1	STATE OF MISSOURI
2	PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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4	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
5	
6	Local Public Hearing
7	December 7, 2016
8	Hannibal LaGrange University Auditorium
9	Hannibal, Missouri
10	Volume 3
11	
12	In The Matter of The Application of Grain)
13	Belt Express Clean Line LLC For A)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) Interconnection On The Maywood-Montgomery)
16	345kv Transmission Line)
17	
18	MICHAEL BUSHMANN, Presiding SENIOR REGULATORY LAW JUDGE
19	DANIEL Y. HALL, Chairman,
20	STEPHEN M. STOLL, SCOTT T. RUPP,
21	COMMISSIONERS
22	REPORTED BY:
23	Ms. Julie Bulard, CCR Midwest Litigation Services
24	711 North Eleventh Street
25	St. Louis, Missouri 63101 314-644-2191

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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
 7
 8
     For the Office of the Public Counsel:
     Mr. James Owen
 9
     For Missouri Landowners Alliance:
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     Mr. Paul Agathen
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1	(Hearing commenced at 6:00 p.m.)
2	PROCEEDINGS
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: We're on the record. Good
4	evening. Today is December 7, 2016, and we're in Hannibal,
5	Missouri. The Missouri Public Service Commission has set
6	this time for a local public hearing in the case captioned
7	as In the Matter of the Application of Grain Belt Express
8	Clean Line LLC for a Certificate of Convenience and
9	Necessity Authorizing it to Construct, Own, Operate,
10	Control, Manage and Maintain a High Voltage, Direct Current
11	Transmission Line and an Associated Converter Station
12	Providing an Interconnection on the Maywood-Montgomery
13	345kV Transmission Line, File No. EA-2016-0358.
14	My name is Michael Bushmann. I'm the
15	Regulatory Law judge to be presiding over this hearing.
16	With me this evening are Chairman Daniel Hall and
17	Commissioners Steve Stoll and Scott Rupp. Mr. Chairman,
18	would you like to make any opening comments?
19	CHAIRMAN HALL: Very briefly. Good evening.
20	Thank you for being here tonight and providing testimony.
21	That is a very important aspect of the process. It is
22	something that we in Missouri take very seriously. Your
23	testimony will be transcribed. It will be part of the
24	record. All five commissioners will have access to that
25	record, including the two that are not here today.

1 There's a large number of you that have indicated an interest in providing testimony tonight, so 2 I'm going to cut this short, and I very much look forward 3 4 to hearing you. 5 COMMISSIONER STOLL: I would simply say that, first of all, we are here this evening to listen to your 6 7 comments and concerns. This is a very important meeting 8 and I again thank everybody for coming out. It's good to 9 come to a local hearing with a good turnout. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Let's have counsel make their 10 11 entries of appearance. For Grain Belt Express Clean Line 12 LLC? 13 MR. HARDIN: Josh Hardin. 14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: For Commission staff? MR. WILLIAMS: Nathan Williams. 15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Office of the Public Counsel? 16 17 MR. OWEN: James Owen. JUDGE BUSHMANN: And for Missouri Landowners 18 19 Alliance? 20 MR. AGATHEN: Paul Agathen. And for the 21 record, Judge, I'm representing four other clients as well 22 here. 23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, Mr. Agathen. 24 Counsel for any other interveners present, could you please make your entry of appearance now? I don't hear any. 25

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

time is up. If you haven't finished your comments when the 1 2 time expires, you can submit all your comments in writing or by calling the commission. The commission staff is 3 4 available at the table near the entrance to provide you with information on how to do that. You can't donate your 5 time to another witness who runs out of time. 6 7 And the commissioners won't be able to answer 8 any of your questions tonight because they have to remain 9 impartial until after the evidence is presented in the evidentiary hearing. If you do have questions, please 10 direct those to the commission staff or company 11 12 representatives. 13 My final request is to please be polite and 14 courteous to everyone speaking here tonight and treat everyone as you would like to be treated. 15 16 The first name I have on the sign-up sheet is 17 Janet Cuenca. Would you please come forward? JANET CUENCA, 18 19 of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the 20 truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: 21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And could you move the 22 23 microphone down so that it's closer to your mouth? Can you 24 please state your name for the record and spell your last 25 name?

That's 1 MS. CUENCA: My name is Janet Cuenca. 2 spelled C-u-e-n-c-a. JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live, ma'am? 3 4 MS. CUENCA: I live in St. Louis County, Missouri. 5 б Okay. Please go ahead. JUDGE BUSHMANN: 7 MS. CUENCA: All right. I'm here to ask that 8 every possible thing be done to free us from 9 polluting-causing sources of energy. I think wind and solar are about the best that can be done. I'm 78 years 10 old and most of my life has been made pretty miserable by 11 12 air pollution that interferes with my breathing. My 13 grandmother, for example, and her brother and sister were 14 all deaf by the time they were 50 because they spent their life in coal fume environments that caused allergies which 15 16 caused ear infections which caused them to go deaf. 17 I've been able to live as things got progressively better. But even as a child, my mother had 18 19 to prop me up at night so that I could breathe. Even now, 20 if I lie prone, I will wake up strangling from post nasal 21 drip that accumulates in my throat. And sometimes I wake up thinking I'm about to drown. I haven't slept lying down 22 23 for years. I have a hospital bed and I sleep sitting 24 straight up so that I will not strangle in my sleep. 25 I want clean air, please. I know I don't have

1	that much longer to live since I'm 78 years old, but I
2	would like to see St.~Louis in particular and St. Louis
3	County to be freer of air pollution for the from the
4	power plants that are dependent, I believe, mostly on coal.
5	I would like to see the air freed up.
6	I grant you that things have been getting
7	progressively better over the years for cleaning up the
8	air, and St.~Louis I guess is a lot cleaner than it used to
9	be, but it's not happening fast enough. And I hope that
10	you will do all you can to provide a clean air source of
11	energy for the many people who are not here to speak for
12	the problems that come from their asthma and other
13	breathing problems. Thank you.
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions?
15	CHAIRMAN HALL: No. Thank you.
16	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.
17	AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah, I have one.
18	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Sir, you are not testifying
19	right now. These questions were for the commissioners
20	and/or the attorneys.
21	AUDIENCE MEMBER: I would like to know why she
22	(inaudible).
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, ma'am, for your
24	testimony. Next name on the list is Keith Rosenkrans.
25	KEITH ROSENKRANS,

Page 9

of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to 1 2 testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: 3 4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and 5 spell your last name. 6 MR. ROSENKRANS: Keith Rosenkrans, 7 R-o-s-e-n-k-r-a-n-s. 8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live? 9 MR. ROSENKRANS: I live in Hannibal, Missouri and own property in Ralls County. 10 Go ahead. 11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: MR. ROSENKRANS: Mr. Chairman and Board of 12 Commissioners, thank you for taking the time to listen to 13 14 our concerns. And I apologize, I'm not much of a public 15 speaker. I'm nervous. But this is very important to me to 16 try and protect our farm. 17 I am adamantly opposed to the Grain Belt Express transmission line and urge you to please deny Clean 18 19 Line Energy's application for a certificate of convenience and necessity. Clean Line has absolutely no interest in 20 21 providing any meaningful service to the great State of They want to steal our resources for their own 22 Missouri. 23 private gain. 24 In the 2014 public hearings concerning this 25 project, there was a couple of businesses that spoke out in

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1 age	10

1	favor of the project. I understand and respect that they
2	are just looking out for their own interests. And I also
3	appreciate and applaud that these businesses provide jobs
4	for our community. However, I doubt they would support the
5	project if Clean Line forced them to provide labor, gravel,
6	concrete and electrical insulators without fully
7	compensating them for their resources. That is what they
8	are trying to do to us landowners.

9 I also know that Hannibal Public Works has signed on in support of this project. Quite simply, they 10 have been hoodwinked. They are out of their league with 11 this group, and the citizens of Hannibal will be the ones 12 who pay the price for their poor decision. Just ask Clean 13 14 Line. The purpose of this project is to sell overpriced clean energy to the east coast. They have no interest in 15 Hannibal, Missouri. 16

17 As for the environmental activists who are supporting this project, they are being paid to show up. 18 19 And after this hearing, they will move on to the next protest. They probably don't even know or care where Ralls 20 21 County, Missouri is at. I'm here to protect the farm that has been in our family since 1935. If these activists want 22 this project, then let these structures and lines run over 23 24 the top of their property. What I'd like to tell these 25 activists is that there's been Department of Energy studies

1	that show there is adequate wind on the east coast for wind
2	farms out there. It would be far more environmentally
3	friendly to generate and distribute the power locally.
4	This is the way I see Clean Lines' business
5	plan. You collect multi million dollars of government
6	subsidies to build a wind farm. You rip off the landowners
7	who are in the way of your transmission lines. Then you
8	charge end users out east inflated prices for the power,
9	all the time lobbying our government officials for more and
10	more mandates for clean energy.
11	This proposed line has already had a negative
12	effect on my family. I was planning to build a house right
13	where the lines plan to go through. I am baffled that
14	Clean Line thinks that this project merits eminent domain.
15	My limited understanding is that eminent domain is to be
16	used only when it benefits the public. This project is in
17	no way designed to benefit the citizens of Missouri. I
18	respectfully request that the commission deny Clean Line's
19	application. I thank you for your time.
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Randy Park.
21	RANDY PARK,
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. PARK: Randy Park, P-a-r-k. 3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live, sir? 4 MR. PARK: Here in Hannibal. 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. 6 MR. PARK: First of all, thank you, 7 Commission, for putting on this event and allowing the 8 citizens of this community to share their concerns for 9 Clean Line, and I appreciate that opportunity myself. 10 I'm Randy Park. I'm president of Hannibal 11 Board of Public Works. We have about 9,000 customers in 12 this community, about 18,000 residents that have a pole in 13 their front yard that receive our energy. We are looking 14 forward to this project. The opportunity to buy about 15 40 percent of our load from Clean Line means about 16 §2 million a year of savings to this community, about 17 60 million over the life of that contract. And we 18 certainly want this project to be here in Hannibal and we 19 think it will benefit our rate payers. So thank you for 20 your time, and we certainly want this project to come 21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any quest		
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23 CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions, thank you. 24 MR. PARK: Thank you, gentlemen.	21	through.
24 MR. PARK: Thank you, gentlemen.	22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?
	23	CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions, thank you.
25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Julie Viel.	24	MR. PARK: Thank you, gentlemen.
	25	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Julie Viel.

1	JULIE VIEL,
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: Please state your name and
6	spell your last name.
7	MS. VIEL: Julie Viel, V-i-e-l.
8	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live, ma'am?
9	MS. VIEL: 8 Daytona Court, O'Fallon,
10	Missouri.
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
12	MS. VIEL: So I am here because I'm concerned
13	about our environment. And I'm not getting paid for this.
14	I've probably spent hundreds of dollars out of my own
15	pocket. I only make take home like 2,000 a month. And
16	I pay, you know, my heart and soul to get the word out to
17	you guys. It really does impact our lives. And I'm doing
18	it again tonight.
19	So one of my big concerns is climate change.
20	I found out about it four years ago listening to the radio.
21	And sure enough, it's happening and it's bad. And I'll
22	just go over it a little quickly for everybody here to know
23	what's going on. We're up 1 degree Celsius, Fahrenheit.
24	You know, it's all relative. We're up. And we're seeing a
25	warmer atmosphere, warmer oceans. And we're due to go up 6

to 10 degrees by the end of this century. So that's my 1 2 grandchildren's lives that their children will see, 6 to 3 10. 4 If we're up one right now and we're feeling 5 the effects we're feeling, what's it going to be like at 10 degrees up? Even if we work really hard though, 6 7 renewable energy like wind energy that doesn't create 8 greenhouse gases like the fossil fuels, we'll be up 9 3 degrees. Pick a year, pick a decade where it might get pretty miserable for your kids too and your grandkids. It 10 11 will happen. Just pick one of those years. 12 That's why I'm here, because I'm just not going to let it happen without trying to make it better. 13 14 We're already in a position where we've got enough greenhouse gases. It will continue to go up even about 15 16 another degree. Those gases are up there. It's kind of like we have a blanket on our bed and still not warmed up 17 yet. It will go up another degree. It's just a matter of 18 19 time. It's called thermal imbalance. So we've got to transition now. 20 21 We're down in the summer by 50 percent. That's a big air-conditioner for us here in the United 22 23 States, and it matters. The ocean has gone from a level of 24 7.6 to 7.3. They say that half of the corral reef is dead now. The oceans are warmer. Those warmer oceans and 25

warmer atmospheres contain -- have more water molecules and
 they accumulate and they come in off the gulf stream to
 Missouri for more deluges. More evaporation means more
 droughts. Imagine at 10 degrees, 6 degrees more just in
 this century.

б My family has also been in Missouri since 7 forever, 1820. I did a family history. My family's been 8 here since 1618, all of these generations. And just to watch it go in my lifetime doesn't seem very pleasant. 9 Ι grew up on a farm. And on the farm, we tried to move one 10 cattle from one farm to the next. And you have to get the 11 12 cattle to go, and they don't want to go. They are munching on the grass, they are pretty happy. But you get that lead 13 14 cow going through that gate, the others will follow. And 15 that's where we're at right now. The lead cow is going 16 through the gate.

We've got to transition to clean renewable energy, get off these fossil fuels that's creating these greenhouse gases and creating this pollution and climate change and greenhouse gases. It is a pollution. There's other pollutions associated with these fossil fuels, water and air. All are important.

23 This wind energy, I want the farmers
24 compensated. They can be compensated. There's enough
25 money to compensate them. And that will help make them pay

1	their bills and live, I hope. Thank you.
2	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions?
3	CHAIRMAN HALL: No questions. Thank you.
4	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Next witness,
6	Kent Denson.
7	KENT DENSON,
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 full name
12	and spell your last name.
13	MR. DENSON: My name is Kent Denson. That's
14	D-e-n-s-o-n.
15	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
16	MR. DENSON: Chesterfield in St. Louis County.
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
18	MR. DENSON: I've been a Missouri resident
19	since 1980. I retired from a technical career in 2014 and
20	now volunteer in a variety of capacities. I have no
21	personal stake in the Grain Belt Express Clean Line
22	project. But after independent study of the plans and the
23	expected outcomes of this project, I strongly support it as
24	providing significant benefits to residents all over the
25	State of Missouri.
1	

1	The economic benefits for Missourians and
2	abroad are multifaceted. Estimated at more than
3	\$32 million in landowner compensation, more than \$7 million
4	in annual local tax revenue along with transmission line's
5	path, more than 1,500 great paying Missouri construction
6	and manufacturing jobs during the multi-year construction
7	of the project, and saving millions of dollars annually for
8	rate payers in these counties and entities that contract
9	for a portion of the 500 megawatts of clean renewable wind
10	power in Missouri, part of that \$2 million that the
11	Hannibal person mentioned.
12	This delivered wind energy will also make a
13	significant contribution to meeting the requirements of
14	Missouri's renewable energy standard. Less directly
15	quantifiable, but still credibly crucial, is setting
16	Missouri on a path of reducing the impact of energy
17	production and consumption for the health of Missourians
18	and the health of the planet.
19	Substituting non-polluting wind energy for
20	energy produced by burning coal will decrease generation of
21	air pollution causing or pollution causing respiratory
22	distress such as asthma, among other ailments. Burning
23	less coal also creates less coal ash which threatens water
24	supplies with toxic metals. Wind energy can also provide
25	energy produced by natural gas, which while cleaner burning

1	than coal can still generate toxic pollution when produced
2	by hydraulic frac, for example.
3	Regardless of the pollution source, natural
4	gas still releases powerful greenhouse can still release
5	the powerful greenhouse gas methane during drilling,
6	transport and storage. Burning either coal or natural gas
7	produces the carbon dioxide emissions contributing to the
8	now readily observable and scientifically attributed
9	climate disruptions occurring all over the world today and
10	which affect our future. Thank you very much.
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Any questions?
12	Thank you, sir.
13	COMMISSIONER RUPP: Thank you.
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Jonathan Lehmann?
15	JONATHAN LEHMANN,
16	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
17	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
18	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
20	spell your last name.
21	MR. LEHMANN: My name is Jonathan Lehmann, and
22	I'm from University City, St. Louis County in Missouri.
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: How do you spell that last
24	name?
25	MR. LEHMANN: L-e-h-m-a-n-n.

1	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir. Please go
2	ahead.
3	MR. LEHMANN: As a creative strategist and
4	designer, I've long been involved with agricultural
5	marketing, meeting daily with farmers throughout the
6	Midwest. I understand the opposition to Grain Belt Express
7	and the need to preserve farmland from the intrusion of yet
8	another power line. However, everyone, farmers included,
9	receive benefit from the electricity that must travel over
10	farms.
11	Grain Belt Express is a merchant line, meaning
12	investors are willing to front the cost of easements and
13	construction of a line and tie them to wind energy to be
14	sited in western Kansas. More wind turbulence could be
15	built if only there was a way to move the electricity to
16	markets in the east. Grain Belt Express is one of the
17	answers and there is a need in Missouri for renewable
18	energy.
19	Missouri overwhelmingly passed Proposition C
20	in 2008 requiring utilities to gradually increase their use
21	of renewable energy annually to 15 percent. To date,
22	renewable energy makes up 1 percent of the electrical
23	generation in the state. And Missouri continues to be one
24	of the highest users of coal for electrical generation.
25	Grain Belt Express will deliver 500 megawatts

1	of low cost electricity, enough to power 200,000 homes.
2	Supplier agreements with Missouri companies would offer
3	temporary construction and permanent jobs. Participating
4	municipal utilities could save over 10 million annually in
5	energy costs, as Hannibal as the folk from Hannibal has
6	just testified.
7	I urge the Missouri Public Service Commission
8	to see Grain Belt Express has a benefit for all Missourians
9	and to allow it and renewable low cost wind energy to move
10	forward. Thank you again.
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir.
12	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Kelly Sherman.
14	KELLY SHERMAN,
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	MS. SHERMAN: Kelly Sherman, S-h-e-r-m-a-n.
21	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?
22	MS. SHERMAN: New London, Missouri.
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
24	MS. SHERMAN: All of the landowners have
25	stories, and this is our personal story and I feel

1	compelled to come and tell you. My husband and I had met
2	in 2002. We'd both been divorced. We had debt. We could
3	have filed bankruptcy, but we didn't. We worked really
4	hard to own a piece of land on 40 acres, and we diligently
5	worked on improving that land. We even have had job losses
6	and health issues, but we just pursued on.
7	We call it Sherman Mountain, and it's where we
8	want to be. We have a home base for seven children and 12
9	grandchildren there. And they come and stay all the time.
10	Three of our grown children are in the military and they've
11	served overseas. They would like to come back and build
12	right on our property. And the proposed area where Grain
13	Belt wants to cross our land will divide our land
14	diagonally over 20 acres that has been deeded separately
15	for them. And I just want to know, who could or would
16	build and bring their families to live in what seems to be
17	such a dangerous electrical zone? And they were livid
18	about it when I told them. They've all signed onto the
19	documents saying that they are against it.
20	But the irony of this is what really sickens
21	me, because our sons are willing to die for this country,
22	but the very land that they call home can be taken and be
23	devalued forever. It will be unsafe for them to build
24	their homes and raise their children on if this goes
25	through. And this is our history. I would like to leave

1 it up to you to know if we're going to have a future. 2 Thank you. 3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Next name is Michael Dobson. 4 MICHAEL DOBSON, 5 of lawful age, having been first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the 6 7 case aforesaid, deposes and says in reply to oral 8 interrogatories propounded as follows, to-wit: 9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and spell your last name. 10 MR. DOBSON: Michael Dobson, D-o-b-s-o-n. 11 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live? 13 MR. DOBSON: I live in Hannibal, Missouri. 14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. MR. DOBSON: I'd like to welcome you all to 15 16 Hannibal. Again, my name is Mike Dobson. I'm presently serving my third term as a city council member representing 17 the citizens of the Hannibal in the second ward. I also 18 19 serve as the -- I'm the council representative for the 20 planning and zoning in the city. On February 2nd, Mark Lawlor of Clean Line 21 Express Partners came before the Hannibal City Council and 22 described the transmission line project in detail by 23 24 starting first and foremost expressing the cost savings. He stated that the power delivered would be in the 25

neighborhood of 3 cents per kilowatt-hour less, which is significantly lower than the current wholesale rate. He stated the unique opportunity would create thousands of jobs during the construction of the transmission line and the construction of the converter station. And he also stated that hundreds of thousands of dollars will be paid to the counties that the lines went through.

8 At that time, there was a couple ways for our 9 board of public works to benefit. There's only one now. That's to buy power directly from the line. That night a 10 vote was taken, but the board of public works manager was 11 12 authorized to negotiate for the city to obtain pricing for 13 the City of Hannibal. And then over the past few days, 14 I've done investigation on my own asking citizens of my ward about their knowledge of Clean Line, of which I found 15 16 that most have none. But when explained the prices for electric could be lower, they are all in favor. 17

Hannibal's board of public works projects that 18 19 the annual savings for utility customers to be up to \$2 million by purchasing 40 percent of their electric 20 21 through the Clean Line transmission project. And Hannibal has a large manufacturing company that I believe could use 22 23 the benefit of marketing strategies, that being that they 24 reduce their products with green energy, which will be an advantage to the company, possibly bringing more jobs to 25

1	the	region.
-	CIIC	TCGTOIL.

2	It was kind of funny. I was driving home last
3	night. And keep in mind Hannibal has a developing
4	industrial park on the west side of Hannibal. And I don't
5	know if you listen to Sean Hannity, know who Sean is, but I
6	was listening to his show. Anyway, he had a gentleman on
7	and they were talking about the Golden Triangle that's in
8	Mississippi State.
9	Joe Max Higgins is the brains behind the
10	operation. And he's brought to Mississippi, a poor state,
11	he's brought good manufacturing jobs to the poor area and
12	attracted \$6 billion of advanced industry. They build
13	steel mills there, average rates of about \$80,000 a year,
14	which has more than doubled some people's wages in the
15	area. They brought in an engine manufacturer, a
16	manufacturer of drums. They developed infrastructure,
17	large sewer and electric and roads, and they recruited
18	investors which should expect the returns of somewhere in
19	the neighborhood of \$250,000 a year, but they've been more
20	than quadrupled that. Their returns are about a million
21	dollars a year.
22	One of the statements that were made were that
23	manufacturers don't come to your town to employ people.
24	They come to your town to make profits. So one of the key

1	infrastructure. So I ask you tonight to help Hannibal
2	build their own wind triangle with our industrial park and
3	rule favorably to the line. Thank you.
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Justin Hickman.
5	JUSTIN HICKMAN,
6	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn to testify the
7	truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the
8	case aforesaid, deposes and says in reply to oral
9	interrogatories propounded as follows, to-wit:
10	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
11	spell your last name.
12	MR. HICKMAN: Justin Hickman, H-i-c-k-m-a-n.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
14	MR. HICKMAN: Ralls County, Missouri.
15	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
16	MR. HICKMAN: I want to start off with saying
17	that nobody understands the sacred entity of a family farm
18	as much as I do. The farm that I was raised on, the farm
19	that I was taught to work on, the farm that I fell in love
20	with my wife on, was auctioned off when my dad passed away
21	at 54 years old. So that created a burning desire for me
22	to be able to acquire my own land and pass that down to my
23	sons.
24	When Pam and I found a piece of land that we
25	could afford, we jumped right on it. Two weeks before our

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Page	26
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1	closing, we found out that Grain Belt Express wants to come
2	through and put a power line in. After we sat down and
3	talked with Grain Belt and looked over their initial
4	offers, we decided that the investment we were going to
5	make for our family actually became significantly better at
6	that point. We felt like their initial offers were
7	extremely a good faith offer starting negotiations from, so
8	we went on through and purchased the property. Since then,
9	we've dealt with Grain Belt. They've been completely fair
10	with us, no pressure. They haven't pushed us to try to
11	coerce us into doing anything.
12	As far as benefits are concerned, you know, I
13	hear a man testify how a farm's been in his family since
14	1935. I hope that one day my sons and my grandsons will be
15	able to have this farm with the help of Grain Belt and they
16	can say that that farm's been in my family since 2014.
17	As far as the personal benefits, as the leader
18	of my family of six, I feel like I cannot oppose Grain Belt
19	because of the financial position that they put my family
20	in. And I hope that, as the leaders of our state, you guys
21	will find that because of the financial benefit that they
22	will bring to our schools, that they will bring to our
23	local libraries, our local communities, our children, I
24	have four kids in the local school district, I hope that
25	you guys will find that those benefits way outweigh a

1	balance in the downfalls. We too wanted to build on the
2	property and we chose to purchase a house down the street.
3	So I feel like there are ways to work around some of the
4	issues that come with it. I thank you for your time.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.
6	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you. RC Harlow?
7	RC HARLOW,
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	MR. HARLOW: RC Harlow, H-a-r-l-o-w.
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live, sir?
15	MR. HARLOW: Ralls County.
16	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
17	MR. HARLOW: I want to thank you guys for your
18	time. People have said the same thing, but I really admire
19	you for the hours you've spent. You have a great
20	responsibility on this one issue, and I can't imagine all
21	the other issues you have to deal with. But this is a big
22	issue that's going to affect a lot of people in a lot of
23	different ways. And I know you've been overwhelmed with
24	information from both directions as we have.
25	I'm a lifelong resident of Ralls County. My

1	family's been there for four generation. I've been a
2	county commissioner for eight years, and I'm just going to
3	start in January my third term. And I've been elected to
4	represent what I think is the best interest for the
5	citizens and the people in our county. I've looked at both
6	sides of this issue to the best of my ability. I'll be
7	honest with you guys, I'm not a highly educated person, but
8	I can use a little common sense. I grew up this way.
9	You know, I've tried to find the benefit that
10	we could have. You know, we've been told of the projected
11	taxes that may come in and we've been told that we're going
12	to be able to buy electricity for little to nothing if this
13	project goes through. But there's several issues as I
14	represent my county that need to be addressed. And you
15	guys need to, when you make your decision, consider some of
16	these things.
17	If this line is built, I worry about the
18	health and safety of our citizens. I've heard all kinds of
19	stuff, the same stuff you've heard about maybe the health
20	effects from this line. I do not understand what might be
21	there. I'm not saying there's not any. There probably is
22	some. But the health and safety our citizens.
23	Our emergency personnel involves counting our
24	rural fire departments, our rural electric cooperative. If
25	this thing is built, we don't have the capabilities in a

1	disaster. If a tornado or something come through and this
2	big massive power line goes down, at this point we don't
3	have any ability to handle that kind of disaster.
4	Our county road system, our gravel roads, to
5	handle a project of this magnitude with the large
6	equipment, the large trucks, the heavy loads, our roads
7	aren't going to hold up. I'll tell you that from working
8	at it every day as a county commissioner.
9	The use of eminent domain, and I think that's
10	probably the main issue with most people, you know, I don't
11	believe that these people that have worked hard all their
12	lives to acquire what they've acquired, that someone should
13	be able to come in and take their property. Also, the
14	devaluation of people's property. Let's say I have
15	property and I let Clean Line go across my property on my
16	side of the fence and put up a bunch of poles. What's it
17	going to do to the guy next door that built a house two or
18	three years before that? What's he going to get out of
19	that except his property devalued?
20	You know, I kind of see how this project could
21	adversely affect our farmers, our health, our safety, our
22	roads, our property rights and our property values. Many
23	people say they support this project, and I understand this
24	perfectly, but if it was coming through their backyard they
25	wouldn't be supporting it either.

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I don't think that the projected taxes or cheap electricity we've been promised will offset the adverse effects to our citizens in the county that we may have from this project. I only ask you people with great respect, I know you're doing your job, I ask you with great respect that you seriously consider the questions I rose to you, and I ask you that you would deny this application. Thank you very much. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Eli Horowitz. ELI HOROWITZ, 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: Please state your name and spell your last name. MR. HOROWITZ: Eli Horowitz, H-o-r-o-w-i-t-z. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? MR. HOROWITZ: St. Louis, Missouri.

19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

20 MR. HOROWITZ: I'm a student at Washington 21 University and a resident of St.~Louis. And not only have 22 I not been paid to come here tonight, I've spent the last 23 semester volunteering my time for free to make my campus 24 administrators aware of the harmful impacts that coal fired 25 power plants have on the public health of the St.~Louis

1 region.

25

2 Specifically, many of the plants in our area don't have scrubbers, a basic safety feature which has been 3 4 required since the seventies. This means that sulfur dioxide and nitrous oxide cause elevated levels of asthma 5 in St.~Louis. Specifically, the childhood rate is three 6 7 times the national average. Not only that, the number one 8 cause of emergency room admittances at St.~Louis Children's Hospital is asthma. This is a public health crisis that 9 can no longer be ignored. We must search for energy 10 alternatives. 11

12 Now, as a student at one of the top tier 13 universities in the country, I can tell you that students 14 who go to these universities have a lot of options. And one of the things that they make their decision on where 15 16 they are going to go to school is based on whether or not that school is sourcing its electricity in a clean way and 17 whether or not that school is treating with its source of 18 19 electricity the residents of the area the right way. It's in the interest of Missouri to keep on attracting these 20 21 students. And as we hear from other testimony tonight, there is significant student interest in clean sources of 22 23 energy. 24 Now, there are two other things that impact my

testimony here. And specifically, I'm graduating soon and

1	I'm going to be looking for a job. I'd like to stay in
2	Missouri. And what I want is a great economy, and Clean
3	Line is going to create jobs which is going to improve the
4	overall gross domestic product in Missouri and it's going
5	to create a better job market for everyone. Beyond that, I
6	also want to know that if I'm going to stay in a state that
7	the air is going to be clean and that my sister, who has
8	asthma, is going to be able to come visit me without having
9	an asthma attack.
10	For all of these reasons, I really hope that
11	you take the best path for all Missourians and approve
12	Clean Line. Thank you.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Erin Kollar.
14	ERIN KOLLAR,
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	MS. KOLLAR: My name is Erin Kollar,
21	K-o-l-l-a-r.
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
23	MS. KOLLAR: I live in St.~Louis, Missouri.
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
25	MS. KOLLAR: I'm a student at St. Louis

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1	University, and I want to explain why I am in support of
2	Clean Line. The main reason is that everybody has a right
3	to clean air, everybody. And the fact is that coal plants
4	infringe on that right to our clean air. And as the Public
5	Service Commission, I think it's important to recognize the
6	health disparities that come from living near coal plants
7	and what happens when you are breathing in heavily polluted
8	air.
9	I don't want anybody to feel that their land
10	is being stripped away from them. I understand why this is
11	really upsetting when farmland has been in your family for
12	generations and you've worked your butt off to make it what
13	it is. But the fact is that this isn't just about Ralls
14	County. This is about all Missouri. This is about all of
15	our futures.
16	Clean energy is coming to America, to the
17	world. And I want Missouri to be a leading force in clean
18	energy. This is the Show Me State. I want you guys to
19	show me that you care about the health of our citizens and
20	I want you to show me that you want to invest in our
21	future. Thank you for coming today.
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Aaron Morris.
23	AARON MORRIS,
24	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
25	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the

Page 34

truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: 1 2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and spell your last name. 3 4 MR. MORRIS: Aaron Morris, M-o-r-r-i-s. 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? MR. MORRIS: I currently live in Houston, 6 7 Texas. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. 8 9 MR. MORRIS: Like I said, my name is Aaron I am Director of Operations for PAR Electric, who 10 Morris. is a partner of Clean Line on this job. I am originally 11 from Columbia, Missouri. I grew up in Missouri, went to 12 college in Missouri. I want to say -- I want to thank the 13 14 commission for organizing these hearings. 15 I want to say that I am respectful of all the 16 landowners who have come here tonight. My family, my father's side, has farmed and continues to farm land in 17 Scotland County, Missouri, been there for over 80 years. 18 19 So I truly do understand the concerns being raised here. 20 I want to assure the commission and everyone 21 here, PAR Electric was founded in 1954 in Missouri. We have built thousands of miles of electric transmission 22 23 lines over the past 60 years. We've grown and survived and 24 thrived in this industry because we are respectful of 25 landowners and the environment and the safety of our

employees and because we deliver quality projects to our 1 2 partners on time. We employ more than 600 full-time employees in 3 4 the State of Missouri and expect that this job will allow 5 us to manage more than 1,300 jobs per year during the life of this project. Like I said before, we are respectful of 6 landowners. I wouldn't be doing this job if we weren't. 7 8 And we are respectful of the land on which we work. Not 9 only because it's the right thing to do, but because our partners require us to do it. Thank you very much. 10 Thank you. Kathy Peterson. 11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: 12 KATHY PETERSON, of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to 13 14 testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: 15 16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and spell your last name. 17 MS. PETERSON: Kathy Peterson, 18 19 P-e-t-e-r-s-o-n. 20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? 21 MS. PETERSON: St. Louis City. 22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 23 MS. PETERSON: Thank you. I have testified at 24 other Public Service Commissions over the last 35 years on other issues. And it always troubles me deeply in my heart 25

1 that it seems so often urban dwellers are pitted against 2 rural people. I feel like we all want healthy places to 3 raise our families. We all want a peaceful place to be. 4 And my hope is that Clean Line can give each of us some of 5 what we want.

What I want is clean renewable energy. And it 6 7 is the wave of the future. This is Missouri's chance to 8 ride that wave. The desire for clean non-coal energy was 9 mandated in 2008 when Missouri voters approved the renewable energy standard by more than a two-to-one margin. 10 For the past several years, I have chosen to pay higher 11 12 rates for electricity through the AmerenUE Pure Power 13 Program. While wind energy should be cheaper than coal, I 14 and many other UE customers, choose to pay more because we so desperately want to have access to wind-generated 15 electricity. This project will double the amount of 16 wind-generated electricity available to Missouri consumers. 17 That's important to me. 18

My home in the city is 500 yards from a very busy rail line. All day and all night, trains leaving with coal are going both directions, coal coming from Illinois headed west, coal coming from Wyoming headed east. And I worry about the effects of all that coal dust on my family's health. I'm a retired health and child development teacher in the Maplewood School District very

close to where I live. Those same rail lines run through 1 2 the heart of that school district. And I am convinced it is coal dust that has 3 4 caused the high rates of asthma among children in that 5 community where we have high rates of absenteeism from school which impacts children's success, which impacts 6 7 their ability to become responsible adults. And we hear a 8 lot about the school to prison pipeline. I think coal 9 plays a role in all of that. While I'm aware there are many residents who 10 oppose the Grain Belt Express, and we're hearing from them 11 12 tonight, because they fear the use of eminent domain or 13 decreased property values. I also know that we must offer 14 Missourians a healthy affordable alternative to toxic coal trains. And I ask those people in opposition to this to 15 16 also consider the impact in urban areas where we must live, because we have no other choices, right next to these 17 railroad tracks and are being -- our health is being 18 19 impacted. So progress always has cost. The human costs 20 21 of building a clean power line across our state seem to me 22 to be manageable. Property owners can be reimbursed, people can build their houses on -- if you own 40 acres of 23 24 land, build your house farther away from the power lines. 25 Compare this to the vast collateral damage caused by filthy

1	and reilage running negt our forms and through our
	coal railcars running past our farms and through our
2	cities.
3	I urge Clean Line to continue to work with the
4	rural communities to help alleviate some of their concerns.
5	But I also urge the Public Service Commission to realize
б	that now is the time to do everything we can to end our
7	reliance on dirty coal and expand our ability to access
8	renewable energy. Thank you.
9	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. George Walley.
10	GEORGE WALLEY,
11	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
12	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
13	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
15	spell your last name.
16	MR. WALLEY: George Walley, W-a-l-l-e-y.
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live, sir?
18	MR. WALLEY: I live here in Hannibal.
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
20	MR. WALLEY: I thank you for having this
21	hearing in Hannibal. I appreciate it. Thank you for
22	making it available to all the folks in our area. I've
23	been a resident of Hannibal, grew up in Hannibal, lived
24	several years out of Hannibal, but for the past 15 years
25	I've been an economic developer serving Hannibal, Marion

1 County, north of Ralls County.

I'm here today in that capacity, to convey the 2 concerns that the manufacturers have in the region for the 3 4 stabilization of electrical rates. I sympathize. I have very dear friends in Ralls County and I don't have an 5 answer for the landowners that are going to be affected by 6 7 the lines. But I do have to -- in my capacity, I do have 8 to express the concern I have for what it takes to grow our 9 communities. 10 Having several key manufacturing facilities,

unit costs, production costs are the key to expanding, 11 12 staying here and attracting new businesses. This past year we've had probably for the first time in -- well, in the 13 14 past couple years, in the time that I've been doing this, more and more of the RFIs. Requests for information 15 16 proposals for companies to move to the Hannibal area include -- they want to know what the renewable power 17 components are. Currently we don't have any that we can 18 19 really quote that matters to them.

This opportunity -- I don't make the same claims throughout this project -- I've been following this project from the beginning. I don't try to sell people on lower electrical rates. In my world, which is mainly the manufacturing world, it's stabilization in the production and growth of those rates. And the renewable component

1	gets us something more than we something more that we
2	can add to our marketing to bring companies to our area.
3	And we have several challenges in rural areas,
4	the cost of the utilities and the workforce. You know, I
5	don't know how many times I've been asked over the years by
6	parents, what do we have to do to get jobs that bring our
7	kids back? Manufacturers need economical components for
8	production. I know one of our manufacturers, I'm not
9	allowed to use any of their names, most of these companies
10	don't want to be in the newspaper tomorrow, but they I'm
11	not talking about one. There are I sit down with all of
12	them. The one manufacturer in our area made the decision
13	just two years ago to defer expansions to one of their
14	other plants because and that one case, it was strictly
15	the electrical cost.
16	So the challenge before us as we grow our
17	community within a 30-mile radius of Hannibal, there's
18	135,000 people. So I use numbers like that to sell them on
19	the workforce component, because where we live, 30 miles is
20	30 minutes to work. But I can't get past the production
21	components like the cost of electricity, water, sewer,
22	those issues.
23	They also asked me about the employers tell
24	me that they have difficulty attracting the high tech
25	skills they need that are in the newest generation,

Page 41

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1	millennials, whatever. They can't get them to move to the
2	rural areas. Quality of life issues, whether it's biking
3	trails or the attraction to big cities, that's something
4	that we need to deal with. But they do want to live in
5	communities that are sensitive to recycling and sensitive
6	to the renewables component.
7	So this opportunity for us, as I see it, with
8	the manufacturers in our community is to stabilize rates,
9	reduce growth of electrical rates, and add the marketing
10	component to attract new businesses to our community.
11	Thank you.
12	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Debbie Edmunds.
13	Are these things that you want to submit prior to your
14	testimony?
15	MS. EDMUNDS: Yes.
16	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Bring those to the
17	court reporter. Those will be Exhibits 14 through 18.
18	(Exhibit 14-18 marked for identification.)
19	DEBBIE EDMUNDS,
20	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn to testify the
21	truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the
22	case aforesaid, deposes and says in reply to oral
23	interrogatories propounded as follows, to-wit:
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
25	spell your last name.

