert, R-O-T-E-R-T.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

24 MR. ROTERT: Camdenton, Missouri.

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

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1 MR. ROTERT: I am -- I represent the
2 professional service industry. We're a technical
3 engineering company. We're here, we're not contracted
4 with Clean Line in any way, shape or form. But we are
5 -- we pursue this type of work as part of our industry
6 in support of the infrastructure that brings about
7 green and renewable resources. I am responsible for
8 offices in -- on both sides of the state, and have
9 approximately 45 Missouri employees. This will add
10 six to ten additional jobs to our company roles. And
11 we're supportive of that in the jobs and the taxes and
12 the things that come with that. That is all.

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

14 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Thank you.

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

16 Jenn Leyden.

17 MS. LEYDEN: It's Leyden.

18 JENN LEYDEN,
19 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

22 MS. LEYDEN: Jenn Leyden. L-E-Y-D-E-N.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

24 MS. LEYDEN: I live -- I have a Lathrop
25 address, but I'm a Caldwell County resident.

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1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please proceed.

2 MS. LEYDEN: I come in opposition. I am
3 not -- we are landowners, but we are not in the path
4 of this proposed path of Grain Belt. I come as a Navy
5 veteran who signed up to service, just like a lot of
6 those before me. I believe in helping those that need
7 the help. I don't believe that this Grain Belt line
8 overrides the rights of landowners.

9 As Mr. Christopher stated, the precedence,
10 and the lady before me, the precedent that that sets
11 when we allow this to come through is unfounded.
12 That's what's great about America, that's what I love
13 about being an American. Capitalism,
14 entrepreneurship, this is just the beginning. These
15 other lines that they're talking about, they're not DC
16 lines. This is the first time for the DC line. We're
17 about to set a precedent here. The sky's the limit.
18 It's what Americans do. They take an opportunity and
19 they up the ante.

20 I'm raising my kids to be proud Americans
21 to take opportunities to the next level, and that's
22 what Grain Belt's going to do. And that's not good
23 for the state of Missouri.

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

25 Thank you.

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1 Two names on the next line, Mike Ford and
2 Rena Ford. I'm not sure which would like to testify.

3 MS. FORD: I'm Rena Ford. I'm going to
4 yield my time to Mike.

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Mr. Ford, come
6 forward, please.

7 MIKE FORD,
8 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

11 MR. FORD: My name is Mike Ford, F-O-R-D.
12 I live in Cowgill.

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

14 MR. FORD: I'm a retired cement mason. I
15 worked in Kansas City all over, different states, took
16 me 30 years to pay for a farm, the cattle ranch that
17 I'm in now. This power line was an -- I was on one of
18 the routes. And it would put me out of business
19 because I'm a cow/calf producer. I can't help my cows
20 first of January, through February, and March, I don't
21 have any barns. All I got is brush trees, ditches and
22 drawls. These people want to come through and make a
23 200 wide swaft [sic] through my cattle patch? Hey,
24 I'm out of business. I support the local community,
25 I'm not a -- I don't give them direct checks, but

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1 you're looking at to feed people, fuel people,
2 mechanics, I pay taxes. You know, this deal here,
3 it's all about the money, that's what it's all about.
4 That's the way I see it.

5 Grain Belt is not a public utility.
6 They're not benefitting -- they're not going to
7 benefit me any. I'm a part of Farmers Electric Co-op,
8 I get a dividend out of the deal. I'm part of the
9 cooperative. Only thing these guys are doing is
10 they're coming in here and wanting to ramrod, you
11 know, and take over.

12 Well, let me ask you this: As a business
13 owner, myself, how many business owners do you know
14 that can cut another business owner's throat? Can I
15 take -- since I need a place to feed my cattle, can I
16 put my cattle in these guys' front yard? Hey, I'm
17 benefitting the countryside, I'm feeding them there.

18 You know, I don't see how these guys are
19 saying that they're going to do us such a big favor,
20 the land values, they're going to drop. Because right
21 here, the people in Alberta, Canada, that's what they
22 say, they got a power line up there, and at least
23 their country made these power lines people pay the
24 difference on what their land values were.

25 These people aren't going to do this. Only

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1 thing they're going to do is take everything, and
2 they're not going to win here. I don't have a problem
3 with capitalism, but when we're cutting another man's
4 throat to better your company, what kind of deal is
5 that? I mean, like I said, I don't understand how
6 these people are setting there telling everybody that
7 they're going to do us a favor. They're not doing
8 nobody a favor in the state of Missouri. If they get
9 eminent domain, they can come in there and take away
10 -- Arkansas denied them, well, Arkansas may know
11 something we don't. Why did they deny them? They sit
12 here and tell everybody, oh, we got all this support.
13 Well, if they got all this support, how come they
14 didn't get Arkansas then? They write a letter to the
15 Department of Energy, they want to go up above
16 everybody's head, and they want to do an eminent
17 domain.

18 If the states do not want to let them do
19 what they want, these people aren't going to live
20 here. Soon as this is all done and said, they come
21 in, yeah, they're going to spend a little money here
22 for a while. I worked construction for 37 years. I
23 traveled all over the place. Once we was there, we
24 got it done, we was out of there, that was the end of
25 it. Them people never seen me begin. And that's

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1 exactly what's going to happen to this deal, but I'm
2 going to have to live with this for the hundred -- you
3 know, however long I live, and my kids, and my kid's
4 kids. Well, they're sitting there telling you this
5 doesn't affect cattle. I'll tell you what, you own
6 cattle, you take any rancher out there and have them
7 run with cattle. Those cattle will run every which
8 way. The more people you have out there, the more
9 weight you lose. I'm selling by the pound. We don't
10 want people monkeying around doing anything else
11 because it's costing me as a business owner. I don't
12 see how you can sacrifice one business owner for
13 another. How would you guys like it if I was wanting
14 to apply for this eminent domain? Or how about I just
15 load up my cattle and come where you live whether you
16 live in the farm or city or whatever and rent your
17 backyard to run my cattle because I'm helping
18 everybody. That's the way I feel about this deal,
19 it's ridiculous. It is all about the money and it
20 goes clear to Washington. They're the ones promoting
21 this. Everybody got their own promotion. I hear
22 people come up here, and I can understand, you know,
23 they got a survey company and it's going to help them
24 do this and that, but they're not thinking about what
25 it's going to do to me as a business owner.

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1 I don't mind helping somebody, but I'm not
2 going to cut my own throat doing it, and I wish you
3 guys would just tell them to forget it. You know, we
4 don't need this. We got farmers electric, MNUE down
5 there in Kansas City, Missouri Public Service or the
6 Power and Light. They have an eminent domain. If
7 they was coming through my property, I wouldn't have a
8 problem with it. It is itty power lines. We all got
9 them.

10 This thing is huge. We've got crop dusters
11 that come around and dust people's land. How they
12 going to fly around them things? You got this magnet
13 field. And you know, I got some other documents in
14 here that says this stuff will cause cancer. I grew
15 up under power lines, and I ended up with colon
16 cancer. You know, I can't say that was the cause of
17 it, but it could have been. I don't know. You guys
18 have the power to shut this off. All you got to do is
19 say that's it, huh-uh, but these people here, they're
20 wanting this for real -- real bad. I don't know why
21 they want it so bad, but it has to be for the money.
22 That's what it's all about.

23 Why would a billionaire want to invest in
24 something? He's already got more money than he could
25 possibly spend, and as far as foreigners owning land

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1 in this company, you as an American, go to any other
2 country, try to buy a farm or land or whatever, you
3 can't do it. They won't let you. You either have to
4 marry somebody and be a dual citizen. You can't just
5 go over there to China and say hey, I want to buy some
6 land. It don't work that way, but it does in America.
7 Missouri will sell one percent of our land to
8 foreigners. That's crazy. That's just crazy. I used
9 to be in the hog business. I don't know if you guys
10 ever heard of Premium Standard Farms, oh, they come up
11 here in north Missouri, and they promised everybody
12 the world. We're going to give you people this, we're
13 going to make jobs. We're going to do this for you
14 and that.

15 Well, they ended up going bankrupt, now the
16 Chinese own it. The Mexicans work it, so what do the
17 local people get out of the deal. They don't get
18 nothing out of this deal, they got the shaft. Now, we
19 got foreigners up here. I mean, come on, guys, this
20 country -- and another thing, this country pits people
21 against each other. It pits the rich against the
22 poor. The farmer against the cattle boy. I mean,
23 jiminy christmas, I mean, you know, it's just like
24 Obama Care, forces somebody to do something. That's
25 what I feel like these people are trying to do. Clean

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1 Line are forcing people to do something that they
2 don't want to do. If this was such a great deal, why
3 don't they put it in their backyard? They're not
4 going to live here. They're going to put it in my
5 backyard and leave. And you know, I understand that
6 all these people, you know, they're coming up here and
7 saying they're going to make jobs, this and that, hey,
8 I feel for the people, everybody needs the job, but
9 the reason we don't have any jobs is because all the
10 jobs are shipped overseas.

11 The corporations in Missouri pay more tax
12 than anywhere else in the world. We're the least
13 amount of -- we produce the least amount of, you know,
14 poisonous gases and all that and all this stuff about,
15 you know, climate change and all that. They've only
16 been doing studies for 200 years and the world's been
17 here for how many thousands? They said there's an ice
18 age here at one time. It's always changing. If
19 you're worried about carbon [inaudible], plant a tree.

20 It's ridiculous that these guys want to
21 force this on everybody. Tell everybody, oh, well,
22 you know, we're going to do you a favor. They're not
23 paying anyone. They're not giving enough money for
24 the land and compensation that's going to happen to
25 us, and they don't care. It's all about the money. I

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1 mean, I don't understand, you know, how they can set
2 there and tell everybody that, you know, they make
3 promises, but there ain't nothing in writing. I mean,
4 I just don't get it, guys. You got the power to shut
5 this off, all you got to do is tell them, no, just
6 like Arkansas, but what they're going to do is they're
7 going to go to the federal level. Hey, we live in
8 America, everybody has an opinion, but you don't cut
9 one man's throat to save another man. You just don't
10 do it.

11 Otherwise, what are we going to do here? I
12 might need a kidney. One of you guys going to donate
13 a kidney? Is that what we're going to do, decide
14 who's going to get what? Those people in the east
15 coast, they don't got no wind there. You can't tell
16 me the wind don't blow there, so if you want to run a
17 power line clear across four or five states to these
18 states that don't have power, hey, they need to
19 develop their own energy. They got wind out there.
20 They can do it a half dozen different ways. We need
21 to take care of our own people in our own state, and
22 the county needs to take care of the county and the
23 people in the county. Not try to take care of a world
24 or somebody else. What's the east coast doing for me?
25 They're wanting me to sacrifice my land? Everything

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1 I've worked -- 30 years, 30 years, so I can do this?

2 This is a bunch of bull shit.

3 All I got to do is develop their own land
4 energy, but the way I see it is it's over the money.
5 They're going to get billions of dollars of grant
6 money, tax incentives, whatever. I mean, I don't know
7 how all this works, I know people get money for doing
8 nothing. They get money for small businesses. You
9 know, I didn't see anybody handing me a bunch of money
10 to start my business. I worked three jobs so I could
11 start this business. Now, you want me to give it up?
12 Are you kidding me? I just can't believe this is even
13 happening.

14 I called down there to Jeff City for a
15 month-and-a-half. Do you know what, I didn't think
16 there was anybody even working down there. All I got
17 was an -- oh, I got the little secretary or I got some
18 little intern and said, oh, we'll get back to you. I
19 said, well, can I talk to Nixon? Can I talk to
20 McCaskill? Hell, no. They're in a meeting. This
21 went on for a month-and-a-half. I called everybody
22 and their dog down there. Nobody works down there.
23 Ain't like me. Get up at 5:30 in the morning, go to
24 bed at 1 in the night. That's what people do here,
25 and then you get a company come through here that

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1 ain't going to live here, destroy everything we got,
2 pocket the money and we're paying for it.

3 I pay federal taxes. You got to be kidding
4 me. I'm paying these people to steal my land? It's
5 ridiculous. Like I said, you guys got the power to
6 shut this off. You look at the facts. I have a whole
7 train here. I don't have an education whatsoever.
8 All I can do is scrub concrete and raise cattle, but
9 I'm smart enough to know when I'm getting the shaft.

