## TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS 12/13/2017


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PROCEEDINGS
(Hearing commenced at 11:59 a.m.)
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Let's go on the record.
Good afternoon. It's December 13, 2016. We are in Cameron, Missouri. Missouri Public Service Commission has set this time for a local public hearing in the case captioned as In the Matter of the Application of Grain Belt Express Clean Line, LLC, for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity Authorizing it to Construct, Own, Operate, Control, Manage and Maintain a High Voltage, Direct Current Transmission Line and an Associated Converter Station Providing an Interconnection on the Maywood-Montgomery 345 kV
Transmission Line. The File Number is EA-2016-0358.
My name is Michael Bushmann and I'm the
regulatory law judge that will be presiding over this
hearing. With me today are Commissioners William
Kenney and Maida Coleman. Chairman Hall has been
delayed a few minutes and asked that we go ahead and
start without him, but he'll be here shortly. Mr.
Kenney, did you have something to say?

MR. KENNEY: Thank you. Good afternoon.
It's good to see some friends here again. I appreciate
everybody's attendance here. We know this is a very
important decision-making process that we have. This

1 is the fifth of eight public hearings. And many of you 2 participated last go around also and I appreciate that. As many of you also know this is just one phase of the process, but we look forward to hearing what you have to say. And each of the other commissioners, although they may not be able to be here, will be able to read the testimony that will be a part of case file. So again, $I$ appreciate your attendance.

JUDGE BUSHMANN: Let's have counsel make their entry of appearance. For Grain Belt Express Clean Line, LLC.

MR. ZOBRIST: Karl Zobrist, Dentons Law Firm, Kansas City, Missouri. JUDGE BUSHMANN: For commission staff? MR. WILLIAMS: Nathan Williams. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Show Me Concerned Landowners?

MR. LINTON: David Linton.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: And if counsel for any other intervenors are present here today, please make your entry of appearance now. I don't see any.

I'd like to remind everybody to take this time to please silence their cell phones so there is no disruptions during the hearing. And before taking any testimony, I want to provide you with some information

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about why the Commission is holding this public
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hearing.
The Commission has already scheduled an
evidentiary hearing for March of next year to take
evidence regarding Grain Belt Express's application.
But it's also scheduled hearings in each of the
counties that are effected by the proposed transmission
line to give the members of the public a chance to
state their support or their opposition to the project.
And that's the purpose of today hearing.
For those who would like to provide testimony
today, I'm going to call the names listed on the
sign-up sheet. And when $I$ call your name, please come
forward to this podium in the front. I'll put you
under oath and ask you to state your name and where you
live. And then you can offer your comments to the
Commission. The Commission has established some ground
rules for this hearing to try and give everybody a
chance to testify within a reasonable period of time.
You can only testify at one hearing. So if you do
testify at a hearing and your name appears on the
sign-up sheet at a later hearing, you won't be called
to testify again.
Your testimony is limited to five minutes per
person. I have a timer next to me that will help you

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keep track of your time. And give a warning when your
time is up. If you haven't finished your comments when
the time expires you can submit all of your comments in
writing or by calling the Commission. And the
Commission staff is available at a table back here in
the entrance to give you information on how to do that.
You can't donate your time to another witness who has
run out of time. The commissioners won't be able to
answer any questions today because they have to remain
impartial until after the evidence is presented at the
evidentiary hearing. If you do have questions please
direct those to Commission staff or company
representatives.
    In order for the Commission staff to have
sufficient time to set up for another hearing this
evening this hearing has to end no later than 4
o'clock.
    My final request is to please be polite and
courteous to everybody who testifies here today and
treat them as you would like to be treated. The first
name I have is Bruce Burdick. Mr. Burdick, could you
come forward please.
            (Witness sworn.)
                        JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
                                and spell your last name.
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When you leave this meeting and travel west to Faucett on Route 36 as you pass the turbines today. Ask yourself whether this type of development is what we need or more importantly what we want in our state. I certainly do not.

