1	STATE OF MISSOURI
2	PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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4	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
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6	Local Public Hearing
7	December 7, 2016
8	Knights of Columbus Hall
9	Monroe City, Missouri
10	Volume II
11	
12	In The Matter Of The Application Of Grain) Belt Express Clean Line LLC For A)
13	Certificate Of Convenience And Necessity)File No. Authorizing It To Construct, Own, Operate,)EA-2016-0358
14	Control, Manage And Maintain A High Voltage) Direct Current Transmission Line And An)
15	Associated Converter Station Providing An)
16	Interconnection On The Maywood-Montgomery) 345kv Transmission Line)
17	
18	MICHAEL BUSHMANN, Presiding
19	SENIOR REGULATORY LAW JUDGE
20	DANIEL Y. HALL, Chairman, STEPHEN M. STOLL,
21	SCOTT T. RUPP, COMMISSIONERS
22	REPORTED BY:
23	Ms. Julie Bulard, CCR
24	Midwest Litigation Services 711 North Eleventh Street
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     APPEARANCES:
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     ATTORNEYS:
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     For Grain Belt Express Clean Line LLC:
     Mr. Joshua Hardin
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     Public Service Commission Staff:
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     Mr. Nathan Williams
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     For the Office of the Public Counsel:
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     Mr. James Owen
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     For Missouri Landowners Alliance:
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     Mr. Paul Agathen
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     For Show Me Concerned Landowners:
     Mr. David Linton
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1	(Hearing commenced at 12:00 p.m.)
2	PROCEEDINGS
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Let's go on the record.
4	Today is December 7th, 2016. We're at Monroe City,
5	Missouri. The Missouri Public Service Commission set this
6	time for a local public hearing in the case captioned as In
7	the Matter of the Application of Grain Belt Express Clean
8	Line LLC for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity
9	Authorizing it to Construct, Own, Operate, Control, Manage
10	and Maintain a High Voltage, Direct Current Transmission
11	Line and an Associated Converter Station Providing an
12	Interconnection on the Maywood-Montgomery 345kV
13	Transmission Line. That's file number EA-2016-0358.
14	My is name is Michael Bushmann. I'm the
15	Regulatory Law Judge and will be presiding over the
16	hearing. With me today is Chairman Daniel Hall,
17	Commissioners Steve Stoll and Scott Rupp. Mr. Chairman,
18	did you want to make any opening remarks?
19	CHAIRMAN HALL: Good afternoon. First of all,
20	thank you very much for being here today and providing
21	testimony in this case. This is a very important part of
22	the process. It's the first of eight local public hearings
23	that will take place in this case.
24	I think it's important to recognize that
25	Missouri is relatively unique in terms of the extent of

1	public involvement in the process. It's important to the
2	commissioners to recognize that the decisions we make have
3	a direct impact on rate payers and landowners, and it's
4	incumbent upon us to listen to you so that we can better
5	understand the impact of our rulings.
6	You should also know that everything you say
7	will be transcribed. So each of the five commissioners,
8	not just the three that are present here today, each of the
9	five of us will have access to your testimony. And lastly,
10	I'd like to make clear that your testimony will be used at
11	the evidentiary hearing in this case. Attorneys will have
12	the capacity to point to it, to enter it into the record of
13	the case, and it will be considered when we ultimately
14	render decisions.
15	So again, thank you for being here. Thank you
16	for taking part of the process. And I look forward to
17	hearing your testimony.
18	COMMISSIONER STOLL: There's a lot of bad
19	sound systems in this world. This obviously works if I did
20	it right. I just want to again welcome everyone here. We
21	do appreciate you coming out. As far as being a
22	commissioner and appointed to a local public hearing, I
23	appreciate a good turnout. And this, I would say, is one
24	of those.
25	And the only other thing I'll mention is we

1 are here to listen to your comments and concerns regarding 2 the case before us, and we take all this very seriously and take your comments into consideration. So thank you for 3 4 being here. 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Let's have attorneys make their entries of appearance. For Grain Belt Express Clean 6 7 Line LLC? 8 MR. HARDIN: Joshua Hardin. 9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Commission Staff? MR. WILLIAMS: Nathan Williams. 10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Office of the Public Counsel? 11 12 MR. OWEN: James Owen. 13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Missouri Landowners Alliance? 14 MR. AGATHEN: Paul Agathen. Show Me Concerned Landowners? 15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: 16 MR. LINTON: David Linton. 17 Thank you. If counsel for JUDGE BUSHMANN: any other interveners are present, could you please make 18 19 your entry of appearance now? 20 MR. AGATHEN: Judge, I also represent five 21 other interveners in this case. If you want me to make an 22 appearance -- (inaudible). JUDGE BUSHMANN: I think this would be 23 24 sufficient. Thank you. 25 Before taking any testimony, I want to provide

1	you with some information about why the commission is
2	holding this public hearing. The commission is already
3	scheduled to have an evidentiary hearing for March of next
4	year taking evidence regarding Grain Belt Express'
5	application. There's also a scheduled hearing in each of
6	the counties affected by the transmission line to give
7	members of the public a chance to state their support or
8	their opposition to the project, and that is the purpose of
9	today's hearing.
10	For those who would like to provide testimony
11	today, I'm going to call the names listed on the sign-up
12	sheet. When I call your name, please come down to the
13	podium in front. I'll put you under oath and ask you to
14	state your name and where you live and then you can offer
15	your comments to the commission.
16	The commission has established some ground
17	rules for this hearing to try to give everybody a chance to
18	testify in a reasonable amount of time. First, you can
19	only testify to one hearing after this one. So in other
20	words, if you testify today, you wouldn't be able to
21	testify at any of the other hearings. If you testify at a
22	later hearing and your name appears on the sign-up sheet,
23	you will not be called to testify at that later hearing.
24	Second, your testimony is limited to five
25	minutes. I'll have a timer next to me to help me keep
1	

1	track of the time and it will give you a warning that your
2	time is up. If you haven't finished your comments when the
3	time expires, you can submit all your comments in writing.
4	The commission staff is available at a table near the
5	entrance to give you information on how to do that.
6	Third, you can't donate your time to another
7	witness who runs out of time. The commissioners won't be
8	able to answer any of your questions here today because
9	they have to remain impartial until after the evidentiary
10	hearing is completed. So if you have any questions, please
11	address them to the commission staff in the back or a
12	company representative. In order for the commission staff
13	to have sufficient time to tear down and set up for another
14	hearing that we have this evening, this hearing has to end
15	no later than 4:00.
16	Finally, my request is to be polite and
17	courteous to everybody who testifies here today and to
18	treat them as you would like to be treated.
19	The first witness that I have on the sign-up
20	sheet is Steve Schultz. Could you please come forward?
21	Raise your right hand.
22	STEVE SCHULTZ,
23	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
24	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
25	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:

1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state your name and spell your last name? 2 MR. SCHULTZ: Steve Schultz, S-c-h-u-l-t-z. 3 4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live? 5 MR. SCHULTZ: Columbia, Missouri. 6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may proceed. 7 MR. SCHULTZ: To all on the commission, thank 8 you for your time today. I support Clean Line's 9 application for public utility status because it will provide me and the residents of the state a public service 10 11 that I currently do not have access to. 12 The power of eminent domain is not reserved for the exclusive use of the government. The commission is 13 14 obligated to transfer eminent domain authority to private companies no matter the ownership as long as the company 15 16 provides a beneficial public service. Public service proposed by the Grain Belt Express is not one that I 17 currently have access to, cheap and clean renewable 18 19 electricity. It is the commission's responsibility to 20 allow me to have access to the public utility provided by 21 this application. Previous commissions have allowed private 22 23 companies to provide me with water service, sewer service, 24 natural gas and rail service. I would now like to be provided with Grain Belt's electricity. Thank you. 25

1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Any questions 2 from commissioners or attorneys? CHAIRMAN HALL: 3 Thank you. 4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you for your testimony, sir. The next name is Jim Daniels. 5 MARVIN DANIELS, 6 7 of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to 8 testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the 9 truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and 10 11 spell your last name. 12 MR. DANIELS: My legal name is Marvin Daniels, 13 D-a-n-i-e-l-s. 14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live, sir? MR. DANIELS: I live in St. Charles. My farm 15 16 is in Monroe County. 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: All right. You may proceed. MR. DANIELS: Thank you. First of all, I want 18 19 to say thanks to the commissioners that we have an 20 opportunity to share with you. It's with great respect 21 that I do take and offer my comments. First of all, we've got a new sheriff in town, 22 23 Donald Trump, a man that evidently was willing to listen to the will of the people, and not just to the special 24 interests that are well-financed. Not only that, but the 25

1	well-financed people are willing to pay for play.
2	I want to thank the commissioner's group,
3	Stoll and also Kenney, for standing with the landowners the
4	last time. And very important, I believe that they were
5	willing to listen to the will of the people. And I trust
6	today that you're going to listen to the will of the people
7	also.
8	We're here to go through a very costly and
9	expensive process. And this is the second time. This time
10	it's not to appease the landowners. And I pray that it's
11	not to appease Grain Belt or even to take and approve their
12	eminent domain request. Today my wife is at Mercy hospital
13	in St. Louis County waiting to undergo surgery. She and I
14	both felt that it was important that I take the time, leave
15	her there, and come up and present our testimony to you.
16	And so I hope you realize the importance of what it is to
17	us.
18	Recently, Fox News wound up reporting that
19	Donald Trump made the statement that global warming is a
20	hoax as related to wind energy and solar cells. When
21	federal tax credits go away, wind energy will go away,
22	solar cells will go away, because they cannot stand on
23	their own. Wind energy costs 24 cents a kilowatt-hour.
24	Fossil fuels today cost 4 cents. So without the tax
25	credits, they are not going to stand. Fossil fuels are

still a fuel today and for many, many years to come. 1 2 I worry about the health issues associated with the transmission lines, 600,000 megawatts of power. 3 4 We've been told for many decades that Coldwater Creek in St.~Louis had no health concerns. After decades of 5 complaints and many deaths caused by cancer, it's now been 6 7 proved that radiation released into Coldwater Creek has 8 been the cause of so many deaths. 9 Do we have to take and wait today to find out that a 2,400-megawatt transmission line is a hazard to the 10 health of both humans and animals? Be assured it won't be 11 just one 600-volt mega line, but these towers will be full 12 13 of as many lines as what they are designed to carry. 14 I have a pacemaker and also a defibrillator. I have to go in and out of my farm and travel underneath 15 16 the proposed route for these towers. It is a situation that -- again, this is a pilot project. Once they are 17 granted eminent domain, they will take and go anyplace that 18 19 they want, as close to any homes as they want. Is this committee willing to take and approve 20 21 the proposal for a Texas profit to Missouri people that really don't need the power from this? I ask, would you 22 23 make this personal and ask yourself the question, if this 24 was you or your children, would you approve it where they 25 would have to travel underneath a line like this every time

1	you go in and out of your home?
2	This is a second chance to deny their use of
3	eminent domain for profit and gain. These transmission
4	towers are just the beginning. Without this option of
5	eminent domain, they will go back to Texas without their
6	profit. I believe that they should shoulder all the
7	expense in their proposal if they build the towers.
8	Building transmission towers on prime farm
9	ground to carry wind power across three or four states is
10	totally unacceptable. For all the greed and profit of
11	landowners, friends, this is not American. Once the towers
12	are built, they are going to be out of the business. It
13	will be up for sale to the highest bidder. And you know
14	who that highest bidder is going to be. It's going to be a
15	Chinese company. And taking and selling our livelihood to
16	a Chinese company eventually is not American.
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: I'm afraid your time has
18	expired, sir.
19	MR. DANIELS: Pardon me?
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: I'm afraid your time has
21	expired. Thank you for your testimony.
22	MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Daniels, do you have
23	anything in writing that you would like to offer to the
24	commission?
25	MR. DANIELS: I'm sorry, i didn't hear the

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1 first part. 2 MR. WILLIAMS: Do you have anything in writing that you'd like to offer to the commission that you weren't 3 4 able to provide --5 MR. DANIELS: I would be glad to give them my 6 notes. 7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: If you'd like to enter that 8 as an exhibit here, you can do that. Hand that to the 9 court reporter, please, and it will marked Exhibit 1. (Exhibit 1 marked for identification.) 10 11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions for Mr. Daniels? 12 13 CHAIRMAN HALL: Thank you for your testimony. 14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Aaron McVicker? 15 AARON MCVICKER, 16 of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the 17 truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: 18 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state your 20 name and spell your last name? 21 MR. McVICKER: Aaron McVicker, spelled M-c-V-i-c-k-e-r. 22 23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live, sir? 24 MR. McVICKER: Macon, Missouri. 25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