10 You know, these guys are supposed to meet
11 your qualifications? You know, there's supposed to be
12 a need. Tell me where the need is for me to have
13 electricity here. The need is out east, so they
14 didn't meet that.

15 They're supposed to -- they're supposed to
16 be able to do a service? These people ain't
17 electricians. They're just a bunch of people that's
18 put money together that are trying to make money. You
19 know, like I said, I just can't believe that this is
20 happening. This is not the American dream, it's the
21 American nightmare.

22 How one guy, that you know, you work hard,
23 you do things right, some other guy comes by with a
24 pocket full of money, pays off everybody, and hey, he
25 owns you. That ain't the way America's supposed to

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1 be. You know, it's ridiculous. And some of the stuff
2 that the government is doing, they're running away.
3 These guys are out of control. I mean, I just wish
4 you guys would look at this real close. And you put
5 yourself in my shoes. Ask yourself, man, would I want
6 that in my front yard? Would I want my kids exposed
7 to this? Would I want my grand kids exposed to this?
8 And if the answer is yes, then go ahead and grant it
9 to them, but if the answer is no, go ahead and don't.

10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: 15 minutes.

11 MR. FORD: You know what, like I said, all
12 this stuff right here, it's, you know, the ICC,
13 they've already went to court on this thing, and it's
14 taken them a year and they still haven't decided.
15 That tells me something. How long does it take to
16 decide whether this is a necessity, a need and all
17 that? It ain't. It really ain't. It's all about the
18 money. And that's what this country is run on is
19 money. I don't care about money. I just need money
20 to live. That's it. I don't love money, but there
21 are some people that do. And that's the way I feel
22 these people are. They're billionaires, why do they
23 want to help me? Well, there's a reason they want to
24 help me, because they're going to get more money.

25 If they're so gracious, why don't they just

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1 power line and give it to us for nothing. Or why
2 don't they pay us for the rest of our life for however
3 long that powering line is going to be there? And I
4 got one of those pipelines running through, and they
5 say I don't have trouble, well, I've had trouble the
6 last two years. These people got 50-foot easements,
7 but yet 250-foot easement cost me a bunch of money. I
8 got to fight them to get them to compensate me. They
9 think they own the place just because they got up a
10 50-foot easement. Can I go to Ford Motor and rent a
11 section of their assembly line down there, run my
12 cattle on?

13 Farming and cattle are a business.
14 Everybody talks about this land like it's nothing.
15 It's a business, without the land, you don't have
16 nothing. So if anybody else was hurting a business,
17 they'd end up getting sued, and that's another thing.
18 This is --

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Fifteen minutes.

20 MR. FORD: Huh?

21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: It's been 15 minutes.

22 MR. FORD: Okay. Let me conclude this.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

24 MR. FORD: This is going to turn into one
25 gigantic lawsuit.

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1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Sir.

2 MR. ADAMS: I'm Robert W. Adams. I'd like
3 to see my time to the man right here.

4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay.

5 MR. FORD: This is going to turn into a
6 gigantic lawsuit because the way I look at it is I'm
7 being discriminated against because these people in
8 Indiana need power. This isn't for the good of the
9 whole, this is the good for a few, for a few people.
10 So you're going to sacrifice all of us for a few
11 people. What makes them people any better than me?
12 What are the people in the east coast doing for me?
13 Nothing. Yeah. They might be buying some meat, but I
14 bet they ain't buying mine. Mine's shipped overseas.
15 And you guys are eating stuff that's coming out of
16 Canada or Australia. The good meat goes overseas.
17 Everything we do goes overseas. The tractor parts --
18 I go in there to get a part from CIC. They tell me we
19 don't got that part, we got to order it from Europe.
20 The reason this country has no jobs and everybody's
21 fighting with everybody is because all the jobs are in
22 Europe now. The Chinese own us. The politicians,
23 they bar off, they're corrupt. They got a printing
24 press up there and they just print this money, just
25 print, print, print, print, but they ain't got nothing

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1 to back it up. Well, you know, one of these days the
2 Chinese and one of these countries that we owe money
3 to is going to call our bluff. You can borrow from
4 the bank-man for two or three years and then pretty
5 soon the bank-man wants his money, and then guess
6 what? You know, we have to do our own thing. And as
7 far as this clean energy, that's a bunch of malarkey.

8 You go out there and cutting one tree, your
9 clean energy or your green energy just went out the
10 door. That's a hypocrite, all this is. Clean energy,
11 but I want to bulldoze out thousands of acres of
12 trees. Well, folks, that's what purifies the air.
13 That's what gets rid of this carbon monoxide, and if
14 everybody is so worried about pollution, all these
15 people, get a bicycle, start riding a horse. I don't
16 see anybody wanting to do that. I see everybody
17 running around doing what they want to do.

18 Thing is, nobody has any apathy for the
19 next guy. If it ain't happened to me, I don't care.
20 It's ridiculous. Because I'll tell you what,
21 eventually it will happen to you. It's just like this
22 power line deal. You guys let this come through,
23 yeah, it may not affect you guys, but one of these
24 days, two other people might come in that are
25 billionaires and decide, hey, we want this status or

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1 we want, you know, eminent domain. We need -- we need
2 to just do our own thing in Missouri. We don't need a
3 power line running from western Kansas clear across to
4 Indiana.

5 And another thing, if it's coming from
6 Dodge City, Kansas, well, why in the heck would you be
7 up here in Missouri? Wouldn't you go from point A to
8 point B; instead, they go halfway across the state.
9 Run up north and back. You know why they done that,
10 that's so they have no opposition. If they were
11 putting this thing in Johnson County, Kansas where the
12 rich folk live, hell, there'd be a hell of an uprising
13 then. They're running it through Caldwell County,
14 because they're poor folk. We ain't going to stand
15 up, we're just going to take a beating. You know,
16 that's wrong. And I was taught if something's wrong,
17 you stand up for it. And this is totally wrong,
18 because where's the next -- what's the next thing?
19 Like I said, you know, somebody needing a kidney,
20 that's important, we'll just cut it out of this guy
21 here because he ain't important as these people over
22 here.

23 So I want you guys, if you want to tell
24 them guys, hey, forget it. We don't need it, we don't
25 want it. They're going to go over everybody's heads,

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1 anybody. U.S. just like the Syria Club -- you know,
2 it cracks me up. They come here and say, well, you
3 know, we're totally for this, but they're against the
4 Keystone pipeline. How hypocritical is that? I mean,
5 you're here for one thing, but you do another? Hey,
6 if you stand for something, stand for it. But it
7 isn't affecting them, and that's the bottom line to
8 this deal. It is not affecting these people. Once
9 they come through, once they do their thing, I'll
10 never see these people again. Yeah, they may drive on
11 the interstate and say, ha ha ha, but other than that
12 they're not going to live here.

13 Just like me if I wanted to put a feed lot
14 in next to your house? Would you want me to live
15 where I live and put the feed lot next to your house?
16 If it's your business, you should live it, breathe it,
17 and be there. These people live in Texas, they live
18 in New York City. Where are they at? I don't see
19 them here today.

20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: 20 minutes.

21 MR. FORD: Well, if you guys want this
22 stuff here because I'm not going to need it, you want
23 to read it, because a lot of this stuff is off the
24 Internet, you can read it.

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: If you want to include it

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1 as part of the record, you can bring it forward.

2 MR. FORD: It'll be fine. Like I said,
3 property values, the Canadians, they've done a study
4 on this, get on the Internet and look. They'll tell
5 you what the property value is on houses, on farm
6 ground, on what was up there where they're at. You
7 can't tell me it's going to be any different here.

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Why don't you bring it up
9 to the table, and I'll include it.

10 MR. FORD: There's a bunch of stuff in
11 there from the ICC too.

12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

13 Attorneys will have an opportunity to
14 object if the plaintiff is included in EFS, so it will
15 be admitted into the record subject to that. Any
16 questions for Mr. Ford?

17 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Thank you for your
18 testimony.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir.

20 Let's take a short break. We'll be in
21 recess until 12:45.

22 (A break was taken.)

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: If everybody could take
24 their seat, we'll get started again. Let's go back on
25 the record.

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1 Next name on the list is Dalton Gatrel.

2 MR. GATREL: One second. They called
3 Dalton. Where's Dalton? They called him.

4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Oh, this is Dalton?

5 DALTON GATREL,
6 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Can you please state your
8 name for me?

9 MR. GATREL: Dalton Gatrel, G-A-T-R-E-L.

10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Dalton, go ahead.

11 MR. GATREL: This power comes through, it
12 could fall on a house and pipeline. It can also --
13 kids can have cancer, and mom and dad told me never
14 light a gas can next to a fire because it will
15 explode. And if you want to put gas on a stick and
16 light it, it can explode. And this is our farm first,
17 we should have the right to say no. And I believe
18 that's it.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Thank you, Dalton.

20 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Dalton, thanks for being
21 here. Thanks for being here. Thanks for taking the
22 time to speak. It took a lot of courage. Thanks.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Linda Trammell.

24 MR. TRAMMELL: I would like to yield my
25 time to Bruce Trammell.

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1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: John Wolfe.

2 Mr. Trammell, are you on the list?

3 MR. TRAMMELL: Yes.

4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You're a little bit
5 further along. Why don't you come ahead and do yours
6 now since you're up here already?

7 MR. TRAMMELL: Thank you.

8 BRUCE TRAMMELL,
9 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

12 MR. TRAMMELL: Bruce Trammell --

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Hold on just a second.

14 Okay. Try again.

15 MR. TRAMMELL: Bruce Trammell,

16 T-R-A-M-M-E-L-L.

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

18 MR. TRAMMELL: In Kingston, Missouri.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

20 MR. TRAMMELL: Well, I've worked all my
21 life to buy the acreage that I have. And I had an
22 accident, and I have been trying to sell the back half
23 of my property. And I pretty much had it sold until
24 this all come about, so I figure, just a speculation
25 of this line coming through has messed up my whole

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1 retirement. I'm disabled. I can't use my phone
2 myself, so I have either one of two choices, either I
3 have to lease it out and barely get anything, or
4 that's about all I can do because I can't sell it
5 because it's not worth anything and speculation of
6 this pipeline. And I don't think this should go
7 through because I don't think it's going to help the
8 Missouri folks because there's no power as far as I
9 know going through Missouri to help the Missourians.
10 They're just robbing our property, making our property
11 value go down, our [inaudible] if you can even sell
12 it. People aren't even willing to die. So, you know,
13 I've worked all my life to get this property, and I'm
14 basically -- if this goes through, it's going to be
15 worthless. I just don't think that it's the American
16 way. I don't think that -- rich people only get rich
17 and the poor people only get poor because they help
18 the folks that this is making them richer.

19 You know, I never served in the service,
20 but my father did and my brother did, and that's not
21 what it's about, and the -- my -- my daughter and her
22 family live up here and they farm, it's going to
23 devastate them. My other daughter has just bought a
24 place up here, it's going to devastate them. So it's
25 basically going to destroy my whole family, and I pray

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1 to God that you folks setting up there take this at
2 heart and really think about what we're doing here.
3 That there's so many families, families that this is
4 their whole life, their whole livelihood and, you
5 know, generations, you know, I -- I've got cancer
6 already, and I want to leave a legacy for my grand
7 kids and my grand kids to come for this property.
8 Well, this comes through, it's going to be all for
9 nothing. So I just hope that everybody really thinks
10 this over before they let it go through. Thank you.

11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

12 John Wolfe.

13 JOHN WOLFE,
14 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

17 MR. WOLFE: John E. Wolfe, W-O-L-F-E.

18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

19 MR. WOLFE: [Inaudible] Missouri
20 [inaudible] State Route H.

21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

22 MR. WOLFE: My concern since I was a little
23 boy, 12, and we've had the farm and about to lose
24 quite a bit of it too if this power line is going to
25 come through there now. And I don't believe anybody's

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1 figured out how much land we're going to give to them.
2 They actually buy it right away, but it's never yours,
3 you still pay tax on it, and have the regulars go
4 through there and cut this back in 1980 -- or 1880,
5 and when it closed out, we had to buy our own land
6 back and pay taxes on all of it again, but anyway, a
7 mile to 200 feet could take about 12 acres off your
8 farm, so I may never have access to it today with
9 power lines string around they said 400 -- somebody
10 said seven in a mile. I got three-quarter a mile
11 bottom right there next to the river, with the
12 pipeline, the north side, they come on the north side
13 of the pipeline within a hundred feet of the barns,
14 and in the south it'd be a little further away. But
15 anyway, it's money that's worth losing to them, and I
16 don't know why. Can't the United States do something
17 and keep the money in our country? But if you're
18 going to have a line over it, why don't they let the
19 United States build it? All this stuff to come in
20 that the pipeline went through, there the pipeline
21 oftentimes, why didn't they take the United States to
22 make it? No reason for that, they could have done
23 that. Why can't they build that line -- does it have
24 to come through here, it ain't going to do us in
25 Missouri any good at all. If it was, they'd put the

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1 transformer things back in Kansas right there on the
2 border.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Can you repeat what you
4 just said in the microphone?