You have made a ruling in the past in this application which upholds the rights of individual
landowners. Now the Grain Belt sponsors have come back
to supposedly sweeten the pot for Missouri. Jobs,
school taxes, improved infrastructures and reduced
electrical costs. Funny, I have heard the same claims
from the wind turbine developers. Look closely and you
will see the little substantial long term benefits.
Promises. Promises. Stick to your previous ruling, it
was a good one and the right one for the people of
Missouri. Thank you.
MS. COLEMAN: Mr. Burdick, would you
come back up to the microphone, please? And did I get
your last name correct?
MR. BURDICK: B-u-r-d-i-c-k, Burdick.
MS. COLEMAN: Okay. Thank you. So I
have a quick question because at one of your closing
comments was about sweetening the pot. So I would like
to know, because you did talk about previous experience
with, I guess, the wind turbine placement. Did you see

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any improvement in the economy as a result of -- based
on what you were saying?
    MR. BURDICK: What we have basically
seen the turbine developers came into our area and
promising a number of jobs and a number of issues that
were going to be improved. To be quite frank with you
the number of jobs were mostly out of state. Very,
very few were in state. The in-state jobs were
basically local truck drivers and gravel haulers. And
in terms of the school tax issues, when we started
looking at it, is they made promises of $30 million to
our group, to the counties. That's over a 30-year
period. When you start breaking it down on a per
turbine cost or payout it's very, very small.
    MS. COLEMAN: Thank you, sir.
    MR. BURDICK: Thank you.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Next witness is Ron
Peterson.
            (Witness sworn.)
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
    MR. PETERSON: Ron Peterson,
P-e-t-e-r-s-o-n.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
    MR. PETERSON: Holt County.
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|  |  | Page 11 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. |  |
| 2 | MR. PETERSON: I am a Missouri landowner |  |
| 3 | and a retired registered nurse practitioner. I |  |
| 4 | practiced for 30 years. And the last 20 years here in |  |
| 5 | Northwest Missouri. I'm against Grain Belt Express |  |
| 6 | taking my private land for gain of a private company. |  |
| 7 | I have taken care of a lot of farmers who are trying to |  |
| 8 | make ends meet in the chaotic society that we have. |  |
| 9 | And having a section of land removed from the |  |
| 10 | production plays havoc with their lives. |  |
| 11 | I'm also concerned with the large power line |  |
| 12 | going across the heartland of America. Being a |  |
| 13 | potential terrorist threat to wipe out electricity to |  |
| 14 | the East Coast and being built above three pipelines. |  |
| 15 | I believe that granting the use of eminent |  |
| 16 | domain to Grain Belt Express violates our rights as |  |
| 17 | individual property owners. |  |
| 18 | In 2006 Missourians demanded reform of the |  |
| 19 | State's law to prohibit condemnation of private |  |
| 20 | property solely for economic reasons such as the |  |
| 21 | increased tax revenue. Remember, your backyard could |  |
| 22 | generate more taxes if Wal-Mart was built there. |  |
| 23 | I believe Grain Belt Express, a private |  |
| 24 | company, should be forced to negotiate with the open |  |
| 25 | market like other businesses to acquire land. In other |  |

words, Grain Belt Express wants to pay penance and therefore needs eminent domain to force landowners to sell easement and all the transport possible to the East Coast.

They promise large tax revenues to counties scarred by this line. But since this money is only a motivating factor for this company, they will do anything that they can after approval to reduce tax
liability. If this application is approved, the
project would constitute one of the largest
condemnations of private land in Missouri history. And
we will have absolutely no choice. Towers almost as
tall as the Missouri state capitol will be built on our
farms.
How ironic it is that given the height of those
towers that our rights as individuals in the state
would be violated. I would like to believe that this
is not the American way. It's not what the Missouri
state capitol stands for. Thank you for your time.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Donald
Davies.
(Witness sworn.)
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
MR. DAVIES: Donald Davies, D-a-v-i-e-s.