1	MR. McVICKER: All right. Like I said, you
2	live in Macon, Missouri. And I grew up just west of there
3	in a little town called Bevier, Missouri, about 730 people,
4	on a farm there that does row crop and cattle and raises
5	hogs as well. My dad still has that farm, about
6	1,500 acres there in Macon County, and I decided to come
7	back there and raise my family there as well.
8	I'm here today representing Shafer, Kline &
9	Warren, SKW. We're an engineering firm and surveying firm
10	that has three offices in Missouri with over 200 local
11	employees. SKW provides surveying extensively and
12	engineering and also construction services to counties,
13	municipalities and cities throughout the state. We have
14	helped to survey and design and also maintain many
15	cross-country utilities and municipalities throughout the
16	state. And not only through the state, but also across the
17	United States. We've helped to survey and design those.
18	And through those experiences, we're confident
19	that this project could be completed, not only safely, but
20	also efficiently. And also having worked closely with
21	those counties and municipalities throughout Missouri, we
22	offer our support for this project and its potential to
23	increase the supply of electricity and also lower the rates
24	for businesses and residents.
25	Thank you guys for your time and being able to

be here. 1 2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? Thank you for 3 your testimony. 4 MR. McVICKER: Thanks. 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: David Carpenter? DAVID CARPENTER, 6 7 of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to 8 testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the 9 truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and 10 spell your last name. 11 12 MR. CARPENTER: David Carpenter, C-a-r-p-e-n-t-e-r. 13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live? 14 MR. CARPENTER: 11564 Route Y, Clark, 15 16 Missouri. 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. MR. CARPENTER: I live in Monroe County on 18 19 property my family has owned since it first settled in 20 1819. It's almost 200 years ago. The proposed GBE line 21 would cross my property. I studied electrical engineering at the University of Missouri at Rolla and graduated with a 22 23 BS degree in engineering management. I lived in St.~Louis 24 for four years and had a successful career as an information technology developer and manager supporting 25

financial business systems. I retired from Boeing. 1 I'm involved in my community, serving as a 2 member of the Middle Grove School Board and as a board 3 4 member of the Safe Passage Women's Shelter in Moberly. I 5 am president of the Eastern Missouri Landowners Alliance, The EMLA has approximately 500 members including 6 the EMLA. landowners on the path of the Grain Belt Express and many 7 others who also strongly oppose the use of eminent domain 8 9 for private gain. We stand together for the single purpose of 10 defeating this project. We have no billionaire backers. 11 12 We are donating our own hard-earned money for attorney and expert witness fees that we would much rather be spending 13 14 on our families and businesses. But we must defend our 15 rights. 16 Where I live in Monroe County, I am surrounded by the Clark Amish community. And you may have noticed, 17 there's quite a few Amish, and these guys are my neighbors 18 19 here today. My Amish neighbors are hard-working, moral, ethical, Christian people. They use no electricity from 20 21 the existing power grid and don't want GBE to go through their community. 22 23 At recent events at the local Amish 24 lumberyard, we collected nearly 200 signatures, mostly 25 Amish, on our petition for submission to the PSC. Their

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1	chief concern is for the health of their children. The
2	proposed route is very near to Amish schools. These
3	children will be bathed in a strong electromagnetic field
4	every day during their school years. GBE offers no
5	definitive studies proving that high-voltage direct current
6	represents no cancer risk to school children. It is
7	unacceptable to subject these children to this risk and
8	just wait to see in a few years who was right about this.
9	A May 2015 Midwest Energy news articles
10	includes some interesting information on the use of eminent
11	domain. It says a bill before Iowa Senate would restrict
12	developers' access to eminent domain by requiring the
13	developer to obtain at least 75 percent of the needed land
14	through voluntary easements. This bill is aimed at giving
15	landowners a higher price for their land. It will also
16	give landowners more influence over of the sighting of
17	projects. Maybe this would be a good model for Missouri to
18	review when considering changes to legislation regulating
19	the use of eminent domain.
20	Clean Line has said that burying the line is
21	too expensive. That may be true, assuming they obtain

too expensive. That may be true, assuming they obtain eminent domain powers and are able to force easements upon landowners. But it might not be true without eminent domain where buyer and seller are on equal footing. Landowners would be much more receptive to an underground 1 design.

2	I read about gas-insulated transmission lines,
3	or GILs. GILs can transmit large amounts of electricity in
4	tight spaces and with no losses. A further advantage of
5	GILs is that virtually no electricity or electric or
6	magnetic fields can be detected in their immediate
7	vicinity. GIL technology complies with the most stringent
8	European guidelines. Costs could be reduced by having
9	electric power and data lines share tunnels. Both types of
10	grids can be buried side-by-side in accessible tunnels next
11	to highway and rail lines. Many who support GBE seem to
12	feel that this is the only option for transitioning to
13	renewable energy and that we who stand in opposition are
14	misguided in our thinking.
15	I mentioned GIL technology as a better option

for long distance transmission, but an even better option 16 17 is to stop building huge power transmission lines and move to local generation. This movement is already under way in 18 19 the U.S. Local generation gives states, businesses and individuals much more control and greatly reduces the 20 threat of terrorism to power transmission infrastructure. 21 Sun solar is aggressively placing solar rays on private 22 properties in Missouri. Similar efforts are under way in 23 24 many other states.

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I appreciate the time constraints of these

public hearings and the need for speakers to not repeat 1 2 topics. I'm aware of and agree with the many other objections that EMLA members and others have to GBE. 3 Ι 4 would like to submit a written copy of my comments given here today including a bullet point list of my other 5 б objections. 7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: If you'd like to submit that 8 to the court reporter, we can include that as Exhibit 2. 9 MR. CARPENTER: Okay. 10 (Exhibit 2 marked for identification.) JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions? Thank you, sir. 11 Next witness is Joe Vance. 12 13 JOE VANCE, 14 of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the 15 truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: 16 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and spell your last name. 18 19 MR. VANCE: Joe Vance, V, as in Victor, 20 a-n-c-e. 21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live? MR. VANCE: 3646 Audrain Road 233, Centralia, 22 Missouri. 23 24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 25 MR. VANCE: Grain Belt Express has built

nothing at all. They -- when asked about plans for 1 2 maintenance and repairs, they said they would contract local utilities to do that. Those utilities don't have any 3 4 kind of equipment that could do that. Such a line would be a drastic health hazard 5 to people living and working under it. I don't want to 6 live under it. I don't want anybody else to live under it. 7 8 Our electric suppliers have plans for meeting clean energy 9 needs. 10 Grain Belt Express is 40 percent owned by foreigners. A CCM for Grain Belt Express will allow taking 11 12 private property rights from families that have built this state and country for generations and give it to a private 13 14 company and eventually to a foreign country with their options to buy with no benefit to anyone but that foreign 15 private company, all for a project that has been rejected 16 by other states and ours and needs to be rejected again. 17 Their whole show is unsubstantiated. It's smoke and 18 19 mirrors. Thank you for listening to our view. 20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions for the 21 witness? 22 CHAIRMAN HALL: Thank you. 23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir. 24 MARILYN O'BANNON, of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to 25

testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the 1 2 truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state your 3 4 name and spell your last name? 5 MS. O'BANNON: I'm Marilyn O'Bannon, 0-'-B-a-n-n-o-n. 6 7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live, ma'am? 8 MS. O'BANNON: I'm in Monroe County, I'm 9 sorry. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 10 MS. O'BANNON: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman 11 12 and the commission. My husband and I are landowners on the proposed Grain Belt Express route in Monroe County and I 13 14 oppose the Grain Belt Express project. It's difficult to express the connection one can have with farming the land. 15 16 Perhaps Paul Harvey said it best in his poem when he said, "God looked down on his planned paradise and said, I need a 17 caretaker, so God made a farmer." 18 19 I grew up on a Century Farm settled in 1783 about my great-grandfather. University of Missouri 20 21 Extension recognizes family farms that have been in the same family for over a hundred years or more. 22 My 23 86-year-old father is a third generation that's still on 24 the farm. My sons would be the fifth generation, my 25 grandsons possibly the sixth.

1	This is just one farm Grain Belt Express is
2	proposing to cross. I am here representing five family
3	members who own 11 different farms spanning about six miles
4	on the proposed route. This is the Century Farm. Our
5	family, like many others here today, consider themselves
6	good stewards of the land. The investment in our land goes
7	beyond the price paid for it because of the sustainable
8	farming practices used to maintain soil for its highest
9	productivity.
10	In a sustainable world, all land would serve
11	its highest and best purpose. Sustainable practices do not
12	include chopping up the property for a gigantic
13	transmission line that may serve the renewable energy wants
14	of people in the states far away, like the eastern states
15	find energy elsewhere, not taking farms that have been in
16	families for generations and potentially generations to
17	follow. It does not seem like a wise decision to convert a
18	family Century Farm into a barren energy corridor to serve
19	the temporary wants of others.
20	Our America has some of the most productive
0.1	

farmland in the world. Farmland gave our nation the foundation to grow and prosper over the centuries. I saw an alarming statistic from NRI stating that we lose 40 acres of farmland every hour in the U.S. because of development, but of course not all of that is transmission.

1 I cannot accept the possibility of a private 2 for-profit company trying to take away my landowner rights for property easements to destroy my land so they can 3 4 achieve their business plan of making money. I have 5 pictures of an electrical line update made on a Century Farm three years ago. Although not Grain Belt, I cannot 6 7 expect any better treatment from an out-of-state company 8 with foreign interests. 9 We have seen a yield loss of 30 percent or more in and outside the easement area for the last three 10 crop years. My family considers this a sacrifice to have 11 12 reliable electricity for us and our neighbors, something 13 Grain Belt will not be providing. In fact, once concrete 14 trucks pour up to 27 feet possibly, up to even 50 under the proposed structures on Grain Belt easements, the land will 15 16 suffer permanent damage. 17 My husband and I own a mostly tillable farm that Grain Belt is proposing to cross as well. We figure 18 19 there is no compensation that could be equal to potential income and the soil production losses for our lifetime and 20 generations to follow. There would be no future for other 21 land uses on this property with a transmission line the 22 23 size of Grain Belt Express. Basically our investment costs for years of conservation practices and soil health will 24 leave us with nothing but a lower land value. 25

1	There are 100,000 farms in Missouri covering
2	over 66 percent of the state's land acreage. Farmers are
3	progressing and they rely renewable resources such as
4	taking care of the land to feed the world. Missouri is
5	rich in natural resources and agriculture is ranked high in
6	most categories. In 2015, the Missouri ag industry
7	contributed \$15.2 billion to Missouri's economy. If GBE is
8	approved, a precedent will be set and Missouri will be on a
9	path to destroy its number one industry.
10	Are we going to compromise what so many
11	landowners have sacrificed for to have a project like Grain
12	Belt Express? I respectfully request the Public Service
13	Commission to deny Grain Belt Express Clean Line's
14	application. Thank you for your time, and Merry Christmas.
15	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?
16	CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions, thank you.
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Do you want to
18	include those in the record?
19	MS. O'BANNON: The pictures too.
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: How many do you have?
21	MS. O'BANNON: About four or five. You just
22	want one?
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: You can submit as many as you
24	want. We'll just have to mark them.
25	MS. O'BANNON: Okay. Thank you.