5 MR. WOLFE: The transformer they're putting
6 in, isn't that --

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Yes.

8 MR. WOLFE: The transformers, putting in if
9 they want it in Missouri or Kansas either one, it's
10 right there three miles to my house at the barn and
11 property line, and anyway, they're going to put these
12 seven lines in a mile across their line and have tires
13 on me. They bury concrete in the ground probably
14 20-foot. They said last night there wouldn't be any
15 heavy equipment on the land because a 600-ton frame,
16 probably set those tires right there. Concrete
17 trucks, probably two loads of concrete on each one,
18 loads they put on the tires. I have no idea. They
19 said they backhoe. Going to take a backhoe to dig
20 that deep all the way down. Doesn't make no
21 difference. Why don't the United States do this
22 instead of letting someone else come? They said last
23 night that there'd be \$46 billion. How much is our
24 government going to subsidize towards that?
25 Everything else they do we help out, and I'm wondering

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1 why we can't do it. If it has to be that, and again,
2 why don't they put the tires in Indiana, power,
3 [inaudible], they got all the -- just as it does here,
4 Kansas they're laying 700 miles to get to St. Louis,
5 and said they're going to furnish Missouri electric,
6 they might in St. Louis, but they won't bring it back
7 across. They have all the dams right there in Table
8 Rock and all that down here, but several dams produce
9 water, they said the waste water, goes down that dam
10 and all this waste goes anyway because it has to turn
11 loose. Just takes electricity. There's several
12 things there that they're talking about, all the stuff
13 in the -- taking our land just because they got the
14 right-of-way or get the right-of-way, it's up to the
15 public, you all to stop it. And if we would need it,
16 surely our people in the government in the United
17 States ought to be smart enough to put this power and
18 all this stuff in because we have a lot of windmills
19 up there in Kansas City, Kingston. Isn't it -- they
20 said one of them will furnish lights for six farms?
21 So that'd be a lot of windmills coming across Kansas
22 picking up electric to furnish all the electricity
23 back on the east coast.

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Five minutes.

25 MR. WOLFE: And I just think that we should

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1 think it over, our public should know about all this.

2 Thank you.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

4 COMMISSIONER HALL: Thank you.

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Teresa Sprouse?

6 MS. SPROUSE: I'm going to give my time

7 Lauren Sprouse.

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Lauren Sprouse, you

9 testified in Moberly; is that correct?

10 MR. SPROUSE: That's correct.

11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. I'm going to move

12 you to the bottom of the list.

13 Weldon Sprouse?

14 MR. SPROUSE: I'm going to defer my time to

15 my brother, Lauren.

16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Ed Pautz.

17 ED PAUTZ,

18 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and

20 spell your last name.

21 MR. PAUTZ: My name is Ed Pautz, P-A-U-T-Z.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

23 MR. PAUTZ: Address is Polo, Missouri.

24 Caldwell County.

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

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1 MR. PAUTZ: Okay. First off, I want to
2 thank you, all of you for coming out and giving
3 everybody that this directly affects a chance to make
4 a statement and to be added to the hearings.

5 Myself and my wife, Virginia, are very much
6 opposed to this particular project. And agree with
7 most other opposition that's been stated. We live on
8 Missouri home place which is a registered Missouri
9 century farm which her grandmother started and was
10 carried on by her father. We are now there operating
11 the farm. We raise cattle, have chickens, pave the
12 ground, the garden. We take great pride in being
13 stewards to the land. It's one thing that's going to
14 be here past you and I and everybody else in this
15 room. We will some day perish in the land that we
16 have.

17 Grain Belt Clean Line has asked to
18 construct, own, operate, control, manage, maintain a
19 high voltage DC line and converter station in
20 Missouri. For me, that can't put up a bigger red flag
21 for everybody to take note to somebody that has
22 nothing but an idea and a pencil and paper. They've
23 never done anything like this before. They don't have
24 the equipment. It will all be done by contractors of
25 some sort. I don't think they have any intention of

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1 being a utility. They're just going to be a manager
2 so to speak, so I guess they would qualify for one of
3 those quotes.

4 I and my wife feel that Grain Belt has not
5 shown that they've had the ability to be a utility,
6 and what they have shown to us personally is very
7 little professionalism and respect for the landowners.
8 And what I'm going to base part of that on is our very
9 first and only personal contact with them within a
10 flier. I'd like to give to you as far as evidence
11 that was an 8-and-a-half by 11 piece of paper that
12 they did have addressed to myself and Virginia. So I
13 can give them credit to that, but otherwise, it just
14 basically was a piece of junk mail, you might say.

15 We attended the meeting at Cameron. Went
16 and listened to their spiel at all their different
17 locations and would confirm that the location, that
18 Virginia's acreage is affected and where they plan on
19 going is cutting straight through the middle of the
20 farm. We also have a second acreage that is over east
21 of this location and it would be within a half a mile
22 of that location also.

23 We explained then that we were not
24 interested in having the line on our property, and I
25 also questioned them that they were a private entity,

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1 which they said they were, again, I told them I was
2 not interested and they just come back with the
3 comment, well, we will compensate you. At this point,
4 they're a private indemnity [sic]. I have the right
5 to tell them no. They said, we were welcome to fill
6 out a form, which I did, again, telling them that I
7 was not interested in having a line on our property,
8 and also covered again that it was a century farm, and
9 that it could also be considered an organic farm. We
10 do not use sprays, chemicals, and things like that on
11 the farm.

12 And that this is causing us to lose sleep
13 having to worry about it until we were going to be
14 notified what would happen. And I also did request on
15 this form that when they made the decision that they
16 would contact us so we could be at ease.

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Five minutes.

18 MR. PAUTZ: Okay. In November, we went to
19 a meeting in Gower that they hosted. I discussed or
20 visited with Mike Lowler and asked him about the line,
21 whether it had come out and about the loss of sleep
22 and stress and having to worry about it, and he didn't
23 show much concern.

24 In February and March I went to the Polo
25 office and spoke with Loel Nusan, asked him about the

1 line and explained to him about it. And he did say
2 soon that they would be announcing something and check
3 back in a couple weeks, that it'd been moved to the
4 south route, and again, at that time, I asked for a
5 notice letting me know whether they were going to send
6 out something letting me know that they weren't going
7 to be crossing my property. Yesterday I spoke with
8 Loel because I never had received a letter. And he
9 said, I'm sorry, I forgot.

10 So to this day, I've never got a letter,
11 and Edlar Johnson was standing there and jumped into
12 the conversation and did a lot of talking, and so I
13 figured I'd ask her, what percent of Missouri affected
14 landowners are for this project? She kept on talking,
15 never answered my question. So as of today, I have no
16 information from them whether it's going to be on my
17 property or not. Only thing I have is their Internet
18 site and the maps they've got on there. I had some
19 other things I was going to cover, but you've cut me
20 off at five minutes, so I've completed what I've been
21 able to at this time.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

23 SPEAKER: I'd like to relinquish my time to
24 the gentleman.

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: What's your name, sir?

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1 SPEAKER: Gary Stuckley.

2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. You can finish up,
3 sir.

4 MR. PAUTZ: Okay. Only other thing I was
5 going to say is we were also involved with the Midwest
6 Transmission Project, so evidently, where our property
7 is located, it's a pretty good site. But what I want
8 to hit on them is in January of '13 they sent us a
9 piece of mail and an envelope, a normal form with a
10 letter telling us we were in the proposed line.

11 In April they sent me another letter
12 letting me know where they were at in their process.
13 In June they sent me a letter in a post card and an
14 envelope explaining what route they had chose. I feel
15 KCP&L, Midwest Transmission Project, whatever, were
16 being thorough, time conforming, so I feel they were a
17 little bit more professional.

18 Also, I know that you have no control over
19 eminent domain, but also in granting somebody utility
20 status, eminent domain follows with it. That's a
21 tough cookie to swallow, and it's a lot of
22 responsibility. This very same farm in about 2000 or
23 2002, public water supply in Clinton County wanted to
24 upgrade their lines, they already had a present
25 easement across the road, and that's where the water

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1 line stopped at that time.

2 They were upgrading and were wanting to go
3 over to Kingston to the jail and supply some other
4 water over there. I questioned them at that time, how
5 come they wanted to come to my side of the road? And
6 they told me because the north side of the road's got
7 big ditches, it will cost more money. It will be
8 easier to come to your side of the road.

9 Well, the reason there's no ditches is
10 because the fellas before me and myself work harder
11 for that land to try to keep it usable, so I don't
12 understand what eminent domain means, course of least
13 resistance or what's better for them. So I'm a little
14 puzzled with eminent domain on that. That basically
15 concludes what I've got to say, but eminent domain is
16 a very strong tool. You might say that a utility can
17 use, so I want you to very much consider that in your
18 decision. My preference, of course, is for you to
19 deny, but you gentlemen have the decision, you got
20 your work cut out for you. It's very evident, I
21 believe, that the landowners are very much in
22 opposition. So I've done all I think I can do.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

24 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Thank you for your
25 time.

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1 MR. WILLIAMS: Sir, did you bring some
2 documents you wanted to give?

3 MR. PAUTZ: Yes, I did. I would like to
4 admit -- this is a photocopy, but it is in color of
5 the one and only notification I got from Grain Belt.
6 That's the only personal notification I ever received
7 from that.

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: That will be received into
9 the record subject to attorney's right to object.

10 MR. PAUTZ: Okay.

11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir.

12 MR. PAUTZ: Thank you.

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Diane Davies.

14 MS. DAVIES: I wish to give my time to
15 Lawrence Sprouse.

16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Steven Newman.

17 MR. NEWMAN: I want to yield my time to
18 Jennifer Gatrel.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Jennifer Kisser?

20 JENNIFER KISSER,
21 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

24 MS. KISSER: Jennifer Kisser, K-I-S-S-E-R.

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

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1 MS. KISSER: I live in Kingston, Missouri.

2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

3 MS. KISSER: I've not ever been on any
4 proposed lines. Not in current or previous, but my
5 community, my county and my state are literally on the
6 line and this project and these [inaudible]. I have
7 been fully fighting this for 14 months since we have
8 become aware in this area of the proposed project. We
9 have not stopped for a day without thinking about
10 this, worrying about it, and try to figure out what we
11 can do about it. I'm opposed to this project for all
12 of the reasons that landowners have spoken about up
13 until this point, so what I want to do is I want to
14 just mention a couple of topics that I have not heard
15 that have come up, and Mr. Kenny, yesterday it came up
16 several times, you had -- Mr. Robert Kenny, on several
17 occasions you had asked people who were testifying if
18 their opinion would change if the route was placed in
19 a current right of way or perhaps buried or any other
20 sort of adjustments. Primarily I heard people say no,
21 and I would fully agree with them. And the reason for
22 that, the problem itself is Clean Line, Grain Belt
23 Express.

24 This company has no credibility in our
25 communities. I can't even say that they've lost our

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1 trust. They never gained our trust. They never even
2 had it. They never tried to get it. They've treated
3 the rural communities very disrespectfully from day
4 one. I attended several open house meetings where
5 people were led to believe immediately that it was a
6 done deal. They pitted neighbor against neighbor as
7 they walked people through these open houses and had
8 you look at maps and gave people the illusion that
9 they could move the line. Where do you live? If you
10 don't want it here, well, we'll move it over there.
11 Well, those people didn't even know they were in
12 harm's way. There's probably still some to this day
13 that don't know that.