1	MS. EDMUNDS: Debbie Edmunds, E-d-m-u-n-d-s.
2	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?
3	MS. EDMUNDS: Palmyra, Missouri, Marion
4	County.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
6	MS. EDMUNDS: So here we are again, coming
7	together for a common goal. We have worked a very long
8	time to protect our private property rights from a
9	speculative business venture looking to cash in on our
10	heritage for their own financial gain. This was defeated a
11	year ago, and I'm really at a loss as to why we are here
12	fighting it again.
13	The Clean Line investors have unlimited money
14	and resources to throw at this project, big billion dollar
15	fat cats against regular hard-working farmers, small town
16	good people. These people choose a rural life, which you
17	can choose where you live. If you don't like the pollution
18	in the city, you can choose to move to the country, a life
19	that city folks would never understand, beautiful country,
20	wide open space, wildlife, a simple quiet country life.
21	I'm the proud daughter of Darryl and Jenny
22	Caswell. We live on Scenic Highway 79. And just a fun
23	fact, coal trains go right past several spots on Highway
24	79. Their farm has been in the family for nearly 100
25	years, passed down from my great great grandparents. This

proposed plan will run transmission lines through pastures,
hey fields, and barns on my parents' farm.
Clean Line says they will pay a fair wage for
the inconvenience of them stealing people's land. But let
me tell you that these people do not care about the money.
My family has worked hard to hold on to our land and how it
is being now it is being threatened by rich folks from
Texas. I don't see how this should even have to be voted
on again. It is common sense that our basic human rights
are being violated to make the rich even richer. It is
stealing when you forcibly take someone's land against
their will.
We oppose this, and I respectfully ask the
panel to do what's right. We ask you to represent the
landowners and vote this down. I have submitted photos of
our family farm, and I would like for you to look at those
pictures and imagine giant transmission lines in the
pictures that I submitted spread across the beautiful
landscape. The picture of the children that you have is
the next generation that will inherit that land. It will
some day be theirs. And as the mother and aunt to those
kids, I naturally want them to be able to enjoy the
untouched beauty of the land as generations of my family
untouched beauty of the land as generations of my family have before.

Page	$\Delta \Delta$
rage	44

1	future. Make it so that they can't reapply year after
2	year. Vote it down for good. If we let Clean Line do
3	this, imagine how many other companies will try to do the
4	same exact thing, and this will set a dangerous precedent.
5	And before long, there will be no land left to steal. And
6	thank you for having your meeting in Hannibal. We
7	appreciate your time being here.
8	And I also have a petition. Do I need to mail
9	that to Jeff City or can I give it to you all?
10	JUDGE BUSHMANN: You can mail it or you can
11	submit it as part of your testimony today.
12	MS. EDMUNDS: Okay.
13	(Exhibit 19 marked for identification.)
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Next name is Carrie Goodman.
15	CARRIE GOODMAN,
16	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn to testify the
17	truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the
18	case aforesaid, deposes and says in reply to oral
19	interrogatories propounded as follows, to-wit:
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
21	spell your last name.
22	MS. GOODMAN: Carrie Goodman, G-o-o-d-m-a-n.
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
24	MS. GOODMAN: Hannibal, Missouri.
25	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

1	MS. GOODMAN: My name is Carrie Goodman. I've
2	been a Hannibal resident for almost eight years now. I'm
3	the public relations coordinator and the key accounts
4	manager for the board of public works, which provides
5	electric, water and sewer service to Hannibal residents.
6	I'm also on the board for the Northeast Missouri Economic
7	Development Council.
8	I would like to briefly comment on the
9	positive impact that I believe the Grain Belt Express
10	transmission line would bring to Hannibal residents. In my
11	job, I have the opportunity to speak with many of our
12	utility customers on a daily basis. Part of that
13	communication involves the yearly customer satisfaction
14	survey which addresses customer attitudes and opinions on a
15	variety of topics concerning the utility. We have
16	conducted this survey for the past six years. And one of
17	the key questions we ask each year is, what is the single
18	most important thing that Hannibal Board of Public Works
19	can do to improve? Every single year the same overwhelming
20	response is given, lower your rates.
21	The Grain Belt Express project has the
22	potential to deliver enough low cost energy to Missouri to
23	power about 200,000 homes and to save participating
24	municipal utilities over \$10 million on energy costs
25	annually. Those savings would be directly disbursed to

1	Hannibal electric customers resulting in lower electric
2	rates each year. And with the median household income of
3	Hannibal of just above \$37,000 a year, our customers are in
4	desperate need of these savings. Without them, residents
5	would end up paying more for their electricity each year
б	with no end in sight.
7	Another opportunity that the Grain Belt
8	Express transmission line would bring to the Hannibal area
9	would be providing clean renewable energy to residents and
10	to businesses. As I mentioned earlier, I'm the key
11	accounts manager for the BPW, which means that I facilitate
12	a partnership between the utility and key businesses in
13	Hannibal, businesses that provide jobs and services that
14	drive the overall success of our community.
15	Working with these large employers, I've found
16	that many of them have a rigorous and time sensitive goal
17	of promote the environmentally and socially responsible
18	practices throughout their entire company. And many of
19	these companies have already been asking us for low cost
20	clean energy. In a town where most residents live paycheck
21	to paycheck and attracting new business is extremely
22	difficult, we need to position Missouri as an attractive
23	place to access low cost clean energy. I encourage the
24	Public Service Commission to rule in favor of the Grain
25	Belt Express project so that our town and towns across the

1	state can benefit from the service. Thank you.
2	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Mark Grieshaber.
3	MARK GRIESHABER,
4	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn to testify the
5	truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the
6	case aforesaid, deposes and says in reply to oral
7	interrogatories propounded as follows, to-wit:
8	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
9	spell your last name.
10	MR. GRIESHABER: My name is Mark Grieshaber.
11	Last name is spelled G-r-i-e-s-h-a-b-e-r. And I'm a
12	resident of Ralls County.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
14	MR. GRIESHABER: My wife and I have been
15	residents of Marion and Ralls County for the past six
16	years. I would add that we've lived in towns and areas of
17	in similar size to this area for most of our lives. In the
18	past 40 years, I've been in the financial industry,
19	financial service industry, and have held leadership
20	positions in various economic development organizations
21	across most of Missouri. I currently serve on the
22	executive committee of the Northeast Missouri Economic
23	Development Council and share the Workforce Development
24	Committee. I will focus my comments this evening on that
25	subject and its public benefit.
1	

1	While the topic of this evening's forum is
2	more about an energy distribution infrastructure across our
3	geographic footprint, I would argue that we're also
4	debating its impact on our current and future economy.
5	Energy use is either the cause or the facilitator of
6	economic growth and it touches every sediment. It touches
7	our homes, our schools, our churches, our manufacturers,
8	food production, agri business, retail business, tourism,
9	government. Everything is reliant on the access to
10	affordable energy.
11	As community leaders, we share a mutual
12	responsibility to look out for the future of our citizens
13	including the protection of the over 23,000 jobs in this
14	two-county area. The Institute of Energy Research
15	completed analysis last year in August that studied the
16	impact of higher energy rates on economic growth and
17	employment simulating a 10 percent and a 25 percent
18	increase in electricity prices. Overall, the regions hit
19	the hardest by high energy prices are areas served by rural
20	electric cooperatives which prominently feature critical
21	industries like agriculture and manufacturing.
22	The study estimated the effects of the
23	10 percent and 25 percent linear increase in prices over
24	the 2016 to 2040 timeline. Results were measured against
25	the baseline which was a business as usual forecast with no

1	price change. Under the 10 percent scenario, the area of
2	the United States serviced by rural co-ops would experience
3	average annual job loss of 360,000 employees from 2020 to
4	2040. The rest of the United States would see a job loss
5	of about 522,000. Rural co-op areas would see annual gross
6	domestic product reductions averaging \$48 billion
7	accumulating to nearly a trillion over 20 years. In rural
8	co-op areas, the average decline per capita of disposable
9	income would be \$479 over that same period. Without boring
10	you on the data with a limited amount of time, on the
11	25 percent scenario it would obviously illustrate
12	exponentially higher impact.
13	So the study confirms the negative impact on
14	increased energy prices in rural areas like ours is much
15	harder on a per capita basis. There are several people
16	here this evening that have or will speak to the public
17	benefit that the Grain Belt Express line impacts to our
18	schools with over a million dollars of tax revenues. So
19	I'll leave that to them.
20	But my point in speaking this evening is to
21	express the support and the need for more competitive
22	energy costs. It impacts jobs. It impacts our future.
23	Progress can sometimes bring anxiety, especially when it
24	involves a necessary nuisance being built in our own
25	backyard. But let's be mindful that we are the stewards

1	that the next generation is relying on to make it better.
2	It's up to us to find a way, and the opportunity is
3	knocking with the Clean Line project. Thank you.
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Sir, could you wait a minute?
5	Could you wait a minute?
6	COMMISSIONER RUPP: Sir, you mentioned a
7	study. Could you reference that study or provide it to the
8	court reporter, or can you send it
9	MR. GRIESHABER: I can do that. It was
10	completed in August 2015 by the Institute for Energy
11	Research. So if I can get an address to email it to, I can
12	do that.
13	COMMISSIONER RUPP: At the table outside, the
14	PSC staff will give you an email address to send that in.
15	MR. GRIESHABER: Thank you.
16	COMMISSIONER RUPP: Thank you.
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Robert Stevenson.
18	ROBERT STEVENSON,
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. STEVENSON: Robert Stevenson,
25	S-t-e-v-e-n-s-o-n.

1	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?
2	MR. STEVENSON: I live in Ralls County.
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
4	MR. STEVENSON: I'm a registered Professional
5	Engineer. I'm also the general manager for the Hannibal
6	Board of Public Works. The Board of Public Works provides
7	electric, water and wastewater services to the Hannibal
8	community. I am also on the executive committee of the
9	Northeast Missouri Economic Development Council.
10	My position at the board calls me to be
11	responsible to manage the business of the electric utility.
12	Part of that responsibility involves contracting for
13	various elements of our power supply. I'm very familiar
14	with our costs and the sources. We are almost exclusively
15	a coal-based utility today. We have about 9,000 customers.
16	400 of those are industrial and commercial accounts.
17	Like Carrie said earlier, we meet with our
18	industrial and commercial customers a lot, see how we're
19	doing, what we can do to help them do better. We hear it
20	all the time, your rates are too high. A lot of our
21	manufacturers have facilities in other states and other
22	parts of Missouri. And we are very aware of our
23	competitive position with respect to electric rates
24	industrially, and it's a constant challenge to keep our
25	rates down.

1	The algo regrandible for getting rates or
1	I'm also responsible for setting rates or
2	recommending rate adjustments to our board who makes those
3	choices. We are, as you are well aware, a self-regulated
4	utility through our board of directors. We are continually
5	reviewing our rates, the economy, and our financial
б	condition to ensure low cost and responsible utility
7	operations. We, in fact, lowered our rates to our
8	commercial customers a couple years ago and are looking
9	forward to the day when we can do it again.
10	I can also tell you that the Economic
11	Development Council is constantly reviewing our competitive
12	position with respect to other areas of the state as well
13	as the nation. And from that vantage point, I can tell you
14	that we desperately need the economic shock that this
15	project can bring to Hannibal and to our neighboring
16	communities for the jobs and taxes generated.
17	We are constantly looking for cost savings
18	opportunities for our rate payers. We are not a wealthy
19	city. Carrie mentioned that earlier. Our median household
20	income is among the lowest in the state. Our unemployment
21	is high. This proposed project represents a money saving
22	opportunity for our utility.
23	We expect the price of this wind energy to us
24	is going to be approximately one-third of the price we're
25	paying now for electricity. On an annual basis, we think

1	that's going to be about \$2 million a year. Now our
2	utility business is about \$25 millions a year. So we're
3	looking at roughly 8 to 10 percent savings. Those savings
4	can be expected to be passed on to our customers because we
5	are self-regulated and we're a non-profit agency like other
6	municipal utilities across the state.
7	Additionally, the amount of wind we think we
8	can be able to bite off, if you will, would put us way up
9	in the echelon of green cities across the country. We
10	think we can handle about 40 percent of our energy that
11	we buy wholesale could be wind, as a minimum 25, at a
12	maximum 40 percent. That is a huge bite and well above the
13	mandates that the Public Service Commission has put across
14	the straight. And we think manufacturers would be very
15	glad to get access to this clean energy and we think that
16	it might attract new businesses to town, which we
17	desperately lead as George spoke to earlier.
18	We sympathize with those residents whose farms
19	are being impacted. But I have to speak to you about the
20	benefits to Hannibal. So I thank you for your time and
21	your attention.
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Dan Mosby.
23	DAN MOSBY,
24	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
25	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the

1	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
2	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
3	spell your last name.
4	MR. MOSBY: Dan Mosby, M-o-s-b-y.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?
6	MR. MOSBY: St.~Louis.
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
8	MR. MOSBY: Yes. I just have three short
9	points that I'd like to make. The first is that I support
10	this project because it's in my interest, it's in your
11	interest, it's in everybody's long-term interest to make
12	this transition from polluting carbon burning energy to
13	wind energy, which will at this point, as other people have
14	said, just mitigate, slow down some of the very harmful
15	effects of climate change that will be affecting us.
16	So we have to make this transition to clean
17	energy as a nation. And this wind energy from Kansas is
18	one way that we here in Missouri can participate in, this
19	movement that has to happen. So that's my primary reason
20	for being here. That's why I think it's so important.
21	Second, I'm awfully glad that the energy
22	that's being generated is going to be used here in
23	Missouri. It would be a sad thing if it were just to pass
24	over our state. But the fact that 500 megawatts of energy
25	are going to be used here in Missouri I think makes it a

1	good selling point. The fact that it can be used here in
2	Hannibal, reduce our rates, reduce people's rates here, and
3	in Kirkwood where my family is from, the Kirkwood utility
4	will be able to use that, and proud to say we are a clean
5	energy unit.
6	My last issue is speaking to the concerns of
7	the landowners. They are legitimate concerns. I've been a
8	city council member before in a municipality where there
9	was a development project where eminent domain was an
10	issue. And I listened to citizens' concerns. But I also
11	in that project have seen those concerns evaporate around
12	when the eminent domain was presented in a way so that
13	landowners had were in good negotiating position
14	regarding the sacrifices they had to make.
15	So in these kinds of issues, make sure the
16	landowners have the ability to negotiate around the
17	placement of power lines and get a fair rate for the
18	sacrifices they are making. Thank you.
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. John Saxton.
20	JOHN A. SAXTON,
21	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
22	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
23	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state your
25	name and spell your last name?

1	MR. SAXTON: John A. Saxton, S-a-x-t-o-n.
2	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
3	MR. SAXTON: St.~Louis, Missouri.
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
5	MR. SAXTON: I'm a former assistant city
6	manager and student pilot in Dodd City, Kansas, which I can
7	attest was the windiest city in the country and still is.
8	This wind energy would be a tremendous asset. I now work
9	across the river from AmerenUE's Labadie coal plant. Many
10	people ask me, what is the factory over there? I of course
11	tell them it's not a factory, it's a coal fire generating
12	plant. I don't tell them it's hurting them right now as
13	they look over from the Missouri River at the opposite
14	bank.
15	I also live in a North St. Louis community
16	that has higher asthma rates than most. Gentleman, our
17	communities need clean air. And NASA and NOAA say our
18	planet is warming. As a 24-year military veteran, who is
19	not being paid for this, by the way, our military can even
20	see the effects of rising sea levels and a melting Arctic.
21	Unfortunately the Russians also do too, and they are going
22	to take advantage of it. Thank you.
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Sherry McFarland.
24	SHERRY McFARLAND,
25	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to

1	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
2	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
4	spell your last name.
5	MS. McFARLAND: Sherry McFarland, Jefferson
6	County, Missouri, M-c-F-a-r-l-a-n-d.
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
8	MS. McFARLAND: Yes. I retired in 2011 from a
9	coal operating power plant, Ameren. And I've seen
10	firsthand what happens to people and property from the coal
11	ash, the fly ash. It eats the paint off the cars, the
12	window sills in the neighborhoods around there. All the
13	paint off of their aluminum siding disappears. I've seen
14	people come to work with no health issues, and then within
15	five years they have asthma, many breathing, COPD. It's
16	very dangerous.
17	And I understand people are upset because of
18	eminent domain, which is never pleasant under any
19	situation. Our highways are part of eminent domain. The
20	power plants, the transmission lines that are generating
21	electricity right now, are still being compensated under
22	eminent domain. It's not pleasant. But we need to step up
23	and move towards clean energy. It's here. We only produce
24	about 1 percent of our energy from wind energy.
25	I think about our children. I think about our

1	grandchildren. I come from a family that farms in Hermann,
2	Missouri. I'm sure none of them would like transmission
3	lines going over their property. But at some point, the
4	greater for the good, you know? We've got 105 parcels of
5	land, and that's a lot of land. That's a lot of land and a
6	lot of people being affected by this. But in the long run,
7	I think we all can agree that if we have clean energy we're
8	all better off.
9	No one's ever going to tell you that a
10	coal-fired power plant is a good environment. We were
11	ordered to put in scrubbers many years ago into our
12	precipitators. Precipitators is what I generally had to
13	do. That is the part of the system that removes the fly
14	ash so that it doesn't go out the stacks. Well, they don't
15	work that often. The scrubbers were supposed to make this
16	better, were supposed to help. We bought the scrubbers.
17	Several of the power plants installed the scrubbers,
18	several of the power plants did not. The legislation to
19	force them to do so fell through. So we have power plants
20	here that are just spewing fly ash into the rivers. Even
21	across the river, across the river from the power plant,
22	you can see devastation. It's time to move forward. Our
23	children need it. We need the clean energy, wind and
24	solar. I'd like to see both.
25	And I do sympathize with the people who are

1	affected. But at some point in all of our steps forward
2	into our future, there are those who make the sacrifice.
3	And it's sad, but it's true. And I think we'll all benefit
4	from this in the long run. Thank you.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. The next name I'm
6	going to mess up with, I apologize, Rajiv
7	MR. RAVULAPATI: You got it.
8	RAJIV RAVULAPATI,
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. RAVULAPATI: Sure. It's well, I'll
15	also spell my first too. Rajiv, R-a-j-i-v, and Ravulapati,
16	R-a-v-u-l-a-p-a-t-i. And I'm coming from St.~Louis,
17	Missouri.
18	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
19	MR. RAVULAPATI: First off, I'd like to thank
20	the commissioners and everyone here for the opportunity to
21	comment on the Grain Belt Express Clean Line. Like I said,
22	my name is Rajiv, and I drove two hours from St.~Louis so I
23	could provide public testimony because I'm confident that
24	this wind energy project is beneficial to all Missourians.
25	Let me first say that even though I'm not a

1	farmer or landowner in the counties in which the
2	transmission line will run, I'm aware and understand the
3	raised concerns. However, I want to stress to you,
4	Commissioners, and those listening, the public benefits of
5	this transmission line.
6	The Grain Belt Express Clean Line will deliver
7	500 megawatts of low cost wind power to the electricity
8	grid in Missouri from Kansas running through Missouri,
9	through Illinois and ending in Indiana. Clean energy is
10	something that our state desperately needs. Missouri
11	generates most of its electricity by burning coal, which is
12	detrimental to the health of all of us who live in
13	Missouri.
14	But if this commission approves the
15	transmission line, it will be choosing to invest in public
16	interest. The public interest includes all Missourians who
17	use electricity, not just landowners. Clean wind power
18	helps Missouri meet clean energy targets under our state
19	energy plan approved by our governor, Jay Nixon. The
20	Missouri Comprehensive State Energy Plan details the need
21	to modernize the grid in Missouri. This project recognizes
22	the many challenges and highlights the many benefits to
23	investing in new infrastructure.
24	The public benefits of this transmission line

1	it will save \$10 million annually on energy costs. A group
2	of 67 municipalities, including Hannibal, Kirkwood,
3	Centralia and others, have agreed to purchase long-term
4	transmission service on the Grain Belt Express.
5	Second, schools and communities will reap tax
6	benefits, over 7 million in taxes to support schools and
7	public services in the eight counties in the first year of
8	operation alone, and it will continue to pay significant
9	property taxes for the life of the project. Three, it will
10	create 1,500 jobs in construction. And these past two
11	figures that I just mentioned come from our home state,
12	from the Department of Economic Development.
13	Lastly, it will attract new businesses to our
14	state interested in purchasing low cost, clean energy.
15	Large companies like General Motors, Procter & Gamble,
16	Nestle Purina, Unilever and others have demanded renewable
17	energy to power their facilities and their facilities here
18	in Missouri. Missouri needs to continue to attract jobs
19	from out-of-state businesses. This clean line will help
20	attract those businesses and those job.
21	In closing, this project is needed because our
22	state will reap numerous benefits for decades to come. I
23	urge you, Commissioners, to not let Missouri fall behind.
24	This transmission line will create jobs in rural and urban
25	communities, provide significant tax benefits, lower our

1	need for dirty coal, and make our state attractive to new
2	businesses. I highly encourage you to please look to the
3	future and think of the long-term benefits this
4	transmission line will provide to Missouri. We all stand
5	to gain from the Grain Belt Express Clean Line. Thank you.
6	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Why don't we take
7	a short break. We'll be in recess until about 7:45.
8	(Off the record.)
9	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. We're back on the
10	record. And the next witness is Mike Huff. No Mr. Huff?
11	AUDIENCE MEMBER: Here he is.
12	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay.
13	MIKE HUFF,
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 for
18	record and spell your last name.
19	MR. HUFF: Mike Huff, H-u-f-f, Ralls County.
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
21	MR. HUFF: Okay. I'm strongly opposed to the
22	line coming through. My wife and family put all these
23	farms together and they are talking about eminent domain.
24	Well, that's a serious thing. They say it will not devalue
25	the property and all of that. I do not believe that,

1	gentlemen. If you come in there and have eminent domain
2	and take our land, that's not right, no shape or form.
3	And I do not believe that this is going to
4	generate a lot of money for the counties. In our local
5	paper, you said millions coming to Ralls County off of
6	Grain Belt taxes. I do not believe that. That is a lot
7	of we've got a lot of utilities coming through Ralls
8	County. There's no way in the world they can afford that.
9	And gentlemen, that's what I have to say. And I appreciate
10	you letting me talk to you. You've been gentlemen about
11	it. Thank you.
12	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Mary Lane.
14	MS. LANE: Passing.
15	JUDGE BUSHMANN: George Lane.
16	GEORGE LANE,
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. LANE: George Lane, L-a-n-e.
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live, sir?
24	MR. LANE: I live in Ralls County, lived there
25	all my life. I farm up there. And I'll tell you, we don't

1	need all them power lines coming across our property. It's
2	a shame when they can come in and take your land and all
3	the time it's a people you know, we have rights too.
4	And them people in the city, they don't care about us out
5	here in the rural Missouri. They don't care if they take
6	out some of our land. If they don't like it, they can move
7	out. I think we can gather up enough money to maybe ship
8	them over to China or into Russia. It would be a good
9	place for them. Then they can complain over there. But we
10	really don't need that.
11	These power lines, as big as they say they are
12	going to be, and as much electricity they run through them,
13	I've farmed under power lines, I know what they do. And
14	it's a snapping and crackling. They make a terrible noise.
15	You don't even want to get under them. And then here they
16	want to put these big lines up and them big towers. So I
17	think, gentlemen, it would be best if you all turn that
18	down. Do rural Missouri a good turn. Thank you.
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Todd Halfman.
20	TODD HALFMAN,
21	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
22	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
23	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
25	spell your last name.

1	MR. HALFMAN: My name is Todd Halfman,
2	H-a-l-f-m-a-n.
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live, sir?
4	MR. HALFMAN: I live in Edwardsville,
5	Illinois.
6	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
7	MR. HALFMAN: I'm here representing an
8	engineering firm that employs about 30 Missouri residents
9	who pay taxes in the state and live in the State of
10	Missouri. And I'm in support of the project for three
11	reasons. Mainly jobs, tax revenues, and the environment.
12	As we all know, every village, town, city,
13	county, state in this country is crying for more money.
14	It's in every newspaper every day about funding for
15	everything. And this project means jobs, it means
16	increases in tax revenues, and those are things that every
17	municipal body needs to build roads, to improve roads, to
18	protect the citizens, to fund fire stations, to build
19	libraries, and everything we all enjoy about this country.
20	It's a balancing act that we are doing in this
21	country anymore with everything. You can't turn on the TV
22	without watching and hearing about some dispute somewhere
23	about pick a subject. This course is good. It's
24	healthy. We have to share the information and get it to
25	where everybody can understand it and they all have the

1	same facts and we're dealing with facts and not rumors.
2	But this country, this state, this town, this county, needs
3	jobs and it needs something that can bolster the bottom
4	line which is the tax base for all these counties and
5	cities. And for that reason, I'm in favor of the project.
б	Lastly, I'm not exactly an environmentalist,
7	but I'm smart enough to understand that something's got to
8	change. And this is a start. We have to look at ways to
9	get our cars being operated without fossil fuels and with
10	our energy being produced without fossil fuels, and this is
11	a start of something that 50 year from now we'll look back
12	on and say, remember when we used to do it that way? I
13	mean, look what we've gone through in the last 50 years
14	with technology and how we've evolved. So I feel confident
15	to say that when I'm a little bit older I'll look back at
16	this day and say, that was a battle, but it was worth it.
17	That's all I've got to say. I appreciate your time. Thank
18	you.
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Larry Markley.
20	LARRY MARKLEY,
21	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
22	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
23	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
25	spell your last name.

1	MR. MARKLEY: Larry Markley, M-a-r-k-l-e-y.
2	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
3	MR. MARKLEY: I live in Hannibal and I have
4	property in Lewis County which as the power line across it.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
6	MR. MARKLEY: When I originally thought I
7	might address the hearing, I thought I would discuss the
8	problems that I had with my power lines, which split my
9	property in two, and the problem I've had with that with
10	them trespassing my complete property, cutting ornamental
11	shrubs and just basically doing whatever they wanted. And
12	when I asked them, why are you doing this, they said
13	because we can. And when I asked them if they would notify
14	me when they come on my property, they said they don't have
15	to.
16	And I said, look, we hunt on my property. We
17	enjoy that. Would you notify me and let me know? And they
18	said, well, they did. They said, we'll be there during the
19	month of April. I said, well, that's not very good because
20	we hunt and shoot. And I told them that and they had their
21	lawyer send me a letter that said I was threatening to harm
22	them. But I'm not here to talk about that.
23	I attended the meeting in Monroe City today
24	and several things just entered my mind. And I remember a
25	logger saying he wanted the line through because he thought

he'd get a job logging it off. And I thought, every line 1 I've ever seen that was logged off had never had another 2 tree grow on it ever. It was done for eternity. 3 Ι 4 thought, that's pretty short-sided. 5 I heard a representative of the union say he represented three states say that he wanted to bring men in 6 7 that were going to spend money in restaurants and so forth. 8 And I thought, what's he going to do when this project is 9 over? How is that going to affect the economy? I should mention that I was in the military. 10 I served during the Vietnam era. I am a retired air 11 traffic controller from the St.~Louis tower. I taught 12 13 school. I'm a MIZZOU alumni. I was a real estate broker. 14 And I also am a Missouri Master Naturalist, and I believe in preserving and restoring a lot of the land. And I'll 15 get a bit more into that in a minute. 16 17 But as a real estate broker, I specialized in I bought my farm for \$300 an acre because of that land. 18 19 line. And I believe every land around it is affected because of that line. I think I paid way below what other 20 21 land was going for. And I believe that will happen again. The Ralls County commissioner said his land isn't going to 22 devalue. I was a real estate broker for Illinois, Missouri 23 24 and Iowa, and I saw land being lower value where these 25 lines went through.

1	I also wonder about the enjoyment of the land.
2	I wake up every morning and look across in the daylight and
3	see a power line. When the sun goes down, I see that power
4	line, that same one. And I believe that these people are
5	entitled to the enjoyment of their property. That's what I
6	was in the military for, to preserve our way of life. And
7	I think that this line is going to destroy it.
8	I think they say, oh, they will be
9	compensated. Money does not mean anything to these people,
10	nothing. They are not here for money. They don't care
11	about being compensated. They want to enjoy their
12	property. I saw an Amish community tell you guys this
13	morning that their colony would be destroyed. Their way of
14	life would be destroyed if that line went through.
15	And that's all I've got to say. I'm saying
16	that these people did not act ethically. They did not
17	intend to leave us in power. And because they couldn't get
18	their line through, that's when they changed that's when
19	they went searching for people. If this energy is so
20	great, so cheap, why don't they sell it all to Missouri,
21	the entire state? They can sell it right here. We can
22	take every bit of it. Every bit of their energy, we can
23	use. But they chose not to because they get more money
24	passing it on. And for that reason alone, I don't think
25	you guys should approve it. And I appreciate you listening

1 to me. 2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Next witness is Jeff LaGarce. 3 JEFF LAGARCE, 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 it. 9 MR. LAGARCE: My name is Jeff LaGarce, L-a-G-a-r-c-e, first name Jeff. 10 11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. 12 MR. LAGARCE: I appreciate you for being here 13 this evening. I serve as city manager here in Hannibal. 14 We have a city council and a board of public works negotiate and secure this cheaper cleaner power with Clean 15 16 Line Energy. 17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Start his clock. Start his clock. 18 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thanks for reminding me. Go 20 ahead, sir. Sorry for the interruption. 21 MR. LAGARCE: That's all right. The Clean Line will offer power at roughly one-third the cost 22 23 currently being paid. While its purchase only represents 24 about 40 percent of our capacity here in Hannibal, still significant game changer for businesses and for residents 25

1	of this community. The Clean Line proposal is good for
2	families. It's good for senior citizens, good for local
3	industry, good for economic development, good for the
4	environment. It's also good for any nonprofit
5	organizations here, for hundreds of commercial retailers,
6	for government agencies of all types, state, city, federal,
7	county. It's also good for the school district who's
8	potential energy costs, things I couldn't possibly fathom
9	with eight schools, a career technical center and central
10	administrative offices that they all support. This Clean
11	Line energy source will provide public entities with a rate
12	payer benefit, taxpayers fund benefit as well.
13	National leaders regularly lament this country
14	is going to make a difference in environmental laws
15	associated with many forms of energy production. We've
16	heard a lot of people tonight. This is a unique
17	opportunity to graduate to the next level of energy
18	sustainability in this country to a more cost-efficient
19	cleaner solution. It doesn't make sense for national
20	interests and millions of Americans in this country to
21	desire cleaner cheaper renewable energy yet oppose every
22	singular measure necessary in order for that to occur.
23	It's self-defeating in this country to continually object.
24	Open energy markets actually sound great.
25	Infrastructure is the key and it's always been the key in

this country. Like other regions in the US, Hannibal has a 1 2 number of people on fixed incomes. Increases in energy pricing over the past decade increasingly press fixed 3 4 income households. I've been hearing it for ten years 5 here. Clean Line energy is a game changer for a fixed income senior, for the typical family and for the 6 manufacturing producer. 7 8 In fact, the economic benefits local business 9 would realize with cheap clean power are likely to ripple favorably throughout this region. The reduction of the 10 primary input cost of electrical power will increase 11 producers' operating margins, providing financial latitude 12 13 for increasing jobs, or perhaps making capital, physical 14 capital investments they otherwise don't believe are possible today. We firmly believe this clean wind energy 15 16 initiative will also help with industry retention here. 17 Our population is slightly below 18,000, but thousands of other people in the surrounding regions rely 18 19 on Hannibal for employment, for shopping, education, 20 worship, healthcare, for recreation, cultural events, 21 service clubs and other basic necessities. The game changer like affordable Clean Line power at a fraction of 22 23 the cost currently paid will financially strengthen 24 businesses and residents. If I'm employed by a local business, I want my employer to achieve greater financial 25

1	prosperity because my job security is proportionate to
2	that.
3	In closing, I can't fathom how this country
4	will move forward in the world of cleaner, safer, more cost
5	effective energy if each individual step toward that is
б	contested and rejected. I would urge the commission to
7	support this proposal. It's good for this community, it's
8	good for this region, it's good for Missouri. But in a
9	larger sense, being a multi-state project, it's
10	economically and environmentally beneficial to a number of
11	other regions across the central U.S. as well. Thank you
12	very much.
13	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Sarah Edgar.
15	SARAH EDGAR,
16	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
17	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
18	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
20	spell your last name.
21	MS. EDGAR: Sarah Edgar, E-d-g-a-r.
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?
23	MS. EDGAR: St.~Louis.
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
25	MS. EDGAR: I'd like to start by saying thank

1	you. And in many ways, I'm torn being up here. I'm not a
2	fan of transmission lines, I'm not a fan of eminent domain.
3	I'm a property owner. I'm a Missourian. Many of my family
4	members are farmers. And I completely understand how
5	people would be extremely upset about losing their land.
б	And I don't want to see anybody have their property
7	destroyed by any means.
8	But I'm extremely concerned. I'm a social
9	worker. And the work that I do is primarily with people
10	who are impacted by the pollution from coal plants. And I
11	want to talk a little bit about that as far as the public
12	benefit I see in terms of bringing more clean energy to our
13	state.
14	Coal is the dirtiest form of energy there is
15	and it's where we're getting the bulk of our energy from in
16	the state. And the coal plants that surround the St.~Louis
17	region, for instance, Jefferson County, Franklin County,
18	St. Charles County and St. Louis County, don't have
19	up-to-date pollution controls. And one professor from
20	Harvard School of Public Health issued a report that found
21	that nearly 500 premature deaths can be attributed to those
22	four plants alone in the St. Louis region every year. And
23	so we're seeing lives being impacted on a daily basis by
24	these coal plants.
25	And some of these coal plants are very old,

1	they are outdated, they need costly upgrades. And the one
2	in St. Louis County, for instance, needs to be retired very
3	soon because Ameren itself has said that it's now becoming
4	a threat to its workers, safety threat. And so we know
5	that these coal plants need to be retired. We know that we
6	need to have something to replace that energy, and so we
7	know that cleaner energy is a good option.
8	We've seen these coal plants create huge
9	amounts of not only air pollution, but coal ash pollution,
10	which leaches heavy metals into the flood plains for our
11	rivers, threatening our drinking water sources. In
12	December of last year, there was extreme flooding along
13	Missouri sorry, Mississippi River and Meramec River and
14	there were homeowners who had coal ash ponds at the Meramec
15	coal plant that were completely flooded over. And there
16	were people who had their children's playgrounds sitting in
17	flood waters that are potentially contaminated with heavy
18	metals. And they didn't ask for this either. They didn't
19	ask to have a coal plant in their backyard and they cannot
20	necessarily just move. Many of these people lived there
21	long before the coal plant was placed there.
22	And so I think there's great public benefit
23	when it comes to improving the health of our region as a
24	whole, our entire state, but I also think there's a number
25	of economic benefits. We're seeing states such as Iowa

1	become more attractive to moving new businesses to their
2	state because they are moving more aggressively towards
3	clean energy. So Facebook recently just relocated to Iowa
4	because of their investments in wind energy, and we're
5	seeing companies such as Coca-Cola, Unilever, Nestle Purina
6	that have made commitments to go to 100 percent clean
7	energy. Half the facilities in Missouri are calling for
8	clean energy. They want to see clean energy. And so we
9	are making ourselves, you know, an unattractive state to
10	business if we are not moving towards adoption of clean
11	energy.
12	And so I want to say that I do support this
13	line. I also support the landowners. And I hope that we
14	can find a solution that really meets everybody's needs.
15	But I do think that we need to find a way to bring clean
16	energy to our state. So for that reason, I am in support
17	of the Grain Belt line. Thank you.
18	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Patricia Schuba.
19	PATRICIA SCHUBA,
20	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
21	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
22	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
24	spell your last name.
25	MS. SCHUBA: My name is Patricia Schuba, and

1 it's S-c-h-u-b-a. 2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live? MS. SCHUBA: I live in Labadie, Missouri, 3 4 which is in Franklin County. 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. MS. SCHUBA: Thank you for listening to us 6 7 this evening. I came here to Hannibal because I believe in 8 this project, and I want to share why I think it's an important move for Missouri. And again, I empathize with 9 the folks that are here tonight who are concerned about 10 their property because I too am part of a family that's 11 12 been impacted by power generation and transmission. The 13 farm that I live on in eastern Franklin County is only 14 three miles from the Labadie power plant. That is the largest plant in the state and it burns exclusively coal. 15 16 My family has been in Missouri for now five generations. So we were there well before the power plant 17 was there. But we have to deal with the pollution and the 18 19 transmission lines that cross our properties. We have three properties, one farm that's been there forever, since 20 21 my great great grandparents came here, and that property is 22 bisected by some large transmission lines. 23 But I do see the importance of that because, as a nation, as a people, we use electricity. And we use 24 electricity that's generated at central sources, central 25

1	power plants. So our family has dealt with that. We
2	farmed on that land. We raised cattle and we've raised
3	crops. Again, I empathize with the folks that are here
4	tonight, but there are other options.
5	Missourians deserve clean energy. There are
6	many Missourians who are impacted by the health effects
7	from burning coal. In the largest power plants in the
8	state, that's what we burn. So I think this is an
9	opportunity for the state to move beyond dirty fuels, to
10	clean up the impacts of coal ash from the burning of coal.
11	In my little town of Labadie, the power plant produces
12	about a half a million tons of coal waste per year, and
13	that's dumped in our flood plain. And that's in a flood
14	plain at the Missouri River and that's similar across the
15	state.
16	So there's a price that we all pay. So we pay
17	it out here in rural Missouri, we pay it in my county which
18	is rural outside of St. Louis City, St. Louis County, and
19	it's time that we can do something different and that can
20	be good for everyone. But we do each have to pay some part
21	of that price. So I hope that you make the right decision
22	for all Missourians and consider the needs today and for
23	the future of the state. Thank you very much.
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.
25	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.