Page 25 (Exhibits 3-9 marked for identification.) 1 2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Next witness is Chase Lindley. 3 4 CHASE LINDLEY, 5 of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the 6 truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: 7 8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and 9 spell your last name. MR. LINDLEY: Chase Lindley. Last name is 10 11 spelled L-i-n-d-l-e-y. 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live? 13 MR. LINDLEY: I live in Jefferson City, 14 Missouri. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 15 16 MR. LINDLEY: All right. Good afternoon. I'm Chase Lindley, as I said, legislative assistant for State 17 Representative Jim Hansen, 40th District. Mr. Hansen is 18 19 recovering from knee replacement surgery, as I'm sure several in the room know. And on the advice of his doctor, 20 21 it's too early for him to return to work. So I appreciate the chance to speak on his behalf. This is Representative 22 23 Hansen's message to the PSC. 24 As your state representative, I've been working with the citizens of Monroe and Ralls Counties in 25

1	opposition to the Clean Line energy project. I've attended
2	numerous meetings and introduced legislation in opposition
3	to a private company obtaining eminent domain for a
4	high-voltage direct current line from Kansas to Indiana,
5	which in the big picture has very little benefit to our
6	citizens. It does, however, have many disadvantages for
7	our citizens in agricultural communities. At this time,
8	our state is meeting its renewable energy source guidelines
9	and it will continue to meet these goals in the future.
10	I will not list all the negative aspects of
11	this project because you probably have these facts from
12	previous hearings and you will hear them again today in
13	testimony. It is my belief that the PSC did a thorough job
14	representing the citizens of the 40th District in Missouri
15	in its ruling against granting an eminent domain during the
16	first hearing's process. And I have no reason to believe
17	that you, the PSC, will not continue to stand with
18	Missourians and protect these personal property rights.
19	Clean Line is not a utility company and should
20	be denied its certificate of convenience. My district, the
21	40th, has two of the counties that are impacted by Clean
22	Line and this project will do great harm to our number one
23	industry, which is agriculture. It will also lower
24	property values and destroy our beautiful landscape in
25	Monroe and Ralls Counties.
i	

1	Thank you to the PSC for holding these
2	hearings and thank you to my constituents for
3	participating. You all are making your voices heard on
4	such an important project that impacts our district in
5	Missouri.
6	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions for the
7	witness?
8	CHAIRMAN HALL: No. Thank you for your
9	testimony.
10	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Gary Marshall.
11	GARY MARESCHAL,
12	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
13	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
14	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
15	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your full name
16	and spell your last name.
17	MR. MARESCHAL: Gary Mareschal. Last name is
18	M-a-r-e-s-c-h-a-l.
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
20	MR. MARESCHAL: St. Peters, Missouri.
21	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
22	MR. MARESCHAL: First of all, thank you for
23	letting us address you. I'm a resident of St. Charles
24	County and a landowner in Monroe and well as several other
25	Missouri counties. I'm here to request that you deny the

request to Grain Belt Express to obtain a certificate of 1 2 convenience and necessity. 3 I have some comments, observations and 4 questions relative to this application. As Grain Belt Express has indicated in their literature, the Grain Belt 5 Express Clean Line will deliver approximately 4,000 6 7 megawatts of low cost wind power from western Kansas to Missouri, Illinois, Indiana and neighboring states with a 8 9 strong demand for clean reliable energy. Is this a substantive deviation from their initial plan to deliver 10 energy to the east coast where they can get a higher rate 11 of return? 12 13 My understanding was that 500 megawatts out of 14 the 4,000 that would be transported would somehow leave Missouri. From a diagram presented in their literature, it 15 16 appears the 500 megawatts may somehow be proportioned 17 between Illinois and Missouri with the rest going elsewhere. 18 19 As I look at the route development guidelines, it appears that the only states involved are Kansas, 20 Missouri and Illinois. Their website mentions that similar 21 to trains that carry grain from the midwest to markets 22 23 farther east, they will move renewable energy the same way 24 with their power line structure. And the route development 25 information indicates they worked with input from

1	landowners, among others. So I can only deduce that they
2	misunderstood my no, we don't want you on our farms, to
3	yes, please route through our land as they developed the
4	route. And based upon my understanding of general
5	landowner buy-in for their preferred route, they must have
б	had the same misunderstanding what they were being told by
7	every landowner across the state.
8	The following are my concerns and why I am
9	opposed to this application for convenience and necessity.
10	No matter how Clean Line portrays the good they will do for
11	power needs elsewhere, the reality is that they are a
12	private for-profit business. They want to develop and sell
13	product. Clearly they have fairly vast financial
14	resources, and just as clearly everyone that they will be
15	purchasing products from and giving discount energy to and
16	tax dollars will be supporting them. Why not? What is
17	their cost in doing so? I can answer that. They have no
18	cost. It's easy to support an enterprise or idea if all
19	you receive is profit regardless of who you're willing to
20	sell down the river to get it.
21	Regarding the issue of whether they are a
22	public utility and deserving a certificate of convenience
23	and necessity, the answer is clearly no. Of the 4,000
24	megawatts being generated, they were willing to sell 500 to
25	either Missouri or Missouri and Illinois in combination.

1	What is the minimum they could provide and be considered a
2	public utility? Is this the same standard that companies
3	such as Ameren and the rural electric co-ops are held to?
4	When I consider their comments that they are
5	similar to trains, I think this is where I see a vast
6	difference in opinion and why we really are here today.
7	Grain Belt is clearly well-funded and sufficiently
8	well-organized in attempting to obtain their end goal,
9	which is land.
10	So my comment is this. How could a company of
11	this magnitude and development with the number of projects
12	they have going on around the country not really have the
13	railroad track laid already? If I'm a farmer or a
14	developer of a product, one of the keys to having a
15	successful business and profit is being able to market what
16	I have developed. If Grain Belt had done this, none of us
17	would be here today.
18	What they have done instead is laid out a
19	route that is most agreeable to them and they have sent
20	torpedoes full speed ahead. So they are leaving the dirty
21	work up to the PSC; require landowners to give up their
22	property rights, their development of plans, their hopes
23	and dreams that they've worked for years to obtain, in
24	order for Grain Belt to derive a profit. And Grain Belt
25	will lobby everyone and anyone to make input on their

1 behalf.

2	What should have happened is that Grain Belt
3	should have approached landowners in a much different
4	manner seeking a buy-in agreement as an early part of the
5	project and either planned routing as close to those
6	agreements as they could or changed them to deliver that
7	power to underground in an acceptable capacity rather than
8	indicating it was a done deal at mass public meetings,
9	trying to get landowner approval or agreements.
10	If they had submitted support from landowners
11	and routed that way, there wouldn't be a question whether
12	they are or aren't a public utility. Clearly they have a
13	fair number of supporters that they have promised
14	substantial benefit to. I'm almost certain those
15	beneficiaries would be more than happy to provide easements
16	to some land so that Grain Belt could benefit them.
17	I believe there's some agreement with a number
18	of cities or towns in northeast Missouri that will derive
19	cheap power from Grain Belt that that goes through. So my
20	thought would be this should be routing that's where the
21	routing should be if it's absolutely necessary. Then most
22	closely follow the route of the cities and towns who signed
23	on for cheap energy. Without a doubt, thank you.
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir. Any
25	questions?

1	CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions. Thank you.
2	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you for your testimony.
3	MR. MARESCHAL: Can I submit this?
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: That will be Exhibit 10.
5	(Exhibit 10 marked for identification.)
б	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Next witness is Denise Power.
7	DENISE POWER,
8	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
9	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
10	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
12	spell your last name.
13	MS. POWER: Denise Power, P-o-w-e-r.
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?
15	MS. POWER: Ralls County.
16	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
17	MS. POWER: Mr. Chairman and members of the
18	commission, I am strongly opposed to Grain Belt Express. I
19	do not believe a private for-profit company should ever
20	have the right to use eminent domain. This takes away the
21	property rights of the owners.
22	My father was a farmer, and now my son is
23	farming on family land that will be affected by this
24	project if it's approved and given the use of eminent
25	domain. The plans for improvement to our property have

been put on hold for the last three plus years due to this

1

2 threat. 3 If approved, Grain Belt will take a 150- to 4 200-foot wide easement along our property and build towers just as tall. The towers will create obstacles to farm 5 around and aerial crop spraying will be limited, if it can 6 7 be done at all. The ground will be compacted from the 8 construction and the concrete installed will be there for 9 many generations. It would leave us with no bargaining power for our land, and any compensation we receive from 10 Grain Belt will not make up for the loss of the use of the 11 land and the decrease in the value of the land. 12 13 There are just too many unknowns concerning 14 this type of DC transmission line. Will it cause health There are studies that show that, yes, it could. 15 issues? Do we want this for our future generations? Is it really 16 needed? I don't believe so. 17 18 But if it is, maybe running it underground should be considered. This would increase the expense to 19 run the lines and, therefore, take away their profit which 20 of course Grain Belt would not want. From what I've heard, 21 this project will be sold to the UK when finished, and that 22 leaves us with a DC transmission line running across our 23 24 state owned by a foreign company -- or foreign country, 25 excuse me.

1	I'm speaking mostly of how this would affect
2	me and my family personally, but I'm also very concerned of
3	how it will affect others in its path, destroying our
4	farmland, timbers and landscape across our beautiful state
5	with little, if any, benefit to Missourians. The promise
6	of jobs for the project will be temporary, but the
7	destruction of property and the unsightly towers with all
8	the unknowns will be permanent.
9	I urge you to, again, deny Grain Belt Express.
10	Thank you for your time.
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions? Thank you, ma'am.
12	Norman Fishel.
13	NORMAN FISHEL,
14	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
15	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
16	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
18	spell your last name.
19	MR. FISHEL: Norman Fishel, F-i-s-h-e-l.
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
21	MR. FISHEL: Olivette, Missouri.
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
23	MR. FISHEL: First, let me clarify that Grain
24	Belt is not a green project. As proposed, Grain Belt would
25	have green aspects, which are good and desirable, but

1	second 1 it would there would apply shout 40 measure wind measure
1	overall it would transport only about 40 percent wind power
2	on average and have a majority capacity around 60 percent,
3	either not used or used for energy other than wind. Grain
4	Belt is only now beginning to acknowledge this publicly.
5	I'll return to this a little bit later.
6	Reliability is usually the first or second
7	word in the mission statements of many of the
8	investor-owned public utilities. Keeping lights on is job
9	one. One aspect of reliability, keeping lights on, is to
10	keep the cost down. Integration of Grain Belt into the
11	existing grid system is an absolute necessity for
12	reliability, whether electrons be of wind or other
13	generation. SPP, MISO and PJM can and will exist without
14	Grain Belt.
15	Grain Belt is a non-starter without the RTOs.
16	Grain Belt needs interconnection agreements with all three
17	RTOs to be able to connect generators to end users. To
18	date, according to public records, there's only one partial
19	interconnection agreement with SPP, which it has not had
20	provisions for either injection or withdrawal of power.
21	This agreement had an over \$2 million increase in loss in
22	the two months proceeding the agreement. For MISO and PJM,
23	no agreements are in place. And in some cases, efforts
24	have been suspended on the needed agreements. No
25	agreements, no Grain Belt.

1	Another aspect to reliability is the line
2	itself. Line failure due to wire or insulator or structure
3	malfunction or weather or vandalism or terrorism are
4	largely directly proportional to the length of the line.
5	The Grain Belt project is multiple times the lengths of
6	almost all other green components without the possibility
7	of rerouting since Grain Belt would only connect to the
8	grid at three points.
9	Further, without the availability of a mutual
10	aid pack, the type used by public utilities for
11	restoration, for example, in the case with Hurricane
12	Matthew in the southeast, outages of Grain Belt would
13	likely be of great duration. Agreements between the RTOs
14	themselves continue in a state of flux.
15	I spent the last several months listening in
16	on the merchant high-voltage transmission task force of
17	MISO. They are meeting roughly every two weeks. They will
18	meet again on Friday morning. And they are discussing how
19	to integrate it. Grain Belt has stated that they will turn
20	over control of the line to PJM because PJM will have to
21	control the converter stations in Kansas, Missouri and
22	Illinois.
23	Reading between the lines, there's a large
24	territorial competitiveness among the RTOs now and that
25	uncertainty of how to handle the integration of the RTOs

1	and control. And this is particularly critical with Grain
2	Belt because of its size. It's the size of some of our
3	largest power plants. These people have territorial
4	considerations. They really don't know how to handle it.
5	More compounding Grain Belt's problems, when
6	they said that they were going to withdraw power for
7	Missouri as well, make that provision, which is suggesting
8	that in the eastern region interconnect transmission lines
9	need to be bi-directional. This would aid in situations
10	such as occurred this past summer and many summers where
11	PJM feeds power to MISO meet reliability, as well as MISO
12	feeding PJM on other occasions. Cross feeds also exist
13	between MISO and SPP.
14	Grain Belt was not put forth with these
15	circumstances as a prime consideration. In fact, in their
16	Indiana application, they specifically designate the line
17	to be uni-directional. Until all the RTO agreements are in
18	place and costs can be properly evaluated, which Grain Belt
19	acknowledges should be the case, the RTO can't assign costs
20	to the rate payers. In fact, for this coming Friday's
21	meeting of this MISO task force, they talk about the
22	interconnecting service, the fact that there may be things
23	going to it.
24	Grain Belt doesn't know what their price is.
25	They just need to get their agreements done. That was