14 They've come in through the back door to
15 our county commissioners, causing terrible problems
16 between commissioners and the constituents by
17 misinformation and having them make decisions before
18 landowners or anyone else was aware of what was going
19 on. I believe you have a number of examples of
20 outright lies from people in Clean Line to landowners.
21 I think you have some in audio recordings. We've been
22 ridiculed, we've been called names, and this goes back
23 to the infamous, UCI transmission seminar that Clean
24 Line's response, where there was seminars or marketing
25 to Mayberry, how to work with bananas and any more

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1 bees. Those were direct references to us in these
2 communities. And as we all know, they either pulled
3 out or they were kicked out of that, so that did not
4 come to pass, but yet it was there and it was very
5 obvious what the intent was. They continue to
6 propagate the lie that this is -- I don't -- the
7 misinformation that this project is a done deal. We
8 went door-to-door just Saturday, several of us, and we
9 had many landowners. You've had landowners here today
10 tell you that the land agents come to their door, and
11 they tell them that it is a done deal, you might as
12 well sign now. That cannot be farther from the truth.
13 Everything -- not everything -- so much of how they
14 present things is that it's a done deal. By saying it
15 does not make it so. And people are very wise to
16 that.

17 As you can see now, it has changed
18 incredibly from the first days when we all learned of
19 this, it was -- it was kind of the feudal thing in
20 front of us, what do we do, what can one person do?
21 Well, it's changed quite a bit over the last
22 14 months. But finally, I do want to commend Clean
23 Line for one good thing that they've done. And that
24 is that they have awoken a sleeping giant of
25 passionate, like-minded people who care about each

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1 other. It's not about us individually, you've heard
2 that from everybody and you'll continue to hear that.
3 This isn't just Missouri. It's Illinois, it's Kansas,
4 Iowa, Arkansas.

5 We expect to very soon be connected with
6 people in Indiana, Tennessee, New Mexico, California,
7 anywhere that Clean Line goes. There is likely to be
8 a number of folks, like-minded folks like us. We will
9 find each other. We will all find each other.

10 There is -- this bond that we have, I have
11 never been involved in anything where when I meet
12 someone you have an immediate connection. I do with
13 every person here wearing greens, buttons, what have
14 you. It is an immediate connection. We are all
15 committed to the very same cause and that is
16 protecting our life, Liberty, happiness, and our way
17 of life. That bond will never be broken, and I'm sure
18 that you see that and you see the passion. So please,
19 sirs, thank you so much for coming, and please make
20 the right decision. Thank you.

21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Mary Starets?

22 MS. STARETS: I donate my time to Jennifer
23 Tramol.

24 MS. GATREL: Tramol is my maiden name,
25 sorry.

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1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: John Sciortino?

2 James Burks.

3 JAMES BURKS,

4 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

7 MR. BURKS: James Burks, B-U-R-K-S.

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

9 MR. BURKS: Brunswick, Missouri.

10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

11 MR. BURKS: I'm a construction line man, I
12 build and maintain power lines for the citizens. I
13 own a 40-acre farm in Carroll County. I reside in
14 Chariton County. I have family members that are
15 directly affected by this project. I'm not an
16 authority on illness, disease, property value. I can
17 stand here and tell you, though, that this will create
18 jobs in the electrical industry which directly affects
19 me. Like to stand here and ask you guys not to block
20 this project. That's all I have.

21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

22 Thank you, sir.

23 Next two names on the list, Donald Davies
24 and Robert McPhaters, I believe you both spoke at a
25 prior meetings, so I'll move you to the end. After

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1 that is Cindy O'Laughlin.

2 MS. O'LAUGHLIN: Yeah. Just a second.

3 You know, I did speak before.

4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Do you want to speak at
5 the end?

6 MS. O'LAUGHLIN: Or now. But I can move to
7 the end because I did speak at --

8 SPEAKER: He's calling you now.

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: I'll move you to the end.

10 SPEAKER: No, she wants to speak now. He's
11 asking you not to speak.

12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: She's already spoken. I
13 have to give the people who haven't had an opportunity
14 yet to have their say first.

15 Chris Shoemaker.

16 CHRIS SHOEMAKER,
17 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

20 MR. SHOEMAKER: My name is Chris Shoemaker,
21 S-H-O-E-M-A-K-E-R.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

23 MR. SHOEMAKER: I live in Macon County.

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

25 MR. SHOEMAKER: Dear Public Service

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1 Commission, it's important to know that I give my
2 testimony as a citizen of north Missouri, and I have
3 no personal financial gain in supporting this measure.
4 I believe this committee's support for this project
5 will be a significant financial boost to the areas in
6 north Missouri. Both landowners and public taxing
7 districts will have benefits greatly with this
8 project. The taxing districts across north Missouri
9 will be approximately \$15.8 million along the route of
10 this transmission line. Not contacting the number of
11 contractors and employing numerous employee's
12 families. This is significant income without other
13 demands for services that are not normally required
14 for this significant infusion of capital. Alternative
15 energy is a must for this country. It is a small step
16 to energy and defense. A nation's economic prospect
17 is directly related to the energy cost. This
18 committee's approval would be a step towards
19 [inaudible]. I have heard the opposing arguments,
20 opinions, and positions. They're strong or opposing
21 this as landowner's right of property.

22 In this case, the landowner maintains full
23 control of the property except for an easement for
24 maintenance. They receive full value of the turbans
25 on their property. The landowner wants options of a

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1 one-time payment or annual payment with an increase of
2 two percent. Landowners can continue with the land
3 usage as before and will be compensated for the
4 property if damage occurs. If the regulatory body has
5 oversight and power to regulate with the necessary
6 bonds to support the damages to landowners in case
7 Grain Belt does not fulfill its promises; therefore, I
8 believe the eminent domain issue is moved, and I do
9 believe the entity is doing its best to deal with this
10 eminent domain issue. Thank you. Therefore, I'm in
11 support of the project.

12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Questions?
13 Thank you.

14 Jeff Gatrel?

15 JEFF GATREL,
16 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

19 MR. GATREL: Jeff Gatrel, G-A-T-R-E-L.

20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

21 MR. GATREL: Cowgill, Missouri.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

23 MR. GATREL: I would like to thank y'all
24 for coming. And really appreciate the opportunity to
25 speak our minds.

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1 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

4 MR. HOLLIS: My name's Roy Hollis,
5 H-O-L-L-I-S.

6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

7 MR. HOLLIS: I live in Polo, Missouri,
8 Caldwell County.

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

10 MR. HOLLIS: I come here today just simply,
11 my wife and I were brought up on a farm and we've
12 always chosen -- 44 years of marriage -- we've chosen
13 to live rurally. I was a mechanical engineer for
14 General Motors in Michigan, and my son located a farm
15 in Caldwell County, beautiful home, beautiful setting.
16 I was buying the view, and long story short, I was
17 notified two days prior to this being brought before
18 the Public Utilities Commission that this transmission
19 line had switched sides, and it was going to come on
20 me. So now, I've got a quarter mile driveway going to
21 my house, little creek bottom land, 80 acres of woods.
22 Quarter mile drive to my house. I sit within three
23 feet within the highest point of Caldwell County.
24 I've got a beautiful home, a beautiful view, the
25 entire east side of my house is glass, and we bought a

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1 view.

2 We're not farmers unless you consider five
3 ducks and a dog as a farmer, but we bought that
4 property for that view. Being in a creek bottom where
5 they're coming through, I got a 13-acre clearing
6 there. My sons have always wanted to build homes
7 there. And me being the dad I am, it's not an issue.
8 It is now because the transmission line provides, if
9 it's approved, will go right through there. So
10 obviously, where they would be setting a home would be
11 within the easement property. So I'm asking you guys
12 to look at this from a retirement standpoint. We all
13 want to retire some day. I sunk another hundred grand
14 in this place within probably the first 14 to
15 16 months after owning it by choice, but I chose to
16 reside there for the remainder of my life. Now, I
17 know that the property value's going to be severely
18 impacted. Can I deal with that? Yeah. Monetarily I
19 can deal with that, that's not an issue for me.

20 But it's going to be an issue for my
21 children because I had an opportunity to have my
22 children as part of a -- as part of an acreage, if you
23 will, and we all live in a communal affair to where,
24 you know, I still got my children there. That can't
25 happen now. So I ask you to look at it from that

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1 angle. You don't want it in your backyard. Just
2 reverse the roles for a change. You look at it from
3 my standpoint. You put it in your backyard and front
4 yard. I don't have any 200-foot trees. I got a lot
5 of mature trees, but that being in the low ground, you
6 put a 200-foot tower up there. Now, when I look out
7 the east side of my house, guess what I see? I don't
8 see the rolling hills going to Kingston and see the
9 lights of Hamilton in the night. I look out, I'm
10 going to see tower and lines running. Selfish, yeah,
11 it's totally selfish because I'm concerned about me,
12 but, you know what, I've got a neighbor that lives
13 across the road from me that's going to be looking at
14 it from ground level. I'm concerned for him as well.
15 I'm concerned for everyone that's impacted with this.
16 I ask you to deny them public utility status. I don't
17 know when I've ever known or this is the way I feel --
18 why should someone with money be allowed to push me
19 and all my neighbors, all my farmer friends, why
20 should they be allowed to push us around because
21 they've got more money? I -- I don't want to live in
22 a country like that, and I don't think you guys do
23 either. So I want to go on the record that I'm in
24 opposition to Clean Line, 110 percent.

25 And I just ask you guys, I thank you for

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1 your time, I thank you for the fact that you came to
2 us instead of us finding you, I appreciate your time
3 in listening to us and just ask you and pray about it,
4 if you would, that the decision you make is the right
5 one. And my opinion, the right decision is to not
6 allow them to come through. Thank you for your time.

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Thank you.

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Marilyn Culling?

10 Gary Stockman?

11 SPEAKER: Did you say Gary Stigle?

12 MS. STOCKMAN: No. He said Gayl Stockman.
13 You mispronounced my name. That's okay. I forgive
14 you.

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Come on up.

16 GAYL STOCKMAN,
17 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

20 MS. STOCKMAN: My first name is Gayl,
21 G-A-Y-L. My last name is Stockman, S-T-O-C-K-M-A-N.

22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

23 MS. STOCKMAN: Cowgill, Missouri.

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

25 MS. STOCKMAN: And I haven't been there

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1 very long, but in the first five years we lived there.
2 Wasn't the first five years, first year. There was
3 five people that contracted cancer, and they put in
4 that gas line and it's affecting water there. And I
5 complained about that, and now you want to put in
6 power lines in these people's lands that they worked
7 so hard to obtain. That thing is huge and will take
8 up so much of their property and you say that you'll
9 give them rights? Well, my brother-in-law moved into
10 this house after he bought it, and the people failed
11 to tell him that the Missouri -- Public Service
12 Commission had paid them for a portion of his land,
13 and they took part of his land after he moved in
14 there. And he couldn't fight it because it was
15 already sold to the Public Service Commission. This
16 is -- this is something that is different than what
17 these guys are fighting, but it's the same because the
18 land was sold before they moved into it, and he lost
19 so much footage of his land. These power lines do
20 cause cancer. They do cause people to get sick.
21 Because that is the reason why these people moved out
22 away from the city to get away from all that noise,
23 away from all that congestion, away from all that
24 building, and you guys still have stuff in the city,
25 that there's empty buildings that nobody uses that.

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1 You've not made use of that. You did buy the
2 property, and they sit there empty. You don't house
3 the homeless in them. You don't feed anybody with
4 them. They just sit there empty because you don't
5 want to put anything in them. And then you pay some
6 people for their land to not produce on it or animals
7 or whatever, cows. That's wrong. That's their land.
8 And it's not right for someone to take it and do what
9 they wanted. That's the reason why they moved out
10 here. And the land produces a lot of good garden
11 products.

12 We have had so much stuff to share this
13 year with people that don't have food and we've been
14 grateful to share it, and we're grateful that you hear
15 us today, and we're grateful that you came and spent
16 some of your time away from your offices to come to
17 us. But we don't want our land taken away from us
18 because we worked hard for it, and that's the reason
19 why we're out here in these rural communities because
20 we don't want the congestion of all the power lines
21 and oil lines. And that cracking does cause some of
22 the earth to move. So you can see that in California
23 from all that stuff that caused the earthquakes that
24 they have, and we haven't had that earthquake yet
25 that's going to come from down south up through here,

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1 but it is coming, and part of it is the fact that you
2 guys have produced so many buildings and so many power
3 lines, and so many oil fields, and it's loosening the
4 land and making it not producible. What are you guys
5 going to do? Where are you going to get this food?
6 Where are you going to put these cows? There's
7 nowhere to put them. It's not right. Where are our
8 natural resources? It's affecting our water. There's
9 been certain communities that have not had clean water
10 from all this stuff. It's not right. You guys have
11 to stand up for us. You're elected officials. You're
12 supposed to speak up for us, not against it. Not take
13 away our land, not take away our water, not take away
14 our natural resources. What are we going to live on?
15 Power lines? We're going to look pretty funny sitting
16 up there. I don't want to sit on a power line. I
17 like my land. I like my vegetables and my fruit that
18 I share with people that don't have enough. I like
19 putting flowers on there and things like that to make
20 the land better. And the mayor of our town, Mary
21 Williams, worked really hard to make our town better.
22 Linda McElwee, she works really hard to make our town
23 better. Pat and Marji and Donna and Betty, they all
24 work hard to make our land better and to build up our
25 community. This will tear it apart. We don't want

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1 that.