Page 79 1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Virginia Caswell. 2 VIRGINIA CASWELL, of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to 3 4 testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the 5 truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: 6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and 7 spell your last name. 8 MS. CASWELL: Virginia Caswell, C-a-s-w-e-l-l. 9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live? MS. CASWELL: Ralls County, Missouri. 10 11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 12 MS. CASWELL: Well, it was my understanding when this Grain Belt first came through that it was just 13 14 going to go across Missouri and end up in Indiana. And I couldn't see any reason why it was coming and Missouri 15 16 didn't get it all. The proposed route is going to be 600 feet from our front door. And I don't know of anybody 17 in here tonight that would like to see the big tower 18 19 600 feet from their front door. I oppose it. I don't see how it's going to do Missouri any good at all if it's just 20 21 going to go across Missouri and go to Indiana and to the 22 east coast. Let them make their own power. That's all I 23 have to say. Thank you. 24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Taylor Cowden? 25 TAYLOR COWDEN,

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1	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
2	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
3	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
5	spell your last name.
6	MS. COWDEN: Taylor Cowden, C-o-w-d-e-n.
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
8	MS. COWDEN: Palmyra, Missouri.
9	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
10	MS. COWDEN: All right. So my name is Taylor
11	Cowden, and I'm 19 years old. I am the granddaughter of
12	two family farm landowners that will be affected by this,
13	one in Center, Missouri and one in Hannibal, Missouri. I'm
14	opposed to the way Clean Line is conducting business and I
15	just say to please vote no. Eminent domain is wrong. Some
16	day the 200 acres being affected will be passed down to me,
17	a fifth generation landowner. I want to raise my kids on
18	this land some day and I don't want to look out my window
19	every day and see a huge tower. So thanks for your time.
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.
21	ANDY KNOTT,
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. KNOTT: It's Andy Knott, K-n-o-t-t.
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live, sir?
4	MR. KNOTT: St. Louis County.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
6	MR. KNOTT: First, I just want to thank you
7	for this opportunity to speak tonight in favor of the Grain
8	Belt Express. I have spent the last 31 years working in
9	the field of environmental energy policy, and I've spent
10	many days, many evenings, too many, at meetings like this
11	testifying before bodies like this commission. And for
12	most of those years, my testimony has revolved around the
13	environmental benefits of a project like this.
14	However, in the last two years, I've seen a
15	change in the economics of renewable energy. Wind energy
16	and utility scale solar is in many cases cheaper than
17	fossil fuel energy now. One example of that is in
18	Springfield, Missouri, which over the last two years has
19	installed a 5-megawatt solar farm and just recently
20	purchased a 200-megawatt wind farm power purchase agreement
21	in Oklahoma.
22	When that wind farm came they had the
23	ground breaking a few weeks ago. The city utilities in
24	Springfield said that the they would be paying
25	25 percent less for that wind power than they are currently

paying for energy from their own coal plant, specifically 1 2 from their newest coal plant built eight years ago, 25 percent less than existing coal at their own coal plant. 3 4 And Springfield is not doing this because of an environmental regulation. The renewable energy standard 5 does not apply to the Springfield area. They are doing it 6 7 solely on the basis of economics. Clean Line represents 8 the same benefit to utilities, municipal utilities that are 9 signing up for energy with 35 plus utilities. There is no environmental regulation forcing these municipal utilities 10 11 to buy this energy. Again, the renewal energy standard 12 does not apply to them. It's solely based on economics. I 13 don't think anything could better exemplify the public 14 interest and need for Grain Belt Express than the demand shown by these 35 plus municipal utilities for this low 15 16 cost wind power. 17 Now, there are economic benefits that demonstrate public interest and need, some of which have 18 19 been described already, the 1,500 jobs, the 7.2 million in 20 taxes to support schools and public services. Also, by the 21 state's own studies, Grain Belt is expected to increase personal income by \$246 million, increase domestic product 22 23 by \$476 million, and increase state general revenue by 9.6 million over three years of construction. And those 24 are according to the state's own studies. 25