1	suggested by the staff of the $02/07$ meeting and they've not
2	done it. They've agreed to a fog to try to make this thing
3	seem green. It comes even as recently as today's New York
4	Times. Below the fold, Google says it will run entirely on
5	renewable energy by 2017. If you read that, it says Google
6	is buying energy. They are not running on it. But the
7	press has already gone around and said it's a green energy
8	project. It is not. And in the testimony in Alabama, it
9	was not. Thank you.
10	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir. Did you want
11	to submit any testimony?
12	MR. FISHEL: I'm going to provide a sheet that
13	contains citations that support some of the information I
14	gave.
15	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. That will be
16	Exhibit 11.
17	(Exhibit 11 marked for identification.)
18	CHAIRMAN HALL: Thank you for your testimony.
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: The next witness is Bill
20	Campbell.
21	BILL CAMPBELL,
22	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
23	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
24	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
25	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and

1	spell your last name.
2	MR. CAMPBELL: Bill Campbell, C-a-m-p-b-e-l-l.
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
4	MR. CAMPBELL: Monroe City.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
6	MR. CAMPBELL: I'm here on behalf of supplying
7	jobs. I'm an operator and owner of Campbell Timber, been
8	in business over 20 years. And I am one of many suppliers
9	of timber to companies for these kind of projects. This
10	will create more work for the logging industries in this
11	area. I am all for low cost of electricity in Missouri.
12	Thank you. Short and sweet.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions?
14	CHAIRMAN HALL: Thank you for your testimony.
15	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Kelly Mertz?
16	KELLY MERTZ,
17	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn to testify the
18	truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the
19	case aforesaid, deposes and says in reply to oral
20	interrogatories propounded as follows, to-wit:
21	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
22	spell your last name.
23	MS. MERTZ: Kelly Mertz, M-e-r-t-z.
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?
25	MS. MERTZ: I live in Batesville, Indiana.

1	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
2	MS. MERTZ: I'm here in support of the Grain
3	Belt Express project because it will bring public benefit
4	to Missouri and to the region including jobs and low cost
5	energy. I work for an environmental consulting firm called
6	SWCA Environmental as a biologist, and I have experience
7	working with Clean Line in that capacity. I can attest to
8	their commitment to bringing public benefit to the local
9	communities in which they work, in this case in Missouri.
10	Our team, which in this case includes several
11	Missouri offices and many Missouri employees, works to make
12	sure that the construction of projects like this are in
13	compliance with regulations that involve the environment.
14	We have completed very large projects before and I've seen
15	the direct public benefits that these projects have in the
16	local communities.
17	Grain Belt has been very upfront about their
18	commitment to hiring locally and to making sure the local
19	communities benefit from the project as much as possible.
20	Projects of this type, for example, often require
21	substantial fieldwork such surveys for threatened and
22	endangered species. This means selecting additional
23	locally-based resource experts because of their regional
24	expertise.
25	The environmental work will also result in

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1	employees spending their money in Missouri. On a similar
2	project this summer, SWCA had an average of 75 and upwards
3	of 90 people working consistently on a project locally for
4	over 20 weeks. During that time, those folks were staying
5	in local hotels, buying meals, making trips to grocery
6	stores, gas stations and so forth.
7	For these reasons, not only do we believe the
8	project can be constructed in an environmentally sound
9	manner, but also will employ local people and support
10	Missouri's economy. We believe that this project is needed
11	to provide low cost power to Missouri and to the region,
12	and we encourage the Missouri Public Service Commission to
13	approve it. Thank you for your time.
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? Thank you.
15	Bob Conley?
16	WILLIAM CONLEY,
17	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
18	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
19	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
21	spell your last name.
22	MR. CONLEY: William Conley, C-o-n-l-e-y.
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
24	MR. CONLEY: I live in Santa Fe, Missouri.
25	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

1	MR. CONLEY: I'm in total opposition to this
2	proposal. I see no benefit for Missouri for electricity.
3	They are going to go through this ground and tear it up.
4	Where I live, it's rough. We've got creeks and trees along
5	the ground, and they are going to take the trees out. You
6	can't built around and close to these. My son owns the
7	ground just north of me that they are going to cross. He's
8	hoping to build a house, but now that's he can't do that
9	because he can't build anything. And I don't believe that
10	a private company should be allowed to have public
11	conveyance. That's all I have, sir.
12	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? Thank you for
13	your testimony. Doug Shatto?
14	DOUG SHATTO,
15	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
16	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
17	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
18	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
19	spell your last name.
20	MR. SHATTO: My name is Doug Shatto,
21	S-h-a-t-t-o. I live in Chesterfield, Missouri.
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
23	MR. SHATTO: I'm here to speak in support of
24	the Clean Line Energy application. I'd like to offer a
25	couple of perspectives in that regard. First, from the

1	standpoint of a resident of Missouri and also somebody
2	that's concerned about the environment, I think we need to
3	do more to accommodate opportunities for clean, low cost
4	energy throughout the State of Missouri.
5	Secondly, I'm chief operating officer for
6	Lochmueller Group. We're an infrastructure and
7	environmental planning and engineering firm. We have
8	offices located in St.~Louis, St. Charles County, and two
9	other states. And based upon our experiences within the
10	region, we see this as an important opportunity to
11	modernize the power grid within the State of Missouri.
12	As an example of that, I know from my
13	experience in St.~Louis and working with Ameren Electric
14	that they are approaching the sunsets, the horizons for
15	multiple power plants, multiple coal burning power plants
16	within the region within the next ten years. That's a
17	clear need that we are going to have to replace those
18	energy sources and also diversify those energy sources.
19	This is something that I think the State of Missouri can
20	lead the way in in terms of being able to do that
21	throughout the state.
22	And finally, in the interest of full
23	disclosure, our firm, Lochmueller Group, also sees this as
24	an opportunity to provide growth throughout the state by
25	providing services to Clean Line Energy, being able to work

1	throughout the region and being able to expand additional
2	jobs within our operations. We ask that you support Clean
3	Line's application and we'd be happy to answer any
4	questions you have.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions?
6	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Would you repeat the name
7	of your company?
8	MR. SHATTO: Lochmueller Group.
9	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Would you spell the first
10	name?
11	MR. SHATTO: L-o-c-h-m-u-e-l-l-e-r. We were
12	formerly known as Bernardin Lochmueller.
13	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir.
15	MR. SHATTO: Thank you.
16	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Bob Lewis?
17	BOB LEWIS,
18	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
19	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
20	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
21	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
22	spell your last name.
23	MR. LEWIS: Bob Lewis, L-e-w-i-s.
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
25	MR. LEWIS: I'm from O'Fallon.

1	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
2	MR. LEWIS: I represent the laborers. And we
3	are for the project because of all the work it will create.
4	We represent a lot of members up in this area. But at the
5	same time, they've got questions about this whole thing
6	too. We know it will generate quite a bit of work coming
7	up in the future. Plus, the revenue in here would be a lot
8	better.
9	At the same time, I do know there's two sides
10	to every story. So I asked a couple of these gentlemen
11	over here what they was thinking about it, how they was
12	looking at it. They did have some good points on it. It's
13	like there's some miscommunication, what it's actually
14	about, what it's going to do. And if they can take and get
15	that kind of straightened out me doing my job, being a
16	business agent, I have to take and deal with both sides on
17	everything. So they was a few things that they was
18	saying and then what the other gal was telling me, if they
19	answered the questions on those parts it would probably
20	help out a lot in the communication part of it.
21	Because like I said, she gave me this pamphlet
22	because I'm going to be getting a lot of phone calls on
23	this because of all of our members up here. They will call
24	down there talking to us and want to know a lot about it
25	too. And I also grew up on a farm, so I know the concerns

1	on that part of it also, that there is you know, you've
2	got both sides when you've got the crops and all that
3	stuff, but you've got to work and it generates the work
4	plus the revenue. But it sounds like it will be great for
5	all the revenue. That's why we are also for it with the
6	laborers. Other than that, that's about all I've got right
7	now.
8	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?
9	CHAIRMAN HALL: Thanks for your testimony.
10	MR. LEWIS: All right. No problem.
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: The next name is Joe Schreck.
12	JOE SCHRECK,
13	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
14	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
15	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
16	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state your
17	name and spell your last name?
18	MR. SCHRECK: My name is Joe Schreck,
19	S-c-h-r-e-c-k.
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live, sir?
21	MR. SCHRECK: I live in Shelby County.
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
23	MR. SCHRECK: I support Clean Line. I think
24	the revenue is going to help the towns everywhere they
25	touch. That's all.

1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: All right. Thank you. Any 2 questions? Thank you, sir. Tom Ruhl? 3 THOMAS RUHL, 4 of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to 5 testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: 6 7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and 8 spell your last name. 9 MR. RUHL: My name is Thomas E. Ruhl. My last name is spelled R-u-h-l. 10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live, sir? 11 12 MR. RUHL: I live at 51741 Big Creek Lane. It's a Hannibal post office address, but I live out in a 13 14 rural area in Ralls County. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 15 16 MR. RUHL: Currently, my wife and I live in a house that we built on a farm back 40 years ago, and so I 17 understand a lot of the issues that people have talked 18 19 about here today about land ownership and all those kind of 20 things. And through my lifetime in the things I've been 21 involved in, I try to weigh both sides. And when I end up doing that, I look at the negatives and positives and 22 decide which ones have the most benefit in an area. 23 24 I worked at Continental Cement for 32 years. I was deeply involved in a lot of environmental impact 25

1	studies when they were petitioning the federal government
2	for an incinerator status to burn waste fuel to supplement
3	their coal. That study lasted approximately ten years. I
4	worked alongside I was a member of the union there,
5	worked alongside with the company and also with people from
6	the EPA.
7	I support this project because of the future
8	generations, my grandchildren and family members after
9	that, for clean renewable energy. I believe that we have
10	damaged the environment. To what extent, I'm not sure.
11	But I think to the point where we need to be doing
12	everything we can to clean up the emissions we are pumping
13	in the air.
14	Continental Cement did that through this study
15	and using this waste fuel. And after it was all over with,
16	we were able to set the standards for emissions for waste
17	fuel burning plants in the United States in the cement
18	industry. I'm very proud to be involved in that.
19	I've also for the last 15 and a half years
20	been the assessor in Ralls County. There's been a lot of
21	talk about losing values, evaluating property with this
22	line going through. When that issue came up, I got on the
23	internet and emailed all the colleagues in the assessor
24	association. There's 115 of them. And out of 115, I got
25	feedback from two that had some major high power lines

1	going through their area. And they said, yes, it did
2	affect the values, but it wasn't in a negative way, it was
3	in a positive way. There was more electricity provided in
4	that area and so there was a lot of industrial companies
5	drawn into that area and that drove the value of the
6	properties up.
7	Tax revenue, something I'm interested in, been
8	involved in since I've been in the assessor's office. At
9	the current time right now, or at least for 2016, the
10	records in Ralls County show the Ralls County electric
11	co-op paid \$179,851 in taxes for 2016. AmerenUE paid
12	\$464,769 in 2016. Northeast Power paid \$31,796 revenue in
13	Ralls County and Consolidated Electric paid \$275 in Ralls
14	County.
15	We've run some figures speaking with the
16	people from the Clean Line Energy, also with some of the
17	other assessors I've talked to, and also the State Tax
18	Commission. And at this point in time, we figure that if
19	that line goes through Ralls County, it will generate
20	somewhere in the area of \$950,000 to \$1.3 million in new
21	tax revenue.
22	You take the rural area of the R-2 school
23	district, and most of that's all farmland in through there,
24	you'd have to build a whole lot of houses to come up with
25	that much revenue for that school district. And it would

be a boom to them and also the county if that line goes 1 2 through. 3 I thank you for your time and I thank you for 4 your interest, and have a good day. 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? б COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your 7 testimony. 8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir. Michael 9 O'Cheltree? 10 MICHAEL O'CHELTREE, of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to 11 testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the 12 13 truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: 14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state your name and spell your last name? 15 16 MR. O'CHELTREE: Michael O'Cheltree. It's 17 O-'-C-h-e-l-t-r-e-e. 18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live? 19 MR. O'CHELTREE: I live in Ralls County. 20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. MR. O'CHELTREE: Gentlemen, I'll tell you 21 what. I've learned a lot this afternoon about for and 22 against Clean Line. And I'm here in support of it. I was 23 24 a boy in St.~Louis down on Bear Avenue. We walked around 25 downtown down in the area. We couldn't breathe. All the