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|  |  | Page 13 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? |  |
| 2 | MR. DAVIES: Caroll County. |  |
| 3 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. |  |
| 4 | MR. DAVIES: I thank you Public Service |  |
| 5 | Commission for your time in allowing me to testify. |  |
| 6 | Clean Line right-of-way might cost me about $1 / 2$ mile. |  |
| 7 | All summaries are my opinions. I have four items to |  |
| 8 | file with you. Front page of the guide book for |  |
| 9 | Missouri leaders, February 2014 and pages 30 and 31 of |  |
| 10 | this 120 page book that I have in my possession. And |  |
| 11 | an eight-page transmission line easement agreement that |  |
| 12 | I received from Grain Belt. Also a front page of an |  |
| 13 | obituary and a transmission line easement agreement |  |
| 14 | filed at the Caroll County Courthouse and recorded in |  |
| 15 | Book 780, pages 256 to 263. And my written testimony. |  |
| 16 | The first four pages of the file easement and |  |
| 17 | the blank easement appear to be the same or identical. |  |
| 18 | In Caroll County an almost 93-year-old man signed a |  |
| 19 | 1,268 foot plus or minus easement that has been filed |  |
| 20 | with the Caroll County recorder. I believe this cost |  |
| 21 | him and his family \$91,200, less \$10 and other good and |  |
| 22 | valuable consideration if it was actually received. |  |
| 23 | This man passed away and his two adjoining farms in |  |
| 24 | Caroll County were sold at public auction. The 152 |  |
| 25 | acre grass track with the easement brought \$2,400 an |  |

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acre. The 80 acres similar grass track across the road
without an easement brought $3,000 per acre. 152 times
$600 equals $91,200.
    This easement Page 1, Section 2a says, Grain
Belt may pay landowner additional consideration
pursuant to that certain easement calculation sheet
executed by the landowner concurrently with this
agreement. I don't see this filled in that, with the
recorder's office. Shouldn't it have been there?
    But Grain Belt will pay landowner for certain
damages as set forth in and in accordance with the
terms of the structure and damages calculation sheet
executed by landowner concurrently with this agreement.
I don't see this filed with the recorder's office.
Shouldn't it have been there?
    Section 2, Section D says, the easement
includes the right of ingress and egress over the
easement itself, over the property of the landowner in
order to obtain access to the easement and over the
property of the landowner adjacent to the easement in
line between public and private loads. And the
easement in such matter that they shall cause the least
practical damage and inconvenience to the landowner.
    How can Clean Line expect a landowner to give
permission for Clean Line to cross the landowner
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adjacent to get to my property, if they want to? It is
wrong to make adjacent owner have damages just to help
Texas billionaire make more money. This Clean Line
easement should never, never, never be signed as it's
written. No two farms are alike, so no two easements
should be alike. So easement should ever be signed
without approval of your lawyer.
    I feel this family was cheated by Grain Belt
Express and doesn't follow the guidelines quoted in the
guide book for Missouri Leader 2014, pages 30 and 31.
Clean Line is not paying enough for this right-of-way.
The pipeline that came through in 2008 paid much more
per acre and their utility is underground. Clean Line
utility is above ground and creates a lot more problems
such as liability, unsightly towers, aerial spraying,
computers, GPS, business band radios and health and
many others.
    I think the starting price from Clean Line
should be at least double the price per acre what the
pipeline paid because there's is all above the ground
and causes other problems. If any of you have any
questions ask me. Well, I've only got 26 seconds so
thank you.
    MS. COLEMAN: Mr. Davies, I just want to
say to you that you did really good. You saved 26
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seconds and I appreciate that. Thank you.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Do you have some
exhibits you want to include?
    MR. DAVIES: Yes, I've got exhibits one
and five. I read the list awhile ago about what it
was.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Was it four of them?
    MR. DAVIES: Well, I can count the
pages. Ten or }12\mathrm{ pages of it.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Are those each page a
separate exhibit or is it --
    MR. DAVIES: Some of them are stapled
together.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Why don't you
give them to the court reporter and we'll have those
marked.
    (Exhibit Nos. 36-41 marked for identification.)
    MR. DAVIES: Okay.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: First exhibit will be
36. And for the record, let's have an entry appearance
for counsel.
    MS. SHIM: Good morning. I'm Lera
Shemwell and I represent the Office of Public Counsel
and the public in this case. Our office an eminent
domain ombudsman and his name is Fred Crafty and I have
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a bunch of cards. If any of you would like to consult with him I'll just leave the cards up here. And I'll leave some in the back on the table for the people from the Commission. It's a pleasure to be here. Thank you.

JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Next is Clouse Coffman.
(Witness sworn.)

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

MR. COFFMAN: My name is Clouse Coffman, $C-O-f-f-m-a-n$.

JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
MR. COFFMAN: Just north of

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Stewartsville, Missouri.
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JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

MR. COFFMAN: I am Clouse Coffman a
landowner and investor in southern DeKalb County. I
have a master's degree and a Ph degree in soils and crop production from the University of Missouri and Iowa State University respectively.

My wife and I own two parcels of farmland totaling 580 acres. One of these farms has been in the family since 1870, four generations. Two years ago KCP\&L who had eminent domain privileges came across

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both of our farms with their transmission lines. There
are eight support towers on our farms transversing
nearly one mile. We experienced firsthand what impacts
these activities on both land and products.
    Shortly after this project was begun we found
out that this transmission project was to support a
private company who is funded by hundreds of millions
of tax dollars called stimulus funds. In the direction
of industrial wind energy complex near our farm. One
of these turbines is only }600\mathrm{ feet from our property
line. This will have adverse effects upon what can be
done on that part of our farm in the future. Over
these past two years we have learned a great deal about
how some private companies operate to achieve their
financial goals. Especially as it impacts the
decisions made by governmental bodies and officials.
    These government officials have been elected or
appointed to protect the health, safety and general
welfare of the residents and landowners of the
jurisdiction which they serve.
    Throughout my life I have come to realize that
the more I learn the more there is to learn. The fact
is true for all issues and circumstances. I say this
to emphasize the need to be careful and not to allow
our decisions to be made on the basis of emotion only.
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health and safety and welfare of those who live near
them. Those who say otherwise have not done their
homework and are basing their opinions on emotions
only.
    I encourage those who think this project
proposed to come across Missouri will reduce their
electric bills to search out the facts. Remember,
facts do not cease to exit because we choose to ignore
them. I thank you very much for your consideration.
I'll leave a copy for you.
    (Exhibit No. 42 marked for identification.)
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: That's Exhibit 42?
    COURT REPORTER: Yes.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Chris Painter.
        (Witness sworn.)
        JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
    MR. PAINTER: Chris Painter,
P-a-i-n-t-e-r.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
    MR. PAINTER: Gower, Missouri.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
    MR. PAINTER: If you'll permit me an
illustration from Second Samuel, Chapter 12, "Then the
Lord sent Nathan to David and he came to him and said,
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there were two men in one city, the one rich man had
the other poor. The rich man had a great many flocks
and herds, but the poor man had nothing expect one
little ewe lamb which he bought and nourished and it
grew up together with him and his children. It would
eat of his bread and drink of his cup and lie in his
bosom. It was like a daughter to him. Now the
traveler came to the rich man and he was unwilling to
take from his own flock or his own herd to prepare for
the way for her who had come to him. Rather he took
the foreman's ewe lamb and prepared it for the man who
had come to him.
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    Then David's anger burned greatly against the
    man and he said to Nathan, as the Lord lives, surely
the man who has done this deserves to die. You must
make restitution for the land foretold because he did
this thing and had no compensation. Nathan then said
to David, you are the man." This is the lesson
that is applicable to Clean Line Energy. It's a story
of the ultra rich attempting to steal everything that
the common citizen owns. It is not about saving the
planet. And it's not about jobs, it's about profits.
This is not a case of a fair buyout. It's about the
abuse of eminent domain. All of us who live on or near
the post line will be forced to live in a landscape