1	So, you know, it's your purview to look at
2	public interest and need. There's many examples of the
3	economic benefits that demonstrate that. It's low cost
4	energy. There are many companies out there going out there
5	to 100 percent clean energy. Coca-Cola, Unilever, they've
6	already signed up to go 100.
7	I just want to close. I also represent a
8	coalition called the Missouri Clean Energy Coalition that
9	consists of more than 30 organizations, businesses and
10	community leaders representing more than 100,000
11	Missourians. This coalition supports a transition to a
12	clean energy economy in Missouri. I have a letter that I
13	want to submit into the record from the Missouri Clean
14	Energy Coalition in support of Clean Line.
15	Just some examples of members I won't list
16	all of them. Again, there are more than 30 organizations.
17	We have a few environmental groups such as Missouri
18	Coalition for the Environment and the Sierra Club. We also
19	have several faith organizations. The Jewish Environmental
20	Initiative, which is a committee of the Jewish Community
21	Relations Council of St.~Louis, Missouri Interfaith Power &
22	Light, the Ethical Society of St.~Louis, Central Reform
23	Congregation. These are some examples. It's a very
24	broad-based coalition, and I will submit this letter from
25	the coalition to the commission in support of Clean Line.

```
Thank you.
1
 2
                  JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Do you want to
     include that as an exhibits this evening?
 3
 4
                  MR. KNOTT: Yes, please.
                  JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. That will be
 5
     Exhibit 20.
б
7
                  (Exhibit 20 marked for identification.)
8
                  JUDGE BUSHMANN: Next witness is Stephanie
9
     Budrus.
10
                         STEPHANIE BUDRUS,
     of lawful age, having been first duly sworn to testify the
11
     truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the
12
13
     case aforesaid, deposes and says in reply to oral
14
     interrogatories propounded as follows, to-wit:
                  JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
15
16
     spell your last name.
17
                  MS. BUDRUS: It's Stephanie Budrus,
18
    B-u-d-r-u-s.
19
                  JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?
20
                  MS. BUDRUS: Adair County.
21
                  JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
                  MS. BUDRUS: First of all, I'd like to thank
22
     the Missouri Public Service Commission for providing this
23
24
     opportunity for me to come and to voice my concerns about
25
     the Grain Belt Express. I'm a Missouri resident who
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Page 85	Page 85	5
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1	strongly opposes Clean Line's petition for public utility
2	status and its proposal to build the Grain Belt Express
3	across my community. I'd like to express to you here that
4	I'm not opposed to clean energy or renewable energy. I'm
5	not here advocating for anymore pollution. I don't have
6	any land that's affected by this project. But I do have
7	rights that I would like to see preserved in the state.
8	I believe that there is a right and a wrong
9	way to do this and that this is the wrong way. I'm a Wash
10	U alumni, and so I assure you that not 100 percent of the
11	student body there is going to be rejoicing in support of
12	this project. And I have chosen to stay in the region.
13	Had I known how jeopardized property rights could be here,
14	however, that would not have been my decision.
15	Making this just about clean energy is overly
16	simplistic and remarkably short-sided. A private company
17	should not be given the power of eminent domain and to take
18	the private homes and private farms of our neighbors for
19	its own profit. Property rights are among our most
20	fundamental American rights. And to sacrifice those even
21	just for one bit for short-term jobs and to permanently
22	have the earning capabilities and land use options and
23	yields of our farms, which are the majority of the state,
24	I'm sorry, not St.~Louis, just so a private company can
25	bulldoze through and make a profit for themselves is not
I	

the kind of results of the cost/benefit analysis that's 1 2 going to serve the state in the long run. Farmers have been here long before power lines 3 4 and they will be here long after all those temporary Grain 5 Belt jobs are gone, and except this time they will be left with compacted soil, the inability to exert 6 7 self-determination on their property, decreased 8 productivity forever. 9 And I would really love to see someone here testifying in support of the line hop on a combine and try 10 to farm around all those poles. And I challenge anyone to 11 12 think about that the next time you sit down and try to eat anything, which is what farmers provide them. 13 14 So why stay in a state which treats people like that? I respectfully ask the Missouri Public Service 15 16 Commission to support Missouri residents, landowners and farmers by denying Clean Line's petition. This is not 17 going to be Missouri's last stand and land chance to have 18 19 clean energy. And if you do something, I strongly believe 20 that you should do it the right way. And allowing a 21 private corporation to come in and abuse eminent domain in this matter is not the right way. Thank you very much for 22 23 your time. 24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Sarah Van Hala. 25 SARAH VAN HALA,

1	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
2	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
3	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
5	spell your last name.
6	MS. VAN HALA: Sarah Van Hala, V-a-n H-a-l-a.
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live.
8	MS. VAN HALA: Adair County.
9	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
10	MS. VAN HALA: I strongly oppose Grain Belt
11	Express and Clean Line's petition for public utility
12	status. Companies think that they can come through rural
13	Missouri and strong-arm us out of our land for their own
14	profit. Have you seen the proposed route? Their proposed
15	line goes diagonally through farms and has no respect for
16	property lines. Why can't they bury the lines or route the
17	line along existing easements or highways?
18	I've heard a lot of people talking about
19	people, us, having to pay a price for clean energy. Why
20	don't these companies who have so much money pay the price?
21	They are the ones who stand to make all of the profit. If
22	Clean Line respected us, they would not be trying to put a
23	line diagonal through anyone's farm. And no amount of
24	money is worth being disrespected like this.
25	I would like to ask everyone on the stage how

1	you would feel if some company was trying to build a line
2	diagonally over their property. Would you want your
3	children to play anywhere near these lines? Would you?
4	Companies like Clean Line treat people like me as though we
5	and everything that we work for is worthless, and we are
6	not worthless. And it is the responsibility of the
7	Missouri PSC to stand up for us. Thank you.
8	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Christie Perry.
9	CHRISTIE PERRY,
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: Please state your name and
14	spell your last name.
15	MS. PERRY: Christie Perry, P-e-r-r-y, from
16	St.~Louis.
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
18	MS. PERRY: Just to bring everything back
19	together, the reason that we are here this evening is for
20	the commission. They have been tasked to determine if this
21	project benefits Missouri. And as a proud Missourian, this
22	project absolutely benefits us. I ask you to approve this
23	project based on the jobs that will be brought to the
24	community, everybody has provided excellent examples, low
25	cost renewable energy and tax revenue to struggling

	1	municipalities for schools, roads and fire districts.
	2	I hear a lot of people every time someone says
	3	they are from St.~Louis and they tend to scoff like we're
	4	just in this perceived urban area. But I grew up in a
	5	farming community in Illinois of 500 people, one stoplight
	6	literally. And I know what it means to work hard for
	7	absolutely everything that you have. We had land that you
	8	could have soybeans and corn for just about as far as the
	9	eye could see. At the very end of the property there was a
1	0	railroad line, and that railroad line for 36 years plus and
1	.1	today there are coal trains running in there miles and
1	2	miles long full of dirty, filthy coal going to the power
1	.3	plants.
1	_4	So I also have a three-year-old that deserves
1	5	a clean environment in which to grow up and thrive. So
1	6	I've seen all sides of it. And I ask you as the Missouri
1	7	Public Commission to please approve this project based on
1	8	all those areas. Thank you.
1	9	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Dan Wieland.
2	20	DAN WIELAND,
2	21	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
2	22	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
2	23	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
2	24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
2	25	spell your last name.

1	MR. WIELAND: My name is Dan Wieland. I live
2	in Bloomington, Illinois, previously lived in Clay County,
3	Missouri. I'm with Hanson Professional Services,
4	Incorporated, an employee-owned engineering planning and
5	allied services consulting firm with offices in Kansas,
6	Illinois and Indiana, which approve this project, as well
7	as Missouri. And I support the project because of the many
8	benefits it will bring to the region as many people have
9	testified.
10	In addition to supplying manufacturing,
11	construction and maintenance jobs, transmission lines like
12	the Grain Belt Express bring hundreds of jobs to the area.
13	Our company has been providing support services for
14	transmission lines and substations in Missouri and
15	throughout the Midwest. In fact, some of our Missouri
16	employees are currently working with General Electric in
17	support of their design of clean line energy projects in
18	Oklahoma, Arkansas and Tennessee like the converter station
19	that is planned here in Ralls County as part of the Grain
20	Belt Express to deliver power to the area.
21	Projects such as this have been essential to
22	providing important work to our civil, structural and water
23	sources engineers, our surveyors and our environmental
24	scientists, keeping them gainfully employed and paying
25	taxes. Some of the services we have been providing are

subsurface investigations and foundation designs for 1 transmission structures. The utilities we've worked with 2 recognize the value of utilizing engineers who are familiar 3 4 with the local geology, and in our case, who have working relationships with the subcontractors that we use Missouri, 5 including the geotechnics right here in Hannibal. 6 7 In addition to the value brought to the 8 transmission projects, the money spent to employ firms like 9 us is and local subcontract builders is reinvested right back into the area by the employees themselves. 10 Additionally, our field representatives consisting of 11 surveyors, engineers, environmental scientists and 12 construction quality agents spend thousands of dollars 13 14 weekly at local gas stations and restaurants and at hotels and locations where home is a bit too far away to return 15 16 every night. 17 Over all, these large projects are not only important to Hanson as a business, but also as to me and my 18 19 family. I encourage the commission to approve the project. 20 Thank you. JUDGE BUSHMANN: COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you. Sarah 21 22 Davenport. 23 SARAH DAVENPORT, 24 of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the 25

Page 92

truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: 1 2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and spell your last name. 3 4 MS. DAVENPORT: Sarah Davenport, 5 D-a-v-e-n-p-o-r-t, from Ralls County, Missouri. б JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. 7 MS. DAVENPORT: I'm a lifelong Missouri 8 resident who strongly opposes Clean Line's petition for 9 public utility status and its proposal to build the Grain Belt Express across my community and personally across my 10 family's farm. I'm here to protect my family's farm which 11 has been in our family since 1971. 12 13 I do not believe that a private company should 14 be given the power to declare eminent domain and take the private homes and farms of my family and neighbors for its 15 16 own profit. I ask that the Missouri Public Service Commission support Missouri residents, landowners, and 17 farmers by denying Clean Line's petition. Thank you. 18 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Greg Stuart. 20 GREG STUART, 21 of lawful age, having been first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the 22 23 case aforesaid, deposes and says in reply to oral interrogatories propounded as follows, to-wit: 24 25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and

1	spell your last name.
2	MR. STUART: Greg Stuart, S-t-u-a-r-t.
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
4	MR. STUART: I live in Vandalia, Missouri.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
6	MR. STUART: First off, I'd like to thank the
7	commission for providing the opportunity to share my
8	opinion. I am a resident, life-longer in Ralls County
9	and/or Marion County. I am not from a metro area.
10	I do strongly oppose Clean Line's petition to
11	build Grain Belt Express across the community. I don't
12	think the private company should be given the power to
13	declare eminent domain and take private homes and farms
14	from myself and my neighbors.
15	I think also if we are going to even consider
16	this line to go through then I don't think we need to jog
17	back and forth across rural communities. I think we have
18	structures already there to take a straight shot. The
19	other thing, there's going to be a lot of farm ground taken
20	out of productivity. And as I can see right now, it's
21	taking every acre that we have as producers to feed the
22	world.
23	And in short, I think it's been said before,
24	if we need to supply power to the east coast, let them get
25	it from the east coast. And that's really all I have to

1	say. I thank you for your time.
2	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Jamie Caswell.
3	JAMIE CASWELL,
4	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
5	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
6	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
8	spell your last name.
9	MR. CASWELL: Jamie Caswell, C-a-s-w-e-l-l.
10	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
11	MR. CASWELL: Ralls County, Missouri.
12	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
13	MR. CASWELL: Again, like with all the others,
14	I thank you for hearing us speak. I oppose Clean Line's
15	petition. I've heard a lot of testimony throughout the
16	night. Hannibal Public Works, this is not sitting in their
17	backyard. This is sitting in mine where public works
18	doesn't supply my power, and pretty soon they won't supply
19	my water. They are making decisions on my behalf.
20	I'm a lifelong Ralls County resident, five
21	years away from here serving my country. But I made the
22	choice I made a choice to come back here. I didn't make
23	a choice to go down to St. Louis County. I didn't make a
24	choice to go to Kansas. I didn't make a choice to go to
25	Indiana. I made a choice to come back here. I fought for

1	my rights, I fought for your rights. By allowing them
2	eminent domain, you are violating my rights. You will
3	violate my family, you will violate the farms that my great
4	grandparents shed blood and tears to put together.
5	The ground that I have, I pick and choose what
6	trees I take off of there. I don't clean cut. I don't
7	put I don't go down and mow straight lines down through.
8	If you allow them to do this, I have no say in that. My
9	children don't have no say in that. Hannibal doesn't care.
10	They don't have to look at it. They don't have to live
11	under it. I do. I thank you for your time.
12	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Jerome Benton.
13	JEROME BENTON,
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. BENTON: Jerome Benton, B-e-n-t-o-n.
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live, sir?
21	MR. BENTON: New London, Ralls County. First
22	thing I'd like to say, I appreciate you gentlemen staying
23	here tonight hours away from your family members. It's not
24	easy to do throughout this day. I'm not a lifelong member
25	or Missouri resident. I've spent the last 20 years living

1	in Illinois. For the past five years, though, I've made my
2	transition over to here, and was I grateful to do so.
3	The greatest thing I ever saw when I came here
4	was that when I went to vote I had to have an ID card. And
5	it was me that made the difference when it came down to any
6	vote, not people of the big cities, Gentlemen.
7	A few years back I was employed. I've been in
8	the military for over 20 years, been in combat areas twice.
9	I came back to the state only to find out that a certain
10	company would like to place a line right on top of my
11	house. That's where your map puts it. I've had the bad
12	opportunity of having my house burned down to the ground.
13	Rather than move, regardless of what anybody else wants to
14	do with my property, my farmland, I rebuilt that house,
15	\$300,000 worth.
16	Now the plans for the future are going to go
17	ahead. My daughter had planned to start her own hunting
18	preserve, raising birds to sell them to the public.
19	Currently she's selling them at auctions. This is the type
20	of money that the family members produce for the land. Now
21	this also gives an opportunity for everybody else in the
22	neighborhoods I shouldn't say neighborhoods, in the
23	rural areas, to come and enjoy hunting if it's allowed and
24	agreed upon by all the rest of the farmers.
25	Currently I'm employed with a utility company.

1	I'm not going to say which because I'm not profiting from
2	this day for them to have their name put out there. But I
3	can tell you this, and I hope everybody else hears this.
4	When it comes down to maintaining and developing and
5	installing electric lines, you do not go from state to
6	state to state trying to pick up employees to install these
7	lines. This company knows full well that they are going to
8	have one trained unit install these lines and they are
9	going to travel from area to area. 1,500 jobs for the
10	State of Missouri? That's somebody's pipe dream.
11	As far as the time it takes, it's almost taken
12	a year for Ameren to have that power station, substation
13	south of Quincy developed. As a matter of fact, that new
14	line is just north of here. So why is it this area needs a
15	second new line with the same capacity, Gentlemen? It has
16	just been built by, yes, transient electricians. Now, are
17	they completed through Missouri yet? No, they are not.
18	They will.
19	On the fact that these people showing up from
20	other areas, if they want the power, if they want green
21	energy through the state, then have it come through their
22	community. If they want the benefits of this green energy
23	for their factories and for their tax base, have it come
24	through Highway 36. St.~Louis, have it come through
25	Interstate 70. Those are both utility pathways that you

Page 98

can use, Gentlemen. Always has been. That's all I have to 1 2 I oppose it. say. 3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: John Lake. 4 JOHN LAKE, 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 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and 8 9 spell your last name. John Lake, L-a-k-e. 10 MR. LAKE: JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? 11 12 MR. LAKE: Center, Missouri in Ralls County. 13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. 14 MR. LAKE: Again, we appreciate you guys spending time to come out and listen to all the concerns we 15 16 have here. I have a lot of things that I'd like to discuss. I've been a city council member for the last 15 17 years in Center where the transfer station is going to be 18 19 stationed approximately 1,500 feet or 2,000 feet from the city limits. They did come and discuss with us at a 20 21 meeting prior to and we discussed about it in case of a fire or some sort of a fire in the transfer station that 22 23 our town and our rural firefighters do not have the 24 equipment or the know-how to tackle such a job. So that will be one big concern from the people, especially where I 25

1 live.

2	And I'm pretty close to that. I live inside
3	the city limits of Center. I have a farm outside of town.
4	It's not going to directly affect me. But I have numerous
5	friends and personal friends that this is going to cross
б	their farms that they've had for the past four generations.
7	Today the farming business as we all know it
8	is a business that is high tech. Most everything runs off
9	GPS and all that stuff. We don't know for sure how that's
10	going to affect the trackers, the combines, everything that
11	runs over these fields. So there's a lot of uncertainties.
12	No one can really say what it's going to do or what it's
13	not going to do in those circumstances.
14	At any rate, the farm properties, you know,
14 15	At any rate, the farm properties, you know, around here, the properties are the only thing that you
15	around here, the properties are the only thing that you
15 16	around here, the properties are the only thing that you can have is what you don't have next to you. So that's
15 16 17	around here, the properties are the only thing that you can have is what you don't have next to you. So that's today's farming in Ralls County. There's lots of land.
15 16 17 18	around here, the properties are the only thing that you can have is what you don't have next to you. So that's today's farming in Ralls County. There's lots of land. Our land is worth a lot of money. And we don't need
15 16 17 18 19	around here, the properties are the only thing that you can have is what you don't have next to you. So that's today's farming in Ralls County. There's lots of land. Our land is worth a lot of money. And we don't need something to come through there to devalue our land. It's
15 16 17 18 19 20	around here, the properties are the only thing that you can have is what you don't have next to you. So that's today's farming in Ralls County. There's lots of land. Our land is worth a lot of money. And we don't need something to come through there to devalue our land. It's probably the highest it's been. Ever since I've lived in
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	around here, the properties are the only thing that you can have is what you don't have next to you. So that's today's farming in Ralls County. There's lots of land. Our land is worth a lot of money. And we don't need something to come through there to devalue our land. It's probably the highest it's been. Ever since I've lived in this county they always said it has to stop, it can't keep
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	around here, the properties are the only thing that you can have is what you don't have next to you. So that's today's farming in Ralls County. There's lots of land. Our land is worth a lot of money. And we don't need something to come through there to devalue our land. It's probably the highest it's been. Ever since I've lived in this county they always said it has to stop, it can't keep going up. Guess what, fellas, it's still going up and
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	around here, the properties are the only thing that you can have is what you don't have next to you. So that's today's farming in Ralls County. There's lots of land. Our land is worth a lot of money. And we don't need something to come through there to devalue our land. It's probably the highest it's been. Ever since I've lived in this county they always said it has to stop, it can't keep going up. Guess what, fellas, it's still going up and there's people still buying it. So we don't want something

1	A second thing, the roads and the structures
2	that we have built in this county has took a lifetime to
3	get to the point they are today. We don't need someone or
4	some company that's from a private company to come in here
5	and tear these roads up. The county has spent millions and
6	millions of dollars over the years to get these roads into
7	the shape they are today, the bridges. And of course, all
8	of our rural counties know we don't have the best bridges
9	in the country, but we try to maintain them.
10	I'm a newly elected associate commissioner of
11	Ralls County and will take over in January. So I for sure
12	am trying to make sure it's known that what the people are
13	trying to tell me to get across to you guys. That's what
14	I'm doing here this evening. I sure appreciate all the
15	things that go on.
16	I guess I have another question for you. If
17	this electricity was so cheap, why is Ameren not here and
18	why is the associated electric companies not here battling
19	for this Clean Line and saying that they want to buy that
20	electricity? I think these cities have kind of been
21	overwhelmed. They came to them, and I would like to know
22	if the contracts they have signed with the city of Hannibal
23	to sell this electricity they don't even know what it's
24	going to cost to get the line here and what it's going to
25	cost to get it built. But how can they already propose

them a price as to a kilowatt, what it's going to cost? 1 So 2 that would be a real good question is to see how that comes 3 up. 4 So I'm not trying to fight or belittle anyone. I kind of go along with what some of these other folks have 5 said. We're not here -- we're not from St.~Louis. We're 6 7 here, we live here. So this is our concern. I don't know 8 how you could come from St.~Louis -- I absolutely agree 9 that this Clean Line and the Clean Air Act is a great deal. But we're not getting a benefit out of it here, so there's 10 no use for it to come through our town, through our county. 11 I appreciate your time. Please consider what I've had to 12 13 say. 14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Nathaniel Thomas. AUDIENCE MEMBER: I would like to remind you 15 16 the rule that you cannot pass time. This young man is basically for the other gentleman down here who submitted 17 that letter to you all. He passed them a script earlier. 18 19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That's true. They've been conversing this whole time. 20 21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Everybody has an opportunity 22 to testify. 23 NATHANIEL THOMAS, 24 of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the 25

1	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
2	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
3	spell your last name.
4	MR. THOMAS: Nathaniel Thomas, T-h-o-m-a-s.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?
6	MR. THOMAS: St. Louis.
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
8	MR. THOMAS: So I strongly support this
9	project because I believe that it's an opportunity to get
10	affordable energy for Missouri. We know that because of
11	climactic pressures and also the resolution passed in
12	Missouri to move to renewable energy that this is a switch
13	that we're going to have to make eventually. We also know
14	that renewable energy is getting cheaper all the time. A
15	lot of the speakers have spoken specifically to this
16	project, how much cheaper it is than the energy that we're
17	getting right now from fossil fuels.
18	So I believe this is a great time to build the
19	transmission line because it will give Missouri more
20	renewable energy than any project in the state's history at
21	good price. And it's also vitally important, I think, for
22	keeping Missouri economically competitive in the future.
23	This transmission line is like an infrastructure project.
24	It's like the interstate system that was built in the
25	1950s. It's going to bring wind power from places that can

generate it in a cost effective way to places that can use it. It is really important for keeping energy prices low here.

4 So energy only -- wind energy is only going to 5 get cheaper in the future, and I think that if Missouri doesn't cash in on this and doesn't start developing the 6 7 infrastructure to do it, other states will. So their 8 energy prices are going to fall and ours are going to be 9 comparatively much higher. I think this is going to cause businesses to leave the state and people are going to be 10 working in the wind industry, which is going to become a 11 12 major industry in America in the future.

13 A lot of other younger people feel just as 14 passionately about this project as I do because of the role 15 it's going to have for like our future and the kind of 16 employment opportunities that we're going to have here. So 17 these are about a thousand public comments from people who 18 support the project in like the St.~Louis, University City 19 area that I'll submit as an exhibit.

20 So I'll ask the commissioners to please 21 approve this project. And I think that rejecting it would 22 be short-sided. It's going to hurt young people who live 23 here in the future. Thank you for your time. 24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Did you intend to submit that 25 today or do you want to send it?

Page 104

1 MR. THOMAS: I'll submit it today. 2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. That will be Exhibit 21. 3 4 (Exhibit 21 marked for identification.) 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Our next witness, Jacob Plotkin. 6 7 JACOB PLOTKIN, 8 of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to 9 testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: 10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and 11 12 spell your last name. 13 MR. PLOTKIN: Jacob Plotkin. That's 14 P-l-o-t-k-i-n. JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live? 15 16 MR. PLOTKIN: St.~Louis, Missouri. 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. MR. PLOTKIN: So as a young man living in 18 19 Missouri, I'm looking to the future of our state. I truly believe that building the Grain Belt Express Line will 20 21 improve the health and economic opportunities for Missouri 22 for years to. Come. Building this power line will help to 23 24 reduce the amount of coal burned here in Missouri. We know that living near coal burning plants can increase one's 25

1	risk of asthma attacks, chronic bronchitis, kidney damage,
2	heart attacks, and even cancer. By reducing the amount of
3	coal that is burned, we cannot only improve the health of
4	thousands of people, but also save massive amounts of money
5	in health care costs. This is money back in the pockets of
6	hard-working Missourians and also back to the states where
7	we spend on more important projects.
8	In addition to saving costs on health care,
9	the Grain Belt Express Line will also help reduce utility
10	costs for consumers all over the state. Less money spent
11	on electricity means more money spent on small businesses
12	having to support local economies. Also, in the public
13	sector, we'd be able to provide millions of dollars to our
14	schools and other public services in eight Missouri
15	counties.
16	This is all without even considering the
17	beneficial environmental impact of wind energy, helping to
18	slow the tide of climate change and preserve a stable
19	environment for generations to come. This is about making
20	the lives of all Missourians better in every way we can.
21	We can't pass up this opportunity to improve the
22	livelihoods of millions of people and ensure a better life
23	and future for all of Missouri. Thank you.
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Jamie Hunter.
25	JAMIE HUNTER,

1	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
2	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
3	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
5	spell your last name.
6	MR. HUNTER: Jamie Hunter, H-u-n-t-e-r.
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?
8	MR. HUNTER: St.~Louis, Missouri.
9	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
10	MR. HUNTER: So I also grew up in rural
11	Georgia originally with my family and my grandparents on a
12	farm. And I also do consulting for other cities around the
13	U.S. in terms of renewable energy. And I've seen the
14	effects that renewable energy has for different
15	communities, not only in the Midwest, but in the southwest
16	and, again, around the country.
17	I think that the Grain Belt Express is one of
18	the best things that could happen to the State of Missouri.
19	Although people have their right to own their land, I
20	believe that for the betterment of the state and the
21	economy and based on the economic trends that I have seen
22	in other cities that this would greatly benefit the State
23	of Missouri economically and benefit all the hard-working
24	people you see behind me. I would love to see each of
25	these people become more successful, make more money, and

1	see the City of Hannibal grow. Thank you very much. And I
2	approve Clean Line.
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Marissa Lerner.
4	MARISSA LERNER,
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	MS. LERNER: Marissa Lerner, L-e-r-n-e-r.
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?
12	MS. LERNER: St.~Louis.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
14	MS. LERNER: I just first want to acknowledge
15	that this issue to going to impact a lot of folks in
16	Missouri, rural and city. It's going to impact all of us.
17	And I think that coming to a decision will not be easy.
18	There are pros and cons both ways. And not everyone's
19	going to leave happy. I think it's important to
20	acknowledge that.
21	I want to discuss the public benefits of this
22	because I think we have to think about the best possible
23	outcome for Missouri. I think bringing low cost energy,
24	powering 200,000 homes or more, creating jobs, supporting
25	schools, all of this are benefits that come with Grain Belt

1	Express. It's often difficult to find projects that come
2	with so many benefits in one project. And I hope that
3	these benefits can provide the common ground we need to
4	come together and make a decision on this.
5	Looking forward, I think this project will
6	make Missouri competitive in the energy realm and I think,
7	unlike coal energy, it has no negative health impacts and
8	won't contribute to air pollution that we've heard about so
9	much tonight from people's personal stories.
10	Additionally, it's a great point that private
11	businesses have no interest coming in and taking people's
12	land, and I agree with that point. But I also think we
13	should recognize that Ameren already does that. That is a
14	private company. So it's important to consider it's
15	already going on.
16	As a young person looking forward to my
17	future, my friends' futures, my family's futures and all of
18	human kind's futures, this could not be a better initiative
19	for Missouri and America moving forward. Climate change
20	will impact us whether we like it or not. And it's our
21	responsibility to take care of our planet and our
22	collective future. I would like to ask the commission to
23	critically think about Grain Belt Express as an outstanding
24	opportunity to responsibly move Missouri and America
25	towards a successful future. Thank you for your time.

1	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
2	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Jay O'Bannon.
3	JAY O'BANNON,
4	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
5	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
6	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
8	spell your last name.
9	MR. O'BANNON: Jay O'Bannon, O-'-B-a-n-n-o-n.
10	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live, sir?
11	MR. O'BANNON: I live in the City of
12	Centralia, Missouri.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
14	MR. O'BANNON: I also am a forth generation
15	farmer in southern Monroe County and a commodity trader for
16	one of the largest grain companies in Missouri and in the
17	world. And I'm proud to stand here today in front of you
18	representing and working in the number one industry in
19	Missouri. Agriculture is worth \$15.2 billion to our
20	economy. So I take this pretty serious. And I think we
21	all should take this seriously when we have a private
22	company trying to come across our number one industry in
23	the State of Missouri.
24	So I come back a little bit as I mentioned
25	earlier, I'm a commodity trader. What do commodity traders

1	do most of the time? We speculate. So when I heard about
2	Grain Belt Express, I thought, well, just another
3	transmission line, right? Our family, we farm around, I
4	don't know, multiple transmission lines. But you know
5	what, they are good for the public, they are local
6	utilities, they're jobs for our companies.
7	But when I started looking into Grain Belt
8	Express, the commodity trader came out in me. At first
9	their project was, hey, we're going to build a transmission
10	line from Kansas, maybe from some wind turbines that have
11	never even been built yet or are not built yet, and we're
12	going to take it to the east coast. There never was a
13	mention of the Ralls County converter.
14	And then all of a sudden they are down in
15	Arkansas with the Plains Eastern, or whatever they call
16	that project, and they got turned down. Why? Because
17	Arkansas said they didn't bring no benefit. So what do
18	they do? Oh, shoot, we've got these two other lines, we
19	better get something in here. They never thought about
20	Missouri in the first place. All they thought about was
21	their speculative project that the administration and the
22	EPA has led to the high rates in the east. That's what
23	they wanted to do. I'm a speculator. I'm a trader. I'm
24	going to try to make the most money I can too.
25	And one of the things that we learn at our

1	company is when you control the freight you control the
2	leverage. That's one of the first thing we teach our young