1	houses down there were fueled with coal. We didn't know
2	any different. Coal was the energy of the area. Later on,
3	we moved to Illinois where they had, oh, criminy, gas heat.
4	Nerve heard of anything like that. We could breathe in the
5	wintertime. Never thought anything about it.
6	Today I'm looking at our environment. Clean
7	Line, that's what we need. Anything we can do to keep
8	anymore coal belching plants out of this area, I'm for it.
9	That's one of the reasons I'm for the Clean Line. I know
10	it's going to work. It's going to bring cheaper
11	electricity to our area, and we need it. We need the
12	power. But also, we need the clean power. That's all I
13	have to say, Gentlemen. Thank you.
14	CHAIRMAN HALL: Thank you.
15	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir. William
16	Tate?
17	WILLIAM TATE,
18	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
19	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
20	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
21	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
22	spell your last name.
23	MR. TATE: William Tate, T-a-t-e.
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?
25	MR. TATE: I live in Hannibal, Marion County,
1	

1 but I also own property in Ralls County. 2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. I'm here in support of this Grain 3 MR. TATE: 4 Belt for economic issues and environmental issues. I think 5 it will put a lot of people to work and bring in a lot of revenue. And I think it will be good news for the whole 6 7 state. That's all I've got. 8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: All right. Thank you, sir. 9 Ross Hunt. ROSS HUNT, 10 of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to 11 12 testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: 13 14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and 15 spell your last name. 16 MR. HUNT: It's Ross Hunt, H-u-n-t. 17 Where do you live? JUDGE BUSHMANN: MR. HUNT: Overland, Missouri. 18 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 20 MR. HUNT: I'm here in support of the Clean Line Grain Belt Express today. I think there will be many 21 benefits that this will bring to Missourians. First of 22 23 all, there will be jobs involved in both construction and maintenance of the facility, and this will provide 24 25 tremendous economic benefit to the region and to Missouri.

There will also be economic impacts in terms of taxes, and 1 2 this will be helpful to schools and law enforcement and other areas. 3 4 There are reasons to support reliable and 5 efficient sources of energy that will help that are based on grid modernization. In many cases, the electric grid is 6 becoming out-of-date and so any updates that we can make 7 8 are going to be useful. This will diversify the sources of 9 energy, and that is also useful. I live in an area that is served by coal and 10 power generation and there are some issues with health 11 effects due to the generation of coal. A number of areas 12 13 of respiratory illness, cardiovascular illness, cancer, 14 neurological illness, all flow from the use of coal. And wind energy provides a source of clean renewable energy 15 16 that will not affect air or water pollution. 17 We will also be -- the way this line has been designed, it's going to be in line with the needs of 18 19 wildlife and has been -- I know they've made adjustments to 20 have the least impact possible in that regard. 21 There are municipal utilities that are eager to buy this energy. I think once more people become aware 22 of its availability, I think it will be something that will 23 24 be sought after. And that is all. Thank you. 25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?

1	COMMISSIONER STOLL: No. Thank you.
2	CHAIRMAN HALL: Thank you.
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir. Kent Dye?
4	KENT DYE,
5	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
6	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
7	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
8	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state your
9	name and spell your last name?
10	MR. DYE: My name is Kent Dye, D-y-e.
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
12	MR. DYE: 25948 Monroe Road 830, Paris,
13	Missouri.
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
15	MR. DYE: Dear Commissioners of the PSC, my
16	name is Kent Dye, and I'm a landowner in southern Monroe
17	County. I decided to only address a few of my concerns
18	because there are too many to mention in five minutes.
19	My family and I own farmland lying on three
20	and a quarter miles of the proposed route. In 2014, our
21	reasonable electrical supplier upgraded existing
22	transmission to double the structures. This is a
23	69,000-volt line and it can carry double the load if
24	needed. By comparison, Grain Belt's line will carry almost
25	ten times that amount of power. There's more than enough

1	transmission capacity in the state to supply electricity
2	from whatever source is necessary now.
3	There's also a much higher probability that
4	clean burning coal will have a large presence in our new
5	administration. Study yield maps for the last two years on
6	one of the farms that this line crosses has calculated an
7	average yield loss of 35 percent and an economic loss of
8	\$177 per acre at today's commodity prices. This
9	construction did not involve concrete, steel and evacuation
10	of dirt that the Grain Belt line will require.
11	Grain Belt's line will parallel this line
12	across some of the same farms and a 200-foot easement would
13	encompass 79 acres. This line will require an average of
14	13 towers, and at a minimum height of 110 feet would need
15	about 240 truckloads of concrete and 260 tons of steel just
16	for the pure foundation.
17	There's also the problem of where the clay
18	soil, which is better suited for making bricks, from holes
19	up to 50-foot deep will be deposited on our nearly flat
20	farmland. The amount of compaction and creation of ruts in
21	our fields would be devastating to crop production for an
22	unforeseeable future and will far exceed the amount of
23	losses we are currently experiencing.
24	I'm also on the board of directors of
25	Northeast Missouri Grain Processors, who represents the

1	farmer-owned majority and Poet Biorefining of Macon,
2	Missouri. Poet Biorefining is an ethanol plant with over
3	300 members. Many of them raise corn for the production of
4	grain ethanol for fuel as well as other corn-derived
5	by-products such as CO2.
6	As a board member, I am also adamantly opposed
7	to the development and construction of the Grain Belt
8	Express transmission line. Grain Belt Express, a private
9	company, should not be granted power of eminent domain to
10	construct one of the largest high-voltage DC transmission
11	lines in the world to carry power through Missouri to the
12	east coast as there's little to no benefit to the residents
13	of Missouri.
14	Quite the contrary, it will be detrimental.
15	This massive power line will decrease our property values
16	far beyond any compensation, and decrease production from
17	our land by compaction, erosion, loss of acreage and future
18	problems such as irrigation. Additionally, there's a
19	restriction on growing crops over 10 feet tall underneath
20	power lines. This could include corn.
21	Giving to private companies such as Grain Belt
22	Express the power of eminent domain would set a dangerous
23	precedent for the future as other companies will surely
23 24	precedent for the future as other companies will surely follow. Grain Belt Express has stated in their easement

1	leased in whole or in any part at any time. I see this is
2	yet another attempt to take away our landowners' rights for
3	private gain.
4	I place a high value on the property rights of
5	our members of NEMO grain and of all Missourians, which is
6	why I stand firmly opposed to the granting of power of
7	eminent domain to Grain Belt Express Clean Line Energy
8	partners. Thank you for the opportunity to express my
9	concerns.
10	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Any questions?
11	Thank you.
12	MR. DYE: And I'd like to submit this as
13	evidence.
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. That will be
15	Exhibit 12.
16	(Exhibit 12 marked for identification.)
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Next witness is Ed Smith.
18	EDWARD SMITH,
19	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn to testify the
20	truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the
21	case aforesaid, deposes and says in reply to oral
22	interrogatories propounded as follows, to-wit:
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
24	spell your last name.
25	MR. SMITH: My name is Edward Smith,
1	

1	S-m-i-t-h. I work for the Missouri Coalition for the
2	Environment. Thank you for allowing me to
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
4	MR. SMITH: St.~Louis, Missouri.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: You live in St.~Louis?
6	MR. SMITH: I live in Brentwood, Missouri.
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Go ahead.
8	MR. SMITH: Thank you for the opportunity to
9	speak today. I'm here in support of the Grain Belt Express
10	Line. Last week I attended a panel discussion sponsored by
11	the St. Louis Business Journal where Ameren utility
12	executives stressed the need for infrastructure investments
13	in Missouri's energy. Ameren executives routinely
14	mentioned that its power plants, mostly coal, are getting
15	really old and need to be replaced. It's my understanding
16	Ameren plans to retire its fossil fuel power plants at
17	Meramec in 2022 and Sioux in 2033, which represent 1,800
18	megawatts of energy.
19	While Ameren Missouri has an integrated
20	resource plan for energy delivery to its customers, with
21	which you are all intimately familiar, adding 500 megawatts
22	of wind energy in Eastern Missouri will add reliable to the
23	grid, plain and simple.
24	There are many folks here today who have said
25	there's little or no benefits for Missourians, and I

1	strongly disagree with that. First, the fact that
2	municipal utilities will be able to lock in low energy
3	rates for the thousands of customers, many of whom are on
4	fixed and low incomes, is a real tangible benefit for
5	people struggling to pay bills and put food on their table.
6	Kirkwood municipality in St. Louis County, where many of
7	our members live, has agreed to purchase low cost wind
8	energy if the project is approved.
9	The PSC is intimately familiar with how rates
10	for monopoly utilities, particularly Ameren, have
11	skyrocketed over the last eight to ten years. The PSC has
12	the ability to bring relief to some of the most financially
13	vulnerable people of Missouri by approving this project.
14	Another advantage Grain Belt offers to our
15	energy landscape is that the project does not need to go
16	through a messy legislative process in Jefferson City
17	before Clean Line can invest \$600 million in our state.
18	Another advantage based on my understanding is
19	that Clean Line accepted all of the recommendations given
20	to it by the Nature Conservancy which assisted the company
21	in the environmental impact of the route it chose. The
22	more wind energy that is produced and delivered to Missouri
23	means that fewer megawatt-hours will be produced by fossil
24	fuel based power plants. I want the PSC to consider the
25	benefits of 500 megawatts of wind energy in Missouri

1	
1	through the avoided environmental costs during the life
2	cycle of any power plant, including this one.
3	Regarding fuel extraction, there is no mining
4	for uranium and coal or drilling for oil and gas for Grain
5	Belt. Wind is free and clean. Regarding the production of
6	Grain Belt's energy, there will be no risk of a nuclear
7	meltdown and emergency planning zones or smoke stacks
8	spewing mercury and other carcinogens into our air and
9	water like in a lot of the coal plants along our waterways.
10	If or when Grain Belt outlives its usefulness
11	to the energy grid, wind turbines and transmission towers
12	can be scrapped and recycled, whereas the waste stream for
13	other power plants leave behind coal ash ponds, legacy
14	sites that can be contaminated for hundreds of years with
15	heavy metals and toxins and high level nuclear waste like
16	at Callaway where there is no federal safe repository for
17	the high level nuclear waste being created there.
18	I also want to make it clear that there's a
19	difference betweens the radioactive contamination in
20	St. Louis County as referenced at Coldwater Creek in
21	St.~Louis and the previous commenter's claim that a
22	transmission line will cause similar health concerns if
23	constructed. Sites in St.~Louis were contamination
24	excuse me, sites in St.~Louis were contaminated by
25	radioactive waste from the processing of uranium during

1 World War II and the Cold War for nuclear weapons. This is 2 not what the Clean Line project will do. Transmission 3 lines do not generate low level radioactive wastes that 4 have contaminated much of metro St.~Louis and have resulted 5 in many health concerns that the federal government is 6 currently looking into.