2 It's up to you guys with the power to speak
3 up for us, because you guys have the know-how and the
4 knowledge to do it. And it's up to you to search your
5 hearts out and speak up for us and keep our land
6 rights. Thank you.

7 COMMISSIONER HALL: Thank you for taking
8 the time to be here today. You made mention of the
9 Missouri Public Service Commission taking land or
10 something to that effect.

11 MS. STOCKMAN: Well, you know what I mean.

12 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Let me just tell you,
13 we've got staff here that could perhaps answer
14 questions that you have with what it is that we
15 actually do because we don't actually take land from
16 people.

17 MS. STOCKMAN: Well, what I'm referring to
18 is my brother-in-law actually lives in Independence,
19 Missouri when he had land there in Sterling, and when
20 Missouri Public Service bought the land from the
21 person before him.

22 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Oh, Missouri Public
23 Service?

24 MS. STOCKMAN: Got it? That's your sign
25 right there.

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1 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: But that's not us though.

2 MS. STOCKMAN: Well --

3 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Okay.

4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Bernie Stockman.

5 BERNIE STOCKMAN,
6 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

9 MR. STOCKMAN: Bernie Stockman,
10 S-T-O-C-K-M-A-N.

11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

12 MR. STOCKMAN: Cowgill, Missouri.

13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

14 MR. STOCKMAN: I retired last August from
15 the post office after working for 20 years carrying
16 mail, and I thought I had a pretty hard job until my
17 wife and I moved out here to Cowgill. These folks out
18 here showed us the meaning of hard work. They work
19 from sun up to sun down and then at the end of the
20 day, they ask you what else they can do for you. And
21 as a member who is going to be living there in our
22 retirement years, I feel my obligation to stand behind
23 all these people and oppose this project. Thank you.

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

25 Next name on the list is Wayne Beach.

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1 Mr. Beach, I think you testified in Cameron, so I'll
2 move you to the end.

3 William Cook.

4 WILLIAM COOK,
5 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

8 MR. COOK: My name is William, C double O,
9 K.

10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

11 MR. COOK: I live in Caldwell County.

12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

13 MR. COOK: I just want to bring to your
14 attention too that I think Missouri should follow
15 Arkansas's example and have them move around us. It
16 won't bring that many jobs. It will create a few jobs
17 while they're doing the construction, and then they'll
18 be gone because it's not going to service Missouri.
19 It's going across Missouri, but it's not servicing
20 Missouri.

21 And anyhow, I'm not so sure about DC
22 anyway, the last time I read about anyone trying it
23 was in 1886 when Edison tried to electrocute New York
24 City just to put light bulbs in and it didn't work
25 then, and I don't know how it would work now.

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1 Electricity would go from block to block. They had to
2 have a power station at each block in New York City so
3 they could have lights. I think we should step back,
4 and at least reorganize what's going on and at least
5 make sure it will benefit Missouri. Because I see no
6 benefit to Missouri at all about this. Thank you.

7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you, sir.

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Ted Rights.

10 TED RIGHTS,
11 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

14 MR. RIGHTS: Ted Rights, R-I-G-H-T-S.

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

16 MR. RIGHTS: I live here in Hamilton.

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

18 MR. RIGHTS: I'm a retired physician. I
19 retired a year ago, and my concern is from personal
20 experience. My wife and I met each other along the
21 Delaware River and that was back in Pennsylvania. We
22 had a beautiful setting along the river, and within
23 five years of our being there, the Pennsylvania Power
24 and Light Company came out, and they began putting in
25 a power plant.

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1 First, it was one little power plant. Now
2 that thing has disappeared after 50 years, and they've
3 had a second and a third one, and the size of the
4 thing is just continued to grow. And our cottages --
5 there was 25 of them -- along the Delaware River have
6 all been ripped down, and I can assure you that
7 whatever people may tell you about utilities, the land
8 will never be the same, so that if you're going to put
9 in a series of 200-foot poles across the state of
10 Missouri, that's going to be an eyesore forever. I
11 was in the meeting in St. Joe last night, and I was
12 very much impressed with the presentation by a
13 professor there who stressed the necessity of a grid,
14 that we had to have a better grid for moving power
15 throughout the United States. I understand this. I
16 understand also that this is probably the first step
17 towards having this grid throughout the United States.

18 It's not that it's just going to happen
19 here, it will happen throughout this country. And
20 you're going to have a landscape throughout this
21 country of studding with 200-foot poles, and I'm not
22 opposed to wind power or efficient use of power. I am
23 a member of the Autobahn Society, not a member of the
24 Sierra Club, but I sympathize with them. I would say,
25 however, that if you're going to conserve the

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1 environment, you should try to find some kind of a
2 solution which will at one in the same time provide us
3 with wind power and solar power, and at the same time,
4 let this country look as though it's still a beautiful
5 place to be. Instead of having the landscape studded
6 with these towers, I would suggest that we go ahead
7 and put everything under ground. Somebody is going to
8 tell me that this is technically impossible, but I do
9 know for a fact that lines like this have been placed
10 from France to Spain, across the Pyrenees, and they
11 have been able to place these direct lines under
12 ground. I realize that it will cost a lot more money.
13 It will be more expensive, but I would urge Missouri
14 to be a leader in this, and if legislation is
15 necessary, the legislation should say that if you're
16 going to put in these direct -- these -- what do you
17 call it? Not alternating current, but DC. If you're
18 going to put in DC, bury it.

19 And I recognize too that that will have its
20 own cost, that the land through which it goes will
21 still be disturbed, that there will still be problems
22 with the easements and all the other things, but
23 you're not going to have the whole United States
24 studded with 200-foot poles. Thanks.

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

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1 Judi Housh?

2 MS. HOUSH: I will give my time to Jennifer
3 Gatrel.

4 MS. GATREL: Oh, thank you.

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Mary Jo Sloan.

6 MS. SLOAN: I'd like to donate my time to
7 Jennifer Gatrel.

8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Alinda Baker, I think you
9 spoke in Cameron, so I'll move you to the end.

10 Darla Regnery?

11 DARLA REGNERY,
12 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

15 MS. REGNERY: I'm Darla Regnery, D-A-R-L-A,
16 last name R-E-G-N-E-R-Y.

17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

18 MS. REGNERY: I live in Clay County, but
19 our family farm is in Caldwell County.

20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

21 MS. REGNERY: I think that the most
22 important thing to consider when making a decision is
23 that one that achieves the best results. I believe
24 the distinguished gentlemen produces desire to do the
25 best for people in Missouri. Part of the advancement

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1 in technology is that we implement technology that's
2 creative, useful, and will move us into the future.
3 We must choose the most viable option for the
4 long-term good. If there is a better option to the
5 current technology under consideration or it will be
6 quickly obsolete and bypass it. We expect, and
7 justifiably so, that any technology will promote
8 health, and if it doesn't, we wait until the creative
9 process engages big business and an option that does
10 preserve health and welfare. If the idea or the bread
11 is half baked, we don't eat it. Most people are for
12 renewable energy, but transferring electricity at
13 tremendous expense for miles and marring beautiful
14 views and destroying destructive farmland is not the
15 most viable option.

16 If electricity can be generated feasibly
17 and economically at the location it's consumed at, and
18 public officials there are willing and able to do so.
19 If we can't defer to local generation of power back
20 east for political reasons, the least we can do is
21 bury the lines in existing corridors. Instead of
22 taking ranch and farmland, I've heard there's a
23 possibility we could collect -- actually collect rent
24 from companies like Clean Line Energy to use our
25 existing Missouri corridors. That could be

1 investigated. Okay. In addition, we need to look at
2 who wants to do business with us and have public
3 utility status. The best predictor of future behavior
4 is past behavior, whether it is a person or a
5 corporation.

6 Are we marrying the first available person
7 standing in line or are we selecting the finest? Who
8 is Clean Line Energy? It doesn't matter how many
9 A/K/A, also known as, D/B/A doing business as, parent
10 companies, subsidiaries, sister companies, a company
11 has many more [inaudible] through the business
12 practices and attitudes towards honesty and fair
13 dealing by those at the top remain the same and flow
14 from the top.

15 Have we asked them for a list of the other
16 states they have done business in? Where is the
17 itemized complete list of their completed contracts?
18 Have we talked to the other party of these contracts
19 to determine what happened to these recipients of
20 their goods and service? How much experience does
21 this company have? What mechanisms are in place to
22 hold them accountable and responsible for doing the
23 right thing. Before granting anybody public utility
24 status we need to have controls in place. If we don't
25 do this up front, we don't get a second bite of the

1 apple to prevent abuse of power.

2 Okay. What can go wrong with the contract?

3 In general a company could scoop off a major share of
4 profits, subcontract out to inferior connections, not
5 do the work at all or abandon the work in the project.

6 Google exists. We have now [inaudible] to want to
7 know who wants to do business with us. That said in
8 the best possible fashion.

9 Okay. Google -- like God in his infinite
10 wisdom and goodness, preserve the health and
11 prosperity of these good natured, hard working farmers
12 and ranchers whose valuable efforts contribute to
13 sustaining the life of us all.

14 Please do not use your power to command
15 great sacrifice and take from them to give to others
16 that may only decide to turn a quick profit. Thank
17 you for your time.

18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

19 Ed S. Presley maybe or Priestly? No Ed?

20 SPEAKER: He left.

21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Sherri Kempf.

22 SHERRI KEMPF,
23 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: State your name and spell
25 your last name.

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1 MS. KEMPF: My name is Sherri Kempf,
2 K-E-M-P-F.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

4 MS. KEMPF: I live in Boonville, Missouri.

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

6 MS. KEMPF: I'm here today as a farmer, and
7 as a -- I tell everybody I'm a football mom. I'm
8 actually on my way to a football game, but I've been
9 following this project, and I wanted to come and
10 testify on it today in support. I'm excited about the
11 potential energy prospects, the potential jobs for the
12 state of Missouri. I live in Cooper County.
13 Infrastructure has never been popular anywhere. It
14 has come -- infrastructure came through my county many
15 years ago through I-70. It split neighbors, farms,
16 where they had to travel down the road, cross overs
17 back down to go on the other side to farm the rest of
18 their farmland.

19 My company was one of the first ones to
20 have a rural electric co-op. It faced opposition
21 because it was going to have to go through areas of
22 people's farmland, and they did not want to give that
23 up, but I'm telling you today that I'm so glad that my
24 parents, my grandparents were forward enough to think
25 of my behalf and my children's behalf, and I just want

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1 to tell you that I'm in support of this project for
2 the future of our children and that maybe we can also
3 be forward thinkers as well.

4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

5 MS. KEMPF: Thank you.

6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: The last next thing that I
7 really can't make a thing out here. The last name
8 maybe ends with D-A-R. Whoever was the last person to
9 sign the list. Do you know who you are? No takers?
10 All right. Jennifer Gatrel.

11 MS. GATREL: I have a lot of papers.

12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Let's swear you in first.

13 JENNIFER GATREL,
14 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

17 MS. GATREL: Jennifer Gatrel, G-A-T-R-E-L,
18 from Cowgill, Missouri.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

20 MS. GATREL: First of all, I want to say
21 thank you. I felt like I've kind of gotten to know
22 you all and your integrity shines through. How you
23 sat and listened to us and had been really the
24 tenacity of people asking question after question. It
25 has been an amazing process. I really thank you from

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1 the bottom of my heart.

2 I've had the great honor of meeting
3 landowners of all 14 impacted counties, and I think
4 you've all had a chance to get to know us too. I
5 think you know that DR. We are in a lot of ways
6 what's good about America and what grew America, and
7 we are hard working, good natured people, that if any
8 of us thought that somebody is not going to have
9 electricity, this would be a different thing
10 altogether.