3	traders. And that's what they are trying to do here.
4	Let's remember, they are a merchant transmission line.
5	That means they can sell to whoever they want to. So if
6	this line was even built and I even went to the City of
7	Centralia, which had not signed a contract to purchase
8	power, only signed a contract basically in support and
9	we'll listen if you get this built. So there is no
10	promises about cheap energy. We don't even know about that
11	yet. All it is from municipalities is about how they may
12	support it. But remember, they are a merchant transmission
13	line, so they don't have to sell to anybody. They can sell
14	to the highest bidder. That's who they are going to sell
15	to.
16	I thank the commission for their time. And
17	also, one thing else. We've heard a lot about tax
18	revenues. And I want to leave with this. I ask a state or
19	county official who's willing to consider the financial
20	impact of supposed tax revenue from a speculative project
21	like GBE. It appears the official is overwhelmed by the
22	benefit to his or her governmental union and the rights of
23	the citizens are lost in comparison.
24	And lastly, government exists to secure the
25	rights of life, liberty and the property to its citizens.

1	I ask, should the government think of its own monetary
2	interests over protecting the private interests of its
3	citizens? Thank you for your time.
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Anita Johnson.
5	ANITA JOHNSON ,
6	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
7	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
8	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
9	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
10	spell your last name.
11	MS. JOHNSON: Anita Ann Johnson,
12	J-o-h-n-s-o-n.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live at?
14	MS. JOHNSON: I live in St. Charles County.
15	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Please proceed.
16	MS. JOHNSON: I would like to tell you I'm not
17	prepared as a lot of people are. I don't have a script.
18	But I am against the Grain Belt Express. I don't like the
19	things that you've earned over the years, your parents,
20	your grandparents, being taken away from you. I think it's
21	wrong. And I don't know, like they said in earlier
22	discussion, have there been enough studies. Is it going to
23	be that beneficial? Is it going to be lower electricity
24	rates? We don't know that. So I just want to end, in
25	short, I think a lot of them gave a lot better presentation

Page 113

1 than I did, but I want you to try to think it over. And 2 I'm hoping that you are against it. Thank you for 3 everyone. 4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Don Johnson. 5 DONALD G. JOHNSON, of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to 6 7 testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the 8 truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows: 9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and spell your last name. 10 MR. JOHNSON: Donald G. Johnson, 11 J-o-h-n-s-o-n. 12 13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live, sir? 14 MR. JOHNSON: I live on a Century Farm in St. 15 Charles County. 16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 17 MR. JOHNSON: And we have property here in Monroe County and Audrain County. At one point in one of 18 19 the previous hearings that we've had, one of the routes came across the fence from our farm alongside it for a long 20 21 distance. And I'm definitely opposed to Clean Line 22 Express. 23 And I have some concerns that haven't even 24 been mentioned here yet. If they're a foreign entity, my 25 concern is that they may not even pay any taxes at all if

Page 114
they do like a lot of companies moving out of this country,
which has been a big topic here lately. And that's a
concern to me. And another concern to me is if global
warming would shift the corridors that they kind of map out
and everything, if it would move the corridors where the
giant turbines are, then they are going to have to resort
to fossil fuels.
And I'm not against clean energy. There's a
lot of other sources that can be tapped and much closer to
the east coast if they wanted. One thing I'm in big favor
of is solar. These big towers are going to put up to me is
just a terrible, terrible landscape, and that bothers me.
I've spent huge amounts of money with soil
conservation practices, tons of money, and I've got my
place looking nice, really clean. And I would hate to see
these things coming in to scar the landscape which I have
been trying to transform. And I'm against that. I think
it's just terrible to scar our beautiful landscape here in
Missouri.
I want to talk about the taxes. I think
there's a lot of figures that have been thrown out here
this evening of dollars and cents. And I would hate to see
that turn out to be telling us what we want to hear and
then they'll go do what they want to do.

The other concern I have is like a can of

1	worms here. If this Clean Line Express fails and they've
2	got this property, this right-of-way, easements and
3	everything, what happens to that? I've not heard anything
4	addressing that. We know the railroads, all right? And
5	I'd like to see something really stipulated what happens if
6	this project fails, like the railroads failed. That's one
7	of my concerns.
8	Oh, will there be an escrow account set up
9	like if these towers have to be torn down? I don't want to
10	see taxpayers have to do that. I'd like to see some kind
11	of provision made if this thing goes through, which I hope
12	it doesn't, that there would be some kind of account set up
13	to tear these towers down and have the land be brought back
14	to the original landowner or whoever owns the land at the
15	time.
16	We've seen all these kinds of things. We've
17	seen things with the casinos and how much they are going to
18	aid schools. And that turned out to be a farce. We were
19	told what they wanted us to hear, and then things turned
20	around and politicians did what they wanted to do.
21	And I have a short amount of time here, so
22	I'll end. I want to thank you gentlemen. I know you have
23	a tough task ahead of you. I appreciate the opportunity to
24	speak with you this evening. And again, thank you for your
25	time. You have a tremendous job ahead of you. I am

1	definitely against Clean Line Express. This could be a can
2	of worms that we don't want. So I think we need to be
3	careful what we grant, what we want to do, okay? I think
4	we need to be very careful about what we grant. I think
5	people in the big metropolitan areas don't know what they
6	are asking for. I thank you gentlemen, all of you.
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Susan.
8	SUSAN HIBBARD,
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	MS. HIBBARD: Susan Hibbard, H-i-b-b-a-r-d.
15	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?
16	MS. HIBBARD: Ralls County, Perry, Missouri.
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
18	MS. HIBBARD: I'm speaking tonight because I
19	oppose this power line and what it would do to our county.
20	My husband, Wiley Hibbard, is the presiding commissioner of
21	Ralls County. He's going to be giving written testimony in
22	March, and we were given to understand the rules prohibit
23	him from testifying here. Is that right?
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Yes. It's preferable to
25	testify at the evidentiary hearing.

1	MS. HIBBARD: All right. So here I am. Bear
2	with me. Wiley and I have opposed this project from the
3	very start, even before he was elected. We went to one of
4	the first meetings in Monroe City and met with the
5	representatives of Clean Line. And he was so outraged, I
6	had to make him leave.
7	I don't think it is in question that wind is
8	cleaner than coal. I don't think that's what we're here to
9	talk about tonight. We are not opposed to wind-generated
10	power. But giving a small group of investors the right to
11	take our property in order to make a private profit with
12	virtually no benefit those impacted seems wrong.
13	I've heard it argued that this line is needed
14	to provide clean low cost energy to Missourians. How does
15	a line transmitting energy from Kansas through Missouri to
16	the east supply this need? In supporting this power line,
17	it would actually be taking cheap power that could be
18	available to Missouri in the future and exporting it east,
19	never to be available to us. It's gone. As I understand
20	it, less than 10 percent of the proposed power transmitted
21	would be available to Missourians. I don't see that
22	benefiting St.~Louis, friends.
23	I've also heard it said that we need this
24	power line to replace the energy from our aged coal-fired
25	plants. How does transmitting captive wind energy from

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1	Kansas to Maryland, to New Jersey, Pennsylvania achieve
2	this goal? The amount they're proposing to make available
3	for a Ralls County converter station is but a small
4	fraction of the electricity that would need to be provided
5	when these coal stations are no longer up. The law of
6	supply and demand dictates prices. So how does siphoning
7	off large amounts of supply to the east coast benefit the
8	communities of Missouri's need for cheap energy, now or in
9	the future?
10	These investors have filed for this
11	certificate three times now. The project will have dire
12	effect on those properties that stand to be taken. These
13	people are retirees, small businesses, young couples,
14	farmers. They have stood fast through several years of
15	these repeated filings against these investors who clearly
16	have much deeper resources to bring to bear against the
17	landowners. The questionable benefits suggested to the
18	State of Missouri and its citizens can in no way be
19	considered reasonable or adequate for what is being given
20	up.
21	I've heard a lot of numbers thrown around
22	tonight. I don't know how supported many of them are, the
23	3 cents per kilowatt-hour that Hannibal mentions. Based on
24	my knowledge, which is not deep, it seems extraordinary
25	low. I'm not sure how they can promise that when the wind

terminals aren't built, the power line is not built. 1 Ι 2 wonder about that. Clean Line partners has never built a power 3 4 line like this. I believe it's never built any power line. 5 This is simply a private company trying to use the power of the state to give them ownership of a path across the 6 country to make money for themselves. Thank you, 7 8 Gentlemen, for your time tonight. I appreciate your time. 9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Ann Hizar. 10 ANN HIZAR, 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 spell your last name. 15 16 MS. HIZAR: Yes. It's Ann Hizar, H-i-z-a-r. 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? 18 MS. HIZAR: I hate to say it, but St.~Louis. 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 20 MS. HIZAR: Gentlemen, I want to thank you 21 tonight for hosting this PSC meeting and providing me the opportunity to share my opposition to Clean Line's Grain 22 Belt Express project, and also to thank Hannibal-LaGrange 23 24 College or University for hosting this meeting. I want to offer my perspective as the administrator of our Ralls 25

1	County farm started by my father and brother, which lies
2	directly in the path of Clean Line's planned Grain Belt
3	Express transmission line.
4	Ralls County is full of small farms like ours
5	run by families and small businesses, not big corporations.
6	I manage the administrative work farms. If PSC allows
7	Clean Line to exercise eminent domain and run the mega
8	transmission line across our farmland, it will cause heavy
9	administrative burdens on our family.
10	-
	Working in real estate, I know mega
11	transmission lines devalue property. It's that simple.
12	Nobody wants to live by them. People don't want to buy
13	property with a view of a 200-foot transmission tower or
14	risk the financial loss of having a transmission line run
15	across the property. This line has already had negative
16	impact on land values.
17	Our next door neighbor built their beautiful
18	home for retirement. When news of Clean Line's plan
19	surfaced, they sold their home fearing the loss of value
20	would be too significant as well as not wanting to stare at
21	a 200-foot tower. Another nearby neighbor had plans to
22	build a home on the Mississippi Bluffs. These plans have
23	been scrapped fearing their view would be of towers instead
24	of the beautiful Mississippi.
25	The value of land has plunged significantly

1	from past power projects. The Electric Power Research
2	Institute found that installing power lines smaller that
3	Clean Line's affected the value of impacted farmland. The
4	University of Missouri's farmland value survey lists the
5	price of good cropland in Ralls and Marion Counties at
б	\$5,419 per acre. That won't be true for farms marred by
7	the Grain Belt Express if this project is approved.
8	The EPRI also felt that installing lines can
9	result in sales prices of up to 14 percent less for
10	affected single-family homes. And our farm has five of
11	those. It also found adjacent properties experienced
12	significant loss and took much longer to sell. And I can
13	tell you that from real estate experience in St.~Louis.
14	To sum it up, Parham Farms alone has
15	agricultural land and a single-family home that would be
16	financially hurt. While values of our land and homes will
17	decrease, the county assessor says that our property taxes
18	will not be lowered. We have been advised by counsel that
19	Parham Farms could have to carry a million-dollars
20	insurance policy if lines are built to cover the damage to
21	the lines or the towers that we don't want, we don't need,
22	and we don't own.
23	Adding insult to injury, any compensation we
24	receive from Clean Line would be subject to state and
25	federal taxes paid by us. This compensation does not begin

1	to cover the financial loss to us or others in the path of
2	Grain Belt. Please think about all of the houses along
3	this 200-plus mile route that will be devalued by a
4	transmission line. That is a lot of homes, farms and
5	families who will experience similar or greater losses if
6	the PSC approves the Clean Line petition.
7	Respectfully, that is a lot of negative
8	financial impact on the State of Missouri at the hands of
9	the state commissioners. In closing, I ask that the
10	Missouri Public Service Commission support Missouri
11	residents, landowners and families by denying the Clean
12	Line petition. Thank you, Gentlemen.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Jim Gumm.
14	JIM GUMM,
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. GUMM: Jim Gumm, G-u-m-m. I live in Ralls
21	County, Missouri.
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
23	MR. GUMM: I'd like to just start by thanking
24	the Missouri PSC for providing this opportunity to show my
25	opposition against the Clean Line and thank

1	Hannibal-LaGrange University for providing the forum. I
2	work on a farm that's going to be affected if the Grain
3	Belt Express is approved. And I've been in the contracting
4	business for about 40 years. I believe that no one would
5	like to build a home that they can see or that they are
6	within the view of these massive transmission lines and
7	these giant poles.
8	Everything else I had wrote down here
9	everybody's pretty well covered. But one thing, I guess
10	maybe a suggestion or maybe just a thought that I had
11	that I understand both sides of this situation. I think
12	I truly do. Nothing has been mentioned here about the loss
13	of the jobs in the coal industry should these transmission
14	lines be approved through here and the coal industry is
15	shut down, even though I do like clean air.
16	I guess my hopes would be that maybe the PSC
17	and Grain Belt could get together with the folks from the
18	city, find out their addresses, they live all across the
19	state, and get their engineers that have been here tonight
20	too and reroute this thing and put these lines over their
21	houses, put the poles in their yards, and just reroute it
22	that way, and then they will be happy. They will have that
23	power right where they want it, because it will look like
24	it does where they live now. And pretty much just leave us
25	old country folks alone out here. Thank you very much.

1	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Phillip Briscoe.
2	PHILLIP BRISCOE,
3	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
4	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
5	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
6	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
7	spell your last name.
8	MR. BRISCOE: Phillip Briscoe, B-r-i-s-c-o-e.
9	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
10	MR. BRISCOE: Ralls County.
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
12	MR. BRISCOE: I'd like to thank you all for
13	taking the time to be here tonight to listen to all the
14	concerns that the people in this community have for this
15	line. And I'd like to come out and tell you, first off, I
16	oppose it. And just like the mister before me, I think if
17	there's people that want it bad enough to have to put it in
18	their back yard, then let them have at it. That's all I've
19	got to say.
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.
21	DAVID BRISCOE,
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. BRISCOE: David Briscoe. It's
3	B-r-i-s-c-o-e.
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?
5	MR. BRISCOE: Ralls County.
6	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
7	MR. BRISCOE: All right. I come here tonight
8	to speak to opposition to the Clean Line. I thank you
9	first off. And it's my understanding, and maybe I'm wrong,
10	but I think you've said no maybe once or twice already, and
11	I appreciate that. I truly do. And I don't know how many
12	times you can say no. Where I come from, once is enough.
13	And evidently not in this case.
14	And so anyway, the main not main. There's
15	very, very good reason to oppose this that's been spoken
16	already. The reality is when you farm and you see I had
17	to have help up here, because I'm losing my eyesight. I do
18	what I can. Even if you can see good, if you have to farm
19	around all of these installations, it's a nightmare. And
20	it's a constant cost and it's a never-ending cost that's
21	always going to be there if these things are put in place.
22	And when we farm that, the sad reality is the
23	project is going to go right down the center of these
24	awfully good fields. And there's been no consideration,
25	none whatsoever, for the farmers, or so it appears to me.

Page	126

1	So if this company was serious about what they wanted to
2	do, I think first off they would have taken that into
3	consideration. And what I've heard here tonight, it kind
4	of seems very, very simple to me. If they really wanted to
5	do it they would have ran it down 70 or Highway 36 because
6	it seems Hannibal and St.~Louis want it awfully bad.
7	But I do know this, and I want to say this.
8	In farming or anything, you can make projections, you can
9	make estimates. And in 2008, we made our plans and
10	projections what the final outcome will be. Well, it so
11	happened that in 2008 there was a flood, a big flood. And
12	this very area that we farm where they're wanting to put
13	this project right down through was flooded. And so you
14	can spend estimations and projections all you want to
15	spend. Sometimes are not going to come to pass. And the
16	sad reality is I don't trust this company. And I do
17	appreciate your time.
18	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Bonnie Sanford.
19	BONNIE SANFORD,
20	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
21	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
22	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
24	spell your last name.
25	MS. SANFORD: Bonnie Sanford, S-a-n-f-o-r-d.

1	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
2	MS. SANFORD: Jefferson County, Missouri.
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
4	MS. SANFORD: Okay. First of all, I would
5	like to express my thanks to the Missouri Public Service
6	Commission for allowing me this opportunity to share my
7	comments and thoughts today. I am here in support of Clean
8	Line Energy Partners' proposed project which crosses
9	through central Missouri.
10	As a lifetime rural Missourian resident who
11	has transmission lines on my property, I support the growth
12	of renewable energy and think projects of this type will
13	provide benefits to Missouri. As our nation's
14	infrastructure ages and the demand for reliable energy
15	supply expands and becomes more critical, it is essential
16	that we support the upgrading of the nation's electric
17	grid. The Clean Line Grain Belt Express project addresses
18	this need.
19	This project will expand the ability to
20	deliver safe, clean and renewable energy throughout its
21	service delivery territory. A reliable, safe and renewable
22	energy supply will require projects of this type to be
23	built in order for the energy supply in order for the
24	transmission of electricity from point of origin to point
25	of use.

1	As a person who has asthma and grandchildren
2	who has asthma, we need clean energy. And all Missourians
3	need clean energy. No, I do not live in these counties.
4	But if this was to come to Jefferson County, Missouri, I
5	would agree and support it. I hope you do also. Thank
6	you.
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Before I call the
8	next name, I just wanted to point out that there are eight
9	names left on the list, but we have a reservation that ends
10	in less than 30 minutes. We have to be out of here by ten.
11	So I would just ask that the witnesses say what you need to
12	say, but please be concise so that everyone gets a chance.
13	The next witness is Jerry Briscoe.
14	JERRY BRISCOE,
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. BRISCOE: Jerry Briscoe, B-r-i-s-c-o-e.
21	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live, sir?
22	MR. BRISCOE: Ralls County.
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
24	MR. BRISCOE: I'd like to thank the Missouri
25	PSC for providing this opportunity to share my opinion and

1	to Hannibal LaGrange University for providing this forum.
2	I'm a Missouri farmer and very much opposed to the Clean
3	Line Grain Belt Express project. Much of my family earns
4	their livelihood as a Missouri farmer.
5	Now Clean Line's project jeopardizes safety
6	and was is already a dangerous job. Stray holes from these
7	lines could also stress livestock and affect their behavior
8	causing them to shy away from water and feeders. These
9	stresses build up over time and link to adverse health
10	effects such as a decrease in body weight, which means
11	lower prices, less income for cattle farmers.
12	If Clean Line's able to exercise eminent
13	domain, Missouri farmers will lose some of their most
14	productive farmland that create new jobs and contribute to
15	Missouri economy. I ask that the Missouri Public
16	Commission support Missouri residents and landowners and
17	farmers by denying Clean Line's petition. Thank you.
18	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you Austin Parham.
19	AUSTIN PARHAM,
20	
21	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
22	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
23	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
25	spell your last name.

1	MR. PARHAM: Austin Read Parham, R-e-a-d, last
2	name P-a-r-h-a-m.
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
4	MR. PARHAM: Arlington, Virginia. I'd like to
5	first start by thanking Missouri PSC for providing this
6	opportunity as well to the college or now university for
7	providing this venue. I'm a Hannibal native and have spent
8	30 years living in this state. I own a Missouri-based
9	business, support charitable causes in Hannibal, and I pay
10	taxes to the City of Hannibal and the State of Missouri.
11	More than a quarter of a century ago, my
12	family initiated a 200-plus acre habitat restoration
13	project in coordination with the United States Natural
14	Resources Conservation Service, an effort which my brother
15	and I continue to manage today. We set aside this portion
16	of Parham Farms for environmental protection because it has
17	unique qualities that cross it.
18	It is a rare spot of Missouri savanna habitat
19	that plays a special role in biodiversity of the
20	surrounding area. It is a hub for wildlife. It includes
21	prime habitat for the Indiana Bat. You may recall this bat
22	as listed as endangered by not only the State of Missouri,
23	but by the federal government as well. Savanna habitat is
24	where the eastern woodlands meet the western prairies. It
25	was once predominant across the State of Missouri. But as

savanna habitat declines, so does biodiversity across the 1 2 state. Today, according to state and federal 3 4 agencies, more than 1 percent, 1 percent of savanna habitat 5 remains in Missouri. That remaining 1 percent of native Missouri savanna habitat, which my family has painstakingly 6 restored over decades, now faces destruction if the PSC 7 8 approves Clean Line's petition to build the Grain Belt 9 The proposed route of Grain Belt Express would Express. also run straight across Parham Farms and smack in the 10 middle of prime habitat for the Indiana Bat. 11 12 Indiana Bats depend on land covered in mature 13 oak trees, prime habitat for this endangered species, and 14 exactly the type of habitat that we currently protect at Parham Farms that will be exposed to Clean Line's project. 15 16 It is also exactly the type of habitat that construction -not only construction, but also future maintenance of the 17 Grain Belt Express route will destroy. 18 19 To be clear, I'm not just talking about a handful of trees in the footprint of the future Clean Line 20 transmission tower, which is 200 feet tall, equivalent of a 21 18 and a half story building. Do we want miles and miles 22 23 of 18 and a half story buildings across this county, Ralls 24 County? I don't think so. That's not what I've heard 25 tonight.

1	Clean Line says that it needs a right-of-way
2	200 feet for its Grain Belt Express. That may not sound
3	like much, but 200 feet over one mile is 24 acres, a mature
4	forest and Indian Bat habitat. And when constructing this
5	line, expect that acreage to double to 48 acres that they
6	will need, 48 acres of fields and habitat taken out of its
7	current status. If the PSC allows Clean Line to take away
8	a mature oak forest, it will take the endangered Indiana
9	Bat population with it.
10	The right-of-way created for the Grain Belt
11	Express would also fragment our forest, meaning that
12	species will become more vulnerable to predators,
13	parasites, catastrophic events. Fragmentation of the
14	forest causes a permanent reduction of species. If Clean
15	Line is allowed to move forward with its plans, my family's
16	work will be set back decades, throwing away a very
17	time-consuming and large monetary investment that both my
18	family and the federal government had invested in this
19	property.
20	We as well as our neighboring landowners and
21	farmers will have to survey and establish new protocols for
22	elimination of endangered species, not at Clean Line's
23	expense, but at ours. Once destroyed, the last 1 percent
24	of Missouri's savanna habitat can never be recovered. Once
25	the small areas of remaining habitat are destroyed, the

Indiana Bat will soon become extinct. 1 2 I urge you to question whether this is the kind of legacy that the PSC's decision should leave. I ask 3 4 the Missouri Public Service Commission to support Missouri 5 residents, landowners, farmers and natural resources by denying Clean Line's petition. Thank you. 6 7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Marilyn Parham. 8 MARILYN PARHAM, 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. PARHAM: My name is Marilyn Parham, 15 P-a-r-h-a-m. 16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? 17 MS. PARHAM: Hannibal, Missouri. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 18 19 MS. PARHAM: I'd like to begin by thanking you, the Missouri PSC, for providing the opportunity to 20 21 share my opposition to Grain Belt Express. I was born in Hannibal, and I've been a part of this community my entire 22 23 life. My husband and I raised our two sons and continue to build out the Parham family farm that my husband and his 24 father started nearly 40 years ago. 25

1	As you heard from my sister-in-law, Ann Hizar,
2	we've used the profits from that farm to support our
3	community and to preserve Missouri's natural habitats and
4	species. I'm a Hannibal citizen and a Hannibal rate payer,
5	and I want you to know that the representatives of the City
6	of Hannibal that you've heard here do not speak for me.
7	We have heard a lot of promises from Clean
8	Line and heard them echoed by Hannibal officials. But what
9	if Clean Line cannot provide what it promises. It may
10	appear that Clean Line is offering Hannibal cheap
11	electricity. I can see why the Hannibal Board of Public
12	Works would be swayed by the offer of cheaper electricity
13	for our community. Without context, that might sound like
14	a really good opportunity for Hannibal. But Clean Line is
15	just the toll road. All they can do is transmit energy.
16	They do not control the production of energy or its output
17	through the grid. Clean Line's promising cheap reliable
18	energy, but how can we be sure that their promises are
19	genuine when they are not in control of what they promise?
20	It may appear that Clean Line is offering
21	Hannibal new jobs. However, these are not likely to
22	guarantee the employment of Hannibal citizens. Parham
23	Farms and so many other local farms like it already provide
24	good long-term sustainable employment for local families.
25	What Clean Line is offering is, at best, leaving employment

1	in our region and, at worst, short-term jobs filled by
2	transient workers who are not long-term members of our
3	community who will invest in Hannibal.
4	Clean Line's proposed Grain Belt Express will
5	run directly across the most fertile land on Parham Farms.
6	You have already heard about financial, administrative and
7	environmental burdens that this would place on our families
8	and the other families who help to work the land. Our
9	family takes great pride in running Parham Farms as a
10	responsible business and a good neighbor to others in our
11	community.
12	Through the years, a sizeable portion of
13	revenue from Parham Farms has been donated to non-profit
14	organizations that strengthen the Hannibal community, as in
15	a Mark Twain Home Foundation the Douglas Community Center,
16	Hannibal Regional Hospital, Moberly Area Community College,
17	to name a few. That's in stark contrast to the way that
18	Clean Line handles its business.
19	Clean Line has said that they have reached out
20	to every landowner affected along its 200-plus mile
21	proposed route. As an owner of Parham Farms, I can tell
22	you for certain that Clean Line has done no such thing.
23	Even after we contacted Clean Line with a notice of denial,
24	the only response we received was a flier listing their
25	office hours. Clean Line is not a company looking to

1	improve our community. It is a for-profit, non-Missouri,
2	foreign-backed company looking to take away what belongs to
3	our local residents and farms and use it to build a
4	transmission toll road for Kansas energy to reach lucrative
5	east coast markets, all at the expense of those who help to
6	make this community a wonderful place to live.
7	Standing here tonight feels like deja vu. I
8	stood before you at a similar hearing in 2014 before the
9	PSC denied Clean Line's first petition. The PSC already
10	made the right decision once in denying Clean Line's
11	petition. Tonight I ask that you make the same right
12	decision. Thank you.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Rachel Thomas.
14	RACHEL THOMAS,
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	MS. THOMAS: Rachel Thomas, T-h-o-m-a-s.
21	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside?
22	MS. THOMAS: Washington, DC.
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
24	MS. THOMAS: First, thank you to the
25	commissioners for providing this opportunity for me to

1	share my opposition to Clean Line's Grain Belt Express
2	project and for Hannibal-LaGrange for providing the forum.
3	My fiance, Read Parham, and I do currently live in
4	Washington, DC, but I am proud to be marrying into a family
5	that has its roots in the City of Hannibal and the farmland
6	of Ralls County for generations. I am particularly proud
7	of the legacy that they have built with Parham Farms and
8	the habitat restoration project that they manage on the
9	oldest settlement in Ralls County.
10	Now, companies like Clean Line are not new to
11	me. During nearly a decade of working in our nation's
12	capital, I have witnessed lots of corporations and
13	well-paid lobbyists. Heck, I've been one of the well-paid
14	lobbyists painting pretty stories about how their plans
15	will do good for others. And I know from experience that
16	the truth is always in the bottom line profits. If what is
17	profitable also happens to be good, that can work out just
18	fine. But if not, the outcome can be devastating.
19	Clean Line is not here because providing clean
20	and wind energy because it's good for this community. If
21	Clean Line was here to do the right thing by Missouri
22	residents and farmers, it would be offering them fair value
23	for their land in order to build the Grain Belt Express
24	rather than asking the PSC to give them a free pass to take
25	what they like for their own bottom line.

1	I believe that the cultivation of clean energy
2	is absolutely vital to our nation's future and to that of
3	local communities. However, there is a right way to do
4	this and a wrong way to go about clean energy policy. And
5	allowing a private property to declare eminent demain and
6	take away the land of private citizens in the name of wind
7	energy is not the right direction, all the more so when
8	that private company's plans would tear apart a
9	quarter-century local effort at environmental habitat
10	protection.
11	It is the PSC's job to protect Missouri and
12	its citizens from companies who aren't providing a
13	convenient and necessary service by denying those companies
14	petitions to declare eminent domain. The PSC's own past
15	findings show that Clean Line cannot deliver on what they
16	promise. I encourage you to stick to that truth no matter
17	how much prettier the picture is that Clean Line paints
18	this time around. I ask that the PSC support Missouri
19	residents, landowners and farmers by denying Clean Line's
20	petition. Thank you.
21	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Robert Parham.
22	ROBERT PARHAM,
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: Please state your name and
2	spell your last name.
3	MR. PARHAM: Robert Parham, P-a-r-h-a-m.
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside?
5	MR. PARHAM: Columbia, Missouri.
6	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
7	MR. PARHAM: Thank you all for coming, as
8	everybody so far has. I grew up here in Hannibal. And as
9	you probably picked up, I also am a member of Parham Farms.
10	And I currently reside in Columbia, like I said.
11	You've heard about economic impact and
12	environmental impact and impact on the way of life. But
13	I'd like to talk to you about the impact on our rights as
14	citizens of this community, of the State of Missouri, and
15	of the United States as a whole. I want you to consider
16	some facts.
17	Clean Line is a private company that's asking
18	for a certificate of convenience and necessity. This isn't
19	because they need their certificate in order to do what
20	they want in terms of a business. Clean Line already has a
21	very well-funded private equity startup backed by private
22	investors here and around the globe with four major
23	projects on the table. Clean Line is only asking for a
24	certificate because they don't want to have to pay fair
25	market value for land they need to construct their Grain

1	Belt	Express.
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2	Clean Line is a private company that wants to
3	use the power of government to force the sale of private
4	property which is otherwise not for sale, and the PSC would
5	allow it if they issue the certificate of convenience and
6	necessity. This company stands to gain an immense amount
7	of money. There are a multi billion dollar business.
8	They'll wield power of eminent domain over small businesses
9	and landowners with a certificate while still reaping the
10	financial benefits of being a private company.
11	I'm not exaggerating exactly how lucrative
12	this opportunity is for Clean Line. The last or a
13	recent company that was issued public utility status and a
14	certificate of convenience and necessity now has over
15	\$200 billion in assets. Eminent domain is an extremely
16	powerful tool.
17	Clean Line won't be the only company to
18	benefit from taking what it wants at the expense of those
19	who have worked for it. All of its funders and supporters
20	from its private equity backers, to the multi national
21	corporations speaking on its behalf, will reap those
22	financial benefits as well, all to the detriment of the
23	private citizens and their small businesses in a rural
24	community.
25	What's not been proven is whether our

1	community or any other in Missouri has anything at all to
2	gain. Clean Line has promised lower energy rates. That's
3	not their promise to make, as has been stated before,
4	because they don't create the energy. They merely
5	transport it from the producer to the consumer. Whoever
6	pays the most will get the power. In denying the first
7	petition for the certificate of convenience and necessity,
8	the PSC itself wrote that Clean Line's production modeling
9	studies do not support its claims that retail electric
10	rates would decrease.
11	Clean Line has promised new jobs, but we've
12	heard tonight those new jobs will come at the expense of
13	other jobs lost. Clean Line has promised compensation, but
14	we've heard tonight that they are not prepared to pay for
15	what would come close to matching the financial losses that