7 The real story here though is that our state's 8 fossil fuel sourced power plants are getting old and need 9 to be replaced. Utility executives have gone to the Missouri General Assembly since 2009 for significant 10 regulatory changes in the name of infrastructure. Again, 11 12 the PSC has the opportunity to approve the project. I 13 understand that this project and Ameren are different. 14 It's not an apples-to-apples comparison. But the need for infrastructure improvement is well-recognized. 15

16 Lastly, the clear signal that Missourians overwhelmingly support renewable energy came in the form of 17 Proposition C's passage in 2008 when voters supported our 18 19 renewable energy standard, 65 percent of the statewide 20 vote. A previous commenter suggested that Missouri is meeting our RES goal, which is also not true. 21 Our organization engaged in oral arguments in front of Missouri 22 23 Supreme Court last month arguing that a state legislative 24 committee removing the local sourcing provision is 25 unconstitutional. All it takes is for the PSC to agree

1	that delivering low cost energy to Missouri is good for our
2	economy, our grid, and our climate. Thanks.
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions for the
4	witness?
5	CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions. Thank you.
6	AUDIENCE MEMBER: Can I ask a question to the
7	PSC? May I can a question?
8	JUDGE BUSHMANN: You can ask after a break if
9	you need to ask a question, talk to the staff or one of
10	the the commissioners can't answer any questions today.
11	AUDIENCE MEMBER: It's a clarification on
12	testimony.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. If it's procedural, go
14	ahead.
15	AUDIENCE MEMBER: Is it acceptable to rebut a
16	previous speaker's comments?
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: No.
18	AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you.
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Next witness is Nathan
20	Higgerson.
21	NATHAN HIGGERSON,
22	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
23	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
24	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
25	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and

1	spell your last name.
2	MR. HIGGERSON: Nathan Higgerson,
3	H-i-g-g-e-r-s-o-n.
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live, sir?
5	MR. HIGGERSON: Waterloo, Illinois.
6	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
7	MR. HIGGERSON: I'm a project manager for
8	Hanson Professional Services. We're a 400-person
9	engineering firm that has offices in Illinois, Missouri and
10	Kansas. Our engineering firm also employs architects,
11	environmental scientists, water resource engineers,
12	structural engineers and geotechnical engineers.
13	Projects like this, in addition to the
14	manufacturing jobs that they bring with the materials and
15	the local construction project jobs that they provide, also
16	provide a design component for those jobs as well. Hanson
17	is one of those companies that does this design work and
18	has benefited from this in the past. Hanson Professional
19	Services doesn't employ one person for these design jobs.
20	This is a team of designers that work together with the
21	environmental scientists, land surveyors, geotechnical and
22	structural engineers, all coming together to make a
23	successful project.
24	In addition to these design projects, Hanson
25	has also been involved with the on-site field services.

1	These field projects go on for multiple weeks, months, and
2	add great benefits in having our group and our staff out in
3	the field. The staff turn around stay in local hotels,
4	they also eat at the restaurants and spend their money at
5	the stores.
6	We also as a company, I understand the
7	value of local presence, local knowledge and local history.
8	We employ local drilling companies where we can for
9	projects. We also employ local engineers and make use of
10	the local expertise they provide for a project like this.
11	Hanson is a firm that is employee-owned. I, as one of the
12	owners, benefit in the success of projects that Hanson
13	takes on and also as a family man and also as a citizen
14	benefit as well. So projects like this are important to
15	Hanson and important to our business. Thank you.
16	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions?
17	CHAIRMAN HALL: No.
18	COMMISSIONER RUPP: No.
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Charles Thomas.
20	Maybe not saying the first name right. Is there a Mr. or
21	Ms. Thomas?
22	MR. THOMAS: I'm here. I'm not here to make a
23	speech though. Sorry.
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Thank you. Charles
25	Rosenkrans.

1	CHARLES ROSENKRANS,
2	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
3	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
4	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state your
6	name and spell your last name?
7	MR. ROSENKRANS: Charles Rosenkrans,
8	R-o-s-e-n-k-r-a-n-s.
9	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
10	MR. ROSENKRANS: I live in Monroe County and
11	also own land in Ralls County.
12	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
13	MR. ROSENKRANS: Mr. Chairman and members of
14	the commission, I'm using a script to make the best use of
15	my time and your time both. This very unnecessary private
16	investor line will take 150 to 200 feet of our most level
17	acres out of the production of the Ralls County farm. This
18	is going to go across 130 acres. This non-experienced
19	operation is, in short, stealing the productivity or
20	productive land from us landowners so that the cities and
21	those people can make billions of dollars.
22	They say they are paying us landowners, but
23	what an understatement. My family has owned and worked
24	these acres since 1935. I would like to think and have my
25	present two great grandchildren to have the opportunity to

1	till the soil and raise beef cattle on these acres.
2	Today the average Missouri farmer produces
3	enough food and fiber to feed 155 persons every day every
4	year. That number will continue to increase as we as
5	farmers adopt more modern practices and technology. To me,
6	that is a significant number, and I accept that challenge
7	to produce these vital life sustaining products.
8	This private line will drastically change the
9	physical and esthetic values that we have attached to this
10	property. Giving this non-utility company the eminent
11	domain status is setting a very, very dangerous precedent
12	and will forever affect our farm property rights. In
13	short, we will not own these acres under the lines. The
14	so-called compensation will not even come close to covering
15	the losses we landowners will suffer.
16	In my opinion, if the eastern Atlantic coast
17	states need electric power, they have just as much wind and
18	perhaps even more than what we have here in the Midwest. I
19	believe this fact has been proven by the Federal Department
20	of Energy studies. This would eliminate hundreds of miles
21	of harmful and costly lines from going through our private
22	and very productive Missouri farms and timber areas. This
23	non-American investor company is wanting to use valuable
24	land resources here in Missouri to basically run an
25	extension cord all the way through the middle of several

1	states to get the electric to the east coast.
2	I realize life is not fair. But it's simply
3	not proper for large private companies to be allowed to
4	just run over private landowners in several states just to
5	create wealth for a few. Using eminent domain across
6	several states, to me, is a very, very gross abuse of
7	authority. I hear on the radio and see press releases
8	where they are promising great things for several of our
9	local rural towns. The large anchor company, the local
10	concrete plant have got large dollar signs in their eyes.
11	They too don't have a lot of respect for the productive
12	soils that are going across all of the State of Missouri.
13	Also, some of our county government officials are falling
14	for the false amount of dollars they are told they might
15	receive just to have a causative opinion from the public.
16	In summary, I want to thank you for listening
17	to my remarks. And finally, Case No. EA-2016-0358 should
18	be dismissed. This project does not embrace or support the
19	traditional core values that our forefathers established
20	years and years ago regarding the use of eminent domain in
21	today's or tomorrow's society. Thank you.
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir. Any
23	questions?
24	COMMISSIONER RUPP: No.
25	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your

1	testimony.
2	JUDGE BUSHMANN: You want to include that as
3	an exhibit?
4	MR. ROSENKRANS: Yes.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: That will be Exhibit 13.
6	(Exhibit 13 marked for identification.)
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: The next line has two names
8	on it, Sammy Williams and Sue Allmart. I didn't know if
9	one of you wanted to testify or both. Who's going to be
10	doing the testifying?
11	MS. ALLMART: Can we do a little of both?
12	MR. WILLIAMS: My wife got me into this.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Both of you raise your right
14	hand.
15	SAMMY WILLIAMS,
16	of louful and housing been fingt duly grown on offirmed to
	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
17	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
17	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
17 18	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
17 18 19	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: SUSAN ALLMART,
17 18 19 20	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: SUSAN ALLMART, of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
17 18 19 20 21	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: SUSAN ALLMART, of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
17 18 19 20 21 22	<pre>testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:</pre>
17 18 19 20 21 22 23	<pre>testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: SUSAN ALLMART, of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: JUDGE BUSHMANN: And can you each say your</pre>

1 W-i-l-l-i-a-m-s, Audrain County.

2	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And your name, ma'am?
3	MS. ALLMART: Susan Allmart, same address.
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: All right. Please go ahead.
5	MR. WILLIAMS: Well, we're in favor of the
6	wind power. It's a renewable resource. Wind will always
7	be here. When we burn all of our coal and all of our oil,
8	we're out of electricity. I don't have no written speech,
9	don't have no figures. I read them. But it seems feasible
10	for the future. I'd like for me great great grandkids to
11	have electricity because everybody here has it right now.
12	What would they do without it? They can't. That's my
13	speech.
14	MS. ALLMART: I don't have a long speech
14 15	MS. ALLMART: I don't have a long speech either. But we're very different people from very
15	either. But we're very different people from very
15 16	either. But we're very different people from very different backgrounds. He grew up on a Century Farm in
15 16 17	either. But we're very different people from very different backgrounds. He grew up on a Century Farm in south Missouri. I grew up in rural suburbs of Chicago that
15 16 17 18	either. But we're very different people from very different backgrounds. He grew up on a Century Farm in south Missouri. I grew up in rural suburbs of Chicago that are now pure suburbs. Sammy has had customers in this area
15 16 17 18 19	either. But we're very different people from very different backgrounds. He grew up on a Century Farm in south Missouri. I grew up in rural suburbs of Chicago that are now pure suburbs. Sammy has had customers in this area in Monroe County for 54 years. As a horseshoer, I've lived
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	23	our states to help the other guys. The Kansas farmers that
25 that their wind was sending energy to the big cities. The	24	I talked to three years ago told me how proud they were
	25	that their wind was sending energy to the big cities. They

Page 71

1 were proud of that. We could be proud that we're doing 2 something too. Thank you. 3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? 4 CHAIRMAN HALL: Thank you for your testimony. 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. 6 MS. ALLMART: Thank you. 7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: John Czaicki. 8 JOHN CZAICKI, 9 of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the 10 truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: 11 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and spell your last name. 13 14 MR. CZAICKI: Sure. My name is John Czaicki, 15 and it's spelled C-z-a-i-c-k-i. I thank everyone for their time and attention --16 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Excuse me. Where do you live, sir? 18 19 MR. CZAICKI: Oh, I live in Fenton, Missouri. 20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay, go ahead. 21 MR. CZAICKI: I thank everyone again for their time and attention today and their patience. I've lived in 22 23 Missouri for over 34 years. I work for PAR Electrical Contractors. We engineer and build transmission lines 24 across the country. We're based in Kansas City, Missouri. 25

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1	We're one of four partners for the clean
2	energy line. I've worked for PAR now for a little over
3	eight years. Prior to that I worked for Ameren, what is
4	now Ameren Missouri, for 28 and a half years. This project
5	will support somewhere in the neighborhood of 1,500 jobs
6	for Missourians, like myself and everyone in the room each
7	year during the construction of this high-voltage line.
8	Many of those jobs are good paying union jobs represented
9	by the IBEW. Our company is signatory to the IBEW.
10	Additionally, significant revenues throughout
11	the construction will be realized for local suppliers for
12	fuel, restaurants, repair shops, etcetera, all benefiting
13	fellow Missourians. The Grain Belt Express Clean Line is
14	of great importance to Missouri and our country, and PAR
15	Electric looks forward to working hard to bring it to
16	fruition to serve Missouri communities. Thank you for your
17	time.
18	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions? Thank you, sir.
19	CHAIRMAN HALL: Thank you.
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Ron Staggs?
21	RON STAGGS,
22	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
23	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
24	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
25	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and

1	spell your last name.
2	MR. STAGGS: My name is Ron Staggs, spelled
3	S-t-a-g-g-s.
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
5	MR. STAGGS: I'm a resident of Monroe County.
6	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
7	MR. STAGGS: I've had to kind of adapt my
8	testimony today based on some of the previous testimony
9	I've heard. There's two things that I see running in
10	common with the proponents for this case. I am strongly
11	opposed to it. But we have environmentalists and people
12	that have their hand out, whether it be the government,
13	local taxing authorities, or private businesses and
14	environmentalists.
15	Environmentalists like to use both sides of
16	the issue. But what they don't tell you about this issue
17	is windmills kill migratory birds and endangered species by
18	the thousands every day across this country. But they get
19	away from the federal government to produce it. Yet, if
20	any one of us here did the same thing we would be fined and
21	probably thrown in prison.
22	They also don't tell you about what the UN
23	Biodiversity Council report says, that power lines are an
24	unsustainable activity. Primarily where we are going to be
25	sending a power line across, they will have to maintain a

1	non-forested area beneath those things. How do they do
2	that? They use herbicides. A lot of this land is wetlands
3	and creek crossings, lake crossings, river crossings, which
4	are diverse biological things. Herbicides in those
5	environments have a tendency to destroy that environment.
6	So the environmental issue is not really that important.
7	I want to tell you about the mood of our
8	county, and I'll relate this quick example. I ran for
9	county commission this past year. I was elected. What
10	makes it unusual is Monroe County has never, as far as
11	history can be researched, elected a Republican to a county
12	courthouse office. And I'm saying never. They've had some
13	serve by appointment from a republican governor, but never
14	has there been an elect. So it's almost an impossibility
15	being elected running as a republican in Monroe County.
16	Number two, I'm not a native resident of the
17	county. That's another strike against you. But I believe
18	the issue, and I ran on this issue, opposing the Grain Belt
19	Express. I believe enough common sense citizens of this
20	county decided to give up their history of voting
21	continually as a democrat and voted for republican this
22	time. Therefore, I'd like that to be although it may be
23	anecdotal, it is still a fact, first time in history. I
24	have no relatives and I am a property owner. This does not
25	affect me personally, but it could. If you give eminent

1 domain, they can chose any route they want across this 2 entire state. And they have changed the routing. So I ask that you consider these things. 3 And 4 when you ask -- or hear testimony from maybe a municipality 5 such as Hannibal saying they want it, ask them if they are going to pass that cost savings on to their consumer or 6 7 will they pocket that? Those are some types of questions 8 you need to ask in your questioning to people that have an 9 interest, a financial interest, in the issue. That will conclude my testimony. Thank you. 10 11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions? 12 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your testimony. 13 14 MR. STAGGS: Thank you. 15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Laura Long? 16 LAURA LONG, of lawful age, having been first duly sworn to testify the 17 truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the 18 19 case aforesaid, deposes and says in reply to oral 20 interrogatories propounded as follows, to-wit: 21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state your 22 name and spell your last name? 23 MS. LONG: Laura Long, and my last name is 24 spelled L-o-n-g. 25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?