11 The Grain Belt Express is not part of any,
12 as you know, national or regional grid expansion,
13 that's not even at all what we're talking about. I
14 want to tell you a little bit about what we've done so
15 far, and it's not to brag. I want you all to
16 understand that these people who sacrificed, who work
17 harder than anyone that I've ever known gave up even
18 more of themselves, even more of their time and their
19 energy and their money to defend what already should
20 be ours which is our property rights.

21 We have held multiple meetings in all 14
22 impacted counties with over 3,500 in attendance.
23 We've distributed over 5,000 brochures and signs. We
24 have gone three times into delegation to Jeff City.
25 We've had members of all political and Socioeconomic

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1 stripes work together for over a year. This appears
2 to be the only issue possibly left in America that
3 democrats and republicans can agree on. The Missouri
4 Landowners Alliance has raised over a \$100,000 of
5 donations mostly from private -- from private
6 donations. I recently read in a newspaper that we
7 were compared to Saddam Hussein and tied to the coal
8 industry. I want to tell you that our money came from
9 people like me. When we needed brochures, my children
10 sacrificed our family vacation that we saved for two
11 years for to be able to print them off. That's the
12 kind of sacrifice that we've been talking about.

13 We have an attorney working for free. I
14 mean, I thought that was an urban legend. I didn't
15 even know attorneys still did that. And here he is
16 here today sacrificing his time to be here because
17 this is important. What is happening is wrong and it
18 must be stopped. We -- we have invested this much
19 time and energy that we don't have to spare to protect
20 our property rights from this incredibly dangerous
21 precedence. We cannot fail, and the same will avail.
22 {Inaudible} that kept generations on the land will
23 again avail. We will not lose to Grain Belt because
24 we cannot. This is a fight we have to win.

25 I want to talk a little bit about why it is

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1 we are so committed to stopping Clean Line.

2 It really has much to do with the company
3 as ethics and character as anything. None of us want
4 to do business with them. That's what you've heard
5 over and over again. That's a common thing. We flat
6 do not want to do business with this company ever in
7 any capacity at all due to the way we've been treated.
8 These easements are like marriage ought to be. Once
9 you enter it, there's absolutely no getting out.
10 Eminent domain in a sense is like a forced marriage
11 because you don't have the right to say no, one way or
12 the other it's going to happen. And we are asking and
13 I'm going to list some reasons, and we are asking that
14 you take that into account. I think that Ed did a
15 good job talking about the post card that we received.
16 I have it labeled Exhibit A. It came like this. I
17 don't know if you all get a bunch of junk mail. We
18 sure do. I happened to read it, it was in our mail
19 basket after the meeting had already occurred. If
20 you're a company getting used to somebody that could
21 be life shattering, the least you could do is send a
22 letter. And have it certified, and better yet, send
23 someone out to talk to the landowners. This is
24 ridiculous. We heard over and over again the debate
25 about the health effects, and really I don't know

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1 either. I'm not a doctor or a nurse. However, we've
2 had both doctors and nurses testify, and I think
3 you'll all hear some in Jeff City, but Clean Line has
4 repeatedly told us that the World Health Organization
5 said there's no known health effects. I have here
6 literature from Clean Line saying that the World
7 Health Organization says that there's no known health
8 effects. Well, we looked it up, what do you know?
9 The World Health Organization says the overall
10 evaluation -- extremely low frequency magnetic fields
11 are possibly carcinogenic to humans, Group 2B. So the
12 doctor who figured that out wrote a -- his wife wrote
13 a letter to the editor, Clean Line then went and said,
14 please trust -- please look to trusted sources.

15 In their own letter to the editor, Ed
16 Johnson had that printed off, so then the doctor's
17 wife wrote back about why their -- about their
18 assertions [sic] what the World Health Organization
19 has is accurate, so I have that that I would like to
20 submit into evidence.

21 And again, there's [inaudible] where Clean
22 Line says that the World Health Organization says
23 there's no known health effects, which is a lie. In
24 2008 they did say that, so I guess they're splitting
25 hairs, but I guess the World Health Organization

1 changed their mind.

2 Okay. My good friend, Mrs. Kissler, talked
3 marketing Mayberry, so I won't dwell on that. But the
4 class you can see here it says, host, Clean Line
5 energy and the class where they say they coin the cute
6 little term Nimbies, everybody knows Nimbies. The new
7 one is bananas [inaudible] absolutely nothing
8 anywhere. I guess you can sign me up to eat my fruit
9 because I'm feeling that way about Clean Line for
10 sure. So the host is Clean Line, and in here you can
11 read the classes. After Clean Line withdrew or kicked
12 out, the whole agenda was changed, was actually to be
13 respectful of landowners.

14 I think the overriding theme of these has
15 been the broken promises and unsavory business. I too
16 had a personal experience. I wanted to make sure that
17 we gave Clean Line the benefit of the doubt. I --
18 after I got my little post card, I called them, they
19 -- they never called me back because they have a 1-800
20 number, you can't talk to a real person. So I went to
21 their Facebook page. I wrote I've been calling
22 repeatedly for a week. I would like a call back. I
23 finally got a call back.

24 Eventually, I wrote something on Facebook
25 that went pretty viral, and then I got some more calls

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1 from Clean Line and a Clean Line representative agreed
2 to come to my farm. I really wanted to have an open
3 mind. None of us are opposed to sustainable energy.
4 It needs to happen, it just doesn't need to happen
5 with this company. They came to my farm. I talked a
6 lot about the property value. And I was told by
7 Carrie from Clean Line that they have multi-studies
8 that shows there's no property value lost from high
9 voltage DC, and I said, Carrie, if you think that I am
10 so stupid to believe what is so obviously a lie, I
11 don't know that I can trust you at all, and she said,
12 I will provide -- I will provide you with the studies.
13 I said, I would like to see them. Still waiting,
14 never have a -- have they emerged.

15 Okay. I would like to talk a little bit
16 about the infamous Clean Line kick ass pizza party. I
17 mean, you can't make this stuff up, gentlemen. Okay.
18 Here it is. So we got -- someone at MU wrote me and
19 said that Clean Line has offered college students a
20 kick ass pizza party, so I got on Facebook and checked
21 it out, and what they had offered is if they could get
22 a thousand signatures, then they would throw them a
23 kick ass pizza party. I mean, this is not -- I have
24 the actual screen shot from the college campus. At
25 that point, Paul from the Missouri Landowners Alliance

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1 requested the -- the e-mail interactions between Clean
2 Line and the students at Columbia, so we have the
3 actual e-mails received to and from where, in fact,
4 they are bribing them with a pizza party for getting
5 signatures to sway you for students who are completely
6 uninterested, but apparently are hungry.

7 I mean, so they were able, I think, to get
8 50 signatures even bribing kids with pizza, so that's
9 how desperate this company is. You can read it in
10 here. It's ridiculous. Also, I found in these
11 e-mails that we received pretty disturbing that they
12 apparently hired some kind of cyber spy. You can read
13 it. I'll read a part of it all.

14 We started subscribing -- Hi Grain Belt
15 team, we started subscribing to a new social media
16 monitoring service this week. It's going to be much
17 more informative, and much more efficient. Right now
18 it's taking time for all of our data. In the
19 meantime, here's a quick report taking place around
20 your project. And then it goes on to talk about the
21 things we've been doing. Are you kidding me? This is
22 the kind of company we're dealing with that they need
23 to hire some type of cyber spy to spy on us farmers on
24 Facebook. I don't even know about Twitter, so
25 apparently --

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1 Okay. I want to touch on that, the elder
2 abuse that occurs from Clean Line. You all received
3 an affidavit at the last meeting from a -- from a
4 landowner that was talking about her relative who is a
5 97-year-old being harassed at their assisted living
6 home. I find it despicable, first of all, that a land
7 chart could even go into an assisted living home, and
8 when they're asked to leave, not leave is completely
9 inappropriate. We also had a landowner here today
10 that I think he got -- he didn't get to finish what he
11 was saying, but he's an elderly gentleman. He was
12 called on the phone by a land agent and was told the
13 project's a done deal, you need to come in and sign
14 your easement, and since he already come and had
15 experiences with numerous utilities and he thought it
16 was, and if he had not come to a meeting, he would
17 have signed an easement not knowing the process had
18 begun. This is not the type of business that we're
19 willing to do business with at all.

20 Next, I want to talk about Missouri law.
21 And you all are really the experts on this, so I won't
22 try to educate you, but I really am confused as to why
23 we are all still here. Because Missouri law says that
24 -- and I'll just paraphrase it, it's Missouri 229.100,
25 that unless the utility has the permission of the

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1 county, then they cannot erect power lines.

2 Well, 8 of the 14 potential counties and 5
3 of the 8 counties have rescinded the approval they
4 previously gave Clean Line. They do not support it.
5 You all yesterday saw two of the commissioners
6 testified in Clinton County that they do not support
7 it. This is -- I'm not -- I'm just not sure why we
8 are even doing this. This is -- the PSC says, the PSC
9 may not grant a certificate of convenience and
10 necessity unless the applicant has already obtained a
11 local franchise, which is an absolute prerequisite.
12 And so I would just ask you at this point -- they have
13 not met it. It would be like my going to get my
14 driver's license without proper identification. I
15 can't do it. So I mean, I would love it if you could
16 just stamp no. I'm sure you can't, but that would be
17 my hope.

18 By 2050, our world population is expected
19 to increase by 2 billion people to a total of 9
20 billion. There's a lot of international worry and
21 study to determine how we could possibly meet the
22 need, additionally the median age for farmers is 59.9.
23 From about 1982 through the 2007 census according to
24 Bob Young, the chief economist with the American Farm
25 Bureau, folks just really weren't getting into farming

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1 that much. One thing about this is clear, gentleman,
2 farmers are providing the public need, arguably, one
3 of the most important public needs.

4 You also heard a lot of farmers speak as to
5 how they would be negatively impacted. Clearly, we do
6 not need to send a message to possible future farmers
7 that their land can be taken via eminent domain to
8 make out of state rich people richer.

9 And we've heard debate that it's easy to
10 farm around power lines, it's horrible to farm around
11 power lines. The result is this, if you hit it, this
12 is what can happen. It's a picture of a power line
13 getting on top of a tractor, for anyone that can't see
14 it.

15 All right. I would like to suggest to you
16 gentlemen that renewable cannot be sustainable without
17 it being local. I would like to repeat that.
18 Renewable cannot be sustainable without it being
19 local, and here in Missouri, there is a lot of great
20 projects coming on line.

21 In the news recently a huge methane
22 digester, I think, an \$80 million investment is being
23 put up in north Missouri. Amron is doing a national
24 investment in power. There's been disclosed people
25 digging their own distributed [inaudible] such as

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1 solar and wind. That, gentlemen, is the future.

2 Giant transmission lines transmitting power
3 from where it can be produced, the cheapest -- and I
4 should say in quotations, the cheapest, because it's
5 subsidized by our tax dollars, to where it can be sold
6 for the most money isn't the answer.

7 This is like a private partially foreign
8 owned company wanting to put a toll road through the
9 middle of our state's most productive farm ground,
10 only this road will start in Kansas and end in
11 Indiana. If the company promised it maybe kind of
12 sort of would let a few cars on the road in one
13 county, we would tell them to hit the road, and I hope
14 you tell Clean Line the same thing.

15 We know some of the investors at Clean Line
16 are, of course, heavily invested with gas and oil,
17 with that in mind, I'm very concerned with what is
18 happening on the plain and eastern line. The plain
19 and eastern electric line passes by Cushing, Oklahoma
20 and goes to Memphis, Tennessee. The brand new Diamond
21 Oil pipeline product starts in Cushing and goes to
22 Memphis. The impacted landowners I have spoken with
23 says the route is the exact same. Coincidentally, the
24 Keystone pipeline is stalled out in Cushing. My
25 question to you, gentlemen, is could the same thing

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1 happen here? In light of the MODOT paper and Laun
2 will testify to that, that questions the safety of
3 putting a DC power line next to pipelines. Is that
4 not a major concern? Also, 53 percent of the Missouri
5 Grain Belt route parallels the pipeline. If the power
6 line causes a rupture, the results could force
7 [inaudible]. My little son testified to that fact.
8 You don't leave a gas can next to a camp fire. A
9 six-year-old can tell you that. You ought not put a
10 giant electric transmission line over the top of a
11 pipeline, that's ridiculous. Here in tornado alley,
12 if -- a huge pole could get knocked into the pipeline,
13 which is a mere feet below the ground. Oh, and I
14 wanted to submit into evidence, it's press releases
15 about the different projects that are occurring in
16 Missouri that serves Missouri.