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marred with unsightly towers. No monetary compensation
can replace the beauty of the land of our parents,
grandparents and neighbors.
    Even paying four-times over cannot replace our
land. Our land that we love as a daughter. And yet
the most troubling part of all this is the legacy that
it leaves for the next generation. I teach at a high
school which sits less than a mile from the proposed
line. I can make you a long list of the young people
whose lives will be impacted. Is it fair to pass this
burden on to these young people. Are their futures on
this land worth a few jobs or promises of tax revenue?
And a power line that everyone knows cannot limit its
capacity to clean energy. Is that justice? Is it
justice to ask the few to bear the burden for the many?
    What if we asked Clean Line's venture
capitalist to sacrifice at the same level. What if all
the folks who have come from far away who testified in
favor of this line were asked to sacrifice at the same
level. What if you were asked to sacrifice at the same
level.
    I called the Governor's Office to ask him these
questions. And the staff member answering the phone
admitted that wherever this line is built the people
who own the land will not want it. So how do we solve
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these problems, clean up the environment and provide
quality jobs? The answer is not Grain Belt Express.
We have a lot of invented people in this country. I
believe that we can come up with the technology that
provides real green energy in a way that respects
property rights. I teach a lot of creative kids. I'm
sure they can find a better solution than Grain Belt
Express.
    Windmills, direct current and overhead
transmission lines are all technologies from the 19th
Century. I think we can do better than that. Let's
demand a 21st Century solution. So here is the
question: Which David from the Bible will it be? Will
you side with Clean Line Energy, the David who
slaughtered the ewe lamb, the David who sent Uriah to
the front lines to be killed. The David that exercised
tyranny? Or will you be the David who stood up against
all odds and faced Goliath and fought for the people?
    I know that you will find it in your hearts to
do what is right. Please stand with us who are opposed
to the use of eminent domain. Thank you.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Joe Aughinbaugh.
            (Witness sworn.)
        JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
        and spell your last name.
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|  |  | Page 24 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | MR. AUGHINBAUGH: Joe Aughinbaugh, |  |
| 2 | $A-u-g-h-i-n-b-a-u-g-h$. |  |
| 3 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? |  |
| 4 | MR. AUGHINBAUGH: Stewartsville. |  |
| 5 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. |  |
| 6 | MR. AUGHINBAUGH: Thank you for allowing |  |
| 7 | me this opportunity to present why I'm opposed to |  |
| 8 | granting Grain Belt Express, a private company, |  |
| 9 | authority to use eminent domain to acquire easements to |  |
| 10 | run high voltage power lines across property of |  |
| 11 | individuals in Missouri. |  |
| 12 | I have property in DeKalb County where |  |
| 13 | the new KCP\&L transmission line was built. It's not |  |
| 14 | even in service yet. They have the power of eminent |  |
|  | domain being a utility company. We held out as long as |  |
|  | we could to try and prevent them from crossing our 80 |  |
| 17 | acres until we figured out that we had no power to |  |
| 18 | negotiate any fees that we felt would compensate us for |  |
| 19 | the inconvenience. |  |
| 20 | They had a figure and we had to agree. |  |
| 21 | Take it or leave it. They would empower the process of |  |
| 22 | eminent domain. We were concerned about stray voltage, |  |
|  | changes to the magnetic field, ingress and egress to |  |
|  | every square foot of our property at any time they felt |  |
| 25 | it necessary. When we were -- when they were |  |