1	MS. LONG: Paris, Missouri.
2	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
3	MS. LONG: Okay. As i said, guys, my name is
4	Laura Long. And I had a birthday this summer so I'm now 50
5	years old, and I'm a wife, a mother, a 4H leader and a
6	basketball coach. I work full-time and I have now for 30
7	years. I help my husband farm and I serve on several
8	boards within my community. I am a busy person, but I
9	assure you that I am a regular person doing my part to be a
10	productive citizen in our State of Missouri.
11	I'm here today to ask you to deny Grain Belt
12	Express, their most recent application. The proposed route
13	of GBE will run through my 320-acre home farm in Paris,
14	Missouri. This is a farm that my husband and I worked very
15	hard to obtain. First, we made numerous sacrifices to save
16	the money we needed for the down payment. Then we worked
17	long hours to make the annual payments. Now GBE is asking
18	you, the PSC board, to give them a right to abuse our
19	property rights for their own personal financial gain.
20	GBE is a privately held company. They have a
21	risky business plan they are trying to move forward. Let's
22	call this what it is. It's a true startup venture. What I
23	didn't tell you in my introduction is that while I am
24	likely what is now commonly known as a deplorable, I am an
25	ivy league educated deplorable. One of my previous

employers paid for this little farm girl to attend Columbia
 University where I graduated with honors out of their MBA
 program.

4 My education at Columbia University and some consulting work I did on Wall Street allow me to recognize 5 this project for what it truly is, a high risk startup 6 7 venture. This is how a project like this typically works. 8 Someone has an idea for a business venture, they put their 9 ideas down in writing or create what is known on Wall Street as a formal business plan. The formal business plan 10 is then presented. They go on a circuit and they present 11 12 to small groups and venture capitalists to try to gain 13 funding. Venture capitalists are wealthy people that 14 typically fund high risk startup companies.

The money obtained from these venture 15 16 capitalists is then used to hire a team of people to implement the written business plan. If this group of 17 people gets this business idea to a place where it looks 18 19 like it's really going to work, then they do one of two They sell it to a foreign company or they take it 20 things. This is called an IPO, an initial public offering. 21 public. An initial public offering means that they sell shares to 22 23 the general public through the New York Stock Exchange. 24 When a high risk venture like this goes to an 25 IPO, the payoffs are huge. Private investors that gave

1	their money as venture capitalists get even wealthier, and
2	the management team typically becomes millionaires
3	overnight when they make this come to fruition. It may
4	sound to you, gentlemen, like I'm against making money.
5	And I assure you that I am not. It may even sound like I'm
6	against renewable energy. I assure you that I am not.
7	What I am against is for members of the
8	Missouri PSC to use power that you are granted to give GBE
9	eminent domain rights and therefore allow them to privately
10	gain monetary reward on my back and on the backs of my
11	neighbors. We are law abiding Missouri citizens. We
12	purchased our property fair and square. It is my opinion
13	that if they want to use our property they should have to
14	negotiate directly with us, the landowners, and gain rights
15	to that property in the way that other private businesses
16	should have to do.
17	Frankly, this kind of gets to a common sense
18	test that my dad used to tell me when I hit a complex
19	problem that I should see if it passed. And so the best
20	way for me to common sense it is to use an example. It
21	just so happens that one of my neighbors is over here in
22	the hat. His name is Kevin O'Bannon. Kevin farms the farm
23	kitty-corner to my house. It's a good farm. And I would
24	like for you, the PSC, to grant me the right to use his
25	property at a fee that I, myself, have set. I promise that

1	I will use this to the benefit of our community. It will
2	be good. I will pay taxes on the money and I will allow
3	you to use the money to improve your schools and your roads
4	and bridges. Does this sound crazy? Because to me, it
5	does. And I think that's exactly what GBE is asking you
6	guys to do. Thank you.
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Kurt Henke.
8	CURT HENKE,
9	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
10	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
11	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
12	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
13	spell your last name.
14	MR. HENKE: Curt Henke, H-e-n-k-e.
15	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
16	MR. HENKE: Liberty, Missouri.
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
18	MR. HENKE: First of all, I want to thank the
19	commissioners for allowing me to speak today. I truly
20	appreciate this opportunity. My current position is I'm
21	the International Vice President for the 11th District of
22	the IBEW. That district comprises the States of North
23	Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa and Missouri. And in
24	the 11th District, we have roughly 37,000 members. And of
25	those 37,000, I want to say a little over half reside right
1	

1	here in Missouri.
2	Of the 1,500 proposed jobs that this clean
3	line would have out there for our members, most all of
4	those would come from Missouri construction workers and
5	most all of those would be IBEW members that reside right
б	here in this state. Of the 18,000 roughly members we have
7	in this state, I want to say roughly right around 9,000 of
8	those are construction workers, linemen, inside wiremen.
9	This opportunity for them would be a huge
10	public benefit for the amount of revenue that they would
11	bring into the communities here. We all know that they
12	live in hotels when they are on the road. They live in
13	their homes here. They spend dollars here. They generate
14	tax revenue. And we also know that there's a huge public
15	need for renewable energies.
16	So with that, I'll conclude my comments.
17	Thank you once again for the opportunity to address you.
18	And again, I stand in support of this project. Thank you.
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions? Thank you.
20	CHAIRMAN HALL: Thank you for your testimony.
21	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Caitlyn Zera?
22	CAITLYN ZERA,
23	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn to testify the
24	truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the
25	case aforesaid, deposes and says in reply to oral

1	interrogatories propounded as follows, to-wit:
2	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state your
3	name and spell your last name?
4	MS. ZERA: Caitlyn Zera, Z-e-r-a.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
6	MS. ZERA: Green Park, Missouri.
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
8	MS. ZERA: I am Caitlyn and I'm with the
9	Missouri Coalition for the Environment and I'm a member of
10	the Sierra Club, Missouri Chapter. I've lived in Missouri
11	whole life. My family's been here for multiple
12	generations. And I'm in support of this project for its
13	environmental and economic benefits.
14	This project brings renewal energy at a lower
15	cost directly to residents and small businesses in the
16	St.~Louis community where I live. It brings clean energy
17	jobs to Missouri including construction jobs and
18	maintenance jobs, and it moves Missouri forward toward more
19	renewal which is essential for energy independence and
20	modernization of our energy system. There's also
21	environmental benefits, among them the opportunity to both
22	generate power and have cleaner air, which is a health
23	benefit across the State of Missouri.
24	This project demonstrates our commitment to
25	renewable energy and therefore the future and I want to see

1	wind energy flow into Missouri from neighboring states
2	instead of over the billion of dollars in spending to
3	import coal from Wyoming. Thank you.
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions?
5	CHAIRMAN HALL: No.
6	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your
7	testimony.
8	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Moses Shetler?
9	MOSES SHETLER,
10	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
11	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
12	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state your
14	name and spell your last name?
15	MR. SHETLER: Moses Shetler, S-h-e-t-l-e-r.
16	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live, sir?
17	MR. SHETLER: Southwest Monroe County, and the
18	proposed line will go right through my land on the edge of
19	the land.
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
21	MR. SHETLER: I haven't got much to say about
22	it. But we don't use electricity, so of course we're
23	opposed to it. And going right through the land there, the
24	school house two school houses where you pass through
25	and we already had one line going through that area right

but bad experience. They say it's your land, you can still use it. They come through there and want everyone to they cut right through the field, never paid nothing in the 56 years I lived there. They never paid nothing for damages. They cut a post off low to the ground where I run into it with the plow and stuff like that. They do what they want. Last spring they come through there with a big machine and a contractor. I don't know who hired the contractor from down in Montgomery City. And they didn't ask, didn't say nothing, come in there with a big machine and cut a path along the side of the line, cut the walnut trees, anything in the line, cut it down. I walked down there and said, how much easement have you got? 45 feet from the middle out. I said, well, you're going 80 feet out there. Well, we don't want trees to fall on there.	1	on top of the hill there by my land.
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just things like that. They just make a mess out of it. Then another thing, they say they can't prove or nobody can prove that it caused cancer. We	20	just left the mess lay there, run over top it. Limbs fell
23Then another thing, they say they can't24prove or nobody can prove that it caused cancer. We	21	down the creek, went down and took the water gap out and
24 prove or nobody can prove that it caused cancer. We	22	just things like that. They just make a mess out of it.
	23	Then another thing, they say they can't
25 have like 220 families in our area, and in the last three	24	prove or nobody can prove that it caused cancer. We
	25	have like 220 families in our area, and in the last three

1	years I know of only four cases of cancer, and three of
2	them were right along that line within a quarter mile. And
3	my sister-in-law died a year ago and I've got lymphoma in
4	my back living close to that line for 56 years. We can't
5	prove it, but it's very suspicious.
6	And that's about all I've got to say about it.
7	We don't use it, we don't need it. And we think it
8	should I actually I asked, if I decide to sell my
9	farm and move out of it, what would you pay for it? If
10	Clean Line went through it, nothing. I wouldn't pay
11	nothing for it, I don't want it. So that's the reason
12	we're opposed to it, I guess. Thank you.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?
14	CHAIRMAN HALL: Concerning your experience
15	with the transmission line that's on your property right
16	now, I'd appreciate it if you could have a conversation
17	with staff so that we could get a little more information
18	about who owns that line. And it could be that it is a
19	line that is not regulated by the commission. But if it
20	is
21	MR. SHETLER: I think AmerenUE. I don't know
22	for sure.
23	CHAIRMAN HALL: Well, I'd like you to talk to
24	the staff and give them more information about that,
25	please. Thank you. That would be this gentleman right

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1 here on the far right. 2 MR. WILLIAMS: Judge, if I might ask one clarifying question. 3 4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. 5 MR. WILLIAMS: You talked about cancer and the Were you referring to an electric transmission line 6 line. or some kind of an electrical line? 7 8 MR. SHETLER: Yeah, a two-post line with I 9 don't know how many volts of electricity. But it's being used all the time and goes right across my property. 10 11 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you. 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any other questions? Thank you, sir. 13 14 CHAIRMAN HALL: Thank you. JUDGE BUSHMANN: The last name that I have on 15 16 the list to testify today is Noah Borntrager. 17 NOAH BORNTRAGER, of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to 18 19 testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: 20 21 MR. BORNTRAGER: I don't have much to say, but I will agree with a lot of these --22 23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could I get you to state your 24 name for the record, please? 25 MR. BORNTRAGER: Noah B. Borntrager.

-	6
1	JUDGE BUSHMANN: How do you that last name?
	-
2	MR. BORNTRAGER: B-o-r-n-t-r-a-g-e-r.
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live, sir?
4	MR. BORNTRAGER: Clark, Missouri.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
6	MR. BORNTRAGER: I don't have much to say, but
7	I would agree with a lot of these that were against it. It
8	don't go through my land, but I wouldn't want to have it to
9	either. I'm glad I don't live near that where they are
10	talking about. I don't think there's no need. If you want
11	energy in the east, why don't they get the wind power
12	there, you know? I don't have much to say.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. That's all the
14	names that were on the list to testify. Is there anybody
15	else that wanted to testify?
16	There's a number of names that I was not aware
17	of that wanted to testify. And we've been going quite a
18	while here. Why don't we take a short break before we
19	finish up the rest of the names. So we'll be in recess for
20	about ten minutes. We're off the record.
21	(Off the record.)
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Back on the record. Before
23	we broke, I was getting ready to call some additional
24	people to testify, but I neglected to call a few people
25	that had already signed up. There were four names here.