16	our community would experience if eminent domain is used to
17	take land away. We've even heard Clean Line's promise our
18	community economy prosperity. And again, that's not their
19	promise to make. They don't even know if they can quite
20	deliver that.
21	Serious questions still exist about Clean
22	Line's ability to actually provide what they promise. But
23	there's no question that of the PSC grants Clean Line, a
24	non-Missouri, foreign-backed, for-profit company to use the
25	power of eminent domain, it will be the detriment of

residents and landowners in this community and others 1 across the State of Missouri. 2 I again thank you for your time. And I hope 3 4 that you deny, once again, Clean Line's certificate of 5 convenience and necessity. б JUDGE BUSHMANN: Deanette Stumpe. 7 DEANETTE STUMPE, 8 of lawful age, having been first duly sworn to testify the 9 truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the case aforesaid, deposes and says in reply to oral 10 11 interrogatories propounded as follows, to-wit: 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and spell your last name. 13 14 MS. STUMPE: My name is Deanette Stumpe, 15 S-t-u-m-p-e. 16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live? 17 MS. STUMPE: Columbia, Missouri. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 18 19 MS. STUMPE: My name is Deanette. And tonight, I'm speaking on behalf of myself and also 20 of my 20 21 family members, all natives of southern Missouri. We are all adamantly opposed to the Clean Line project. 22 Though 23 our family farm, our family business, is not along the 24 proposed route of this particular transmission project, we can see in Clean Line's proposed project is a very 25

1	dangerous precedent of private business requesting a
2	certificate of convenience and necessity to declare eminent
3	domain and take land that is not for sale on the free
4	market. While Clean Line isn't coming after my family's
5	farm today, what is happening to the family homes and farms
6	here in Marion and Ralls County and all along the 200-plus
7	mile route could happen to all of us in the future.
8	Clean Line is an out-of-state, private,
9	startup company with no experience completing such a
10	project. If the PSC sets the precedent that such an
11	inexperienced company can be handed the certificate, they
12	can grow their business. Clean Line will just be the first
13	of a whole new industry of similar startups looking to
14	acquire property that owners value and that they are not
15	wishing to sell. Through the power of eminent domain, they
16	will leave us all susceptible to similar land routes by
17	inexperienced businessmen, making promises they simply
18	can't keep.
19	If the PSC sets this precedent, who here will
20	wake up in the near future and see a big black line drawn
21	across their property on another startup company's plans to
22	build massive transmission lines, leveraging Missouri land
23	to carry energy straight across our state to more lucrative
24	markets? Who wants that? I know my family doesn't. My
25	hometown doesn't. Does the PSC?

1	I strongly urge you to consider the broader
2	impact of this decision. The broader impact is not just
3	the small businesses and landowners among this 200-mile
4	route. This decision has a broader impact on how other
5	states view these personal property rights. It's time to
6	protect the property rights of the individual, individuals
7	who care for and responsibly maintain this land. It's not
8	time to give private land away to a non-Missouri business
9	who cannot deliver on their promises and who will not
10	respect the land that they've taken.
11	Again, this is the perspective of one small
12	family business adamantly opposed to the Clean Line project
13	and who would be affected by the precedent. But consider
14	for a moment that my story is just one of thousands across
15	the State of Missouri who would be negatively impacted by
16	Clean Line's plans. Families whose ability to support the
17	economy and employment of the Show Me State would be
18	severely hurt.
19	I ask you, the Public Service Commission,
20	support Missouri residents, support the landowners and the
21	farmers by denying Clean Line's petition. Thank you for
22	providing Missouri residents the opportunity to voice our
23	strong opposition to the Clean Line project.
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: David Dunn.
25	DAVID DUNN,

Page 145

1	of lawful age, having been first duly sworn or affirmed to
2	testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
3	truth in the case aforesaid, deposes as follows:
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
5	spell your last name.
6	MR. DUNN: My name is Dave Dunn, D-u-n-n.
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live, sir?
8	MR. DUNN: In Jefferson County, Missouri.
9	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
10	MR. DUNN: I am also a member of Family Farms
11	out of Lincoln County. And I'm here to say that I support
12	this movement. In addition to delivering reliable
13	electrical service, this project had create new jobs. The
14	more local impact will be the creation of long-term quality
15	jobs. As projects of this type are implemented, there will
16	be strong and significant financial impact on the economy.
17	But that all being said, I think that the health issues
18	should be the number one major concern for this Public
19	Service Commission. Thank you.
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. And our last
21	witness is Gerald Noland.
22	GERALD NOLAND,
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:

Page 146

1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and 2 spell your last name. 3 MR. NOLAND: Gerry Noland, N-o-l-a-n-d, and I 4 reside in Hannibal, Missouri. 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. MR. NOLAND: Since I'm last, I'll try to be 6 7 But tonight we've her heard -- just sitting in the brief. 8 crowd, I've heard several professional engineers talk about 9 the need for this to improve infrastructure. I agree. I've heard several professional engineers talk about the 10 need to advance the nation's efforts and create renewable 11 12 energy. I agree. 13 However, as a Professional Engineer myself, an 14 employee of a state agency that has the right to acquire property through the use of eminent domain, I am acutely 15 16 aware of ethical responsibilities associated with acquiring property through eminent domain. This is not something 17 that we should take lightly. Eminent domain should only be 18 19 utilized in the State of Missouri for projects that benefit the citizens of Missouri. Clean Line is simply a private 20 21 business looking to do one thing, make profit, plain and 22 simple. 23 They are no different than -- they are 24 approaching these communities with promises of jobs, job 25 creation. Go ahead and add tax revenue. And they are very

1	appealing. But they are no different than any private
2	business. Wal-Mart comes to communities offering jobs,
3	offering tax revenue, offering the long-term benefits
4	through economic development. They do not have the right
5	to use eminent domain. Eminent domain is a factor that we
6	have to take seriously in the state.
7	And again, I just encourage you to take the
8	same position you took before. Eminent domain is a very
9	serious power that engineers should, in general, make
10	ethical determinations with. So thank you.
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Thank you all for
12	coming out tonight and participating in this hearing. The
13	hearing is adjourned. We're off the record.
14	(Hearing adjourned at 10:00 p.m.)
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17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

Page 148

1		INDEX	
2	WITNESS NAME	PAGE	
3		б	
5	Janet Cuenca Keith Rosenkrans	8	
4		8 11	
4	Randy Park	13	
5	Julie Viel Kent Denson	16	
5		18	
6	Jonathan Sherman		
6	Kelly Sherman	20	
-	Michael Dobson Justin Hickman	22	
7		25	
	RC Harlow	27	
8	Eli Horowitz	30	
	Erin Kollar	32	
9	Kathy Peterson	35	
1.0	George Walley	38	
10	Debbie Edmunds	41	
1 1	Carrie Goodman	44	
11	Mark Grieshaber	46	
1.0	Robert Stevenson	50	
12	Dan Mosby	53	
1 0	John A. Saxton	55	
13	Sherry McFarland	56	
14	Rajiv Ravulapati	59	
14	Mike Huff	62	
1 -	George Lane	63	
15	Todd Halfman	64	
10	Larry Markley	66	
16	Jeff LaGarce	70	
1 7	Sarah Edgar	73	
17	Patricia Schuba	76	
18	Virginia Caswell Taular Coudan	79 79	
ΤO	Taylor Cowden		
1.0	Andy Knott	80	
19	Stephanie Budrus	84	
20	Sarah Van Hala Christie Perry	86 88	
20	_	89	
21	Dan Wieland Sarah Davenport	89 91	
21		91	
22	Greg Stuart	92 93	
22	Jamie Caswell	93	
22	Jerome Benton	97	
23	John Lake Daniel Thomas	101	
24		101	
24	Jacob Plotkin		
25	Jamie Hunter	106	
25	Marissa Lerner	107	
25	Jay O'Bannon	109	
25	Jay O'Bannon	109	

		Page 149
1	Anita Johnson	112
<u> </u>	Donald G. Johnson	113
2	Susan Hibbard	116
3	Ann Hizar Jim Gumm	119 122
2	Phillip Briscoe	122
4	David Briscoe	124
_	Bonnie Sanford	126
5	Jerry Briscoe	128
	Austin Parham	129
6	Marilyn Parham	133
_	Rachel Thomas	136
7	Robert Parham	138
8	Deanette Stumpe David Dunn	142 144
0	Gerald Noland	145
9		113
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

Page 150

Page 151

1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
2	STATE OF MISSOURI)
3) ss. 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	U
17	Certified Court Reporter
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	1	1	1	1
A	acres 21:4,14	31:8	72:22 102:10	66:21 70:4
Aaron 33:22,23	37:23 80:16	adoption 76:10	aforesaid 6:21	73:16 76:20
34:4,9	132:3,5,6	adults 37:7	9:3 11:24 13:4	79:3 80:1,22
ability 28:6 29:3	act 65:20 69:16	advance 146:11	16:10 18:18	84:11 87:1
37:7 38:7	101:9	advanced 24:12	20:17 22:7	88:10 89:21
55:16 127:19	action 151:10,14	advantage 23:25	25:8 27:10	91:24 92:21
141:22 144:16	activists 10:17	56:22	30:13 32:17	94:4 95:14
151:8	10:22,25	adverse 30:3	34:1 35:15	98:5 101:24
able 6:7 7:17	acutely 146:15	129:9	38:13 41:22	104:8 106:1
25:22 26:15	Adair 84:20	adversely 29:21	44:18 47:6	107:5 109:4
28:12 29:13	87:8	advised 121:18	50:21 54:1	112:6 113:6
32:8 43:22	adamantly 9:17	advocating 85:5	55:23 57:2	116:9 119:11
53:8 55:4	142:22 144:12	affect 18:10	59:11 62:16	122:15 124:3
105:13 129:12	add 40:2 41:9	27:22 29:21	63:19 64:23	124:22 126:20
abroad 17:2	47:16 146:25	68:9 99:4,10	66:23 70:6	128:15 129:21
absenteeism	Adding 121:23	129:7	73:18 76:22	133:9 136:15
37:5	addition 90:10	affirmed 6:19	79:5 80:3,24	138:23 142:8
absolutely 9:20	91:7 105:8	9:1 11:22 13:2	84:13 87:3	145:1,23
88:22 89:7	145:12	16:8 18:16	88:12 89:23	aged 117:24
101:8 138:2	Additionally	20:15 27:8	92:1,23 94:6	agencies 71:6
abuse 86:21	53:7 91:11	30:11 32:15	95:16 98:7	131:4
access 3:24	108:10	33:24 35:13	102:1 104:10	agency 53:5
36:15 38:7	address 50:11	38:11 50:19	106:3 107:7	146:14
46:23 48:9	50:14 67:7	53:24 55:21	109:6 112:8	agents 91:13
53:15	addressed 28:14	56:25 59:9	113:8 116:11	ages 127:14
account 115:8	addresses 45:14	62:14 63:17	119:13 122:17	aggressively
115:12	123:18 127:17	64:21 66:21	124:5,24	76:2
accounts 45:3	addressing	70:4 73:16	126:22 128:17	ago 13:20 40:13
46:11 51:16	115:4	76:20 79:3	129:23 133:11	42:11 52:8
accumulate 15:2	adequate 11:1	80:1,22 87:1	136:17 138:25	58:11 81:23
accumulates	118:19	88:10 89:21	142:10 145:3	82:2 130:11
7:21	adjacent 121:11	91:24 94:4	145:25	133:25
accumulating	adjourned	95:14 98:5	Agathen 2:10	agree 58:7 101:8
49:7	147:13,14	101:24 104:8	4:20,20,23	108:12 128:5
achieve 72:25	adjustments	106:1 107:5	age 6:19 9:1	146:9,12
118:1	52:2	109:4 112:6	11:22 13:2	agreed 61:3
acknowledge	administration	113:6 116:9	16:8 18:16	96:24
107:14,20	110:21	119:11 122:15	20:15 22:5	agreement
acquire 25:22	administrative	124:3,22	25:6 27:8	81:20
29:12 143:14	71:10 120:6,9	126:20 128:15	30:11 32:15	agreements 20:2 agri 48:8
146:14	135:6 administrator	129:21 133:9 136:15 138:23	33:24 35:13 38:11 41:20	agricultural
acquired 29:12	119:25	136:15 138:25	44:16 47:4	19:4 121:15
acquiring	administrators	afford 25:25	50:19 53:24	agriculture
146:16	30:24	63:8	55:21 56:25	48:21 109:19
acre 68:18 93:21	admire 27:18	affordable	59:9 62:14	ahead 7:6 9:11
121:6 130:12	admittances	37:14 48:10	63:17 64:21	12:5 13:11
acreage 132:5	aummances	57.14 40.10	03.17 04.21	14.5 15.11
1	-	-	-	-

16.17 10.2	96:23 132:15	annual 17.4	60.25 88.22	agget 56.9
16:17 19:2		annual 17:4	69:25 88:22 80:17 00:6	asset 56:8
20:23 22:14	allowing 12:7	23:19 49:3,5	89:17 90:6	assets 140:15
25:15 27:16	86:20 95:1	52:25	91:19 103:21	assistant 56:5
30:19 32:24	127:6 138:5	annually 17:7	107:2	associate 100:10
34:8 35:22	allows 120:6	19:21 20:4	approved 36:9	associated 1:15
38:19 42:5	132:7	45:25 61:1	60:19 121:7	3:11 15:21
44:25 47:13	alongside	answer 6:7 39:6	123:3,14	71:15 100:18
51:3 54:7 56:4	113:20	answers 19:17	approves 60:14	146:16
57:7 59:18	alternative	anxiety 49:23	122:6 131:8	assure 34:20
62:20 65:6	37:14	anybody 33:9	approximately	85:10
67:5 70:20	alternatives	74:6 79:17	52:24 98:19	asthma 8:12
73:24 77:5	31:11	96:13 111:13	April 67:19	17:22 31:5,9
79:11 80:9	aluminum 57:13	anymore 65:21	Arctic 56:20	32:8,9 37:4
81:5 84:21	alumni 68:13	85:5	area 21:12 24:11	56:16 57:15
87:9 88:17	85:10	anyone's 87:23	24:15 31:2,19	105:1 128:1,2
92:6 93:5	Ameren 57:9	anyway 24:6	38:22 39:16	atmosphere
94:12 96:17	75:3 97:12	125:14	40:2,12 46:8	13:25
98:13 102:7	100:17 108:13	apart 138:8	47:17 48:14	atmospheres
104:17 106:9	AmerenUE	apologize 9:14	49:1 82:6 89:4	15:1
107:13 109:13	36:12	59:6	90:12,20 91:10	attack 32:9
113:16 115:23	AmerenUE's	appealing 147:1	93:9 97:9,9,14	attacks 105:1,2
115:25 116:17	56:9	appear 134:10	103:19 126:12	attended 67:23
119:19 122:22	America 33:16	134:20	130:20 135:16	attention 53:21
124:11 125:6	103:12 108:19	appearance	areas 37:16 40:3	attest 56:7
127:3 128:23	108:24	4:11,25	41:2 47:16	attitudes 45:14
133:18 136:23	American 85:20	APPEARAN	48:19 49:5,8	attorney 151:12
139:6 142:18	Americans	2:1	49:14 52:12	attorneys 2:3
145:9 146:5,25	71:20	appears 5:21	89:18 96:8,23	8:20
aid 115:18	Amish 69:12	111:21 125:25	97:20 116:5	attract 41:10
ailments 17:22	amount 36:16	151:5	132:25	53:16 61:13,18
air 7:12,25 8:3,5	49:10 53:7	applaud 10:3	argue 48:3	61:20
8:8,10 15:22	87:23 104:24	application 1:12	argued 117:13	attracted 24:12
17:21 32:7	105:2 115:21	3:7 5:6 9:19	Arkansas 90:18	attracting 31:20
33:3,4,8 56:17	118:2 140:6	11:19 30:7	110:15,17	39:12 40:24
68:11 75:9	amounts 75:9	apply 82:6,12	Arlington 130:4	46:21
101:9 108:8	105:4 114:13	appreciate 10:3	ash 17:23 57:11	attraction 41:3
123:15	118:7	12:9 38:21	57:11 58:14,20	attractive 46:22
air-conditioner	analysis 48:15	44:7 63:9	75:9,14 78:10	62:1 76:1
14:22	86:1	66:17 69:25	aside 130:15	attributed 18:8
allergies 7:15	and/or 8:20 93:9	70:12 95:22	asked 40:5,23	74:21
alleviate 38:4	Andy 80:21 81:2	98:14 100:14	67:12,13	auctioned 25:20
Alliance 2:10	148:18	101:12 115:23	asking 23:14	auctions 96:19
4:19	Anita 112:4,5,11	119:8 125:11	46:19 116:6	AUDIENCE
allied 90:5	149:1	126:17	137:24 139:17	8:17,21 62:11
allow 20:9 35:4	Ann 112:11	approaching	139:23	70:17 101:15
95:8 140:5	119:9,10,16	146:24	aspect 3:21	101:19
allowed 40:9	134:1 149:2	approve 32:11	assessor 121:17	Auditorium 1:8
	I	l	I	I

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Г

Audrain 113:18	baffled 11:13	104:20 106:20	benefiting	42:14 49:6
August 48:15	balance 27:1	119:4 123:4	117:22	109:19 140:7
50:10	balancing 65:20	138:1	benefits 11:16	140:15
aunt 43:21	bank 56:14	belittle 101:4	16:24 17:1	bills 16:1
Austin 129:18	bankruptcy	belongs 136:2	26:12,17,25	biodiversity
129:19 130:1	21:3	Belt 1:12 2:4 3:7	53:20 60:4,22	130:19 131:1
149:5	barns 43:2	4:11 5:5 9:17	60:24 61:6,22	birds 96:18
authorized	base 21:8 66:4	16:21 19:6,11	61:25 62:3	bisected 77:22
23:12	97:23	19:16,25 20:8	72:8 75:25	bit 66:15 68:16
Authorizing	based 31:16	21:13 26:1,3,9	81:13 82:17	69:22,22 74:11
1:13 3:9	82:12 88:23	26:15,18 37:11	83:3 88:21,22	85:21 91:15
available 6:4	89:17 106:21	45:9,21 46:7	90:8 97:22	109:24
36:17 38:22	118:23	46:25 49:17	107:21,25	bite 53:8,12
117:18,19,21	baseline 48:25	59:21 60:6	108:2,3 118:17	black 143:20
118:2	basic 31:3 43:9	61:4 62:5 63:6	127:13 140:10	blanket 14:17
average 24:13	72:21	76:17 79:13	140:22 147:3	blood 95:4
31:7 49:3,8	basically 67:11	81:8 82:14,21	Benton 95:12,13	Bloomington
averaging 49:6	101:17 111:8	84:25 85:2	95:19,19,21	90:2
aware 30:24	basis 45:12	86:5 87:10	148:22	Bluffs 120:22
37:10 51:22	49:15 52:25	90:12,20 92:10	best 7:10 28:4,6	board 9:12
52:3 60:2	74:23 82:7	93:11 104:20	32:11 64:17	12:11 23:9,11
146:16	bat 130:21,21	105:9 106:17	100:8 106:18	23:18 45:4,6
awfully 54:21	131:11 132:4,9	107:25 108:23	107:22 134:25	45:18 51:6,6
125:24 126:6	133:1	110:2,7 112:18	151:7	51:10 52:2,4
	Bats 131:12	119:23 120:2	better 7:18 8:7	70:14 134:11
B	battle 66:16	121:7 122:2	14:13 26:5	bodies 81:11
B-e-n-t-o-n	battling 100:18	123:3,17	32:5 50:1	body 65:17
95:19	bear 117:1	127:17 129:3	51:19 58:8,16	85:11 129:10
B-r-i-s-c-o-e	118:16	131:8,9,18	82:13 105:20	bolster 66:3
124:8 125:3	beautiful 42:19	132:2,10	105:22 108:18	Bonnie 126:18
128:20	43:18 114:18	133:21 135:4	110:19 112:25	126:19,25
B-u-d-r-u-s	120:17.24	137:1,23 140:1	betterment	149:4
84:18	beauty 43:23	beneficial 59:24	106:20	boring 49:9
back 21:11 40:7	becoming 75:3	73:10 105:17	beyond 32:5	born 133:21
62:9 66:11,15	bed 7:23 14:17	112:23	78:9	bothers 114:12
88:18 91:10	beginning 39:22	benefit 11:17	bidder 111:14	bottom 66:3
93:17 94:22,25	behalf 94:19	12:19 19:9	big 13:19 14:22	137:16,25
96:7,9 105:5,6	140:21 142:20	20:8 23:9,23	27:21 29:2	bought 58:16
109:24 115:13	behavior 129:7	26:21 28:9	41:3 42:14	68:18
124:18 132:16	believe 8:4	47:1,25 49:17	64:11,16,16	BPW 46:11
backed 139:21	23:22 29:11	59:3 71:12,12	79:18 96:6	brains 24:9
backers 140:20	45:9 62:25	74:12 75:22	98:25 114:2,10	break 62:7
backyard 29:24	63:3,6 68:14	82:8 101:10	114:11 116:5	breaking 81:23
49:25 75:19	68:19,21 69:4	106:22,23	120:5 126:11	breathe 7:19
94:17	72:14,15 77:7	110:17 111:22	143:20	breathing 7:12
bad 13:21 96:11	85:8 86:19	117:12 118:7	biking 41:2	8:13 33:7
124:17 126:6	92:13 102:9,18	140:18 146:19	billion 24:12	57:15
12	72.13 102.7,10	140.10 140.19	VIIIIVII 24.12	57.15
	•		•	•

bridges 100:7,8	143:22	22:3,9,12,14	109:2,7,10,13	143:17
brief 146:7	builders 91:9	25:4,10,13,15	112:4,9,13,15	busy 36:20
briefly 3:19 45:8	building 37:21	27:5,11,14,16	113:4,9,13,16	butt 33:12
bring 21:16	104:20,23	30:9,14,17,19	116:7,12,15,17	buy 12:14 23:10
26:22,22 40:2	131:22	32:13,18,22,24	116:24 119:9	28:12 53:11
40:6 41:16	buildings	33:22 34:2,5,8	119:14,17,19	82:11 100:19
45:10 46:8	131:23	35:11,16,20,22	122:13,18,22	120:12
49:23 52:15	built 19:15	38:9,14,17,19	124:1,6,9,11	buying 99:23
68:6 76:15	28:17,25 29:17	41:12,16,24	124:20,25	
88:18 90:8,12	34:22 49:24	42:2,5 44:10	125:4,6 126:18	<u> </u>
102:25 110:17	82:2 97:16	44:14,20,23,25	126:23 127:1,3	C 3:2 19:19
118:16	100:2,25	47:2,8,13 50:4	128:7,18,21,23	C-a-s-w-e-l-l
bringing 23:25	102:24 110:11	50:17,22 51:1	129:18,24	79:8 94:9
74:12 107:23	110:11 111:6,9	51:3 53:22	130:3 133:7,12	C-o-w-d-e-n
Briscoe 124:1,2	119:1,1,3,4	54:2,5,7 55:19	133:16,18	80:6
124:8,8,10,12	120:17 121:20	55:24 56:2,4	136:13,18,21	C-u-e-n-c-a 7:2
124:21 125:2,2	127:23 137:7	56:23 57:3,7	136:23 138:21	call 5:12,13 21:7
125:5,7 128:13	Bulard 1:23	59:5,12,18	139:1,4,6	21:22 110:15
128:14,20,20	151:4	62:6,9,12,17	142:6,12,16,18	128:7
128:22,24	bulk 74:15	62:20 63:13,15	144:24 145:4,7	called 5:22
149:3,4,5	bulldoze 85:25	63:20,23 64:19	145:9,20 146:1	14:19 83:8
broad-based	bunch 29:16	64:24 65:3,6	146:5 147:11	calling 6:3 76:7
83:24	burdens 120:9	66:19,24 67:2	business 11:4	calls 51:10
broader 144:1,2	135:7	67:5 70:2,7,11	42:9 46:21	campus 30:23
144:4	burn 78:8	70:19 73:14,19	48:8,8,25	cancer 105:2
broker 68:13,17	burned 96:12	73:22,24 76:18	51:11 53:2	capabilities
68:23	104:24 105:3	76:23 77:2,5	72:8,25 76:10	28:25 85:22
bronchitis 105:1	burning 17:20	78:24 79:1,6,9	80:14 91:18	capacities 16:20
brother 7:13	17:22,25 18:6	79:11,24 80:4	99:7,8 123:4	capacity 39:2,7
120:1 130:14	25:21 54:12	80:7,9,20,25	130:9 135:10	70:24 97:15
brought 24:10	60:11 78:7,10	81:3,5 84:2,5,8	135:18 139:20	capita 49:8,15
24:11,15 88:23	104:25	84:15,19,21	140:7 142:23	capital 72:13,14
91:7 115:13	burns 77:15	86:24 87:4,7,9	143:1,12 144:8	137:12
Budrus 84:9,10	bury 87:16	88:8,13,17	144:12 146:21	captioned 3:6
84:17,17,20,22	Bushmann 1:18	89:19,24 91:20	147:2	captive 117:25
148:19	3:3,14 4:10,14	92:2,6,19,25	businesses 9:25	carbon 18:7
build 11:6,12	4:16,18,23	93:3,5 94:2,7	10:3 39:12	54:12
21:11,16,23	6:22 7:3,6 8:14	94:10,12 95:12	41:10 46:10,12	card 96:4
24:12 25:2	8:16,18,23 9:4	95:17,20 98:3	46:13 53:16	care 10:20 33:19
27:1 37:23,24	9:8,11 11:20	98:8,11,13	61:13,19,20	43:5 64:4,5
65:17,18 85:2	11:25 12:3,5	101:14,21	62:2 70:25	69:10 95:9
88:1 92:9	12:22,25 13:5	102:2,5,7	72:24 76:1	105:5,8 108:21
93:11 102:18	13:8,11 16:2,5	103:24 104:2,5	83:9 103:10	144:7
110:9 120:22	16:11,15,17	104:11,15,17	105:11 108:11	career 16:19
123:5 129:9	18:11,14,19,23	105:24 106:4,7	118:13 120:5	71:9
131:8 133:24	19:1 20:11,13	106:9 107:3,8	140:8,23 144:3	careful 116:3,4
136:3 137:23	20:18,21,23	107:11,13	businessmen	Carrie 44:14,15

44:22 45:1	132:13	51:24 86:11	95:5	141:9
51:17 52:19	cats 42:15	challenges 40:3	choosing 60:15	Clay 90:2
148:10	cattle 15:11,12	60:22	chose 27:2 69:23	clean 1:12 2:4
carry 121:19	78:2 129:11	chance 5:8,18	chosen 36:11	3:8 4:11 7:25
143:23	cause 31:5,8	36:7 86:18	85:12	8:10 9:18,20
cars 57:11 66:9	48:5 103:9	128:12	Christie 88:8,9	10:5,13,15
case 3:6 6:21 9:3	120:8	change 13:19	88:15 148:20	11:4,10,14,18
11:24 13:4	caused 7:15,16	15:20 49:1	chronic 105:1	12:9,15 15:17
16:10 18:18	7:16 37:4,25	54:15 66:8	churches 48:7	16:21 17:9
20:17 22:7	causes 130:9	81:15 105:18	circumstances	22:21 23:15,21
25:8 27:10	132:14	108:19	99:13	29:15 31:17,22
30:13 32:17	causing 17:21	changed 69:18	cities 38:2 41:3	32:2,7,12 33:2
34:1 35:15	17:21 129:8	changer 70:25	53:9 66:5 96:6	33:3,4,16,17
38:13 40:14	CCR 1:23 151:4	72:5,22	100:20 106:12	34:11 36:4,6,8
41:22 44:18	Celsius 13:23	charge 11:8	106:22	37:21 38:3
47:6 50:21	center 71:9	charitable 130:9	citizen 134:4	42:13 43:3,25
54:1 55:23	80:13 98:12,18	Charles 74:18	citizens 10:12	44:2 46:9,20
57:2 59:11	99:3 125:23	112:14 113:15	11:17 12:8	46:23 50:3
62:16 63:19	135:15	cheap 30:2	22:18 23:14	53:15 54:16
64:23 66:23	central 71:9	69:20 72:9	28:5,18,22	55:4 56:17
70:6 73:18	73:11 77:25,25	100:17 111:10	30:3 33:19	57:23 58:7,23
76:22 79:5	83:22 127:9	117:17 118:8	48:12 65:18	59:21 60:6,9
80:3,24 84:13	Centralia 61:3	134:10,17	71:2 111:23,25	60:17,18 61:14
87:3 88:12	109:12 111:7	cheaper 36:13	112:3 118:18	61:19 62:5
89:23 91:4	cents 23:1	70:15 71:21	134:22 138:6	70:15,21 71:1
92:1,23 94:6	114:22 118:23	81:16 102:14	138:12 139:14	71:10 72:5,9
95:16 98:7,21	century 14:1	102:16 103:5	140:23 146:20	72:15,22 74:12
102:1 104:10	15:5 113:14	134:12	citizens' 55:10	76:3,6,8,8,10
106:3 107:7	130:11	Chesterfield	city 18:22 22:17	76:15 78:5,10
109:6 112:8	certain 96:9	16:16	22:20,22 23:12	80:14 82:7
113:8 116:11	135:22	child 7:18 36:24	23:13 35:21	83:5,8,12,13
119:13 122:17	certainly 12:18	childhood 31:6	36:19 42:18,19	83:14,25 85:1
124:5,24	12:20	children 14:2	44:9 52:19	85:4,15 86:17
125:13 126:22	certificate 1:13	21:8,10,24	55:8 56:5,6,7	86:19 87:11,19
128:17 129:23	3:8 9:19	26:23 37:4	64:4 65:12	87:22 88:4
133:11 136:17	118:11 139:18	43:19 57:25	67:23 70:13,14	89:15 90:17
138:25 142:10	139:19,24	58:23 88:3	71:6 78:18	92:8,18 93:10
145:3,25	140:5,9,14	95:9	81:23 98:17,20	94:14 95:6
cases 81:16	141:7 142:4	children's 31:8	99:3 100:22	100:19 101:9,9
cash 42:9 103:6	143:2,11 151:1	37:6 75:16	103:18 107:1	107:2 113:21
casinos 115:17	Certified 151:17	China 64:8	107:16 109:11	114:8,15 115:1
Caswell 42:22	certify 151:5	choice 94:22,22	111:6 117:4	116:1 117:5,14
79:1,2,8,8,10	Chairman 1:19	94:23,24,24,25	123:18 130:10	119:3,22 120:2
79:12 94:2,3,9	3:16,17,19	choices 37:17	134:5 137:5	120:7,18 121:3
94:9,11,13	8:15 9:12	52:3	151:3	121:24 122:6
148:17,22	12:23 16:3	choose 36:14	civil 90:22	122:11,25
catastrophic	challenge 40:16	42:16,17,18	claims 39:21	123:15 125:8
	I	I	I	I

127.7.17.20	coal 7:15 8:4	combines 99:10	commission 1.2	aammunitiag
127:7,17,20		combines 99:10 come 4:9 5:13	commission 1:2 2:6 3:5 4:14	communities
128:2,3 129:2	17:20,23,23			26:23 38:4
129:5,12,17	18:1,6 19:24	6:17 8:12	5:2,3,16,17 6:3	39:9 41:5
131:8,15,20	30:24 33:3,6	12:20 15:2	6:3,11 11:18	52:16 56:17
132:1,7,14,22	36:13,21,21,22	21:1,9,11	12:7 20:7 33:5	61:5,25 93:17
133:6 134:7,9	36:23 37:3,8	24:23,24 26:1	34:14,20 38:5	106:15 118:8
134:10,14,17	37:14 38:1,7	27:4 28:11	46:24 53:13	138:3 146:24
134:20,25	42:23 56:9,11	29:1,13 30:22	60:14 73:6	147:2
135:4,18,19,22	57:9,10 60:11	32:8 33:6	81:11 83:25	community 10:4
135:23,25	62:1 74:10,14	34:16 57:14	84:23 86:16	12:8,12,16
136:9,10 137:1	74:16,24,25	58:1 61:11,22	88:20 89:17	37:5 40:17
137:10,19,19	75:5,8,9,14,15	63:1 64:2	91:19 92:17	41:8,10 46:14
137:21 138:1,4	75:19,21 77:15	67:14 84:24	93:7 108:22	48:11 51:8
138:15,17,19	78:7,10,10,12	86:21 87:12	111:16 122:10	56:15 69:12
139:17,20,23	82:1,2,3,3	94:22,25 96:23	127:6 129:16	71:1 73:7
140:2,12,17	89:11,12	97:21,23,24	133:4 144:19	83:10,20 85:3
141:2,8,11,13	104:24,25	98:15,20 99:19	145:19	88:24 89:5
141:17,21,23	105:3 108:7	100:4 101:8,11	commissioner	92:10 93:11
142:4,22,25	117:8 118:5	104:23 105:19	4:5 16:4 18:13	97:22 124:14
143:4,8,12	123:13,14	107:25 108:1,4	20:12 27:6	133:22 134:3
144:12,16,21	coal-based	109:22,24	28:2 29:8 50:6	134:13 135:3
144:23 146:20	51:15	124:15 125:7	50:13,16 63:12	135:11,14,15
cleaner 8:8	coal-fired 58:10	125:12 126:15	68:22 73:13	135:16 136:1,6
17:25 70:15	117:24	128:4 141:12	78:25 91:21	137:20 139:14
71:19,21 73:4	coalition 83:8,8	141:15	100:10 109:1	140:24 141:1
75:7 117:8	83:11,14,18,24	comes 75:23	116:20	141:16,18
cleaning 8:7	83:25	97:4 101:2	commissioners	142:1
clear 131:19	coast 10:15 11:1	147:2	1:21 3:17,24	compacted 86:6
clearly 118:15	79:22 93:24,25	coming 4:8	6:7 8:19 9:13	companies 20:2
clients 4:21	110:12 114:10	29:24 33:16,21	59:20 60:4	39:16 40:2,9
climactic 102:11	118:7 136:5	36:21,22 42:6	61:23 103:20	44:3 46:19
climate 13:19	Coca-Cola 76:5	59:16 62:22	122:9 136:25	61:15 76:5
15:19 18:9	83:5	63:5,7 64:1	Commissions	83:4 87:12,20
54:15 105:18	coerce 26:11	79:15 107:17	35:24	88:4 100:18
108:19	collateral 37:25	108:11 114:16	commitments	109:16 110:6
clock 70:17,18	collect 11:5	139:7 143:4	76:6	114:1 137:10
close 37:1 83:7	collective	147:12	committee	138:12,13
99:2 141:15	108:22	commenced 3:1	47:22,24 51:8	company 6:11
closer 6:23	college 34:13	comment 45:8	83:20	23:22,25 46:18
114:9	119:24 130:6	59:21	commodity	85:16,24 88:1
closing 26:1	135:16	comments 3:18	109:15,25,25	90:13 92:13
61:21 73:3	colony 69:13	4:7 5:15 6:1,2	110:8	93:12 96:10,25
122:9	Columbia 34:12	47:24 103:17	common 28:8	97:7 100:4,4
Club 83:18	139:5,10	127:7	42:7 43:9	108:14 109:22
clubs 72:21	142:17	commercial	108:3	111:1 119:5
co-op 49:5,8	combat 96:8	51:16,18 52:8	communication	126:1,16
co-ops 49:2	combine 86:10	71:5	45:13	135:25 136:2

139:17 140:2,6	77:10	construction	139:18 140:5	cost/benefit 86:1
140:10,13,17	concerning 9:24	17:5,6 19:13	140:14 141:7	costly 75:1
141:24 143:9	45:15	20:3 23:4,5	142:5 143:2	costs 20:5 37:20
143:11	concerns 4:7	61:10 82:24	convenient	39:11,11 45:24
company's	9:14 12:8	90:11 91:13	138:13	49:22 51:14
138:8 143:21	13:19 34:19	131:16,17	conversing	61:1 71:8
comparatively	38:4 39:3 55:6	consulting 90:5	101:20	105:5,8,10
103:9	55:7,10,11	106:12	converter 1:15	council 22:17,19
Compare 37:25	60:3 84:24	consumer 141:5	3:11 23:5	22:22 45:7
comparison	98:15 113:23	consumers	90:18 110:13	47:23 51:9
111:23	115:7 124:14	36:17 105:10	118:3	52:11 55:8
compelled 21:1	concise 128:12	consumption	convey 39:2	70:14 83:21
compensate	concrete 10:6	17:17	convinced 37:3	98:17
15:25	condition 52:6	contacted	cooperative	counsel 2:8 4:10
compensated	conducted 45:16	135:23	28:24	4:16,24 121:18
15:24,24 57:21	conducting	contain 15:1	cooperatives	151:9,12
69:9,11	80:14	contaminated	48:20	counties 5:7
compensating	confident 59:23	75:17	coordination	17:8 23:7 60:1
10:7	66:14	contested 73:6	130:13	61:7 63:4 66:4
compensation	confirms 49:13	context 134:13	coordinator	100:8 105:15
17:3 121:23,25	Congregation	continually 52:4	45:3	121:5 128:3
141:13	83:23	71:23	COPD 57:15	counting 28:23
competitive	os.25 cons 107:18	continue 14:15	corn 89:8	country 21:21
49:21 51:23	conservation	38:3 61:8,18	corporation	31:13 42:18,19
52:11 102:22	114:14 130:14	130:15 133:23	86:21	42:20 53:9
108:6	consider 28:15			42.20 55.9 56:7 65:13,19
	30:6 37:16	continues 19:23 34:17	corporations 120:5 137:12	
complain 64:9	78:22 93:15		120:3 137:12	65:21 66:2
complete 67:10	101:12 108:14	contract 12:17	corral 14:24	71:13,18,20,23 72:1 73:3
completed 48:15 50:10 97:17		17:8 111:7,8		94:21 100:9
	111:19 139:15 144:1,13	contracting 51:12 123:3	corridors 114:4 114:5	
completely 26:9	consideration			106:16 114:1
74:4 75:15	125:24 126:3	contracts 100:22	cost 19:12 20:1	119:7 123:25
completing 143:9			20:9 22:24	county 7:4 8:3
	considered	contrast 135:17	37:20 40:4,15	9:10 10:21
component	118:19	contribute	40:21 45:22	16:16 18:22
39:25 40:19	considering	108:8 129:14	46:19,23 52:6	25:14 27:15,25
41:6,10	105:16	contributing	52:17 60:7	28:2,5,14 29:4
components	consisting 91:11	18:7	61:14 70:22	29:8 30:3
39:18 40:7,21	consists 83:9	contribution	72:11,23 73:4	33:14 34:18
Comprehensive	constant 51:24	17:13	82:16 83:3	39:1,1,5 42:4
60:20	125:20	control 1:14	88:25 100:24	47:12,15 51:2
concern 39:8	constantly 52:11	3:10 111:1,1	100:25 101:1	57:6 62:19
98:25 101:7	52:17	134:16,19	103:1 107:23	63:5,8,24
113:25 114:3,3	construct 1:13	controller 68:12	117:14 125:20	65:13 66:2
114:25 145:18	3:9 139:25	controls 74:19	125:20	67:4 68:22
concerned 13:12	constructing	convenience	cost-efficient	71:7 74:17,17
26:12 74:8	132:4	1:13 3:8 9:19	71:18	74:18,18 75:2
	l	Į	1	

77.4 12 79.17	anating 15,19	02.5	77.19 101.0	dogmood 14.160
77:4,13 78:17	creating 15:18	92:5	77:18 101:9	degrees 14:1,6,9
78:18 79:10	15:19 107:24	D-e-n-s-o-n	dealing 66:1	15:4,4
81:4 84:20	creation 145:14	16:14	dealt 26:9 78:1	deja 136:7
87:8 90:2,19	146:25	D-o-b-s-o-n	Deanette 142:6	deliver 19:25
92:5 93:8,9	creative 19:3	22:11	142:7,14,19	35:1 45:22
94:11,20,23	credibly 17:15	D-u-n-n 145:6	149:7	60:6 90:20
95:21 98:12	crisis 31:9	dad 25:20	dear 39:5	127:20 138:15
99:17,21 100:2	critical 48:20	daily 19:5 45:12	deaths 74:21	141:20 144:9
100:5,11	127:15	74:23	debating 48:4	delivered 17:12
101:11 109:15	critically 108:23	damage 37:25	Debbie 41:12,19	22:25
110:13 111:19	cropland 121:5	105:1 121:20	42:1 148:10	delivering
112:14 113:15	crops 78:3	Dan 53:22,23	debt 21:2	145:12
113:18,18	cross 21:13	54:4 89:19,20	decade 14:9	delivery 127:21
116:16,19,21	77:19 99:5	90:1 148:12,20	72:3 137:11	deluges 15:3
118:3 120:1,4	130:17	dangerous	decades 61:22	demain 138:5
121:17 122:21	crosses 127:8	21:17 44:4	131:7 132:16	demand 82:14
124:10 125:5	crowd 146:8	57:16 129:6	December 1:7	118:6 127:14
127:2 128:4,22	crucial 17:15	143:1	3:4 75:12	demanded
131:23,24	crying 65:13	Daniel 1:19 3:16	decided 26:4	61:16
137:6,9 143:6	Cuenca 6:17,18	148:23	decision 10:13	demonstrate
145:8,11	7:1,1,4,7 148:3	Darryl 42:21	28:15 31:15	82:18 83:3
couple 9:25 23:8	cultivation	data 49:10	40:12 78:21	denial 135:23
39:14 52:8	138:1	date 19:21	85:14 107:17	denied 136:9
couples 118:13	cultural 72:20	daughter 42:21	108:4 133:3	Denson 16:6,7
course 56:10	current 1:14	96:17	136:10,12	16:13,13,16,18
65:23 100:7	3:10 23:2 48:4	Dave 145:6	144:2,4	148:5
court 13:9 41:17	132:7	Davenport	decisions 94:19	deny 9:18 11:18
50:8 151:17	currently 34:6	91:22,23 92:4	declare 92:14	30:7 142:4
courteous 6:14	39:18 47:21	92:4,7 148:21	93:13 138:5,14	denying 86:17
cover 121:20	70:23 72:23	David 124:21	143:2	92:18 122:11
122:1	81:25 90:16	125:2 144:24	decline 49:8	129:17 133:6
covered 123:9	96:19,25	144:25 149:4,8	declines 131:1	136:10 138:13
131:12	131:14 137:3	day 26:14 29:8	decrease 17:20	138:19 141:6
cow 15:14,15	139:10	36:20 43:21	121:17 129:10	144:21
Cowden 79:24	customer 45:13	52:9 65:14	141:10	Department
79:25 80:6,6,8	45:14	66:16 80:16,18	decreased 37:13	10:25 61:12
80:10,11	customers 12:11	80:19 95:24	86:7	departments
148:18	23:19 36:14	97:2	deeded 21:14	28:24
crackling 64:14	45:12 46:1,3	daylight 69:2	deep 118:24	depend 131:12
create 14:7 23:3	51:15,18 52:8	days 23:13	deeper 118:16	dependent 8:4
32:3,5 61:10	53:4	81:10	deeply 35:25	deposes 6:21 9:3
61:24 75:8	cut 4:3 95:6	Daytona 13:9	defeated 42:10	11:24 13:4
129:14 141:4	cutting 67:10	DC 136:22	defer 40:13	16:10 18:18
145:13 146:11		137:4	definitely	20:17 22:7
created 25:21	D	dead 14:24	113:21 116:1	25:8 27:10
132:10	D 3:2	deaf 7:14,16	degree 13:23	30:13 32:17
creates 17:23	D-a-v-e-n-p-o	deal 27:21 41:4	14:16,18	34:1 35:15
		l	l	

Г

			_	_
38:13 41:22	detail 22:23	31:5	documents	downfalls 27:1
44:18 47:6	details 60:20	dire 118:11	21:19	drawn 143:20
50:21 54:1	determinations	direct 1:14 3:10	Dodd 56:6	dream 97:10
55:23 57:2	147:10	6:11	doing 13:17	drilling 18:5
59:11 62:16	determine 88:20	direction 138:7	26:11 30:5	drinking 75:11
63:19 64:23	detriment	151:9	35:7 39:14	drip 7:21
66:23 70:6	140:22 141:25	directions 27:24	51:19 65:20	drive 46:14
73:18 76:22	detrimental	36:21	67:11,12 82:4	driving 24:2
79:5 80:3,24	60:12	directly 17:14	82:6 100:14	droughts 15:4
84:13 87:3	devaluation	23:10 45:25	dollar 42:14	drove 59:22
88:12 89:23	29:14	99:4 120:2	140:7	drown 7:22
92:1,23 94:6	devalue 62:24	135:5	dollars 11:5	drums 24:16
95:16 98:7	68:23 99:19	Director 34:10	13:14 17:7	due 13:25
102:1 104:10	120:11	directors 52:4	23:6 24:21	duly 6:19 9:1
106:3 107:7	devalued 21:23	dirtiest 74:14	49:18 91:13	11:22 13:2
109:6 112:8	29:19 122:3	dirty 38:7 62:1	100:6 105:13	16:8 18:16
113:8 116:11	devastating	78:9 89:12	114:22	20:15 22:5
119:13 122:17	137:18	disappears	domain 11:14	25:6 27:8
124:5,24	devastation	57:13	11:15 29:9	30:11 32:15
126:22 128:17	58:22	disaster 29:1,3	37:12 55:9,12	33:24 35:13
129:23 133:11	developed 24:16	disbursed 45:25	57:18,19,22	38:11 41:20
136:17 138:25	97:13	discuss 67:7	62:23 63:1	44:16 47:4
142:10 145:3	developer 38:25	98:17,20	74:2 80:15	50:19 53:24
145:25	developing 24:3	107:21	85:17 86:21	55:21 56:25
deposition 151:6	97:4 103:6	discussed 98:21	92:14 93:13	59:9 62:14
151:11	development	discussion	95:2 120:7	63:17 64:21
described 22:23	36:25 45:7	112:22	129:13 138:14	66:21 70:4
82:19	47:20,23,23	disparities 33:6	140:8,15	73:16 76:20
deserve 78:5	51:9 52:11	disposable 49:8	141:16,25	79:3 80:1,22
deserves 89:14	55:9 61:12	dispute 65:22	143:3,15	84:11 87:1
design 90:17	71:3 147:4	disrespected	146:15,17,18	88:10 89:21
designed 11:17	diagonal 87:23	87:24	147:5,5,8	91:24 92:21
designer 19:4	diagonally	disruptions 18:9	domestic 32:4	94:4 95:14
designs 91:1	21:14 87:15	distance 113:21	49:6 82:22	98:5 101:24
desire 25:21	88:2	distress 17:22	Don 113:4	104:8 106:1
36:8 71:21	dictates 118:6	distribute 11:3	Donald 113:5,11	107:5 109:4
desperate 46:4	die 21:21	distribution	149:1	112:6 113:6
desperately	difference 71:14	48:2	donate 6:5	116:9 119:11
36:15 52:14	96:5	district 26:24	donated 135:13	122:15 124:3
53:17 60:10	different 27:23	36:25 37:2	door 29:17	124:22 126:20
destroy 69:7	78:19 106:14	71:7	79:17,19	128:15 129:21
131:18	146:23 147:1	districts 89:1	120:17	133:9 136:15
destroyed 69:13	difficult 46:22	divide 21:13	double 36:16	138:23 142:8
69:14 74:7	108:1	divorced 21:2	132:5	145:1,23 151:6
132:23,25	difficulty 40:24	Dobson 22:3,4	doubled 24:14	dumped 78:13
destruction	diligently 21:4	22:11,11,13,15	doubt 10:4	Dunn 144:24,25
131:7	dioxide 18:7	22:16 148:6	Douglas 135:15	145:6,6,8,10
1.51.1	410/1140 10.7	<i>22</i> .10 1 10.0	200guo 100.10	112.0,0,0,10

149:8	economical 40:7	24:17,25 28:24	129:12 138:5	31:10,23 33:16
dust 36:23 37:3	economically	34:10,21,22	138:14 140:8	33:18 36:6,8
dwellers 36:1	73:10 102:22	45:5 46:1,1	140:15 141:16	36:10,13 38:8
	106:23	48:20 51:7,11	141:25 143:2	45:22,24 46:9
E	economics 81:15	51:23 90:16	143:15 146:15	46:20,23 48:2
E 3:2,2	82:7,12	97:5 100:18	146:17,18	48:5,10,14,16
E-d-g-a-r 73:21	economies	121:1 127:16	147:5,5,8	48:19 49:14,22
E-d-m-u-n-d-s	105:12	141:9	emissions 18:7	50:10 52:23
42:1	economy 32:2	electrical 10:6	empathize 77:9	53:10,15 54:12
EA-2016-0358	48:4 52:5 68:9	19:22,24 21:17	78:3	54:13,17,17,21
1:13 3:13	83:12 106:21	39:4,23 40:15	employ 24:23	54:24 55:5
ear 7:16	109:20 129:15	41:9 72:11	35:3 91:8	56:8 57:23,24
earlier 46:10	141:18 144:17	145:13	employed 72:24	57:24 58:7,23
51:17 52:19	145:16	electricians	90:24 96:7,25	59:24 60:9,18
53:17 101:18	Edgar 73:14,15	97:16	151:10,12	60:19,20 61:1
109:25 112:21	73:21,21,23,25	electricity 19:9	employee	61:14,17 66:10
earned 112:19	148:16	19:15 20:1	146:14 151:12	69:19,22 70:16
earning 85:22	Edmunds 41:12	28:12 30:2	employee-own	71:8,11,15,17
earns 129:3	41:15,19 42:1	31:17,19 36:12	90:4	71:21,24 72:2
easements 19:12	42:1,3,6 44:12	36:16,17 40:21	employees 35:1	72:5,15 73:5
87:17 115:2	148:10	46:5 48:18	35:3 49:3	74:12,14,15
east 10:15 11:1	educated 28:7	52:25 57:21	90:16 91:10	75:6,7 76:3,4,7
11:8 19:16	education 72:19	60:7,11,17	97:6	76:8,8,11,16
36:22 79:22	Edwardsville	64:12 77:24,25	employer 72:25	78:5 81:9,15
93:24,25	65:4	100:17,20,23	employers 40:23	81:15,17 82:1
110:12,22	effect 11:12	105:11 112:23	46:15	82:5,9,11,11
114:10 117:16	118:12	118:4 127:24	employment	83:4,5,8,12,14
117:18 118:7	effective 73:5	134:11,12	48:17 72:19	85:4,4,15
136:5	103:1	elements 51:13	103:16 134:22	86:19 87:19
eastern 77:13	effects 14:5	elevated 31:5	134:24,25	88:25 90:17
110:15 130:24	28:20 30:3	Eleventh 1:24	144:17	97:21,22
easy 95:24	36:23 48:22	Eli 30:9,10,16	employs 65:8	102:10,12,14
107:17	54:15 56:20	148:8	encourage 46:23	102:16,20
eat 86:12	78:6 106:14	elimination	62:2 91:19	103:2,4,4,8
eats 57:11	129:10	132:22	138:16 147:7	105:17 106:13
echelon 53:9	effort 130:14	email 50:11,14	endangered	106:14 107:23
echoed 134:8	138:9	emergency	130:22 131:13	108:6,7 111:10
economic 17:1	efforts 146:11	28:23 31:8	132:8,22	114:8 117:14
38:25 45:6	eight 28:2 45:2	eminent 11:14	ends 128:9	117:15,24,25
47:20,22 48:6	61:7 71:9 82:2	11:15 29:9	energy 7:9 8:11	118:8 127:8,12
48:16 51:9	105:14 128:8	37:12 55:9,12	10:15,25 11:10	127:14,20,22
52:10,14 61:12	either 18:6	57:18,19,22	12:13 14:7,7	127:23 128:2,3
71:3 72:8	29:25 48:5	62:23 63:1	15:18,23 17:12	134:15,16,18
75:25 82:17	75:18	74:2 80:15	17:14,16,19,20	136:4 137:20
83:3 104:21	elected 28:3	85:17 86:21	17:24,25 19:13	138:1,4,7
106:21 139:11	100:10 117:3	92:14 93:13	19:18,21,22	141:2,4 143:23
147:4	electric 23:17,20	95:2 120:7	20:5,9 23:24	146:12
		<i>>0.2</i> 120.7	20.0,7 20.2	110112

Energy's 9:19	7:15	eventually	127:19	120:3 121:7
engine 24:15	EPA 110:22	102:13	expanding	123:3 127:5,17
Engineer 51:5	EPRI 121:8	everybody 4:8	39:11	129:3 131:9,9
146:13	equipment 29:6	13:22 33:2,3	expands 127:15	131:18 132:2
engineering	98:24	65:25 88:24	expansions	132:11 133:21
65:8 90:4	equity 139:21	96:21 97:3	40:13	135:4 137:1,23