17 Ultimately, what this comes down to is
18 property rights and eminent domain. Here in the
19 country, land is usually earned with literal blood,
20 sweat and tears, often from generations of landowners
21 with a vision of the future that most include
22 perpetual optimism. They simply make it happen. It
23 means getting up early and going to bed late, and
24 always, always caring for the land. To say I own this
25 land is stated with pride and gratitude for those that

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1 have gone before. You all get to decide how much
2 power an out of state private company gets to have
3 over us. You all determine if the precedent is set
4 that will surely lead to further erosion of property
5 rights.

6 You have heard a ton of reasons that you
7 wish for the right to simply tell Clean Line no. To
8 approach us as a business to a business, those reasons
9 are personal because they should matter too because
10 the same great determination that saw them hold on to
11 the land will see them fight to keep control of it.

12 If Clean Line is granted a certificate for
13 convenience and necessity, then in all likelihood, we
14 will be seeing the largest taking of private land by a
15 private company in our nation's history. Landowners
16 have made it clear, we do not want to do business with
17 Clean Line. In our counties, Clean Line's name is as
18 they say mud. Chances are great, but if they -- if
19 landowners allow themselves to be taken through the
20 combination process, a group of their peers and in
21 combination, court will award far more than Clean Line
22 would ever willingly give.

23 You, gentlemen, have an incredible
24 privilege to protect your fellow Missourians and allow
25 us to get back to work. We would very much appreciate

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1 you denying Clean Line. Thank you.

2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: These documents will be
3 received into the record. Subject to objections from
4 companies, and why don't we take a ten-minute recess.

5 (A break was taken.)

6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Let's go back on
7 the record. The one gentleman that I did not
8 pronounce his name correctly, so I will call him now.
9 Mr. Shrewsbury, Ed Shrewsbury.

10 ED SHREWSBURY,
11 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

14 MR. SHREWSBURY: Ed Shrewsbury,
15 S-H-R-E-W-S-B-U-R-Y.

16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

17 MR. SHREWSBURY: Lathrop, Missouri, Clinton
18 County.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

20 MR. SHREWSBURY: Thank you for having me,
21 and I along with other people, I commend you all for
22 being here and listening to the people. This power
23 line does not directly affect my family. I am a fifth
24 generation farmer. My son is sixth generation, and
25 hope my grandson will be the seventh, and I would -- I

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1 think you all have a great task and weight upon your
2 shoulders to make a decision like this because the
3 majority of the comments I've heard today come from
4 the people that are living here now. But you're going
5 to ultimately make a decision that will possibly
6 affect generations to come. And I would like to use
7 the example of when I was a 6-year-old, the first high
8 voltage power line came through my father's farm.
9 They paid so much a pole and so much for an easement
10 right away. They made that payment one time,
11 approximately 65 years ago, but my son now farms
12 around those same poles with no additional
13 compensation. In 1964 a second power line came
14 through, and they, again, paid a fee for their
15 easement, but I farmed around them all my life. Now,
16 my son's farming around them with -- hope my grandson
17 will be. Third power line came through in '84, same
18 kind of [inaudible]. We're still farming around them,
19 but we got paid one time.

20 One of the things that makes it hard to
21 evaluate what is this worth and how will it affect
22 people's lives. When I was six years old, my father
23 used a [inaudible] corn planter that was approximately
24 5-foot wide. My son now uses a corn platter that's
25 40-foot wide and a separator that's a 100-foot wide.

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1 When you go farming around an obstacle in a field with
2 an implement that's 100-foot wide, it cuts your
3 efficiency and that's what American farmers are about.
4 They're the most efficient producers of food and fiber
5 in the world. They're going to continue to be more
6 efficient.

7 I perceive the time my grandson would use
8 some type of air operating production. In food or
9 fire, a scout for insects or pests or drone or
10 possibly even the farm equipment may be some type of
11 hovercraft. We cannot imagine what might come in the
12 future, so when we look at these easements and right
13 of ways, it's not a one generational cost or effect,
14 it's a multigenerational. And I think that's very
15 hard to evaluate what it would be worth or that could
16 go through a property. I didn't really plan to speak,
17 so I may get lost here, and I'll just keep myself
18 down.

19 But I think the one gentleman talked about
20 a grid for power, and I think we all recognize, every
21 one of us in this room is blessed to have electrical
22 service. That's the greatest [inaudible] that my
23 mother and father owned a farm in the 58 years they
24 lived in a farm. We all want to continue. If we look
25 at a map of the United States of the power lines that

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1 exist today, it would likely look like some type of
2 spider web as they crisscross around here and there.
3 And I think the Public Service Commission needs to
4 shoulder the load in figuring out how to establish a
5 grid that concentrates the transmission lines similar
6 to the way our interstate highways are from our
7 traffic. Possibly if a line is going to cross
8 Missouri, what about putting it on the I-70 corridor
9 where there's already a right-of-way or I-29 or you
10 name it, so I think there's a lot of things that you
11 gentlemen ultimately have to consider as to whether
12 you grant this or deny it because it's not a one-time
13 easy-to-picture situation. It's a great
14 responsibility. I'm glad I'm not in the position that
15 you are to have to make that decision. But as far as
16 these people that are farming and producing food and
17 fiber, I definitely stand with them.

18 I would hate to see someone else take my
19 family farm that's now in the sixth generation for
20 some type of so-called public project, when we have
21 worked generations to put together, that happens to be
22 several hundred acres my family owns because we've
23 been thrifty and hard working and good operators, but
24 it does mean a lot to us. I would -- I would guess
25 that any one of you setting in front of me would not

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1 want a high voltage transmission line running across
2 your own home property.

3 The other thing with the easements, and I
4 don't know, I do intend to address this with my --

5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Five minutes.

6 MR. SHREWSBURY: Thank you. That there
7 should be an annual payment for the use of this
8 right-of-way and a bond posted that if the company
9 that gets the easement or right-of-way ceases to
10 operate, that they are responsible for removing and
11 renovating the land back to its original state. Take
12 the case of cell towers in Missouri. Several have
13 been built, the companies go out of business. The
14 cell tower's on the person's land, the companies
15 defunct, but that landowner is responsible to keep
16 warning lights for aircraft on that cell tower or pay
17 to have it taken down.

18 Again, there's many things to consider.
19 I'm sure you all will do it, and I appreciate you
20 letting me speak, and the fact that you've given all
21 these people the opportunity.

22 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you for your
23 testimony.

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: There are six people
25 remaining on the list to speak signed up today. All

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1 six of those persons have spoken in a previous
2 hearing. We have a situation where we have another
3 hearing that's going to be occurring this evening.
4 It's a fair drive from here. We're going to not be
5 able to take any additional witnesses beyond the six
6 that I've already signed up. And for you six people,
7 I would appreciate it if you only include information
8 that you have not already told us. I don't want you
9 to repeat anything that you've already said that's
10 already in the record and that's already preserved,
11 and also I would ask if you could be as brief as
12 possible, we would appreciate it. With that, we would
13 -- the next witness is Lauren Sprouse.

14 LAUREN SPROUSE,
15 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

18 MR. SPROUSE: Lauren Sprouse,
19 S-P-R-O-U-S-E.

20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside?

21 MR. SPROUSE: I live in Leawood, Kansas and
22 I am a property owner on the proposed Grain Belt
23 Express Line.

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.

25 MR. SPROUSE: Commissioner and others,

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1 thank you for the opportunity to speak today. Really
2 appreciate to take your valuable time in order to get
3 the -- the right informed decision about the right to
4 try to really stop this ill-conceived project by a
5 private company trying to be a public utility. From a
6 background perspective, my brothers and I operate a
7 farm south of Braymer. I proposed DC line follows the
8 three [inaudible] pipeline right-of-ways through that
9 areas through about three-fourths of a mile through
10 our operations. This land has been in our family for
11 a little less than a hundred years. These pipelines
12 are [inaudible] oil lines. The [inaudible] Express
13 Natural Gas Line, and the Trans Canada Keystone XL
14 Crude Oil Pipeline. As I said in Moberly, these
15 buried lines are out of site, but not out of mind.
16 And I want to add to that to clarify the point I made.
17 Somebody asked me if they require ongoing attention
18 with the landowner with varied facilities and what I
19 mean by that is on our land there, we've had -- we've
20 had our livestock get out through temporary fences.
21 Pipeline leaks and subsequent pipeline leaks, we've
22 had soil compaction and tracks left due to mudding
23 rears on our property. We've had culverts damaged
24 due to heavy equipment. We've actually had the
25 pipeline exposed because of significant erosion on the

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1 properties. We had our water lines cut during
2 construction. They didn't even know they were there.
3 They knocked down overhead power lines, AT&T and the
4 same property brought in obnoxious weeds, at the
5 shatter canes that it's cost us additional money,
6 chemical treatment every year to try and fight this.
7 The problem we have is we currently have the problem
8 with a pipeline that's too shallow with a repair that
9 was made that we can't farm over it safely and likely
10 going to have litigation on that pipeline to get that
11 pipeline lowered into the ground, and so the final one
12 which is kind of insult to energy, we had this -- we
13 had an underground structure that AT&T landed on our
14 property, and we had to buy back the land that it was
15 on from them which kind of reflects the flaw in the
16 state processes around the way. [Inaudible] property
17 are handled. We literally had to buy back the land
18 from them, and then they gave us the crap they left
19 behind. And with all that said, we still prefer
20 buried lines than this monstrosity that's proposed in
21 our area. In fact, I wish we could have had this area
22 in our farm. It's a great location. I like the field
23 trip in our farm. In our farm there's elevation
24 change. When you look out the back of the farm,
25 there's about a hundred foot elevation. These

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1 proposed towers and lines will be the top of the hill
2 and will become the dominant visible structure that I
3 estimate for three to five miles, and it will be if
4 Grain Belt Express gets their way and gets public
5 status.

6 Finally, this whole thing I was really
7 appalled by was the way when I heard how close some of
8 these lines could be within 250 feet from a home.
9 That's -- that's -- say that I would have to go out
10 and look at 30 to 45-degree angle and look up at the
11 porch of my home if I had this line. That's just
12 appalling. 250 feet, that's less than a football
13 field in length, in fact, that's 83 yards. That would
14 be a long pass by a good quarterback; right? And
15 that's the distance of these lines from people's
16 homes. It's appalling to me, but you know, you heard
17 this over and over again today, at least a hundred
18 people told you about these concerns. I think a lot
19 of people want to focus on really the fact that
20 there's really no public necessity for this route and
21 this project and some of the unintended consequences
22 that may occur. You will be responsible for this
23 brothers' green scheme on your watch. Therefore,
24 because of that you'll end up being what we'll have to
25 live with the rest of our lives.

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1 First, I want to clarify here, I'm a
2 proponent of the wind energy. In fact, this very home
3 had wind electrical energy in 1920. And taken out in
4 the RAA that came out in the '40s, but the point is at
5 one point, it experienced even then, the wind energy
6 is highly variable, and since the national grid likely
7 will own this project when it's all said and done. I
8 thought it would be appropriate to get some figures
9 from the United Kingdom prepared by the John Mere
10 Trust, and in their research they found that wind
11 power capacity was extremely variable, in fact, and
12 not meeting the expectations that the clients
13 originally put in place in their studies.

14 The delivered capacity, for example, was
15 20 percent of it. It was less than 20 percent of the
16 stated capacity for more than half of the time, so
17 therefore, that would be if we were expecting at
18 500 megawatts. We would be getting a hundred
19 megawatts for half the time it was below 10 percent,
20 for a third of the time and less than 1.25 percent for
21 the capacity for a little less than a day a month.
22 What does that mean? That means for the Missouri
23 interconnection system operator, that the supposed
24 500 megawatts of wind energy, the Amron and the other
25 recent utilities would still need 500 megawatts of

1 conventional gas and power need to be spun up on line
2 when the power would die down.