1	So I'm going to call those four names and then we'll go
2	into the people that just signed up. The next witness on
3	my list is Brent Thomas.
4	BRENT THOMAS,
5	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
6	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
7	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
8	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
9	spell your last name.
10	MR. THOMAS: Brent Thomas, T-h-o-m-a-s.
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
12	MR. THOMAS: Mexico, Missouri.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
14	MR. THOMAS: Okay. A few of the Amish men
15	over here asked me to speak on their behalf. I'm Brent
16	Thomas, past Monroe County Farm Bureau President. Most of
17	their concerns and obligations or objections have been
18	expressed here by different people testifying. These men
19	represent 228 families in our community along with five
20	schools that will be near that Grain Belt line. Some of
21	these men are mostly the men are farmers, a lot of them
22	certified organic. Their concerns are of herbicides and
23	things that will be used to maintain that line. That's
24	going to be affect their certification and their farming,
25	way of living.

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1 So again, that's a few of their concerns. 2 Their presence here indicates their objection to the line. And I thank you for your time. 3 4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? Thank you, 5 sir. б COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you. 7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Teresa McCluer? THERESA MCCLURE, 8 9 of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the 10 truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: 11 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and spell your last name. 13 14 MS. McCLURE: Theresa McClure, M-c-C-l-u-r-e. 15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? MS. McCLURE: Ste. Genevieve, Missouri. 16 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. MS. McCLURE: Thank you so much for allowing 18 19 me to speak. I am a Missouri native, born and bred. I am also a farmer's daughter. Our farm in Missouri has a 20 21 transmission line going across it. I have raised one MIZZOU grad and an electrical -- I have an electrical 22 23 engineering senior at MIZZOU. At his urging, I came here 24 today. 25 My kids are invested in Missouri. My kids are

1	going to stay in Missouri and work and raise a family in	
2	Missouri. I'm invested in Missouri and Missouri's future,	
3	and I'm asking the commission to vote for Missouri's	
4	future. As our nature's infrastructure ages and the demand	
5	for reliable energy supply expands and becomes more	
6	critical, it is essential that we support the upgrading of	
7	the nation's electrical grid. The Clean Line Grain Belt	
8	Express project addresses this. This project will expand	
9	our ability to deliver safe and reliable and renewable	
10	energy throughout the service delivery area.	
11	Please support this project and projects that	
12	improve the grid in Missouri. Please vote for my kids'	
13	future. Thank you.	
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Any questions?	
15	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your	
16	testimony.	
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Roger Osthoff?	
18	ROGER OSTHOFF,	
19	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to	
20	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the	
21	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:	
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and	
23	spell your last name.	
24	MR. OSTHOFF: Roger Osthoff, spelled	
25	O-s-t-h-o-f-f.	

1	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?			
2	MR. OSTHOFF: Belleville, Illinois.			
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.			
4	MR. OSTHOFF: As I mentioned, I live in			
5	Belleville, Illinois. But I'm actually a native of			
6	Missouri, St. Charles County, a little bit south of here.			
7	I grew up on a farm there. And I would like to express my			
8	thanks to the Missouri Public Service Commission for			
9	allowing me to share my comments and thoughts today.			
10	I grew up in a union home. My dad was a			
11	laborer, and he put food on the table day in and day out,			
12	commuted about an hour plus to and from work. So I			
13	understand how you have to search for those jobs. I am			
14	here to speak on behalf and support of the clean line			
15	energy because it could generate much income and generate			
16	some dollars for this area.			
17	Again, growing up in St. Charles County, we			
18	have the growth there. Obviously there is the need for			
19	renewable energy. And I believe projects of this type			
20	would provide benefits which will be enjoyed by all			
21	Missourians. I'm a MIZZOU grad and so I know the area.			
22	And again, the need for the overall infrastructure to be			
23	revamped is there.			
24	In addition to the delivery of a valuable			
25	electric supply, this project will create new jobs in many			

1	communities across the State of Missouri. The more local	
2	impact will be the creation of long-term quality jobs, many	
3	of which will remain long after construction of the job is	
4	complete. Projects of this type also bring opportunities	
5	for local contractors and businesses. As projects of this	
6	type are implemented, there will be a strong and	
7	significant financial impact to the local economy and it	
8	will benefit for many years to come. Thank you.	
9	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?	
10	CHAIRMAN HALL: Thank you.	
11	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your	
12	testimony.	
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Chase Wagner?	
14	CHASE WAGGONER,	
15	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn to testify the	
16	truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the	
17	case aforesaid, deposes and says in reply to oral	
18	interrogatories propounded as follows, to-wit:	
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and	
20	spell your last name.	
21	MR. WAGGONER: Chase D. Waggoner,	
22	W-a-g-g-o-n-e-r.	
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?	
24	MR. WAGGONER: Vandalia, Missouri.	
25	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.	

1	MR. WAGGONER: I am Chase Waggoner. I'm the
2	city administrator for the City of Vandalia, Missouri. I'm
3	here to testify in favor of the Grain Belt Express project.
4	Our community is a small rural community in
5	Northeastern Missouri, mostly working class community. We
	have lots of low income families. We are one of the
6	
7	communities that would benefit from the Grain Belt Express
8	project. We've got low income folks in our community that
9	struggle from month to month to be able to meet their needs
10	financially, including paying their utilities bills.
11	Our city owns and operates some municipal
12	electric utility, and so I see in my office as we collect
13	bills people on a monthly basis who struggle on fixed
14	incomes to be able to pay for their energy needs. If we
15	have the opportunity to link onto Grain Belt Express, that
16	gives us the opportunity to lower our utilities and energy
17	costs that we can pass down to our consumers, our Missouri
18	citizens who are members of our utility. And so if that
19	gives us the ability to pass our savings along to our
20	citizens, it puts more money in our citizens' pockets.
21	And that's the reason why I believe that our
22	community would be able to benefit from that as well as
23	many other Missouri municipalities that would be getting
24	some of the energy that's transmitted through Grain Belt
25	Express. Thank you.

1	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions? Thank you, sir.
2	All right. There were a couple of gentlemen interested in
3	testifying. I believe the gentleman right here.
4	WAYNE CONLEY,
5	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn to testify the
6	truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the
7	case aforesaid, deposes and says in reply to oral
8	interrogatories propounded as follows, to-wit:
9	JUDGE BUSHMANN: What's where you are name,
10	sir?
11	MR. CONLEY: Wayne Conley, C-o-n-l-e-y, Santa
12	Fe, Missouri.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
14	MR. CONLEY: According to my cowboy logic, if
15	we have clean cheap energy that's produced in Kansas, if
16	you draw a circle around Kansas you come up with Topeka,
17	you come up with Manhattan, you come up with Kansas City,
18	Missouri, Joplin, Missouri, St. Joseph, Missouri, or you
19	can go the other way to Denver, Colorado. How come these
20	people are not using this energy if it's clean, cheap,
21	environmentally friendly?
22	The only way energy can be environmentally
23	friendly and cheap is if it's produced close to where it's
24	used. If you take that energy and you run it clear to
25	Indiana or wherever, it's not either cheap or

1	environmentally friendly by then. You've tore up some of		
2	the best farming ground in Missouri and hundreds, if not		
3	thousands, of acres of trees that you've knocked down. And		
4	by the time you get it there, it's neither cheap nor clean.		
5	That's all I need to say.		
6	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions? Thank you. Was		
7	there anybody in the back that wanted to testify? Anybody		
8	else that would like to testify? Yes, sir.		
9	DAN SCROGIN,		
10	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn to testify the		
11	truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the		
12	case aforesaid, deposes and says in reply to oral		
13	interrogatories propounded as follows, to-wit:		
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: What's your name?		
15	MR. SCROGIN: Dan Scrogin.		
16	JUDGE BUSHMANN: How do you spell your last		
17	name?		
18	MR. SCROGIN: S-c-r-o-g-i-n.		
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?		
20	MR. SCROGIN: Perry.		
21	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.		
22	MR. SCROGIN: I'm opposed to Grain Belt		
23	Express. I see no need or benefit to the State of Missouri		
24	for it. I have a concern that this is owned, will be		
25	eventually owned by a foreign company, and I think putting		

1	our eggs in one basket with a foreign company is a bad	
2	idea, a very bad idea. I don't see that you all would have	
3	as much control over a foreign company as you would over a	
4	company in the United States. Thank you.	
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir. Any other	
6	persons wanting to testify?	
7	DANIEL BORNTRAGER,	
8	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to	
9	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the	
10	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:	
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you state your name,	
12	please?	
13	MR. BORNTRAGER: Daniel Borntrager.	
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: How do you spell your last	
15	name?	
16	MR. BORNTRAGER: B-o-r-n-t-r-a-g-e-r.	
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?	
18	MR. BORNTRAGER: Close to Clark, Missouri.	
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: All right. Please go ahead.	
20	MR. BORNTRAGER: I have this concern of this	
21	big power line which will be going across the back end of	
22	our 80 acres. Which yes, that 80 acres is crumbs to	
23	compare with what all other land that it will cross. But	
24	it also will cross right next to our neighbors. Their	
25	lines are also a value to us.	

1	I do know of an incident in Kentucky where
2	there was a power line that our friends lived close to, not
3	near as big as this, but the power line crossed right close
4	to their home. They lived there for several years. And
5	one of their children became sick. And in spite of all the
6	doctoring they did, medical doctors, hospital stays, the
7	child died. Not long after, another one of the children
8	came up with the same symptoms. And somebody mentioned to
9	them that they might move away, further away from this
10	power line. So they did, in the same community. The other
11	child became well again without too much health issues.
12	In Canada, there is a similar power line going
13	through an Amish community that one of our Amish friends
14	has land right underneath this power line. It was on a
15	foggy day, which remember, fog is moisture, will conduct
16	electricity. Enough moisture will let current go through.
17	He was working his farm on working his soil
18	with horses. This one horse stumbled. He didn't think
19	much of it. He went on. The horse got on and went on.
20	The next round, two horses stumbled. And, you know, what's
21	going on? But they went on. The third round, one horse
22	fell over and he had a hard time getting back up. But he
23	did get him back up and went on about his work. The fourth
24	round, two horses fell and he had a hard time, worse than
25	before. And his hair on his arms stood up. Why? What in

1	the world is going on? So he starts looking around.
2	What's the deal here? And he realizes on this foggy day,
3	yeah, I'm right underneath this power line, enormous power
4	line. He got out of there for the rest of the day. No
5	more field working on a foggy day.
6	I do have concerns, not just for my own
7	family, but for many others. Is this what we call clean?
8	If I were to accept the best offer Grain Belt would offer
9	me and I were to have to stand beside an ailing bedside
10	with a pocket full of money, how long would it last for
11	this ill person? Not very long. How long would the health
12	last? Not very long. Electrical health problems, to my
13	understanding and to my knowledge from what I've seen, will
14	not be corrected until the electrical problem is removed.
15	I do have a concern about this. And I sure do thank
16	everybody for their points of view and your time that you
17	have put in and to allow us to voice our concerns. Thank
18	you very much.
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.
20	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
21	CHAIRMAN HALL: Thank you.
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any other persons wanting to
23	testify? I don't see any. Mr. Chairman, did you want to
24	make any closing remarks? Anybody else? Well, thank you
25	for coming here and testifying today. The evidentiary

1	
1	hearing will be held in March at the commission's offices
2	in Jefferson City. And if you want to make any additional
3	comments, you can make those by calling the commission or
4	sending something in writing to the commission. The
5	hearing is now adjourned. We're off the record.
6	(Hearing adjourned at 2:25 p.m.)
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1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
2	STATE OF MISSOURI)) ss.
3	CITY OF ST. LOUIS)
4	I, Julie A. Bulard, CCR No. 835, do hereby
5	certify that the witness whose testimony appears in the
6	foregoing deposition was duly sworn by me; that the
7	testimony of said witness was taken by me to the best of my
8	ability and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my
9	direction; that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor
10	employed by any of the parties to the action in which this
11	deposition was taken, and further that I am not a relative
12	or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the
13	parties thereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in
14	the outcome of the action.
15	Julie A. Buland
16	0
17	Certified Court Reporter
18	
19	
20	
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