engineers 90:23	140:20	101:21 139:8	expect 24:18	140:1
91:3,12 123:19	equivalent	everybody's	35:4 52:23	Express' 5:5
146:8,10 147:9	131:21	54:11 76:14	132:5	expressing
enjoy 43:22	era 68:11	123:9	expected 16:23	22:24
65:19 67:17	Erin 32:13,14	everyone's	53:4 82:21	extinct 133:1
69:11 96:23	32:20 148:8	107:18	expense 132:23	extraordinary
enjoyment 69:1	escrow 115:8	evidence 5:5 6:9	136:5 140:18	118:24
69:5	especially 49:23	evidentiary 5:4	141:12	extreme 75:12
ensure 52:6	98:25	6:10 116:25	experience 49:2	extremely 26:7
105:22	essential 90:21	evidently 125:13	121:13 122:5	46:21 74:5,8
entered 67:24	127:15	evolved 66:14	137:15 141:16	140:15
entire 46:18	establish 132:21	exact 44:4	143:9	eye 89:9
69:21 75:24	established 5:17	exactly 66:6	experienced	eyesight 125:17
133:22	estate 68:13,17	131:14,16	121:11	cycsignt 125.17
entities 17:8	68:23 120:10	140:11	expires 6:2	F
71:11	121:13	exaggerating	explain 33:1	Facebook 76:3
entitled 69:5	estimate 60:25	140:11	explained 23:16	faces 131:7
entity 25:17	estimated 17:2	example 7:13	exponentially	facilitate 46:11
113:24	48:22	18:2 81:17	49:12	facilitator 48:5
entrance 6:4	estimates 126:9	examples 83:2	exporting	facilities 39:10
entries 4:11	estimates 120.9	83:15,23 88:24	117:18	51:21 61:17,17
entry 4:25	126:14	excellent 88:24	exposed 131:15	76:7
environment	eternity 68:3	exclusively	express 1:12 2:4	fact 33:3,13
13:13 34:25	ethical 83:22	51:14 77:15	3:7 4:11 9:18	42:23 52:7
	146:16 147:10	executive 47:22		54:24 55:1
58:10 65:11		51:8	16:21 19:6,11 19:16,25 20:8	72:8 90:15
71:4 83:18	ethically 69:16		22:22 26:1	97:13,19
89:15 105:19	evaporate 55:11	exemplify 82:13		factor 147:5
environmental	evaporation	exercise 120:7	37:11 39:8	factories 97:23
10:17 71:14	15:3	129:12	45:9,21 46:8	factory 56:10,11
81:9,13 82:5	evening 3:4,16	exert 86:6	46:25 49:17,21	facts 66:1,1
82:10 83:17,19	3:19 4:6 47:24	exhibit 41:18	59:21 60:6	139:16
90:23 91:12	49:16,20 70:13	44:13 84:6,7	61:4 62:5 81:8	Fahrenheit
105:17 130:16	77:7 84:3	103:19 104:3,4	82:14 84:25	13:23
135:7 138:9	88:19 100:14	150:2,3,4,5,6	85:2,3 87:11	
139:12	114:22 115:24	exhibits 41:17	90:12,20 92:10	failed 115:6
environmenta	evening's 5:10	84:3 150:1	93:11 104:20	fails 115:1,6
66:6	48:1	exist 141:21	105:9 106:17	fair 26:9 43:3
	evenings 81:10	existing 82:3	108:1,23 110:2	55:17 137:22
environmenta				
11:2 46:17	event 12:7	87:17	110:8 112:18	139:24
	event 12:7 events 72:20 132:13	87:17 exists 111:24 expand 38:7	110:8 112:18 113:22 115:1 116:1 119:23	139:24 faith 26:7 83:19 fall 61:23 103:8

Г

familiar 51:13	81:22 86:11	farther 37:24	114:21	50:19 53:24
91:3	87:23 92:11,11	fast 8:9 118:14	File 1:13 3:13	54:9 55:21
families 21:16	93:19 99:3,14	fat 42:15	filed 21:3 118:10	56:25 59:9,15
36:3 71:2	106:12 110:3	father 120:1	filings 118:15	59:19,25 61:7
120:5 122:5,11	113:14,20	133:25	filled 135:1	62:14 63:17
134:24 135:7,8	120:1 121:10	father's 34:17	filthy 37:25	64:21 66:21
144:16	123:2 125:16	fathom 71:8	89:12	70:4,10 73:16
family 10:22	125:18,22	73:3	final 6:13	76:20 79:3,13
11:12 15:6,7	126:12 133:24	favor 10:1 23:17	126:10	80:1,22 81:6
25:17 26:5,13	134:2 142:23	46:24 66:5	financial 26:19	84:11,22 87:1
26:16,18,19	143:5	81:7 114:10	26:21 42:10	88:10 89:21
33:11 34:16	farm's 26:13,16	favorably 25:3	47:18,19 52:5	91:24 92:21
42:24 43:6,16	farmed 34:17	72:10	72:12,25	93:6 94:4
43:23 55:3	64:13 78:2	fear 37:12	111:19 120:14	95:14,21 98:5
58:1 62:22	farmer 60:1	fearing 120:19	122:1,8 135:6	101:24 104:8
72:6 74:3	109:15 129:2,4	120:23	140:10,22	106:1 107:5,14
77:11,16 78:1	farmers 15:23	feature 31:3	141:15 145:16	109:4 110:8,20
80:12 91:19	19:5,8 29:21	48:20	financially	111:2 112:6
92:12,15 95:3	42:15 74:4	February 22:21	72:23 121:16	113:6 116:9
95:23 96:20	86:3,13,17	federal 71:6	151:13	117:4 119:11
106:11 110:3	92:18 96:24	121:25 130:23	find 26:21,25	122:15 124:3
120:9 129:3	118:14 125:25	131:3 132:18	28:9 50:2	124:15,22
130:12 131:6	129:11,13,17	feed 93:21	76:14,15 96:9	125:9 126:2,20
132:18 133:24	132:21 133:5	feeders 129:8	108:1 123:18	127:4 128:15
135:9 137:4	137:22 138:19	feel 20:25 26:18	findings 138:15	129:21 130:5
142:21,23,23	144:21	27:3 33:9 36:2	fine 137:18	133:9 136:9,15
143:5,24	farming 89:5	66:14 88:1	finished 6:1	136:24 138:23
144:12 145:10	99:7,17 126:8	103:13	fire 28:24 56:11	141:6 142:8
family's 15:7	farmland 19:7	feeling 14:4,5	65:18 89:1	143:12 145:1
28:1 36:24	33:11 96:14	feels 136:7	98:22,22	145:23
92:11,11	120:8 121:3,4	feet 79:17,19	fired 30:24	firsthand 57:10
108:17 132:15	129:14 137:5	98:19,19	firefighters	five 3:24 5:23
143:4	farms 11:2	131:21 132:2,3	98:23	57:15 77:16
fan 74:2,2	19:10 38:1	fell 25:19 58:19	firm 65:8 90:5	94:20 96:1
far 11:2 26:12	53:18 58:1	fellas 99:22	firmly 72:15	121:10
26:17 74:11	62:23 85:18,23	felt 26:6 121:8	firms 91:8	fixed 72:2,3,5
89:8 91:15	87:15 92:15	fence 29:16	first 4:6 5:19	flier 135:24
97:11 139:8	93:13 95:3	113:20	6:16,19 9:1	flood 75:10,17
farce 115:18	99:6 120:4,6	fertile 135:5	11:22 12:6	78:13,13
farm 9:16 10:21	121:6,14,19	fiance 137:3	13:2 16:8	126:11,11
11:6 15:10,10	122:4 130:16	field 81:9 91:11	18:16 20:15	flooded 75:15
15:11 25:17,18	131:10,15	fields 43:2 99:11	22:5,24 25:6	126:13
25:18,19 26:15	134:23,23	125:24 132:6	27:8 30:11	flooding 75:12
34:17 42:24	135:5,9,13,21	fifth 80:17	32:15 33:24	fly 57:11 58:13
43:2,16 63:25	136:3 137:7	fight 101:4	35:13 38:11	58:20
68:18 77:13,20	139:9 143:5	fighting 42:12	39:13 41:20	focus 47:24
80:12 81:19,20	145:10	figures 61:11	44:16 47:4	folk 20:5
	I	I	I	I

folks 38:22	forcing 82:10	132:11	131:17,20	15:8 33:12
42:19 43:7	forecast 48:25	Fragmentation	138:2 143:7,20	43:23 77:17
77:10 78:3	foregoing 151:6	132:13	futures 33:15	99:6 105:19
101:5 107:15	foreign 113:24	Franklin 74:17	108:17,17,18	137:6
123:17,25	foreign-backed	77:4,13		gentleman 24:6
follow 15:14	136:2 141:24	free 7:8 30:23	G	56:16 101:17
following 39:21	foremost 22:24	137:24 143:3	G 3:2 113:5,11	gentlemen 12:24
follows 6:21 9:3	forest 132:4,8	freed 8:5	149:1	63:1,9,10
11:24 13:4	132:11,14	freer 8:3	G-o-o-d-m-a-n	64:17 95:22
16:10 18:18	forever 15:7	freight 111:1	44:22	96:6 97:15
20:17 22:8	21:23 77:20	friendly 11:3	G-r-i-e-s-h-a	98:1 115:22
25:9 27:10	86:8	friends 39:5	47:11	116:6 119:8,20
30:13 32:17	form 63:2 74:14	99:5,5 117:22	G-u-m-m	122:12
34:1 35:15	former 56:5	friends' 108:17	122:20	genuine 134:19
38:13 41:23	forms 71:15	front 12:13	gain 9:23 42:10	geographic 48:3
44:19 47:7	forth 68:7 93:17	19:12 79:17,19	62:5 140:6	geology 91:4
50:21 54:1	109:14	109:17	141:2	George 38:9,10
55:23 57:2	forum 48:1	fuel 81:17	gainfully 90:24	38:16 53:17
59:11 62:16	123:1 129:1	fuels 14:8 15:18	Gamble 61:15	63:15,16,22
63:19 64:23	137:2	15:21 66:9,10	game 70:25 72:5	148:9,14
66:23 70:6	forward 4:3	78:9 102:17	72:21	Georgia 106:11
73:18 76:22	6:17 12:14	114:7	gas 17:25 18:4,5	geotechnics 91:6
79:5 80:3,24	20:10 52:9	full 16:11 89:12	18:6 91:14	Gerald 145:21
84:14 87:3	58:22 59:1	97:7 120:4	gases 14:8,15,16	145:22 149:8
88:12 89:23	73:4 108:5,16	full-time 35:3	15:19,20	Gerry 146:3
92:1,24 94:6	108:19 132:15	fully 10:6	gate 15:14,16	getting 8:6
95:16 98:7	fossil 14:8 15:18	fume 7:15	gather 64:7	13:13 74:15
102:1 104:10	15:21 66:9,10	fun 42:22	GBE 111:21	101:10 102:14
106:3 107:7	81:17 102:17	fund 65:18	general 51:5	102:17
109:6 112:8	114:7	71:12	61:15 82:23	giant 43:17
113:8 116:11	fought 94:25	fundamental	90:16 147:9	114:6 123:7
119:13 122:17	95:1	85:20	generally 58:12	give 5:8,18,25
124:5,24	found 13:20	funders 140:19	generate 11:3	36:4 44:9
126:22 128:17	23:15 25:24	funding 65:14	18:1 63:4	50:14 102:19
129:23 133:11	26:1 46:15	funny 24:2	103:1	119:6 137:24
136:17 138:25	74:20 121:2,11	further 151:11	generated 52:16	144:8
142:11 145:3	foundation 91:1	future 18:10	54:22 77:25	given 45:20
145:25	135:15	22:1 33:21	generates 60:11	85:17 92:14
food 48:8	founded 34:21	36:7 44:1 48:4	generating	93:12 116:22
footprint 48:3	four 4:21 13:20	48:12 49:22	56:11 57:20	118:19
131:20	26:24 28:1	59:2 62:3	generation	gives 96:21
for-profit 136:1	74:22 99:6	78:23 96:16	17:20 19:23,24	giving 116:21
141:24	139:22	102:22 103:5	28:1 40:25	117:10
force 33:17	frac 18:2	103:12,15,23	43:20 50:1	glad 53:15 54:21
58:19 140:3	fraction 72:22	104:19 105:23	77:12 80:17	global 114:3
forced 10:5	118:4	108:17,22,25	109:14	globe 139:22
forcibly 43:11	fragment	117:18 118:9	generations	go 7:6,16 9:11
	l	l	l	

11.12 12.5	28.2 11 20.7	125.10 127.15	21.0 59.1	50.0 15 149.11
11:13 12:5	28:2,11 29:7	135:10 137:15	21:9 58:1 128:1	50:9,15 148:11
13:11,22,25	29:17,18 31:16	137:17,20		gross 32:4 49:5
14:15,18 15:9	32:1,3,3,4,6,7	Goodman 44:14	grandchildren's	ground 5:17
15:12,12 16:17	32:8 36:21	44:15,22,22,24	14:2	81:23 93:19
19:1 20:23	39:6 52:24	45:1,1 148:10	granddaughter	95:5 96:12
22:14 25:15	53:1 54:22,25	government	80:11	108:3
27:16 29:15	56:21 58:3,9	11:5,9 48:9	grandkids 14:10	group 10:12
30:19 31:14,16	59:6 63:3	71:6 111:24	grandmother	61:1 117:10
32:24 34:8	64:12 68:7,8,9	112:1 130:23	7:13	groups 83:17
35:22 38:19	68:21,22 69:7	132:18 140:3	grandparents	grow 39:8 40:16
42:5,23 44:25	71:14 79:14,16	governmental	42:25 77:21	68:3 89:15
47:13 51:3	79:20,21 83:4	111:22	95:4 106:11	107:1 143:12
54:7 56:4 57:7	85:11 86:2,18	governor 60:19	112:20	grown 21:10
58:14 59:18	89:12 93:15,19	GPS 99:9	grandsons 26:14	34:23
62:20 65:6	96:16 97:1,7,9	gradually 19:20	grant 8:6 116:3	growth 39:25
67:5 70:19	98:18 99:4,5	graduate 71:17	116:4	41:9 48:6,16
73:24 76:6	99:10,12,13,22	graduating	grants 141:23	127:11
77:5 79:11,14	99:22 100:24	31:25	grass 15:13	guarantee
79:21,21 80:9	100:24 101:1	grain 1:12 2:4	grateful 96:2	134:22
81:5 83:6	102:13,25	3:7 4:11 5:5	gravel 10:5 29:4	guess 8:8 99:22
84:21 87:9	103:4,8,8,9,10	9:17 16:21	great 9:21 17:5	100:16 123:9
88:17 92:6	103:11,15,16	19:6,11,16,25	27:19 30:4,5	123:16
93:5,16 94:12	103:22 107:15	20:8 21:12	32:2 42:25,25	gulf 15:2
94:23,24,24	107:16,19	26:1,3,9,15,18	69:20 71:24	Gumm 122:13
95:7 96:16	108:15 110:9	37:11 45:9,21	75:22 77:21,21	122:14,20,20
97:5 98:13	110:12,24	46:7,24 49:17	95:3 101:9	122:23 149:3
99:25 100:15	111:14 112:22	59:21 60:6	102:18 108:10	guy 29:17
101:5 102:7	112:23 114:6	61:4 62:5 63:6	135:9	guys 13:17
104:17 106:9	114:11 115:17	76:17 79:13	greater 58:4	26:20,25 27:17
107:13 109:13	116:21 123:2	81:7 82:14,21	72:25 122:5	28:7,15 33:18
113:16 114:24	125:21,23	84:25 85:2	greatest 96:3	69:12,25 98:14
116:17 119:19	126:15	86:4 87:10	greatly 106:22	100:13
122:22 124:11	Golden 24:7	90:12,19 92:9	green 23:24 53:9	
125:6,23 127:3	good 3:3,19 4:8	93:11 104:20	97:20,22	H
128:23 133:18	4:9 24:11 26:7	105:9 106:17	greenhouse 14:8	H-a-l-a 87:6
136:23 138:4	42:16 44:2	107:25 108:23	14:15 15:19,20	H-a-l-f-m-a-n
139:6 142:18	55:1,13 58:4	109:16 110:2,7	18:4,5	65:2
145:9 146:5,25	58:10 64:8,18	112:18 119:22	Greg 92:19,20	H-a-r-l-o-w
goal 42:7 46:16	65:23 67:19	120:2 121:7	93:2 148:21	27:13
118:2	71:1,2,2,3,3,4	120:2 121:7	grew 15:10 28:8	H-i-b-b-a-r-d
goes 21:24 28:13	71:7 73:7,8,8	127:17 129:3	34:12 38:23	116:14
29:2 69:3	75:7 78:20	131:8,9,18	89:4 106:10	H-i-c-k-m-a-n
87:15 115:11	79:20 101:2	131:8,9,18	139:8	25:12
				H-i-z-a-r 119:16
going 4:3 5:12	102:21 110:5	133:21 135:4	grid 60:8,21	H-o-r-o-w-i-t-z
13:23 14:5,13	121:5 125:15	137:1,23	127:17 134:17	30:16
15:14,15 22:1	125:18,24	139:25	Grieshaber 47:2	H-u-f-f 62:19
26:4 27:22	134:14,24	grandchildren	47:3,10,10,14	11-U-1-1 02.17
	1	1	1	I

	1	1	1	
H-u-n-t-e-r	100:22 107:1	hate 114:15,22	113:19	history 15:7
106:6	118:23 126:6	119:18	hears 97:3	21:25 102:20
habitat 130:12	129:1 130:7,9	headed 36:22,22	heart 13:16	hit 48:18
130:18,21,23	130:10 133:17	health 17:17,18	35:25 37:2	Hizar 119:9,10
131:1,4,6,11	133:22 134:4,4	21:6 28:18,19	105:2	119:16,16,18
131:13,14,16	134:6,8,10,11	28:22 29:21	heavily 33:7	119:20 134:1
132:4,6,24,25	134:14,21,22	30:25 31:9	heavy 29:6	149:2
137:8 138:9	135:3,14,16	33:6,19 36:24	75:10,17 120:8	hold 29:7 43:6
habitats 134:3	137:5 139:8	36:24 37:18	Heck 137:13	holding 5:3
Hala 86:24,25	146:4	57:14 60:12	held 47:19	holes 129:6
87:6,6,8,10	Hannibal's	74:20 75:23	help 5:24 15:25	home 13:15 21:8
148:19	23:18	78:6 104:21	25:1 26:15	21:22 24:2
half 14:24 76:7	Hannibal-La	105:3,5,8	38:4 51:19	36:19 61:11
78:12 131:22	119:23 123:1	108:7 129:9	58:16 61:19	91:15 120:18
131:23	137:2	145:17	72:16 104:23	120:19,22
Halfman 64:19	Hannity 24:5	healthcare	105:9 125:17	121:15 123:5
64:20 65:1,1,4	Hanson 90:3	72:20	135:8 136:5	135:15
65:7 148:15	91:18	healthy 36:2	helping 105:17	homeowners
Hall 1:19 3:16	happen 14:11,13	37:14 65:24	helps 60:18	75:14
3:19 8:15	54:19 68:21	hear 4:25 26:13	heritage 42:10	homes 20:1
12:23 16:3	106:18 143:7	31:21 37:7	Hermann 58:1	21:24 45:23
handed 143:11	happened	51:19 89:2	hey 43:2 110:9	48:7 85:18
handful 131:20	126:11	114:23 115:19	Hibbard 116:8	92:15 93:13
handle 29:3,5	happening 8:9	heard 28:18,19	116:14,14,16	107:24 121:10
53:10	13:21 143:5	68:5 71:16	116:18,20	121:16 122:4
handles 135:18	happens 33:7	87:18 94:15	117:1 149:2	143:5
hands 122:8	57:10 115:3,5	108:8 110:1	Hickman 25:4,5	hometown
Hannibal 1:8,9	137:17	111:17 115:3	25:12,12,14,16	143:25
3:4 9:9 10:9,12	happy 15:13	117:13,23	148:7	honest 28:7
10:16 12:4,10	107:19 123:22	118:21 126:3	Higgins 24:9	hoodwinked
12:18 17:11	hard 14:6 21:4	131:24 134:1,6	high 1:14 3:10	10:11
20:5,5 22:13	29:11 43:6	134:7,8 135:6	37:4,5 40:24	hop 86:10
22:16,18,22	89:6	139:11 141:12	48:19 51:20	hope 8:9 16:1
23:13,21 24:3	hard-working	141:14,17	52:21 99:8	26:14,20,24
24:4 25:1	42:15 105:6	146:7,8,10	110:22	32:10 36:4
38:18,21,23,23	106:23	hearing 1:6 3:1	higher 36:11	76:13 78:21
38:24,25 39:16	harder 49:15	3:6,15 4:4,9	48:16 49:12	97:3 108:2
40:17 44:6,24	hardest 48:19	5:3,4,10,18,20	56:16 103:9	115:11 128:5
45:2,5,10,18	Hardin 2:4 4:13	5:21,22 6:10	highest 19:24	142:3
46:1,3,8,13	4:13	10:19 37:11	99:20 111:14	hopes 123:16
51:5,7 52:15	Harlow 27:6,7	38:21 65:22	highlights 60:22	hoping 113:2
53:20 55:2	27:13,13,15,17	67:7 72:4	highly 28:7 62:2	Horowitz 30:9
61:2 67:3	148:7	94:14 116:25	Highway 42:22	30:10,16,16,18
70:13,24 72:1	harm 67:21	136:8 147:12	42:23 97:24	30:20 148:8
72:19 77:7	harmful 30:24	147:13,14	126:5	hospital 7:23
80:13 91:6	54:14	hearings 5:6	highways 57:19	31:9 135:16
94:16 95:9	Harvard 74:20	9:24 34:14	87:17	hosting 119:21
	l	l	l	
L				

119:24	Illinois 36:21	105:21 136:1	industrial 24:4	insurance
hotels 91:14	60:9 65:5	146:9	25:2 51:16,18	121:20
hours 27:19	68:23 89:5	improving 21:5	industrially	intend 69:17
59:22 95:23	90:2,6 96:1	75:23	51:24	103:24
135:25	illustrate 49:11	inability 86:6	industries 48:21	Interconnection
house 11:12	imagine 15:4	inaudible 8:22	industry 24:12	1:15 3:12
27:2 29:17	27:20 43:17	include 39:17	34:24 47:18,19	interest 4:2 9:20
37:24 96:11,12	44:3	84:3	71:3 72:16	10:15 28:4
96:14	imbalance 14:19	included 19:8	103:11,12	31:20,22 54:10
household 46:2	immense 140:6	includes 60:16	109:18,22	54:11,11 60:16
52:19	impact 13:17	130:20	123:13,14	60:16 82:14,18
households 72:4	17:16 31:24	including 3:25	143:13	83:2 108:11
houses 37:23	37:16 45:9	48:13 61:2	inexperienced	interested 61:14
122:2 123:21	48:4,16 49:12	91:6	143:11,17	151:13
Houston 34:6	49:13 105:17	income 46:2	infections 7:16	interests 10:2
hub 130:20	107:15,16	49:9 52:20	inflated 11:8	71:20 112:2,2
Huff 62:10,10	108:20 111:20	72:4,6 82:22	information 5:2	Interfaith 83:21
62:13,19,19,21	120:16 122:8	129:11	6:5 27:24	interferes 7:12
148:14	139:11,12,12	incomes 72:2	39:15 65:24	interrogatories
huge 53:12 75:8	139:13 144:2,2	inconvenience	infrastructure	22:8 25:9
80:19 114:13	144:4 145:14	43:4	24:16 25:1	41:23 44:19
human 37:20	145:16	Incorporated	48:2 60:23	47:7 84:14
43:9 108:18	impacted 37:19	90:4	71:25 102:23	92:24 142:11
hundreds 13:14	53:19 74:10,23	increase 19:20	103:7 127:14	interruption
23:6 71:5	77:12 78:6	48:18,23 72:11	146:9	70:20
90:12	117:12 121:3	82:21,22,23	infringe 33:4	interstate 97:25
hunt 67:16,20	144:15	104:25	inherit 43:20	102:24
Hunter 105:24	impacts 30:24	increased 49:14	initial 26:3,6	interveners 4:24
105:25 106:6,6	37:6,6 49:17	increases 65:16	initiated 130:12	intrusion 19:7
106:8,10	49:22,22 78:10	72:2	initiative 72:16	invest 33:20
148:24	108:7	increasing 72:13	83:20 108:18	60:15 135:3
hunting 96:17	impartial 6:9	increasingly	injury 121:23	invested 132:18
96:23	implemented	72:3	input 72:11	investigation
hurt 103:22	145:15	independent	inside 99:2	23:14
121:16 144:18	importance	16:22	install 97:6,8	investigations
hurting 56:12	77:23	INDEX 148:1	installations	91:1
husband 21:1	important 3:21	Indian 132:4	125:19	investing 60:23
116:20 133:23	4:7 9:15 15:22	Indiana 60:9	installed 58:17	investment 26:4
133:24	33:5 36:18	79:14,21 90:6	81:19	132:17
hydraulic 18:2	45:18 54:20	94:25 130:21	installing 97:5	investments
	77:9 90:22	131:11,12	121:2,8	72:14 76:4
I	91:18 102:21	132:8 133:1	instance 74:17	investors 19:12
ID 96:4	103:2 105:7	indicated 4:2	75:2	24:18 42:13
identification	107:19 108:14	individual 73:5	Institute 48:14	117:10 118:10
			50 10 101 0	110 15 100 00
41:18 44:13	improve 32:3	144:6	50:10 121:2	118:15 139:22
	improve 32:3 45:19 65:17	144:6 individuals	50:10 121:2 insulators 10:6	involved 19:4

			1	
45:13 49:24	128:20 149:5	4:16,18,21,23	93:3,5 94:2,7	94:24 110:10
51:12	Jersey 118:1	6:22 7:3,6 8:14	94:10,12 95:12	117:15 118:1
Iowa 68:24	Jewish 83:19,20	8:16,18,23 9:4	95:17,20 98:3	136:4
75:25 76:3	Jim 122:13,14	9:8,11 11:20	98:8,11,13	Kathy 35:11,12
irony 21:20	122:20 149:3	11:25 12:3,5	101:14,21	35:18 148:9
issue 27:20,22	job 21:5 30:5	12:22,25 13:5	102:2,5,7	keep 5:25 24:3
28:6 29:10	32:1,5 34:11	13:8,11 16:2,5	103:24 104:2,5	31:20 51:24
55:6,10 107:15	35:4,7 45:11	16:11,15,17	104:11,15,17	99:21 143:18
140:5	49:3,4 61:20	18:11,14,19,23	105:24 106:4,7	keeping 90:24
issued 74:20	68:1 73:1	19:1 20:11,13	106:9 107:3,8	102:22 103:2
140:13	98:24 115:25	20:18,21,23	107:11,13	Keith 8:24,25
issues 21:6 27:4	129:6 138:11	22:3,9,12,14	109:2,7,10,13	9:6 148:3
27:21 28:13	146:24	25:4,10,13,15	112:4,9,13,15	Kelly 20:13,14
35:25 40:22	jobs 10:3 17:6	27:5,11,14,16	113:4,9,13,16	20:20 148:6
41:2 55:15	20:3 23:4,25	30:9,14,17,19	116:7,12,15,17	Kent 16:6,7,13
57:14 145:17	24:11 32:3	32:13,18,22,24	116:24 119:9	148:5
	35:5 40:6	33:22 34:2,5,8	119:14,17,19	key 24:24 39:10
	46:13 48:13	35:11,16,20,22	122:13,18,22	39:11 45:3,17
J-o-h-n-s-o-n	49:22 52:16	38:9,14,17,19	124:1,6,9,11	46:10,12 71:25
112:12 113:12	61:10,18,24	41:12,16,24	124:20,25	71:25
Jacob 104:5,7	65:11,15 66:3	42:2,5 44:10	125:4,6 126:18	kidney 105:1
104:13 148:24	72:13 82:19	44:14,20,23,25	126:23 127:1,3	kids 14:10 26:24
James 2:8 4:17	85:21 86:5	47:2,8,13 50:4	128:7,18,21,23	40:7 43:22
Jamie 94:2,3,9	88:23 90:11,12	50:17,22 51:1	129:18,24	80:17
105:24,25	97:9 107:24	51:3 53:22	130:3 133:7,12	kilowatt 101:1
106:6 148:22	110:6 123:13	54:2,5,7 55:19	133:16,18	kilowatt-hour
148:24	129:14 134:21	55:24 56:2,4	136:13,18,21	23:1 118:23
Janet 6:17,18	135:1 141:11	56:23 57:3,7	136:23 138:21	kind 14:16 24:2
7:1 148:3	141:12,13	59:5,12,18	139:1,4,6	29:3,20 86:1
January 28:3 100:11	145:13,15	62:6,9,12,17	142:6,12,16,18	100:20 101:5
	146:24 147:2	62:20 63:13,15	144:24 145:4,7	103:15 114:4
Jay 60:19 109:2	Joe 24:9	63:20,23 64:19	145:9,20 146:1	115:10,12
109:3,9 148:25	jog 93:16	64:24 65:3,6	146:5 147:11	126:3 133:3
148:25	John 55:19,20	66:19,24 67:2	Julie 1:23 12:25	kind's 108:18
Jeff 44:9 70:2,3	56:1 98:3,4,10	67:5 70:2,7,11	13:1,7 148:4	kinds 28:18
70:9,10 148:16 Jefferson 57:5	148:12,23	70:19 73:14,19	151:4	55:15 115:16
74:17 127:2	Johnson 112:4,5	73:22,24 76:18	jumped 25:25	Kirkwood 55:3
	112:11,11,14	76:23 77:2,5	Justin 25:4,5,12	55:3 61:2
128:4 145:8 Jenny 42:21	112:16 113:4,5	78:24 79:1,6,9	148:7	knocking 50:3
jeopardized	113:11,11,14	79:11,24 80:4	K	Knott 80:21
85:13	113:17 149:1,1	80:7,9,20,25	K-n-o-t-t 81:2	81:2,2,4,6 84:4
jeopardizes	Jonathan 18:14	81:3,5 84:2,5,8	K-o-l-l-a-r	148:18
129:5	18:15,21 148:5	84:15,19,21	32:21	know 7:25 8:21
Jerome 95:12,13	Josh 4:13	86:24 87:4,7,9	Kansas 19:14	10:9,20 13:16
95:19 148:22	Joshua 2:4	88:8,13,17	54:17 56:6	13:22,24 21:15
Jerry 128:13,14	judge 1:18 3:3	89:19,24 91:20	60:8 90:5	22:1 24:5,5
JULY 120.13,14	3:15 4:10,14	92:2,6,19,25	00.0 70.5	26:12 27:23
	1		1	1

28:9,10 29:10	08.10 12 14	63:24 148:14	145:1,23	lovoraging
29:20 30:5	98:10,12,14 148:23		Lawlor 22:21	leveraging 143:22
		large 4:1 23:22		
32:6 37:13	lament 71:13	24:17 29:5,6	laws 71:14	Lewis 67:4
39:17 40:4,5,8	land 21:4,5,13	46:15 61:15	lawyer 67:21	liberty 111:25
58:4 64:3,13	21:13,22 25:22	77:22 91:17	leaches 75:10	libraries 26:23
65:12 67:17	25:24 33:9	118:7 132:17	lead 15:13,15	65:19
75:4,5,7 76:9	34:17 35:8	larger 73:9	53:17	lie 7:20
79:17 83:1	37:24 43:4,6	largest 77:15	leader 26:17	lies 120:1
89:6 99:7,9,14	43:11,20,23	78:7 109:16	leaders 26:20	life 7:11,15
100:8,21,23	44:5 58:5,5,5	Larry 66:19,20	48:11 71:13	12:17 35:5
101:7 102:10	63:2 64:2,6	67:1 148:15	83:10	41:2 42:16,18
102:13 104:24	68:15,18,19,21	lastly 61:13 66:6	leadership	42:20 61:9
110:4,4 111:10	68:22,24 69:1	111:24	47:19	63:25 69:6,14
112:21,24	74:5 78:2	lately 114:2	leading 33:17	105:22 111:25
115:4,22 116:5	80:18 85:6,22	latitude 72:12	league 10:11	133:23 139:12
118:22 120:10	86:18 87:13	law 1:18 3:15	learn 110:25	life-longer 93:8
125:11 126:7	89:7 96:20	118:5	leave 21:25	lifelong 27:25
134:5 137:15	99:17,18,19	lawful 6:19 9:1	49:19 69:17	92:7 94:20
141:19 143:24	106:19 108:12	11:22 13:2	103:10 107:19	95:24
know-how 98:24	115:13,14	16:8 18:16	111:18 117:6	lifetime 15:9
knowledge	120:16,25	20:15 22:5	123:24 133:3	100:2 127:10
23:15 118:24	121:15,16	25:6 27:8	143:16	Light 83:22
known 85:13	131:12 135:5,8	30:11 32:15	leaving 36:20	lightly 146:18
100:12	137:23 138:6	33:24 35:13	134:25	limited 5:23
knows 97:7	139:25 141:17	38:11 41:20	led 110:22	11:15 49:10
Kollar 32:13,14	143:3,16,22	44:16 47:4	left 44:5 86:5	limits 98:20 99:3
32:20,20,23,25	144:7,8,10	50:19 53:24	128:9	Lincoln 145:11
148:8	landowner 17:3	55:21 56:25	legacy 133:3	line 1:12,14,16
	60:1 80:17	59:9 62:14	137:7	2:4 3:8,11,13
L	115:14 135:20	63:17 64:21	legislation 58:18	4:11 5:7 9:18
L-a-G-a-r-c-e	landowners	66:21 70:4	legitimate 55:7	9:19,20 10:5
70:10	2:10 4:18 10:8	73:16 76:20	Lehmann 18:14	10:14 11:11,14
L-a-k-e 98:10	11:6 20:24	79:3 80:1,22	18:15,21,21,25	12:9,15 16:21
L-a-n-e 63:22	34:16,25 35:7	84:11 87:1	19:3	19:8,11,13
L-e-h-m-a-n-n	39:6 43:15	88:10 89:21	Lerner 107:3,4	22:21,23 23:4
18:25	55:7,13,16	91:24 92:21	107:10,10,12	23:10,15,21
L-e-r-n-e-r	60:17 76:13	94:4 95:14	107:14 148:25	25:3 26:2
107:10	80:12 86:16	98:5 101:24	let's 4:10 29:14	28:17,20 29:2
Labadie 56:9	92:17 118:17	104:8 106:1	49:25 111:4	29:15 32:3,12
77:3,14 78:11	122:11 129:16	107:5 109:4	letter 67:21	33:2 34:11
labor 10:5	132:20 133:5	112:6 113:6	83:12,24	36:4,20 37:21
LaGarce 70:2,3	138:19 140:9	116:9 119:11	101:18	38:3 42:13
70:9,9,12,21	142:1 144:3,20	122:15 124:3	letting 63:10	43:3,25 44:2
148:16	landscape 43:19	124:22 126:20	level 14:23	45:10 46:8
LaGrange 1:8	114:12,16,18	128:15 129:21	71:17	49:17 50:3
129:1	Lane 63:13,14	133:9 136:15	levels 31:5 56:20	59:21 60:2,5,6
Lake 98:3,4,10	63:15,16,22,22	138:23 142:8	leverage 111:2	60:15,24 61:19
	03.13,10,22,22	150.25 142.0	10101 age 111.2	00.13,27 01.19
1				

MIDWEST LITIGATION SERVICES om Phone: 1.800.280.3376

Г

61.24 62.4 5	95.1 96.17	litanally 80.6	livelihood 129:4	66.12 15 67.16
61:24 62:4,5 62:22 66:4	85:1 86:17 87:11 92:8,18	literally 89:6 Litigation 1:23	livelihood 129:4	66:13,15 67:16 69:2 80:18
67:4,25 68:1	93:10 94:14	little 13:22 28:8	105:22	83:1 95:10
<i>'</i>				
68:19,20 69:3	119:22 120:2	28:12 66:15	lives 13:17 14:2	123:23
69:4,7,14,18	120:18 121:3	74:11 78:11	29:12 47:17	looked 26:3 28:5
70:16,22 71:1	129:5,12,17	109:24	74:23 105:20	looking 10:2
71:11 72:5,22	131:8,15	live 5:15 7:3,4	livestock 129:7	12:13 32:1
76:13,17 80:14	132:22 133:6	7:17 8:1 9:8,9	livid 21:17	42:9 52:8,17
82:7 83:14,25	134:17 135:4	12:3 13:8 16:1	living 33:6 95:25	53:3 104:19
86:10 87:15,17	136:9,10 137:1	16:15 21:16	104:18,25	108:5,16 110:7
87:22,23 88:1	138:19 141:8	22:12,13 25:13	130:8	114:15 135:25
88:4 89:10,10	141:17,22	27:14 30:17	LLC 1:12 2:4	136:2 143:13
90:17 93:16	142:4,25	32:22,23 34:5	3:8 4:12	146:21
96:10 97:14,15	144:16,21	34:6 35:20	load 12:15	lose 129:13
100:19,24	linear 48:23	37:1,16 38:17	loads 29:6	losing 74:5
101:9 102:19	lines 10:23 11:7	38:18 40:19	lobbying 11:9	125:17
102:23 104:20	11:13 23:7	41:4 42:2,17	lobbyists 137:13	loss 42:11 49:3,4
104:23 105:9	34:23 37:1,24	42:22 44:23	137:14	120:14,19
107:2 110:3,10	39:7 43:1,17	46:20 51:1,2	local 1:6 3:6 4:9	121:12 122:1
111:4,6,13	55:17 57:20	54:5 56:2,15	17:4 26:23,23	123:12
113:21 115:1	58:3 64:1,11	60:12 63:23,24	26:24 63:4	losses 21:5 122:5
116:1,19 117:5	64:13,16 67:8	65:3,4,9 67:2,3	71:2 72:8,24	141:15
117:13,15,16	68:25 74:2	73:22 77:2,3	91:4,9,14	lost 111:23
117:24 119:1,3	77:19,22 86:3	77:13 79:9	105:12 110:5	141:13
119:4,4 120:3	87:16,16 88:3	80:7 81:3	134:23,24	lot 8:8 27:22,22
120:7,8,14,15	90:11,14 95:7	84:19 87:7	136:3 138:3,9	31:14 37:8
121:24 122:4,6	97:5,7,8 110:4	90:1 93:3,4	145:14	51:18,20 58:5
122:12,25	110:18 120:11	94:10 95:10,20	locally 11:3	58:5,6 63:4,6,7
124:15 125:8	121:2,8,20,21	98:11 99:1,2 101:7 102:5	locations 91:15	68:15 71:16 87:18 80:2
127:8,17 129:3	123:6,14,20		logged 68:2	87:18 89:2
131:20 132:1,5	127:11 129:7	103:22 104:15 106:7 107:11	logger 67:25	93:19 94:15
132:7,15 134:8 134:9,10,14,20	143:22 Lines' 11:4	109:10,11	logging 68:1 London 20:22	98:16 99:11,18 102:15 103:13
134:25 135:18	link 129:9	112:13,14	95:21	102.15 105.15
	list 8:24 83:15	,	long 19:4 42:7	
135:19,22,23 135:25 137:10	128:9	113:13,14 116:15 119:17	U	112:17,25,25
137:16,19,21	listed 5:12	120:12 122:20	44:5 58:6 59:4	114:1,9,21
137:25 138:15	130:22	120.12 122.20	75:21 86:2,3,4 89:12 113:20	118:21 122:4,7 134:7
137.23 138.13	listen 4:6 9:13	123.18,24	long-term 54:11	lots 99:17
139:20,23	24:5 98:15	124.9 125.4	61:3 62:3	137:12
139.20,23	111:9 124:13	130:3 133:16	134:24 135:2	Louis 1:24 7:4
140:2,12,17 141:2,11,13,23	listened 55:10	136:6 137:3	134.24 135.2 145:14 147:3	8:2,2,8 16:16
141:2,11,13,23		142:16 145:7		18:22 30:18,21
142:22 143:4,8	listening 13:20 24:6 60:4	lived 38:23	longer 8:1 31:10 118:5 121:12	30:25 31:6,8
143:12,20	69:25 77:6	47:16 63:24	look 4:3 43:16	32:23,25 35:21
144:12,25	listing 135:24	75:20 90:2	48:12 56:13	54:6 56:3,15
line's 11:18 17:4	lists 121:4	99:20	62:2 66:8,11	59:16,22 68:12
1111 5 11.10 17.4	11313 121.7	<i>)).2</i> 0	02.2 00.0,11	57.10,22 00.12

73:23 74:16,18	maintain 1:14	margin 36:10	1:15 3:12	17:11 46:10
74:22 75:2	3:10 100:9	margins 72:12	McFarland	50:6 52:19
78:18,18 81:4	144:7	Marilyn 133:7,8	56:23,24 57:5	61:11 109:24
83:21,22 85:24	maintaining	133:14 149:6	57:5,8 148:13	113:24 123:12
88:16 89:3	97:4	Marion 38:25	mean 66:13 69:9	mentions 118:23
94:23 97:24	maintenance	42:3 47:15	meaning 19:11	Meramec 75:13
101:6,8 102:6	90:11 131:17	93:9 121:5	132:11	75:14
103:18 104:16	major 103:12	143:6	meaningful 9:21	merchant 19:11
106:8 107:12	139:22 145:18	Marissa 107:3,4	means 12:15	111:4,12
117:22 119:18	majority 85:23	107:10 148:25	15:3 31:4	merely 141:4
121:13 126:6	making 38:22	Mark 22:21	46:11 65:15,15	merits 11:14
151:3	55:18 72:13	47:2,3,10	74:7 89:6	mess 59:6
love 25:19 86:9	76:9 85:15	135:15 148:11	105:11 111:5	met 21:1 117:4
106:24	94:19 105:19	marked 41:18	129:10	metals 17:24
low 20:1,9 45:22	143:17	44:13 84:7	measure 71:22	75:10,18
46:19,23 52:6	man 26:13	104:4	measured 48:24	methane 18:5
60:7 61:14	101:16 104:18	market 32:5	median 46:2	metro 93:9
82:15 83:3	manage 1:14	139:25 143:4	52:19	metropolitan
88:24 103:2	3:10 35:5	marketing 19:5	meet 51:17	116:5
107:23 117:14	51:11 120:6	23:23 40:2	60:18 130:24	Michael 1:18
118:25	130:15 137:8	41:9	meeting 4:7	3:14 22:3,4,11
lower 23:2,17	manageable	markets 19:16	17:13 19:5	148:6
39:23 45:20	37:22	71:24 136:5	44:6 67:23	microphone
46:1 61:25	manager 23:11	143:24	98:21 119:21	6:23
68:24 112:23	45:4 46:11	Markley 66:19	119:24	middle 131:11
129:11 141:2	51:5 56:6	66:20 67:1,1,3	meetings 81:10	Midwest 1:23
lowered 52:7	70:13	67:6 148:15	117:4	19:6 90:15
121:18	mandated 36:9	marred 121:6	meets 76:14	106:15
lowest 52:20	mandates 11:10	marrying 137:4	mega 120:7,10	Mike 22:16
lucrative 136:4	53:13	Mary 63:13	megawatts 17:9	62:10,13,19
140:11 143:23	manufacturer	Maryland 118:1	19:25 54:24	148:14
lying 7:22	24:15,16 40:12	massive 29:2	60:7	mile 122:3 132:3
	manufacturers	105:4 123:6	melting 56:20	135:20 143:7
<u>M</u>	24:23 39:3	143:22	member 8:17,21	miles 34:22
M 1:20	40:7,8 41:8	Master 68:14	22:17 55:8	40:19 77:14
M-a-r-k-l-e-y	48:7 51:21	matching	62:11 70:17	89:11,12
67:1	53:14	141:15	95:24 98:17	131:22,22
M-c-F-a-r-l-a	manufacturing	matter 1:12 3:7	101:15,19	military 21:10
57:6	17:6 23:22	14:18 86:22	139:9 145:10	56:18,19 68:10
M-o-r-r-i-s 34:4	24:11 39:10,24	97:13 138:16	members 5:8	69:6 96:8
M-o-s-b-y 54:4	48:21 72:7	matters 14:23	74:4 83:15	millennials 41:1
ma'am 7:3 8:23	90:10	39:19	95:23 96:20	million 11:5
13:8	map 96:11 114:4	mature 131:12	135:2 142:21	12:16,17 17:3
magnitude 29:5	Maplewood	132:3,8	men 68:6	17:3,10 20:4
mail 44:8,10	36:25	Max 24:9	mention 68:10	23:20 24:20
main 29:10 33:2	March 5:4	maximum 53:12	110:13	45:24 49:18
125:14,14	116:22	Maywood-Mo	mentioned	53:1 61:1,6
	I	l	l	I

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79.12 92.10 22	(1.22 (2.4	145.9 146.4 10		N 3:2
78:12 82:19,22	61:23 62:4	145:8 146:4,19	morning 69:2,13	
82:23,24	64:5,18 65:8	146:20 151:2	Morris 33:22,23	N-o-l-a-n-d
million-dollars	65:10 68:14,23	Missouri's	34:4,4,6,9,10	146:3
121:19	69:20 73:8	17:14 36:7	Mosby 53:22,23	name 3:14 5:13
millions 17:7	75:13 76:7	86:18 118:8	54:4,4,6,8	5:14,21 6:16
53:2 63:5	77:3,9,16	121:4 132:24	148:12	6:24,25 7:1
71:20 100:5,6	78:14,17 79:10	134:3	mother 7:18	8:24 9:4,5
105:13,22	79:14,15,20,21	Missouri-based	43:21	11:25 12:1
mills 24:13	80:8,13,13	130:8	Motors 61:15	13:5,6 16:11
mind 24:3 67:24	81:18 83:8,12	Missourian 74:3	Mountain 21:7	16:12,13 18:19
mindful 49:25	83:13,17,21	88:21 127:10	mouth 6:23	18:20,21,24
mine 94:17	84:23,25 86:15	Missourians	move 6:22 10:19	20:18,19 22:3
minimum 53:11	86:16 87:13	17:1,17 20:8	15:10 19:15	22:9,10,16
minute 50:4,5	88:7,21 89:16	32:11 37:14	20:9 39:16	25:10,11 27:11
68:16	90:3,7,14,15	59:24 60:16	41:1 42:18	27:12 30:14,15
minutes 5:23	91:5 92:5,7,16	78:5,6,22	57:23 58:22	32:18,19,20
40:20 128:10	92:17 93:4	83:11 105:6,20	64:6 73:4	34:2,3,9 35:16
miserable 7:11	94:11 95:25	117:14,21	75:20 77:9	35:17 38:14,15
14:10	97:10,17 98:12	128:2	78:9 96:13	41:24,25 44:14
Mississippi 24:8	102:10,12,19	mister 124:16	102:12 108:24	44:20,21 45:1
24:10 75:13	102:22 103:5	mitigate 54:14	114:5 132:15	47:8,9,10,11
120:22,24	104:16,19,21	MIZZOU 68:13	movement	50:22,23 54:2
Missouri 1:1,9	104:24 105:14	Moberly 135:16	54:19 145:12	54:3 55:25,25
1:24 2:10 3:5,5	105:23 106:8	modeling 141:8	moving 76:1,2	57:3,4 59:5,12
3:22 4:18 7:5	106:18,23	modernize	76:10 108:19	59:13,22 62:17
9:9,22 10:16	107:16,23	60:21	114:1	62:18 63:20,21
10:21 11:17	108:6,19,24	molecules 15:1	mow 95:7	64:24,25 65:1
13:10 15:3,6	109:12,16,19	moment 144:14	multi 11:5 140:7	66:24,25 70:7
16:18,25 17:5	109:23 110:20	monetary 112:1	140:20	70:9,10 73:19
17:10,16 18:22	114:19 116:16	132:17	multi-state 73:9	73:20 76:23,24
19:17,19,23	117:15,18	money 15:25	multi-year 17:6	76:25 79:6,7
20:2,7,22	118:18 122:8	42:13 43:5	multifaceted	80:4,5,10,25
22:13 25:14	122:10,10,21	52:21 63:4	17:2	81:1 84:15,16
30:18 31:20	122:24 127:2,5	64:7 65:13	multiple 110:4	87:4,5 88:13
32:2,4,23	127:9,13 128:4	68:7 69:9,10	munching 15:12	88:14 89:24,25
33:14,17 34:12	128:24 129:2,4	69:23 87:20,24	municipal 20:4	90:1 92:2,3,25
34:12,13,18,21	129:13,15,15	91:8 96:20	45:24 53:6	93:1 94:7,8
35:4 36:9,17	129:16 130:5	99:18 105:4,5	65:17 82:8,10	95:17,18 97:2
42:3 44:24	130:10,18,22	105:10,11	82:15	98:8,9 102:2,3
45:6,22 46:22	130:25 131:5,6	106:25 110:24	municipalities	104:11,12
47:21,22 51:9	133:4,4,17,20	114:13,14	60:25 61:2	106:4,5 107:8
51:22 54:18,23	137:21 138:11	119:7 140:7	89:1 111:11	107:9 109:7,8
54:25 56:3,13	138:18 139:5	Monroe 67:23	municipality	112:9,10 113:9
57:6 58:2	139:14 141:1	109:15 113:18	55:8	113:10 116:12
59:17 60:8,8	142:2,17,21	117:4	mutual 48:11	116:13 119:14
60:10,13,18,20	143:22 144:15	month 13:15	<u> </u>	119:15 122:18
60:21 61:18,18	144:20,22	67:19		122:19 124:6,7
	l	I	I	I

		-		
124:25 125:1	necessities 72:21	neighborhoods	non-Missouri	70:22 119:25
126:23,24	necessity 1:13	57:12 96:22,22	136:1 141:24	134:12
128:8,18,19	3:9 9:20	neighboring	144:8	offering 134:10
129:24,25	139:18 140:6	52:15 132:20	non-polluting	134:20,25
130:2 133:12	140:14 141:7	neighbors 85:18	17:19	137:22 147:2,3
133:13,14	142:5 143:2	92:15 93:14	non-profit 53:5	147:3
135:17 136:18	need 19:7,17	neither 151:9	135:13	offers 26:4,6
136:19 138:6	28:14,15 40:7	nervous 9:15	nonprofit 71:4	office 2:8 4:16
139:1,2 142:12	40:25 41:4	Nestle 61:16	north 1:24 39:1	135:25
142:13,14,19	44:8 46:4,22	76:5	56:15 97:14	offices 71:10
145:4,5,6	49:21 52:14	never 42:19	Northeast 45:6	90:5
146:1,2 148:2	56:17 57:22	57:18 68:2	47:22 51:9	official 111:19
names 5:12 40:9	58:23,23 60:20	110:11,12,19	notice 135:23	111:21
128:9	62:1 64:1,10	117:19 119:3,4	notify 67:13,17	officials 11:9
NASA 56:17	75:1,5,6 76:15	132:24	nuisance 49:24	134:8
nasal 7:20	82:14,18 83:2	never-ending	number 4:1 31:7	offset 30:2
Nathan 2:6 4:15	93:16,24 99:18	125:20	72:2 73:10	oh 69:8 110:18
Nathaniel	100:3 108:3	new 20:22 39:12	75:24 109:18	115:8
101:14,23	116:2,4 117:16	41:10 46:21	109:22 145:18	okay 7:6 41:16
102:4	117:23 118:4,8	53:16 60:23	numbers 40:18	44:12 62:9,12
nation 52:13	121:21 127:18	61:13 62:1	118:21	62:21 84:5
54:17 77:24	128:2,3,11	76:1 95:21	numerous 60:25	104:2 116:3
nation's 127:13	132:6 139:19	97:13,15 118:1	61:22 99:4	127:4
127:16 137:11	139:25 146:9	129:14 132:21		Oklahoma
138:2 146:11	146:11	134:21 137:10	0	81:21 90:18
national 31:7	needed 61:21	141:11,12	O 3:2	old 7:11 8:1
71:13,19	117:13	143:13 145:13	O'Bannon 109:2	25:21 74:25
140:20	needs 60:10	newest 40:25	109:3,9,9,11	80:11 123:25
native 130:7	61:18 65:17	82:2	109:14 148:25	older 66:15
131:5	66:2,3 75:2	newly 100:10	148:25	oldest 137:9
natives 142:21	76:14 78:22	news 120:18	O'Fallon 13:9	once 125:10,12
natural 17:25	97:14 132:1	newspaper	O-'-B-a-n-n-o-n	130:25 132:23
18:3,6 130:13	negative 11:11	40:10 65:14	109:9	132:24 136:10
133:5 134:3	49:13 108:7	nice 114:15	oak 131:13	142:4
Naturalist 68:14	120:15 122:7	night 7:19 23:10	132:8	one's 58:9
naturally 43:22	negatively	24:3 36:20	oath 5:14	104:25
near 6:4 33:6	144:15	91:16 94:16	object 71:23	one-third 52:24
88:3 104:25	negotiate 23:12	nightmare	observable 18:8	70:22
143:20	55:16 70:15	125:19	obtain 23:12	ones 10:12 87:21
nearby 120:21	negotiating	nitrous 31:5	obviously 49:11	open 42:20
nearly 42:24	55:13	Nixon 60:19	occur 71:22	71:24
49:7 74:21	negotiations	NOAA 56:17	occurring 18:9	opening 3:18
133:25 137:11	26:7	noise 64:14	ocean 14:23	Operate 1:13
necessarily	neighbor 120:17	Noland 145:21	oceans 13:25	3:9
75:20	120:21 135:10	145:22 146:3,3	14:25,25	operated 66:9
necessary 49:24	neighborhood	146:6 149:8	offer 5:15 20:2	operating 57:9
71:22 138:13	23:1 24:19	non-coal 36:8	26:7 37:13	72:12
	I	l	I	I

operation 24.10	option 75:7	overwhelming	parents 40:6	passed 19:19
operation 24:10 61:8	options 31:14	overwhelming 45:19	112:19	25:20 42:25
	78:4 85:22		parents' 43:2	53:4 80:16
operations	oral 22:7 25:8	overwhelmingly 19:19	Parham 121:14	
34:10 52:7				101:18 102:11
opinion 93:8	41:22 44:18	Owen 2:8 4:17	121:19 129:18	passing 63:14
128:25	47:6 84:13	4:17	129:19 130:1,1	69:24
opinions 45:14	92:23 142:10	owner 74:3	130:4,16	passionately
opportunities	order 71:22	135:21	131:10,15	103:14
52:18 103:16	117:11 127:23	owners 37:22	133:7,8,14,14	pastures 43:1
104:21	127:23 137:23	143:14	133:17,19,24	path 17:5,16
opportunity	139:19	ownership	134:22 135:5,9	32:11 119:6
12:9,14 23:3	ordered 58:11	119:6	135:13,21	120:2 122:1
39:20 41:7	organizations	owns 115:14	137:3,7 138:21	pathways 97:25
45:11 46:7	47:20 71:5	oxide 31:5	138:22 139:3,3	Patricia 76:18
50:2 52:22	83:9,16,19	P	139:5,7,9	76:19,25
59:20 71:17	135:14		149:5,6,7	148:17
78:9 81:7	organizing	P 3:2	park 11:20,21	Paul 2:10 4:20
84:24 93:7	34:14	P-a-r-h-a-m	12:2,2,4,6,10	pay 10:13 13:16
96:12,21	origin 127:24	130:2 133:15	12:24 24:4	15:25 36:11,14
101:21 102:9	original 115:14	139:3	25:2 148:4	43:3 61:8 65:9
105:21 108:24	originally 34:11	P-a-r-k 12:2	part 3:23 17:10	78:16,16,17,20
115:23 119:22	67:6 106:11	P-e-r-r-y 88:15	44:11 45:12	87:19,20
122:24 127:6	ornamental	P-e-t-e-r-s-o-n	51:12 57:19	113:25 130:9
128:25 130:6	67:10	35:19	58:13 77:11	139:24 141:14
133:20 134:14	out-of-state	P-l-o-t-k-i-n	78:20 90:19	paycheck 46:20
136:25 140:12	61:19 143:8	104:14	133:22	46:21
144:22	outcome 107:23	p.m 3:1 147:14	participate	payer 71:12
oppose 26:18	126:10 137:18	PAGE 148:2	54:18	134:4
37:11 43:13	151:14	150:2	participating	payers 12:19
71:21 79:19	outcomes 16:23	paid 10:18 13:13	20:3 45:23	17:8 52:18
87:10 93:10	outdated 75:1	23:6 30:22	60:25 147:12	paying 17:5 46:5
94:14 98:2	output 134:16	56:19 68:20	particular 8:2	52:25 81:24
116:19 124:16	outraged 117:5	70:23 72:23	142:24	82:1 90:24
125:15	outside 50:13	121:25	particularly	pays 141:6
opposed 9:17	78:18 99:3	painstakingly	137:6	peaceful 36:3
62:21 80:14	outstanding	131:6	parties 151:10	Pennsylvania
85:4 113:21	108:23	paint 57:11,13	151:13	118:1
117:2,9 129:2	outweigh 26:25	painting 137:14	partner 34:11	people 8:11
142:22 144:12	overall 32:4	paints 138:17	partners 22:22	24:23 27:18,22
opposes 85:1	46:14 48:18	Palmyra 42:3	35:2,10 119:3	28:5 29:10,11
92:8	overly 85:15	80:8	Partners' 127:8	29:23 30:4
opposite 56:13	overpriced	Pam 25:24	partnership	36:2 37:15,23
opposition 5:9	10:14	panel 43:14	46:12	39:22 40:18
19:6 37:15	overseas 21:11	paper 63:5	parts 51:22	42:16,16 43:5
119:22 122:25	overwhelmed	PAR 34:10,21	pass 25:22 54:23	49:15 54:13
125:8 133:21	27:23 100:21	parasites 132:13	101:16 105:21	56:10 57:10,14
137:1 144:23	111:21	parcels 58:4	126:15 137:24	57:17 58:6,25

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Г

	100 0 1 4 4 5			54.10.55.1
64:3,4 69:4,9	108:9 144:5	plains 75:10	38:14 41:24	54:13 55:1
69:16,19 71:16	personally	110:15	42:5 43:25	58:3 59:1
72:2,18 74:5,9	92:10	plan 11:5,13	44:20,25 47:8	100:3 108:10
75:16,20 77:24	personnel 28:23	43:1 60:19,20	47:13 50:22	108:12 113:18
86:14 87:18,19	perspective	120:18	51:3 54:2,7	127:24,24
88:4 89:2,5	119:25 144:11	planet 17:18	55:24 57:3,7	128:8
90:8 96:6	Peterson 35:11	56:18 108:21	59:12,18 62:2	points 54:9
97:19 98:25	35:12,18,18,21	planned 90:19	62:17,20 63:20	pole 12:12
99:23 100:12	35:23 148:9	96:17 120:2	64:24 65:6	poles 29:16
103:10,13,17	petition 44:8	planning 11:12	66:24 70:7	86:11 123:7,21
103:22 105:4	85:1 86:17	22:20 90:4	73:19,24 76:23	policy 81:9
105:22 106:19	87:11 92:8,18	plans 16:22	79:6,11 80:4	121:20 138:4
106:24,25	93:10 94:15	96:16 120:21	80:15,25 81:5	polite 6:13
112:17 116:5	122:6,12	120:22 126:9	84:4,15,21	politicians
118:13 120:12	129:17 131:8	132:15 137:14	87:4,9 88:13	115:20
124:14,17	133:6 136:9,11	138:8 143:21	89:17,24 92:2	polluted 33:7
people's 24:14	138:20 141:7	144:16	92:25 94:7	polluting 54:12
29:14 43:4	144:21	plant 56:9,12	95:17 98:8	polluting-caus
55:2 108:9,11	petitions 138:14	57:9 58:10,21	101:12 102:2,7	7:9