3 Therefore, if they signed a power purchase
4 agreement, which I can't imagine them doing, if they
5 signed a power purchase agreement with GBE, they'd
6 still have to have the same capacity on line to match
7 it megawatt for megawatt spun up to cover when the
8 wind died down. Or the other option is you could have
9 that GBE can deliver that power more consistently by
10 having their own backup, then that backup would be the
11 Holton, Kansas, Kansas plant that's just been
12 approved. So somewhere that coal is going to get
13 burned, and likely, if they provide power that
14 somebody wants that's consistent, it would most likely
15 take away jobs from the state of Missouri. I heard
16 3,500 jobs, so in effect, if we bought power from that
17 and bought a reliable source of power, it would shut
18 down plants here and cause coal to be burning in
19 Kansas. I don't understand it. And the investment
20 would still be on the books here in our state.

21 By the way, this variability is the -- is
22 what separates wind power as a technologist. I grew
23 up in the technology business. It's what separates
24 wind power from solar. Solar is more predictable on a
25 daily basis. I might add to it that Pacific Gas and

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1 Electric are introducing large scale solar power into
2 the power portfolio. And in the process of doing
3 that, they've put in their own weather forecasting
4 organization and that weather forecasting specifically
5 is there just to make sure to know whether or not the
6 sun is going to be shining a couple days in advance,
7 so they're going to be doing the production planning.

8 I said if we had this, maybe Amron is going
9 to have to hire some people -- maybe actually find
10 some jobs for this for retiring politicians. You
11 might be able to make some referrals to people on
12 this. Who had -- who really had a good ability to
13 tell which way the wind's blowing, so maybe some good
14 retirement jobs for them. Where all they have to do
15 is predict where the wind is blowing. It wouldn't
16 create jobs.

17 Again, pardon the humor, the second point I
18 want to make is the way GBE presents their information
19 about this line. They call it a six plus or minus
20 six-caliber line. I don't know how many of you
21 understand what that is. It's kind of an earn term.
22 However, in their testimony in the Illinois issue,
23 they finally used layman's terms on this to show this
24 is really a 1.2 mega volt line between the conductors,
25 and they also are about either 3,500 megawatts, it's

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1 3.5 giga watts to reach the size and scale of what's
2 going on here. And delivering 3,000 acres of power
3 with the large, probably reaching temperatures of a
4 150 degrees even without a sun volt on the water.

5 This voltage is three-and-a-half to four
6 times greater than any of the [inaudible] delivering
7 AC power. That high voltage brings with it all the
8 unknowns with these unprecedented levels of voltages
9 around [inaudible], ionization, electric fields, even
10 though if they're in their literatures. DC fields
11 have electromagnet fields. Third point I want to make
12 for this is this hole around this is this lack of
13 attention or disregard for the unintended consequences
14 of building this line. There are concerns by various
15 groups, you know, around electric fields, electrolysis
16 on pipelines, coronas, and UV radiation given off by
17 these extremely high voltages being used and
18 operational standards. This is going to be operated
19 by PJM in Indiana, which means we wouldn't have the
20 way the power is being controlled in the state of
21 Missouri. It's going to be controlled by Indiana. I
22 requested Missouri DOT to do the study on this on
23 highways, bridges, and other pipelines due to straight
24 currents on this project, and their research indicated
25 that there is a concern for the potential electrolysis

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1 on pipelines near this facility especially that's
2 operating them in a monopolar configuration, which is
3 what they would do during the maintenance
4 configuration, which is smaller power than the ground
5 that's [inaudible], therefore, it could drive the
6 straight currents depending on how long it is
7 operating the configuration. Electrolysis is the
8 biggest kern of the pipeline. It ultimately causes
9 leaks, ultimately causes leaks and explosions, but
10 I've actually had the unfortunate experience and
11 opportunity to see a pipeline fire, and I don't know
12 if any of you have ever seen that, but we could see
13 this fire over the horizon, and we drove -- we drove
14 from central Indiana for three hours towards that
15 fire, and when we got to the fire, we would -- the
16 fire was still probably 80 feet high, and it was a
17 natural gas line, I estimated when I -- just doing
18 some quick math on that I would estimate that that
19 line is a fourth of the size of the capacity of the
20 Rocky Express Pipeline. So when I look at that it
21 seems to me to be so capricious that they're allowing
22 this design, to allow this structure to be placed
23 anywhere close to each other on this state. And I
24 will turn -- there's a lot of other findings in this
25 MODOT document.

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1 I will turn it in as evidence for this
2 hearing of the -- the final point I want to make on
3 this is about varied facilities versus aerial
4 facilities. I'm submitting another document from
5 national grid that states around 10 percent of their
6 high voltage transmission facilities are varied and
7 give different information about various techniques
8 they use to bury high voltage lines. So I get
9 national grid in their home country, find that their
10 citizens make them bury their lines there, but I guess
11 over here in the colonies they just feel to do the
12 cheapest way they do to put it is put it up, which is
13 in the aerial, and I think we need to hold their feet
14 to the fire on that kind of business decision.

15 I want to wrap up all my comments. Like I
16 said, I went in difference of the schedule here. I
17 just want to wrap up my comments by trying to put
18 things on a policy note, and that is for us to kind of
19 develop a leadership blueprint for the state of
20 Missouri. On this topic, first, I think we must be
21 very careful not to violate and hold sacred the
22 property rights by making it clear what constitutes a
23 public utility serving our state versus the wholesale
24 private transport company that doesn't deserve utility
25 status, number one.

1 Number two, I think we need to take a
2 national leadership role on construction standards
3 with very stringent standards in the electric fields
4 like those at the World Health Organization is now
5 talking about. Companies must design or meet or
6 [inaudible] if they exceed the ratio, just set the
7 standards for the United States. We can do that here
8 in the state of Missouri. These standards also ought
9 to include minimum distances that either underground
10 or overhead facilities in terms of how they could be
11 located from homes, schools, playgrounds and other
12 properties, so these standards -- these things that
13 these people have to build to, some place, we can lead
14 the country and set those standards on a policy note.
15 Included in that would be consideration for permitting
16 monopolar [inaudible] of this line, which it has just
17 lost of negative impact.

18 Three, we can take a [inaudible] and bury
19 facilities for preferred solution for our state in a
20 going-forward basis. If it turns out to be
21 uneconomical, so be it if that -- if it's not
22 economic, bury, do the right thing, then so be it, the
23 project gets cancelled. And just another business
24 decision, don't go on and build a fish cannery or
25 something, some other business.

1 Four, we need to consider by the farm
2 legislation, like that is recently passed in Minnesota
3 where farmland owners can opt to sell their entire
4 farm to the utility or private transport company with
5 additional compensation at their discretion if they
6 believe the project has destroyed their property
7 value.

8 There's an article about that. I don't
9 have that as a submitted document, but it's the
10 Missouri Farmer Magazine, recently published an
11 article about what's set on there.

12 Fifth, very large escrow account policy
13 required [inaudible] in order for removable and
14 recovery of AT&T. Example, like the one I mentioned a
15 while ago, so I don't have the one project, gets
16 started, it goes bankrupt and they abandon it and we
17 have a giant piece of concrete on the ground and we
18 can't do that on our property. If we have with these
19 standards the real utilities, [inaudible] would have
20 the guidelines that would take Missouri through the
21 21st century for a model states where it could, just
22 its leaders to do the right things.

23 And with those standards in place, even the
24 private companies like GBE can also determine if they
25 want to pursue their project with private

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1 right-of-ways, but still maintain their standards to
2 build. I just want to close with saying we just can't
3 let companies like Central Grid or [inaudible] make a
4 mockery out of our state by turning us into an I-95
5 corridor, [inaudible] to drive through, and many of us
6 have been there and we just can't let them make us the
7 door mat of the Midwest, so they can make some money.

8 Thank you.

9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: These exhibit will be
10 received into the record subject to objections from
11 the parties.

12 Donald Davis?

13 MR. DAVIS: I'll withdraw. And go to my
14 home county in Carrollton this evening.

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

16 Robert McPhaters? Cindy O'Laughlin.

17 CINDY O'LAUGHLIN,
18 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: State your name, please,
20 and spell your last name.

21 MS. O'LAUGHLIN: Cindy O'Laughlin,
22 O-L-A-U-G-H-L-I-N.

23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside?

24 MS. O'LAUGHLIN: [Inaudible], Missouri.

25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

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1 MS. O'LAUGHLIN: Assuming that the projects
2 go forward within the parameters that we are to set, I
3 do see some positive results of it, and I wrote a
4 little short thing. North Missouri is a sparsely
5 populated rural area. Small businesses and their
6 employees struggle to survive. We have a small
7 business. We employ 35 people, and we've been in
8 business about 60 years. Tax revenues are in the
9 decline for our county services, the largely
10 agricultural area results in low tax assessments on
11 farms and higher assessments on our businesses and
12 their employees. Our presiding commissioner recently
13 related to me that his taxes were higher on his
14 \$14,000 pickup than the taxes on a friend's farm worth
15 about \$350,000. Businesses must have work
16 opportunities if they are to survive. I would suggest
17 that a multimillion dollar project properly supervised
18 and regulated to protect the landowners is an
19 opportunity we would support. This project could
20 provide a great [inaudible] to our area businesses,
21 our employee partners and county budgets for services
22 to all county residents. That's it.

23 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you.

24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.

25 Wayne Beach?

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1 MR. BEACH: For the sake of time, I'll
2 pass.

3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.
4 Alinda Baker?

5 ALINDA BAKER,
6 of lawful age, produced, sworn and says:

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

9 MS. BAKER: Alinda Baker, B-A-K-E-R.

10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?

11 MS. BAKER: Polo, Missouri.

12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Do you have some
13 additional information that you didn't provide at the
14 last time?

15 MS. BAKER: Yes, I looked through my notes,
16 and I did retype them. I will submit that at the end
17 of this testimony. I tried to make a point that there
18 were many planned and existing transmission lines from
19 Canada and that in order to shore up the Eastern
20 states, those multiple transmission lines can be used
21 in separate sequences, you know, to provide power for
22 outages from one line. And the other point I made --
23 I wanted to make was that the renewables here in our
24 state regarding hydropower can be used if we have
25 outages, those would shore up our grid.

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1 Regarding engineering new technology, we
2 send shuttles up into space, if there isn't -- if --
3 we're presented that there's not technology to bury
4 these lines, cost effectively, then we need to put the
5 engineers on it to engineer line burial. Do we need
6 to call in the Army Corps of Engineers? They did a
7 great job with the dams, they've done, you know, a
8 great job building things. Maybe we need a huge body
9 of engineers that can tell us how we can bury our HVDC
10 lines within existing corridors such as Iowa and
11 Missouri corridors. When I said -- my joke yesterday
12 didn't go over very well, but when I said Clean Line
13 towers were up in the area, but not up in the area as
14 their operational documents would be for four
15 converter stations, no one laughed at that, so I want
16 to give them a little more information. Converter
17 stations are needed to download HVDC power. It can't
18 be downloaded all along the route like AC power. The
19 required converter stations are expensive and have
20 limited over [inaudible] at smaller the losses in the
21 converter stations may be bigger than in an AC
22 transmission line than in the same distance. The cost
23 of the converts may not be offset by the reductions in
24 line construction cost and lower line losses.
25 Multiterminal systems are rare. As of 2012 only two

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1 are in service, the hydro [inaudible] in England
2 transmission between [inaudible] and the [inaudible]
3 was to also provide power to the Island of Corsica.

4 So if they can't engineer, you know, buried
5 lines along our existing corridors, how can they
6 possibly engineer operations between four converter
7 stations? Missouri should collect highly [inaudible]
8 from the installation and [inaudible] HVDC that's done
9 responsibly, and if an entity is awarded a contract,
10 it should be the one to carry out the contract. And
11 it should be additional that this contract cannot be
12 sold without the Public Service Commission approval.
13 Thank you for your time, and I would like these notes
14 appended to my testimonies.

15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you like to bring
16 them forward?

17 MS. O'LAUGHLIN: Sure.

18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you very much.

19 This exhibit will be received into the
20 record subject to objections from the parties. That
21 concludes our testimony.

22 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you all for being
23 here.

24 We've got one more, and I suspect we'll see
25 some of you this evening. Thank you. Have a good

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1 day.

2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: We're off the record.

3 (Proceedings concluded at 3:05 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, Maria L. Taylor, a Certified Court Reporter within and for the State of Kansas, 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.

Maria L. Taylor, RPR, CCR #1684

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23 (Exhibits were retained by Judge Bushmann.)

24

25

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[& - accept]

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