perceived 89:4	Phillip 124:1,2,8	75:15,19,21	103:20 104:11	pollution 7:12
percent 12:15	149:3	77:14,15,17	104:17 106:4,9	8:3 15:19,20
14:21 19:21,22	photos 43:15	78:11 82:1,2,3	107:8,13 109:7	17:21,21 18:1
23:20 48:17,17	physical 72:13	plants 8:4 30:25	112:9,15 113:9	18:3 42:17
48:23,23 49:1	pick 14:9,9,11	31:2 33:3,6	113:16 116:12	74:10,19 75:9
49:11 53:3,10	65:23 95:5	40:14 57:20	116:17 119:14	75:9 77:18
53:12 57:24	97:6	58:17,18,19	119:19 122:2	85:5 108:8
70:24 76:6	picked 139:9	74:10,16,22,24	122:18,22	pollutions 15:21
81:25 82:3	picture 43:19	74:25 75:5,8	124:6,11,25	ponds 75:14
83:5 85:10	138:17	78:1,7 89:13	125:6 126:23	poor 10:13
117:20 121:9	pictures 43:17	104:25 117:25	127:3 128:12	24:10,11
131:4,4,5	43:18	play 88:3	128:18,23	population
132:23	piece 21:4 25:24	playgrounds	129:24 133:12	72:17 132:9
perfectly 29:24	pilot 56:6	75:16	133:18 136:18	portion 17:9
period 5:19 49:9	pipe 97:10	plays 37:9	136:23 139:1,6	130:15 135:12
permanent 20:3	pipeline 37:8	130:19	142:12,18	position 14:14
132:14	pitted 36:1	pleasant 15:9	145:4 146:1,5	26:19 46:22
permanently	place 36:3 46:23	57:18,22	Plotkin 104:6,7	51:10,23 52:12
85:21	64:9 96:10	please 4:24 5:13	104:13,13,16	55:13 147:8
Perry 88:8,9,15	110:20 114:15	6:10,13,17,24	104:18 148:24	positions 47:20
88:15,18	125:21 135:7	7:6,25 9:4,18	plunged 120:25	positive 45:9
116:16 148:20	136:6	11:25 13:5,11	plus 82:9,15	possible 7:8
person 5:24	placed 75:21	16:11,17 18:19	89:10	72:15 107:22
17:11 28:7	placement 55:17	19:1 20:18,23	pocket 13:15	possibly 23:25
108:16 128:1	places 36:2	22:9 25:10,15	pockets 105:5	71:8
personal 16:21	102:25 103:1	27:11,16 30:14	podium 5:13	post 7:20
20:25 26:17	plain 78:13,14	30:19 32:18,24	point 26:6 29:2	potential 45:22
82:22 99:5	146:21	34:2 35:16,22	49:20 52:13	71:8
	l	I	I	I

potentially	predators	121:9 129:11	producers'	55:9,11 59:24
75:17	132:12	pricing 23:12	72:12	60:21 61:9,21
power 8:4 11:3	predominant	72:3	produces 18:7	65:10,15 66:5
11:8 17:10	130:25	pride 135:9	78:11	68:8 73:9 77:8
19:8 20:1	preferable	primarily 74:9	product 32:4	81:13 85:6,12
22:25 23:10	116:24	primary 54:19	49:6 82:22	88:21,22,23
26:2 29:2	premature	72:11	production	89:17 90:6,7
30:25 36:12	74:21	prime 130:21	17:17 39:11,24	91:19 102:9,16
37:21,24 39:17	prepared	131:11,13	40:8,20 48:8	102:20,23
45:23 51:13	112:17 141:14	prior 41:13	71:15 134:16	102:20,23
55:17 57:9,20	present 4:24	98:21	141:8	108:2,5 110:9
58:10,17,18,19	presentation	prison 37:8	productive	110:16,21
58:21 60:7,17	112:25	private 9:23	129:14	111:20 115:6
61:17 64:1,11	presented 6:9	42:8 85:16,18	productivity	117:2 118:11
64:13 67:4,8	55:12	85:18,24 86:21	86:8 93:20	119:23 121:7
69:3,3,17	presently 22:16	92:13,15 93:12	products 23:24	125:23 126:13
70:15,22 72:9	preserve 19:7	93:13 100:4	professional	127:8,17,19
70:13,22 72:9	69:6 96:18	108:10,14	51:4 90:3	129:3,5 130:13
77:14,17 78:1	105:18 134:3	109:21 112:2	146:8,10,13	131:15 137:2,8
78:7,11 79:22	preserved 85:7	117:11 119:5	professor 74:19	142:22,24,25
81:20,25 82:16	preserving	138:5,6,8	profit 85:19,25	142:22,24,25
83:21 85:17	68:15	139:17,21,21	87:14,21 92:16	144:23 145:13
86:3 89:12	president 12:10	140:2,3,10,20	117:11 146:21	projected 28:10
90:20 92:14	president 12.10 presiding 1:18	140:23 143:1,8	profitable	30:1
93:12,24 94:18	3:15 116:20	144:8 146:20	137:17	projections
97:12,20	press 72:3	147:1	profiting 97:1	126:8,10,14
102:25 104:23	pressure 26:10	probably 10:20	profits 24:24,25	projects 23:18
111:8 116:19	pressures	13:14 28:21	134:2 137:16	35:1 90:17,21
117:10,16,17	102:11	29:10 39:13	Program 36:13	91:8,17 105:7
117:20,24	prettier 138:17	99:20 139:9	progress 37:20	108:1 121:1
119:1,3,4,5	pretty 7:11	problem 67:9	49:23	127:12,22
121:1,1,2	14:10 15:13	99:24	progressively	139:23 145:15
123:23 140:3,8	68:4 94:18	problems 8:12	7:18 8:7	146:19
141:6,25	99:2 109:20	8:13 67:8	prohibit 116:22	prominently
143:15 147:9	123:9,24	proceed 112:15	project 5:9 9:25	48:20
powerful 18:4,5	137:14	PROCEEDIN	10:1,5,10,14	promise 118:25
140:16	previous 113:19	1:4	10:18,23 11:14	134:19 138:16
powering	previously 90:2	process 3:21	11:16 12:14,18	141:3,17,19,22
107:24	price 10:13 49:1	Procter 61:15	12:20 16:22,23	promised 30:2
practices 46:18	52:23,24 78:16	produce 57:23	17:7 22:23	141:2,11,13
114:14	78:21 87:19,20	96:20	23:21 28:13	promises 111:10
prairies 130:24	101:1 102:21	produced 17:20	29:5,20,23	134:7,9,18
precedent 44:4	121:5	17:25 18:1	30:4 35:6	143:17 144:9
143:1,10,19	prices 11:8	66:10	36:16 39:21,22	146:24
144:13	23:16 48:18,19	producer 72:7	42:14 45:21	promising
precipitators	48:23 49:14	141:5	46:25 50:3	134:17
58:12,12	103:2,8 118:6	producers 93:21	52:15,21 54:10	promote 46:17
	100.2,0 110.0	F-0440010 /0.21	22.10,21 0 1.10	F

Г

prone 7:20	41:23 44:19	provision	purchasing	141:19
prop 7:19	47:7 84:14	115:11	23:20 61:14	quote 39:19
properties 77:19	92:24 142:11	PSC 50:14 88:7	Pure 36:12	
77:20 99:14,15	pros 107:18	119:21 120:6	Purina 61:16	R
118:12 121:11	prosperity 73:1	122:6,24	76:5	R 3:2
property 9:10	141:18	123:16 128:25	purpose 5:9	R-a-j-i-v 59:15
10:24 21:12	protect 9:16	130:5 131:7	10:14	R-a-v-u-l-a-p
26:8 27:2	10:21 42:8	132:7 133:20	pursued 21:6	59:16
29:13,14,15,15	65:18 92:11	136:9,9 137:24	purview 83:1	R-e-a-d 130:1
29:19,22,22	131:14 138:11	138:18 140:4	pushed 26:10	R-o-s-e-n-k-r
37:13,22 42:8	144:6	141:8,23	put 5:14 26:2,19	9:7
57:10 58:3	protecting 112:2	143:10,19,25	29:16 53:8,13	Rachel 136:13
61:9 62:25	protection 48:13	PSC's 133:3	58:11 62:22	136:14,20
64:1 67:4,9,10	130:16 138:10	138:11,14	64:16 87:22	149:6
67:14,16 69:5	protest 10:20	public 1:2,6 2:6	95:4,7 97:2	radio 13:20
69:12 74:3,6	protocols	2:8 3:5,6 4:16	114:11 123:20	radius 40:17
77:11,21 85:13	132:21	5:3,8 9:14,24	123:21 124:17	rail 36:20 37:1
85:19 86:7	proud 42:21	10:9 11:16	125:21 126:12	railcars 38:1
87:16 88:2	55:4 88:21	12:11 20:7	puts 96:11	railroad 37:18
89:9 96:14	109:17 137:4,6	23:9,11,18	putting 12:7	89:10,10
99:24 111:25	proven 140:25	30:25 31:9	P	railroads 115:4
113:17 115:2	provide 5:2,11	33:4 35:24	Q	115:6
117:11 120:11	6:4 8:10 10:3,5	38:5 45:3,4,18	quadrupled	raise 21:24 36:3
120:13,15	17:24 46:13	46:24 47:25	24:20	80:17
121:17 127:11	50:7 59:23	49:16 51:6,6	qualities 130:17	raised 25:18
132:19 138:5	61:25 62:4	53:13 59:23	quality 35:1	34:19 60:3
140:4 143:14	71:11 86:13	60:4,15,16,24	41:2 91:13	78:2,2 133:23
143:21 144:5,6	105:13 108:3	61:7 70:14	145:14	raising 96:18
146:15,17	117:14 127:13	71:11 74:11,20	quantifiable	Rajiv 59:6,8,15
proportionate	134:9,23	75:22 82:13,18	17:15	59:22 148:13
73:1	141:22	82:20 83:2	quarter 130:11	Ralls 9:10 10:20
proposal 71:1	provided 88:24	84:23 85:1	quarter-century	25:14 27:15,25
• - • - • • • • • • • • • •	•	86:15 87:11	138:9	33:13 39:1,5
73:7 85:2 92:9 proposals 39:16	118:4 provides 45:4	89:17 92:9,16	question 100:16	47:12,15 51:2
propose 100:25	51:6	94:16,17 96:18	101:2 117:7	62:19 63:5,7
proposed 5:7		103:17 105:12	133:2 141:23	63:24 68:22
	providing 1:15		questionable	79:10 90:19
11:11 21:12 43:1 52:21	3:12,20 4:2	105:14 107:21	118:17	92:5 93:8
	9:21 16:24	110:5 122:10	questions 6:8,10	94:11,20 95:22
79:16 87:14,14	46:9 72:12	127:5 129:15	8:14,19 12:22	98:12 99:17
117:20 127:8	84:23 90:13,22	133:4 134:11	12:23 16:2,3	100:11 110:13
131:9 135:4,21	90:25 93:7	140:13 144:19	12.23 10.2,3	116:16,21
142:24,25	119:21 122:24	145:18	45:17 141:21	118:3 119:25
proposing 118:2	123:1 128:25	purchase 27:2		120:4 121:5
Proposition	129:1 130:5,7	61:3 70:23	quickly 13:22	
19:19	133:20 136:25	81:20 111:7	quiet 42:20	122:20 124:10
propounded	137:2,19	purchased 26:8	Quincy 97:13	125:5 128:22
22:8 25:9	138:12 144:22	81:20	quite 10:10	131:23 137:6,9

143:6	reap 61:5,22	55:14	remember	109:18
ran 126:5	140:21	regardless 18:3	66:12 67:24	represents
Randy 11:20,21	reaping 140:9	96:13	111:4,12	52:21 70:23
12:2,10 148:4	reapply 44:1	region 24:1 31:1	remind 101:15	82:7
rare 130:18	reason 33:2	39:3 72:10	reminding	request 6:13
rate 12:19 17:8	54:19 66:5	73:8 74:17,22	70:19	11:18
23:2 31:6 52:2	69:24 76:16	75:23 85:12	removes 58:13	requesting
52:18 55:17	79:15 88:19	90:8 135:1	renewable 14:7	143:1
71:11 99:14	125:15	Regional 135:16	15:17 17:9,14	Requests 39:15
134:4	reasonable 5:19	regions 48:18	19:17,21,22	require 35:10
rates 24:13,25	24:25 118:19	72:1,18 73:11	20:9 36:6,10	127:22
36:12 37:4,5	reasons 32:10	registered 51:4	38:8 39:17,25	required 31:4
39:4,23,25	65:11	regular 42:15	46:9 61:16	requirements
41:8,9 45:20	rebuilt 96:14	regularly 71:13	71:21 81:15	17:13
46:2 48:16	recall 130:21	regulation 82:5	82:5 85:4	requiring 19:20
51:20,23,25	receive 12:13	82:10	88:25 102:12	reroute 123:20
52:1,5,7 55:2,2	19:9 121:24	Regulatory 1:18	102:14,20	123:21
56:16 110:22	received 135:24	3:15	106:13,14	Research 48:14
112:24 141:2	recess 62:7	reimbursed	127:12,20,21	50:11 121:1
141:10	recognize 33:5	37:22	146:11	reservation
Ravulapati 59:7	91:3 108:13	reinvested 91:9	renewables 41:6	128:9
59:8,14,15,19	recognizes	rejected 73:6	renewal 82:11	reside 20:21
148:13	60:21	rejecting 103:21	repeated 118:15	136:21 139:4
RC 27:6,7,13	recommending	rejoicing 85:11	replace 75:6	139:10 146:4
148:7	52:2	related 151:9	117:24	resident 16:18
reach 136:4	record 3:3,24,25	relations 45:3	reply 22:7 25:8	27:25 30:21
reached 135:19	4:21 6:24 62:8	83:21	41:22 44:18	38:23 45:2
Read 130:1	62:10,18 83:13	relationships	47:6 84:13	47:12 84:25
137:3	147:13	91:5	92:23 142:10	92:8 93:8
readily 18:8	recovered	relative 13:24	report 74:20	94:20 95:25
real 68:13,17,23	132:24	151:11	REPORTED	127:10
101:2 120:10	recreation 72:20	release 18:4	1:22	residents 12:12
121:13	recruited 24:17	releases 18:4	reporter 41:17	16:24 31:19
reality 125:16	recycling 41:5	reliable 127:14	50:8 151:1,17	37:10 45:5,10
125:22 126:16	reduce 23:24	127:21 134:17	represent 28:4	46:4,9,20
realize 38:5 72:9	41:9 55:2,2	145:12	28:14 43:14	47:15 53:18
really 13:17	104:24 105:9	reliance 38:7	83:7	65:8 70:25
14:6 21:3,20	reduced 151:8	reliant 48:9	representative	72:24 86:16
27:18 32:10	reducing 17:16	relocated 76:3	22:19 68:5	92:17 122:11
33:11 39:19	105:2	rely 72:18	representatives	129:16 133:5
42:11 64:10	reduction 72:10	relying 50:1	6:12 91:11	136:3 137:22
76:14 86:9	132:14	remain 6:8	117:5 134:5	138:19 142:1
93:25 99:12	reductions 49:6	remaining 131:5	represented	144:20,22
103:2 114:15	reef 14:24	132:25	68:6	resolution
115:5 126:4	reference 50:7	remains 131:5	representing	102:11
134:14	Reform 83:22	remarkably	4:21 22:17	resort 114:6
realm 108:6	regarding 5:5	85:16	65:7 83:10	resources 9:22
		l	l	I

Г

10:7 42:14	120:18	rip 11:6	131:10 135:5	129:5
118:16 130:14	return 91:15	ripple 72:9	running 38:1	sale 140:3,4
133:5	returns 24:18,20	rising 56:20	60:8 89:11	143:3
respect 10:1	revenue 17:4	risk 105:1	135:9	sales 121:9
30:5,6 51:23	82:23 88:25	120:14	runs 6:6 99:8,11	Sanford 126:18
52:12 87:15	111:20 135:13	river 56:9,13	Rupp 1:20 3:17	126:19,25,25
144:10	146:25 147:3	58:21,21 75:13	18:13 50:6,13	127:2,4 149:4
respected 87:22	revenues 49:18	75:13 78:14	50:16	Sarah 73:14,15
respectful 34:15	65:11,16	rivers 58:20	rural 28:24,24	73:21 86:24,25
34:24 35:6,8	111:18	75:11	36:2 38:4 40:3	87:6 91:21,23
respectfully	reviewing 52:5	road 29:4	41:2 42:16	92:4 148:16,19
11:18 43:13	52:11	134:15 136:4	48:19 49:2,5,7	148:21
86:15 122:7	revolved 81:12	roads 24:17 29:4	49:14 61:24	sat 26:2
respiratory	RFIs 39:15	29:6,22 65:17	64:5,18 78:17	satisfaction
17:21	rich 43:7,10	65:17 89:1	78:18 87:12	45:13
response 45:20	richer 43:10	100:1,5,6	93:17 96:23	savanna 130:18
135:24	ride 36:8	Robert 50:17,18	98:23 100:8	130:23 131:1,4
responsibilities	right 7:7 8:19	50:24 138:21	106:10 107:16	131:6 132:24
146:16	11:12 14:4	138:22 139:3	127:10 140:23	save 20:4 45:23
responsibility	15:15 21:12	148:11 149:7	Russia 64:8	61:1 105:4
27:20 48:12	25:25 31:19	role 37:9 103:14	Russians 56:21	saving 17:7
51:12 88:6	33:2,4 35:9	130:19		52:21 105:8
108:21	37:17 42:23	room 31:8	<u> </u>	savings 12:16
responsible 37:7	43:14 56:12	roots 137:5	S 3:2	22:24 23:19
46:17 51:11	57:21 63:2	rose 30:6	S-a-n-f-o-r-d	45:25 46:4
52:1,6 135:10	69:21 70:21	Rosenkrans	126:25	52:17 53:3,3
responsibly	78:21 80:10	8:24,25 9:6,6,9	S-a-x-t-o-n 56:1	saw 68:24 69:12
108:24 144:7	85:8 86:20,22	9:12 148:3	S-c-h-u-b-a 77:1	96:3
rest 49:4 96:24	91:6,9 93:20	roughly 53:3	S-h-e-r-m-a-n	Saxton 55:19,20
restaurants 68:7	96:10 102:17	70:22	20:20	56:1,1,3,5
91:14	106:19 110:3	route 79:16	S-t-e-v-e-n-s-o	148:12
restoration	115:4 116:23	87:14,16 122:3	50:25	saying 21:19
130:12 137:8	117:1,10	131:9,18	S-t-u-a-r-t 93:2	25:16 28:21
restored 131:7	123:23 125:7	135:21 142:24	S-t-u-m-p-e	67:25 69:15
restoring 68:15	125:23 126:13	143:7 144:4	142:15	73:25 100:19
result 121:9	136:10,11	routes 113:19	sacred 25:17	says 22:7 25:8
resulting 46:1	137:21 138:3,7	143:16	sacrifice 59:2	41:22 43:3
results 48:24	146:14 147:4	rule 25:3 46:24	85:20	44:18 47:6
86:1	right-of-way	101:16	sacrifices 55:14	84:13 89:2
retail 48:8 141:9	115:2 132:1,10	rules 5:18	55:18	92:23 121:17
retailers 71:5	rights 29:22	116:22	sad 54:23 59:3	132:1 142:10
retention 72:16	42:8 43:9 64:3	rumors 66:1	125:22 126:16	scale 81:16
retired 16:19	85:7,13,19,20	run 10:23 37:1	safe 127:20,21	scar 114:16,18
36:24 57:8	95:1,1,2	43:1 58:6 59:4	safer 73:4	scenario 49:1,11
68:11 75:2,5	111:22,25	60:2 64:12	safety 28:18,22	Scenic 42:22
retirees 118:13	139:13 144:5,6	86:2 99:24	29:21 31:3	scheduled 5:4,6
retirement	rigorous 46:16	120:5,7,14	34:25 75:4	school 26:24
	l	l	l	I

31:16,17,18	86:9 89:9	147:6	137:1	16:24 17:13
36:25 37:2,6,8	93:20 101:2	serve 22:19	shed 95:4	31:22 61:8,25
68:13 71:7	106:24,24	47:21 70:13	sheet 5:12,21	70:25 120:20
74:20	107:1 114:15	86:2	6:16	121:12 145:16
schools 26:22	114:22 115:5	served 21:11	Sherman 20:13	significantly
48:7 49:18	115:10,10	48:19 68:11	20:14,20,20,22	23:2 26:5
61:5,6 71:9	117:21 123:5	service 1:2 2:6	20:24 21:7	120:25
82:20 89:1	125:16,18	3:5 9:21 20:7	148:5,6	signing 82:9
105:14 107:25	134:11 142:25	33:5 35:24	Sherry 56:23,24	sills 57:12
115:18	143:20	38:5 45:5	57:5 148:13	similar 47:17
Schuba 76:18,19	seeing 13:24	46:24 47:1,19	shift 114:4	78:14 122:5
76:25,25 77:3	74:23 75:25	53:13 61:4	ship 64:7	136:8 143:13
77:6 148:17	76:5	72:21 84:23	shock 52:14	143:16
scientifically	seen 55:11 57:9	86:15 92:16	shoot 67:20	simple 42:20
18:8	57:13 68:2	122:10 127:5	110:18	120:11 126:4
scientists 90:24	75:8 81:14	127:21 130:14	shopping 72:19	146:22
91:12	87:14 89:16	133:4 138:13	short 4:3 54:8	simplistic 85:16
scoff 89:3	106:13,21	144:19 145:13	62:7 93:23	simply 4:5 10:10
Scotland 34:18	115:16,17	145:19	112:25 115:21	119:5 143:17
Scott 1:20 3:17	self-defeating	serviced 49:2	short-sided 68:4	146:20
scrapped 120:23	71:23	services 1:23	85:16 103:22	simulating
script 101:18	self-determin	46:13 51:7	short-term	48:17
112:17	86:7	61:7 82:20	85:21 135:1	single 45:17,19
scrubbers 31:3	self-regulated	90:3,5,13,25	shot 93:18	single-family
58:11,15,16,17	52:3 53:5	105:14	show 10:18 11:1	121:10,15
sea 56:20	sell 10:14 39:22	serving 22:17	24:6 33:18,19	singular 71:22
Sean 24:5,5	40:18 69:20,21	38:25 94:21	33:20 122:24	siphoning 118:6
search 31:10	96:18 100:23	set 3:5 44:4	138:15 144:17	sir 8:18 12:3
searching 69:19	111:5,13,13,14	115:8,12	showing 97:19	18:12 19:1
second 22:18	121:12 143:15	130:15 132:16	shown 82:15	20:11 27:14
54:21 61:5	selling 55:1	sets 143:10,19	shrubs 67:11	38:17 50:4,6
97:15 100:1	96:19	setting 17:15	shut 123:15	63:23 65:3
sector 105:13	semester 30:23	52:1	shy 129:8	70:20 81:3
secure 70:15	send 50:8,14	settlement 137:9	sickens 21:20	95:20 109:10
111:24	67:21 103:25	seven 21:8	side 24:4 29:16	113:13 128:21
security 73:1	senior 1:18 71:2	seventies 31:4	34:17	145:7
sediment 48:6	72:6	severely 144:18	sides 28:6 89:16	sister 7:13 32:7
see 8:2,5 11:4	sense 28:8 43:9	sewer 24:17	123:11	sister-in-law
14:2 20:8	71:19 73:9	40:21 45:5	siding 57:13	134:1
29:20 41:7	sensitive 41:5,5	shame 64:2	Sierra 83:18	sit 40:11 86:12
43:8 49:4,5	46:16	shape 63:2	sight 46:6	sited 19:14
51:18 56:20	separately 21:14	100:7	sign-up 5:12,21	sitting 7:23
58:22,24 69:3	serious 62:24	share 12:8 47:23	6:16	75:16 94:16,17
69:3 74:6,12	109:20 126:1	48:11 65:24	signed 10:10	146:7
76:8 77:23	141:21 147:9	77:8 93:7	21:18 83:6	situation 57:19
79:15,18,19	seriously 3:22	119:22 127:6	100:22 111:7,8	123:11
80:19 85:7	30:6 109:21	128:25 133:21	significant	six 26:18 45:16
	l		I	

Г

47:15	sources 7:9	55:25 57:4	8:8 16:16	startup 120.21
size 47:17	31:22 51:14	59:13,15 62:18		startup 139:21 143:9,21
			18:22 30:18,21	,
sizeable 135:12	75:11 77:25	63:21 64:25	30:25 31:6,8	startups 143:13
skills 40:25	90:23 114:9	66:25 70:8	32:23,25 35:21	state 1:1 5:8,14
sleep 7:23,24	sourcing 31:17	73:20 76:24	54:6 56:3,15	6:24 9:4,21
slept 7:22	south 97:13	79:7 80:5 81:1	59:16,22 68:12	11:25 13:5
slightly 72:17	southern 109:15	84:16 87:5	73:23 74:16,18	16:11,25 18:19
slow 54:14	142:21	88:14 89:25	74:18,22 75:2	19:23 20:18
105:18	southwest	92:3 93:1 94:8	78:18,18 81:4	22:9 24:8,10
smack 131:10	106:15	95:18 98:9	83:21,22 85:24	25:10 26:20
small 42:15	soybeans 89:8	102:3 104:12	88:16 89:3	27:11 30:14
105:11 117:10	space 42:20	106:5 107:9	94:23 97:24	32:6,18 33:18
118:3,13 120:4	speak 8:11	109:8 112:10	101:6,8 102:6	34:2 35:4,16
120:5 132:25	45:11 49:16	113:10 116:13	103:18 104:16	37:21 38:14
140:8,23 144:3	53:19 81:7	119:15 122:19 124:7 125:1	106:8 107:12	41:24 44:20
144:11	94:14 115:24 125:8 134:6		112:14 113:14 117:22 119:18	47:1,8 50:22
smaller 121:2		126:24 128:19	121:13 126:6	52:12,20 53:6
smart 66:7	speaker 9:15	129:25 133:13		54:2,24 55:24
snapping 64:14 social 74:8	speakers 102:15	136:19 139:2 142:13 145:5	151:3 stabilization	57:3 59:12
socially 46:17	speaking 6:14 49:20 55:6	142.13 143.3	39:4,24	60:10,18,20 61:11,14,22
Society 83:22	49.20 33.0	spelled 7:2	stabilize 41:8	62:1,17 63:20
soil 86:6 114:13	142:20	47:11	stable 105:18	64:24 65:9,9
solar 7:10 58:24	special 130:19	spend 68:7	stacks 58:14	65:13 66:2,24
81:16,19	specialized	91:13 105:7	staff 2:6 4:14	69:21 70:7
114:11	68:17	126:14,15	6:3,11 50:14	71:6 73:19
sold 120:19	species 131:13	spending 98:15	stage 87:25	74:13,16 75:24
solely 82:7,12	132:12,14,22	spent 7:14 13:14	stake 16:21	76:2,9,16,23
solution 71:19	132:12,14,22	27:19 30:22	stand 62:4 86:18	77:15 78:8,9
76:14	specifically 31:2	81:8,9 91:8	87:21 88:7	78:15,23 79:6
somebody's	31:6,25 82:1	95:25 100:5	109:17 118:12	80:4,25 82:23
97:10	102:15	105:10,11	standard 17:14	84:15 85:7,23
someone's 43:11	speculate 110:1	114:13 130:7	36:10 82:5,11	86:2,14 87:4
something's	speculative 42:9	spewing 58:20	Standing 136:7	88:13 89:24
66:7	110:21 111:20	split 67:8	stands 140:6	92:2,25 94:7
sons 21:21 25:23	speculator	spoke 9:25	stare 120:20	95:17 96:9
26:14 133:23	110:23	53:17	stark 135:17	97:5,6,6,10,21
soon 31:25 75:3	spell 6:24 9:5	spoken 102:15	start 25:16 28:3	98:8 102:2
94:18 133:1	12:1 13:6	125:15	66:8,11 70:17	103:10 104:11
sorry 70:20	16:12 18:20,23	spot 130:18	70:17 73:25	104:19 105:10
75:13 85:24	20:19 22:10	spots 42:23	96:17 103:6	106:4,18,20,22
sort 98:22	25:11 27:12	spread 43:18	117:3 122:23	107:8 109:7,23
soul 13:16	30:15 32:19	Springfield	130:5	111:18 112:9
sound 71:24	34:3 35:17	81:18,24 82:4	started 110:7	113:9 116:12
132:2 134:13	38:15 41:25	82:6	120:1 133:25	118:18 119:6
source 8:10 18:3	44:21 47:9	ss 151:2	starting 22:24	119:14 121:24
31:18 71:11	50:23 54:3	St 1:24 7:4 8:2,2	26:7	122:8,9,18
	l	l i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	l	I

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122.10 124.6	Store 2.17	102.9 144.1	46.14	gunn out 92.11
123:19 124:6	Steve 3:17	102:8 144:1	46:14	supports 83:11
124:25 126:23	Stevenson 50:17	structural 90:22	successful	supposed 58:15
128:18 129:24	50:18,24,24	structures 10:23	106:25 108:25	58:16 111:20
130:8,10,22,25	51:2,4 148:11	91:2 93:18	sudden 110:14	sure 13:21 55:15
131:2,3 133:12	stewards 49:25	100:1	suggested	58:2 59:14
136:18 139:1	stick 138:16	struggling 88:25	118:17	99:9 100:11,12
139:14 142:2	stipulated 115:5	Stuart 92:19,20	suggestion	100:14 118:25
142:12 143:23	Stoll 1:20 3:17	93:2,2,4,6	123:10	134:18
144:15,17	4:5 16:4 20:12	148:21	sulfur 31:4	surfaced 120:19
145:4 146:1,14	27:6 63:12	student 30:20	sum 121:14	surround 74:16
146:19 147:6	73:13 78:25	31:12,22 32:25	summer 14:21	surrounding
151:2	91:21 109:1	56:6 85:11	sun 69:3	72:18 130:20
state's 82:21,25	stood 118:14	students 31:13	Supplier 20:2	survey 45:14,16
102:20	136:8	31:21	supplies 17:24	121:4 132:21
stated 22:25	stop 99:21	studied 48:15	supply 51:13	surveyors 90:23
23:3,6 141:3	stoplight 89:5	studies 10:25	93:24 94:18,18	91:12
statements	storage 18:6	82:21,25	117:16 118:6,7	survived 34:23
24:22	stories 20:25	112:22 141:9	127:15,22,23	Susan 116:7,8
states 14:23 49:2	108:9 137:14	study 16:22	supplying 90:10	116:14 149:2
49:4 51:21	story 20:25	48:22 49:13	support 5:8 10:4	susceptible
68:6 75:25	131:22,23	50:7,7	10:10 16:23	143:16
103:7 105:6	144:14	stuff 28:19,19	29:23 33:1	sustainability
130:13 139:15	straight 7:24	99:9	49:21 54:9	71:18
144:5	53:14 93:18	Stumpe 142:6,7	61:6 65:10	sustainable
station 1:15 3:11	95:7 131:10	142:14,14,17	71:10 73:7	134:24
23:5 90:18	143:23	142:19 149:7	76:12,13,16	swayed 134:12
97:12 98:18,22	strangle 7:24	subcontract	82:20 83:14,25	switch 102:12
118:3	strangling 7:20	91:9	85:11 86:10,16	sworn 6:19 9:1
stationed 98:19	strategies 23:23	subcontractors	90:7,13,17	11:22 13:2
stations 65:18	strategist 19:3	91:5	92:17 102:8	16:8 18:16
91:14 118:5	Stray 129:6	subject 47:25	103:18 105:12	20:15 22:5
status 85:2	stream 15:2	65:23 121:24	111:8,12	25:6 27:8
87:12 92:9	street 1:24 27:2	submit 6:2	122:10 127:7	30:11 32:15
132:7 140:13	strengthen	41:13 44:11	127:11.16	33:24 35:13
stay 21:9 32:1,6	72:23 135:14	83:13,24	128:5 129:16	38:11 41:20
85:12 86:14	stress 60:3 129:7	103:19,24	130:9 133:4	44:16 47:4
staying 39:12	stresses 129:9	103:17,24	134:2 138:18	50:19 53:24
95:22	strictly 40:14	submitted 43:15	141:9 144:16	55:21 56:25
steal 9:22 44:5	stripped 33:10	43:18 101:17	144:20,20	59:9 62:14
stealing 43:4,11	strong 144:23	subsidies 11:6	144.20,20	63:17 64:21
steel 24:13	145:16	substation 97:12	supported	66:21 70:4
step 57:22 73:5	strong-arm	substation 97.12	118:22	73:16 76:20
-	87:13	90:14		
Stephanie 84:8			supporters 140:19	79:3 80:1,22
84:10,17	strongly 16:23 62:21 85:1	Substituting		84:11 87:1
148:19 STEDUEN 1:20		17:19	supporting	88:10 89:21
STEPHEN 1:20	86:19 87:10	subsurface 91:1	10:18 29:25	91:24 92:21
steps 59:1	92:8 93:10	success 37:6	107:24 117:16	94:4 95:14
	I	I	I	I

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Г

98:5 101:24	74:11 114:20	97:3 100:13	126:21 128:16	93:6 94:1,2,14
104:8 106:1	117:9 139:13	112:16 121:13	129:22 133:10	95:11,12
107:5 109:4	146:8,10	124:15 135:21	136:16 138:24	103:23 105:23
112:6 113:6	talked 26:3	telling 114:23	142:8 145:2,24	105:24 107:1,3
116:9 119:11	talking 24:7	temporary 20:3	testifying 8:18	108:25 109:1,2
122:15 124:3	40:11 62:23	86:4	81:11 86:10	111:16 112:3
124:22 126:20	87:18 131:19	ten 72:4 128:10	116:23	112:15 113:2,4
128:15 129:21	tall 131:21	tend 89:3	testimony 3:20	115:22,24
133:9 136:15	tapped 114:9	Tennessee 90:18	3:23 4:2 5:1,11	116:6 119:7,20
138:23 142:8	targets 60:18	term 22:17 28:3	5:23 8:24	119:23 122:12
145:1,23 151:6	task 115:23	terminals 119:1	31:21,25 41:14	122:13,25
sympathize 39:4	tasked 88:20	terms 74:12	44:11 59:23	123:25 124:1
53:18 58:25	taught 25:19	106:13 139:20	81:12 94:15	124:12,20
system 29:4	68:12	terrible 64:14	116:21 151:5,7	125:8 126:18
58:13 102:24	tax 17:4 49:18	114:12,12,18	Texas 34:7 43:8	128:5,7,24
	61:5,25 65:11	territory 127:21	thank 3:20 4:8	129:17,18
T	65:16 66:4	testified 20:6	4:23 8:13,15	133:6 136:12
T 1:20	88:25 97:23	35:23 90:9	8:16,23 9:13	136:24 138:20
T-h-o-m-a-s	111:17,20	testify 5:19,20	11:19,20 12:6	139:7 142:3
102:4 136:20	146:25 147:3	5:20,22 6:20	12:19,23,24	144:21 145:19
table 6:4 50:13	taxes 28:11 30:1	9:2 11:23 13:3	16:1,3,4,5	145:20 147:10
139:23	52:16 61:6,9	16:9 18:17	18:10,11,12,13	147:11,11
tackle 98:24	63:6 65:9	20:16 22:5	19:1 20:10,11	thanking 122:23
take 3:22 5:5	82:20 90:25	25:6 26:13	20:12 22:2	130:5 133:19
13:15 29:13	113:25 114:20	27:9 30:12	25:3,4 27:4,5,6	thanks 70:19
32:11 43:11	121:17,25	32:16 33:25	27:17 30:8,9	80:19 127:5
56:22 62:6	130:10	35:14 38:12	32:12,13 33:21	theirs 43:21
63:2 64:2,5	taxpayers 71:12	41:20 44:16	33:22 34:13	thereto 151:13
69:22 85:17	115:10	47:4 50:20	35:10,11,23	thermal 14:19
92:14 93:13,18	Taylor 79:24,25	53:25 55:22	38:8,9,20,21	thing 7:8 27:18
95:6 100:11	80:6,10 148:18	57:1 59:10	41:11,12 44:6	28:25 35:9
108:21 109:20	teach 111:2	62:15 63:18	47:1,2 50:3,15	44:4 45:18
109:21 110:12	teacher 36:25	64:22 66:22	50:16,17 53:20	54:23 62:24
117:11 132:7,8	tear 100:5	70:5 73:17	53:22 55:18,19	93:19 95:22
136:2 137:24	115:13 138:8	76:21 79:4	56:22,23 59:4	96:3 99:15
138:6 141:17	tears 95:4	80:2,23 84:11	59:5,19 62:5,6	100:1 111:2,17
143:3 146:18	tech 40:24 99:8	87:2 88:11	63:11,12,13	114:10 115:11
147:6,7	technical 16:19	89:22 91:25	64:18,19 66:17	123:9,20
taken 21:22	71:9	92:21 94:5	66:19 70:11	135:22 137:21
23:11 93:19	technology	95:15 98:6	73:11,13,14,25	146:21
97:11 112:20	66:14	101:22,25	76:17,18 77:6	things 7:17 8:6
118:12 126:2	tell 10:24 21:1	104:9 106:2	78:23,24,25	28:16 31:15,24
132:6 144:10	29:7 31:13	107:6 109:5	79:23 80:20	41:13 65:16
151:7,11	40:23 43:5	112:7 113:7	81:6 84:1,2,22	67:24 71:8
takes 39:8 97:11	52:10,13 56:11	116:10,25	86:22 88:7	98:16 100:15
135:9	56:12 58:9	119:12 122:16	89:18,19 91:20	106:18 110:25
talk 63:10 67:22	63:25 69:12	124:4,23	91:21 92:18,19	112:19 114:16
		, -		

115:16,17,19	thousands 23:3	110:1 111:16	126:3 131:25	37:15 42:23
125:21	23:6 34:22	112:3 115:15	136:7,11	89:11
think 7:9 12:19	72:18 91:13	115:21,25	141:12,14	transcribed
28:4 29:9 30:1	105:4 144:14	119:8,8 124:13	142:20 146:7	3:23
33:5 37:8	threat 75:4,4	126:17 129:9	147:12	TRANSCRIPT
52:25 53:7,10	threatened 43:7	138:18 142:3	tons 78:12	1:4
53:14,15 54:20	threatening	144:5,8	114:14	transfer 98:18
54:25 57:25,25	67:21 75:11	time-consuming	tool 140:16	98:22
58:7 59:3 62:3	threatens 17:23	132:17	top 10:24 31:12	transform
64:7,17 68:20	three 21:10	timeline 48:24	96:10	114:17
69:7,8,24	29:18 31:6	timer 5:24	topic 48:1 114:2	transient 97:16
75:22,24 76:15	54:8 61:9	times 31:7 40:5	topics 45:15	135:2
77:8 78:8	65:10 68:6	118:11 125:12	torn 74:1 115:9	transition 14:20
82:13 86:12	77:14,20 82:24	to-wit 22:8 25:9	tornado 29:1	15:17 54:12,16
87:12 93:12,15	118:11	41:23 44:19	touches 48:6,6	83:11 96:2
93:16,17,23	three-year-old	47:7 84:14	tough 115:23	transmission
100:20 102:21	89:14	92:24 142:11	tourism 48:8	1:14,16 3:11
103:5,9,21	thrive 89:15	today 3:4,25	tower 68:12	3:13 5:7 9:18
106:17 107:17	thrived 34:24	18:9 33:21	79:18 80:19	11:7 17:4
107:19,22,22	throat 7:21	39:2 44:11	120:13,21	22:23 23:4,21
107:23 108:5,6	throw 42:14	51:15 67:23	131:21	34:22 43:1,17
108:12,23	throwing 132:16	72:15 78:22	towers 64:16	45:10 46:8
109:20 112:1	thrown 114:21	89:11 99:7	114:11 115:9	57:20 58:2
112:20,25	118:21	100:3,7 103:25	115:13 120:23	60:2,5,15,24
113:1 114:17	tide 105:18	104:1 109:17	121:21	61:4,24 62:4
114:20 116:2,3	tie 19:13	127:7 130:15	town 24:23,24	74:2 77:12,19
116:4 117:7,8	tier 31:12	131:3 143:5	42:15 46:20,25	77:22 90:11,14
122:2 123:11	time 3:6 5:19,25	today's 99:17	53:16 65:12	91:2,8 102:19
124:16 125:10	6:1,2,6,6 7:14	Todd 64:19,20	66:2 78:11	102:23 110:3,4
126:2 127:12	9:13 11:9,19	65:1 148:15	98:23 99:3	110:9 111:4,12
131:24 145:17	12:20 14:19	told 21:18 28:10	101:11	120:3,8,11,13
thinking 7:22	21:9 23:8 27:4	28:11 67:20	towns 46:25	120:14 122:4
thinks 11:14	27:18 30:23	115:19	47:16	123:6,13
third 22:17 28:3	35:2 38:6	toll 134:15 136:4	toxic 17:24 18:1	127:11,24
Thomas 101:14	39:13,14 42:8	tomorrow 40:10	37:14	131:21 136:4
101:23 102:4,4	44:7 46:16	tonight 3:20 4:2	track 5:25	142:24 143:22
102:6,8 104:1	49:10 51:20	6:8,14 13:18	trackers 99:10	transmit 134:15
136:13,14,20	53:20 58:22	25:1 30:22	tracks 37:18	transmitted
136:20,22,24	64:3 66:17	31:21 34:16	trader 109:15	117:20
148:23 149:6	78:19 80:19	37:12 71:16	109:25 110:8	transmitting
thought 67:6,7	86:5,12,23	77:10 78:4	110:23	117:15,25
67:25 68:1,4,8	89:2 94:1	79:18 81:7	traders 109:25	transport 18:6
110:2,19,20	95:11 97:11	95:23 108:9	111:3	141:5
123:10 thoughts 127:7	98:15 101:12	116:18 117:9	traffic 68:12	travel 19:9 97:9
thoughts 127:7 thousand	101:16,20	118:22 119:8	trails 41:3 trained 97:8	treat 6:14 88:4 treated 6:15
103:17	102:14,18 103:23 108:25	119:21 123:19 124:13 125:7	trains 36:20	
103.17	105.25 108:25	124.13 123.7	u anis 50:20	treating 31:18
1	•		•	•

treats 86:14	73:17,18 76:21	turbines 110:10	74:4 116:22	144:1
tree 68:3	76:21,22 79:4	114:6	117:19 123:11	use 19:20 23:22
trees 95:6	79:4,5 80:2,2,3	turbulence	understanding	28:8 29:9
131:13,20	80:23,23,24	19:14	11:15 79:12	37:12 40:9,18
tremendous	84:12,12,12	turn 64:17,18	125:9	48:5 55:4
56:8 115:25	87:2,2,3 88:11	65:21 114:23	understands	60:17 69:23
trends 106:21	88:11,12 89:22	turned 110:16	25:17	77:24,24 85:22
trespassing	89:22,23 91:25	115:18,19	unemployment	91:5 98:1
67:10	91:25 92:1,22	turnout 4:9	52:20	101:11 103:1
triangle 24:7	92:22,22 94:5	TV 65:21	Unfortunately	119:5 127:25
25:2	94:5,6 95:15	Twain 135:15	56:21	136:3 140:3
tried 15:10 28:9	95:15,16 98:6	twice 96:8	Unilever 61:16	141:24 146:15
trillion 49:7	98:6,7 101:25	125:10	76:5 83:5	147:5
troubles 35:25	101:25 102:1	two 3:25 25:25	union 68:5	users 11:8 19:24
trucks 29:6	104:9,9,10	29:17 31:24	111:22	usual 48:25
true 59:3 101:19	106:2,2,3	40:13 59:22	unique 23:3	utilities 19:20
121:6	107:6,6,7	61:10 67:9	71:16 130:17	20:4 40:4
truly 34:19	109:5,5,6	80:12 81:14,18	unit 39:11 55:5	45:24 53:6
104:19 123:12	112:7,7,8	110:18 133:23	97:8	63:7 81:23
125:11	113:7,7,8	two-county	United 14:22	82:8,8,9,10,15
trust 126:16	116:10,10,11	48:14	49:2,4 130:13	91:2 110:6
truth 6:20,20,21	119:12,12,13	two-to-one	139:15	utility 23:19
9:2,2,3 11:23	122:16,16,17	36:10	universities	45:12,15 46:12
11:23,24 13:3	124:4,4,5,23	type 96:19	31:13,14	51:11,15 52:4
13:3,4 16:9,9	124:23,24	127:12,22	university 1:8	52:6,22 53:2
16:10 18:17,17	126:21,21,22	131:14,16	18:22 30:21	55:3 81:16
18:18 20:16,16	128:16,16,17	145:15	33:1 103:18	85:1 87:11
20:17 22:6,6,6	129:22,22,23	types 71:6	119:24 121:4	92:9 96:25
25:7,7,7 27:9,9	133:10,10,11	typewriting	123:1 129:1	97:25 105:9
27:10 30:12,12	136:16,16,17	151:8	130:6	140:13
30:13 32:16,16	137:16 138:16	typical 72:6	unlimited 42:13	utilized 146:19
32:17 33:25,25	138:24,24,25		unsafe 21:23	utilizing 91:3
34:1 35:14,14	142:9,9,9		untouched	
35:15 38:12,12	145:2,2,3,24	U 85:10	43:23	
38:13 41:21,21	145:24,25	U.S 73:11	up-to-date	V-a-n 87:6
41:21 44:17,17	try 5:18 9:16	106:13	74:19	V-i-e-l 13:7
44:17 47:5,5,5	26:10 39:22	UE 36:14	upgrades 75:1	value 68:24 91:3
50:20,20,21	44:3 86:10,12	unattractive	upgrading	91:7 120:19,25
53:25,25 54:1	100:9 110:24	76:9	127:16	121:3,4 137:22
55:22,22,23	113:1 146:6	uncertainties	upset 57:17 74:5	139:25 143:14
57:1,1,2 59:10	trying 10:8	99:11	upsetting 33:11	values 29:22
59:10,11 62:15	14:13 87:22	understand 10:1	urban 36:1	37:13 99:24
62:15,16 63:18	88:1 97:6	19:6 28:20	37:16 61:24	120:16 121:16
,	100 10 10	29:23 33:10	89:4	Van 86:24,25
63:18,19 64:22	100:12,13			
63:18,19 64:22 64:22,23 66:22	101:4 109:22	34:19 42:19	urge 9:18 20:7	87:6,6,8,10
63:18,19 64:22				

variety 16:20 45:15 various 47:20 51:13 vast 37:25 venture 42:9 venue 130:7	wages 24:14 wait 50:4,5 wake 7:20,21 69:2 143:20 Wal-Mart 147:2 Walley 38:9,10 38:16,16,18,20 148:9 want 7:25 9:22 10:22 12:18,20	wants 21:13 26:1 96:13 120:12 140:2 140:18 143:24 ward 22:18 23:15 warmed 14:17 warmer 13:25 13:25 14:25,25	we're 3:3,4 13:23,24,24,25 14:4,4,5,14,21 15:15 22:1 28:11 37:11 48:3 51:18 52:24 53:2,5 58:7 62:9 66:1	<pre>whatsoever 125:25 wholesale 23:2 53:11 wide 42:20 Wieland 89:19 89:20 90:1,1</pre>
45:15 various 47:20 51:13 vast 37:25 venture 42:9 venue 130:7 veteran 56:18	wake 7:20,21 69:2 143:20 Wal-Mart 147:2 Walley 38:9,10 38:16,16,18,20 148:9 want 7:25 9:22	120:12 140:2 140:18 143:24 ward 22:18 23:15 warmed 14:17 warmer 13:25	14:4,4,5,14,21 15:15 22:1 28:11 37:11 48:3 51:18 52:24 53:2,5	 wholesale 23:2 53:11 wide 42:20 Wieland 89:19
various 47:20 51:13 vast 37:25 venture 42:9 venue 130:7 veteran 56:18	69:2 143:20 Wal-Mart 147:2 Walley 38:9,10 38:16,16,18,20 148:9 want 7:25 9:22	140:18 143:24 ward 22:18 23:15 warmed 14:17 warmer 13:25	15:15 22:1 28:11 37:11 48:3 51:18 52:24 53:2,5	53:11 wide 42:20 Wieland 89:19
51:13 vast 37:25 venture 42:9 venue 130:7 veteran 56:18	Wal-Mart 147:2 Walley 38:9,10 38:16,16,18,20 148:9 want 7:25 9:22	ward 22:18 23:15 warmed 14:17 warmer 13:25	28:11 37:11 48:3 51:18 52:24 53:2,5	wide 42:20 Wieland 89:19
vast 37:25 venture 42:9 venue 130:7 veteran 56:18	Walley 38:9,10 38:16,16,18,20 148:9 want 7:25 9:22	23:15 warmed 14:17 warmer 13:25	48:3 51:18 52:24 53:2,5	Wieland 89:19
venture 42:9 venue 130:7 veteran 56:18	38:16,16,18,20 148:9 want 7:25 9:22	warmed 14:17 warmer 13:25	52:24 53:2,5	
venue 130:7 veteran 56:18	148:9 want 7:25 9:22	warmer 13:25	,	07.20 70.1.1
			JO. / UZ. 7 UU. I	148:20
			74:15,23 75:25	wield 140:8
		15:1	76:4 89:3	wife 25:20 47:14
13:7,7,9,12	15:12,23 21:8	warming 56:18	101:6,6,6,10	62:22
148:4	21:15 25:16	114:4	102:13,16	wildlife 42:20
Vietnam 68:11	27:17 32:2,6	warning 5:25	103:16 110:9	130:20
view 120:13,23	33:1,9,17,18	Wash 85:9	110:11 117:8	Wiley 116:20
123:6 144:5	33:20,20 34:13	Washington	147:13	117:2
village 65:12	34:13,15,20	30:20 136:22	we've 14:14,19	Williams 2:6
violate 95:3,3	36:2,3,5,6,15	137:4	15:17 26:9	4:15,15
violated 43:10	39:17 40:10	waste 78:12	28:10,11 30:2	willing 19:12
violating 95:2	41:4,13 43:22	wastewater 51:7	34:23 39:13	21:21 111:19
Virginia 79:1,2	60:3 64:15,16	watch 15:9	47:16 58:4	wind 7:9 11:1,1
79:8 130:4	69:11 72:25	watching 65:22	63:7 66:13,14	11:6 14:7
148:17	74:6,11 76:8	water 15:1,21	71:15 75:8	15:23 17:9,12
virtually 117:12	76:12 77:8	17:23 40:21	78:2 91:2	17:19,24 19:13
visit 32:8	80:17,18 81:6	45:5 51:7	108:8 110:18	19:14 20:9
vital 138:2	83:7,13 84:2	75:11 90:22	111:17 113:19	25:2 36:13
vitally 102:21	88:2 97:20,20	94:19 129:8	115:16,16	52:23 53:7,11
voice 84:24	97:22 99:23	waters 75:17	134:2 141:11	54:13,17 56:8
144:22	100:19 103:25	wave 36:7,8	141:14,17	57:24 58:23
Voltage 1:14	107:14,21	way 11:4,7,17	146:7	59:24 60:7,17
3:10	111:5,18	19:15 26:25	wealthy 52:18	72:15 76:4
Volume 1:10	112:24 113:1	28:8 31:17,19	weekly 91:14	81:15,20,22,25
volunteer 16:20	114:20,23,24	50:2 53:8	weeks 25:25	82:16 102:25
volunteering	115:9,22 116:2	54:18 55:12	81:23	103:4,11
30:23	116:3 119:20	56:19 63:8	weight 129:10	105:17 110:10
vote 23:11 43:15	119:24 120:12	66:12 68:20	welcome 22:15	117:7,25
44:2 80:15	121:21 123:23	69:6,13 76:15	well-funded	118:25 137:20
96:4,6	124:17 126:6,7	80:14 85:9,9	139:21	138:6
voted 43:8	126:14 131:22	86:20,22 103:1	well-paid	wind-generated
voters 36:9	134:5 139:15	105:20 118:18	137:13,13	36:15,17 117:9
vu 136:7	139:20,24	123:22 135:17	went 23:7 26:8	windiest 56:7
	wanted 27:1	138:3,4 139:12	34:12 68:25	window 57:12
132:12	67:11,25 68:6	ways 23:8 27:3	69:14,19 96:4	80:18
	110:23 114:10	27:23 66:8	111:6 117:3	wishing 143:15
W	115:19,20	74:1 107:18	weren't 35:7	witness 6:6 16:5
W-a-l-l-e-y	126:1,4 128:8	we'll 14:8 59:3	west 24:4 36:22	62:10 70:2
	wanting 120:20	62:7 66:11	western 19:14	84:8 104:5
wage 43:3	126:12	67:18 111:9	130:24	128:13 145:21

148:2 151:5,7	worship 72:20	52:8 57:15	109 148:25,25	20 21:14 49:7
witnessed	worst 135:1	58:11 66:13	11 148:4	84:6,7 95:25
137:12	worth 66:16	72:4 80:11	112 149:1	96:8 142:20
witnesses	87:24 96:15	81:8,12,14,18	113 149:1	148:6 150:5
128:11	99:18 109:19	82:2,24 89:10	116 149:2	200 80:16
wonder 69:1	worthless 88:5,6	94:21 95:25	119 149:2	131:21 132:2,3
119:2	wouldn't 29:25	96:1,7,8 98:18	12 21:8	140:15
wonderful 136:6	35:7	100:6 104:22	122 149:3	200-foot 120:13
woodlands	writing 6:2	112:19 118:14	124 149:3,4	120:21
130:24	written 116:21	123:4 130:8	126 149:4	200-megawatt
word 13:16	wrong 80:15	133:25 135:12	128 149:5	81:20
work 14:6 25:19	85:8,9 112:21	yields 85:23	129 149:5	200-mile 144:3
27:3 35:8 38:3	117:12 125:9	young 101:16	13 148:4	200-plus 122:3
40:20 56:8	138:4	103:22 104:18	133 149:6	130:12 135:20
57:14 58:15	wrote 123:8	108:16 111:2	135,000 40:18	143:6
74:9 88:5 89:6	141:8	118:13	136 149:6	200,000 20:1
90:22 120:6	Wyoming 36:22	younger 103:13	138 149:7	45:23 107:24
123:2 132:16	geol		14 41:17 121:9	2002 21:2
135:8 137:17	X	Z	14-18 41:18	2008 19:20 36:9
worked 21:3,5		zone 21:17	150:3	126:9,11
29:11 33:12	Y	zoning 22:20	142 149:7	2011 57:8
42:7 43:6 91:2	Y 1:19		144 149:8	2011 9:24 16:19
140:19	yard 12:13	0	145 149:8	26:16 136:8
worker 74:9	124:18		15 19:21 38:24	2015 50:10
workers 75:4	yards 36:19	1	98:17	2010 30.10 2016 1:7 3:4
135:2	123:21	1 13:23 19:22	15.2 109:19	48:24
workforce 40:4	Yeah 8:17	57:24 131:4,4	16 148:5	2020 49:3
40:19 47:23	year 5:5 12:16	131:5 132:23	1618 15:8	2020 49:3 2040 48:24 49:4
working 29:7	14:9 24:13,19	1,300 35:5	18 41:17 131:22	2040 48:24 49:4 21 104:3,4 150:6
46:15 81:8	24:21 35:5	1,500 17:5 61:10	131:23 148:5	21 104.3,4 150.0 22 148:6
40.15 81.8 90:16 91:4	39:12 42:11	82:19 97:9	18,000 12:12	23,000 48:13
103:11 109:18	44:1,2 45:17	98:19	72:17	23,000 48.13 24 132:3
	45:19 46:2,3,5	10 14:1,3,6 15:4	1820 15:7	
120:10 137:11 works 10:9	48:15 53:1,2	20:4 45:24	19 20 13.7 19 44:13 80:11	24-year 56:18 246 82:22
	61:7 66:11	48:17,23 49:1		
12:11 23:9,11	74:22 75:12	53:3 61:1	150:4	25 48:17,23
23:18 45:4,18	78:12 97:12	117:20	1935 10:22	49:11 53:2,11
51:6,6 70:14	yearly 45:13	10:00 147:14	26:14 1050 - 102:25	81:25 82:3
94:16,17	years 7:10,23	100 42:24 76:6	1950 s 102:25	148:7
134:12	8:1,7 13:20	83:5,6 85:10	1954 34:21	250,000 24:19
world 18:9	14:11 25:21	100,000 83:10	1971 92:12	27 148:7
33:17 39:23,24	28:2 29:18	101 148:23	1980 16:19	2nd 22:21
63:8 73:4	34:18,23 35:24	104 148:24	2	3
93:22 109:17	36:11 38:24,24	150:6		
worms 115:1	39:14 40:5,13	105 58:4	2 12:16 17:10	3 1:10 14:9 23:1
116:2	42:25 45:2,16	106 148:24	23:20 53:1	118:23
worry 28:17	47:16,18 49:7	100 148:25	2,000 13:15	30 40:19,20 65:8
36:23	47.10,10 49.7	207 1 10.20	98:19	83:9,16 128:10
	I	I	I	1

130:8 148:8	59 148:13	91 148:21		
30-mile 40:17		92 148:21		
300 68:18	6	93 148:22		
300,000 96:15	6 13:25 14:2	95 148:22		
31 81:8	15:4 24:12	97 148:23		
314-644-2191	148:3	// 1.0.20		
1:25	6:00 3:1			
32 17:3 148:8	60 12:17 34:23			
345kv 1:16 3:13	600 35:3 79:17			
35 35:24 82:9,15	79:19			
148:9	62 148:14			
36 89:10 97:24	63 148:14			
126:5	63101 1:24			
360,000 49:3	64 148:15			
37,000 46:3	66 148:15			
38 148:9	67 61:2			
4	7			
40 12:15 21:4	7 1:7 3:4 17:3			
23:20 37:23	61:6			
47:18 53:10,12	7.2 82:19			
70:24 123:4	7.3 14:24			
133:25	7.6 14:24			
400 51:16	7:45 62:7			
41 148:10 150:3	70 97:25 126:5			
44 148:10 150:4	148:16			
46 148:11	711 1:24			
476 82:23	73 148:16			
479 49:9	76 148:17			
48 49:6 132:5,6	78 7:10 8:1			
	79 42:22,24			
$\frac{5}{5}$	148:17,18			
5-megawatt	8			
81:19 5 410 121.6	8 13:9 53:3			
5,419 121:6 50 7:14 14:21	148:3			
	80 34:18 148:18			
66:11,13 148:11	80,000 24:13			
500 17:9 19:25	835 151:4			
36:19 54:24	84 148:19 150:5			
60:7 74:21	86 148:19			
89:5	88 148:20			
522,000 49:5	89 148:20			
522,000 49.5 53 148:12				
54 25:21	9			
55 148:12	9,000 12:11			
56 148:13	51:15			
50 170.15	9.6 82:24			
	I	Ι	l	