completing construction on our place, I noticed the
permit fence, they replaced about 200 feet of it, that
they had grounded the barbed wire fence in four
different locations in 200 feet. This was done as if
it were part of the electrical system. Proper
connectors, proper ground wire, proper grounding. I
have pictures that show this as an exhibit. If there's
no stray voltage problem or electrical problems why
would we do this? Why would they do this?
Last fall, I needed to replace an
electric fence charger that I need to control my
livestock from five different patterns, the only means
of internal fencing that $I$ use within my 80 acres. As
I was reading the instruction manual I came across the
warnings, not suggestions, but warnings, it said,
quote, never install an electric fence under a high
voltage transmission line. If there's no problem with
stray voltage or other things then why this warning?
As a property owner, it should be our choice as to what
type of fencing that we're going to use not a company
with eminent domain practices. It is a worry to me
what I may expect from the warnings of the fence
charger and the groundings with the permanent fence
under a transmission line. What effects might it have
on my machinery, you know? I just -- I don't
understand it.

I hope that my concerns will be your
concerns in deciding to grant eminent domain to Grain
Belt Express for erecting high voltage transmission
lines across the state of Missouri. Thank you for your
time.
MS. COLEMAN: Thank you, sir.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Did you want to enter
that picture as an exhibit?
MR. AUGHINBAUGH: Yes. And also the
warning out of that page.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: So that would be
exhibits 43 and 44.
(Exhibit Nos. 43 and 44 marked for identification.)
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. The next witness
is Eva Jane Schuster.
(Witness sworn.)
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
MS. SCHUSTER: My name is Eva Jane
Schuster, $S-c-h-u-s-t-e-r$.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?
MS. SCHUSTER: Gower, Missouri.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
MS. SCHUSTER: I'm a resident and

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landowner in Clinton County, Missouri. And I'm here
today to register opposition to the proposed Grain Belt
Express transmission line and urge you to please ignore
the company's application for certificate of liens and
necessity.
    My farm has been targeted as part of this
project and I want to emphasize why I oppose -- why I
oppose this massive hydro exclusive transmission line.
Number 1, on a personal level, I rent my farm to one
farmer for pasture and another for crop production.
I'm concerned that they will not find the land
desirable if they had to walk around and under high
voltage lines and massive 200 foot poles. I depend on
this rent to supplement my income.
    Number 2, this proposed line will stretch 780
miles from Southwest Kansas and crossing Missouri and
Illinois and terminating in Indiana where it would
connect into a grid that services the Northeast. I ask
why should thousands of landowners like myself be
forced to sell an easement and live and work under or
near a high voltage DC line so the Eastern part of the
country can have another power source. Why can't the
Northeastern states harness their own wind power?
    Number 3, the construction of this line will
scar the landscape and eliminate future land options,
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create soil compaction and destroy timber in its path.
Property values would not help but plummet and exceed
any amount of compensation received from Grain Belt
Express. 600 landowners and 5,000 acres in Missouri,
plus hundreds of others very near who would receive
absolutely no compensation. What damage would be
involved in construction and maintenance? And what if
in a few years Grain Belt Express decided to abandon
the line and the mess they have created?
    Number 4, recent press releases by Grain Belt
Express have toted savings in electric bills and
additional revenues to schools. No one supports the
right of every family to safe and affordable electric
power more than I do. And no one supports the schools
and their needs anymore than I do. By the same token,
I support the right of each and every landowner in the
path of this proposed line for a safe and productive
farm under the owner's care and management without
easements.
    I remember the joy of my father many years ago
when he saved up and purchased his farm and how he
cared for it through the years. I also remember the
year electricity came to our rural home 60 to 70 years
ago. Missouri has been blessed with a great power
supply since that time. Please let us keep our
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farmland intact for now and for future generations.
Why we ask that a private utility for-profit company be
granted the power of eminent domain to erode our
property rights now and set a precedent for future
generations.
    Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the
Commission. I urge you to deny Grain Belt Express.
    MS. COLEMAN: Thank you.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: John Elliott.
                (Witness sworn.)
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
    MR. ELLIOTT: John Elliott,
E-l-l-i-o-t-t.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
    MR. ELLIOTT: Lathrop. Clinton County.
        JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
        MR. ELLIOTT: I have property just south
of Turney in Range 55. It's 130 acres. I have seen
where the Grain Belt is supposed to either go on the
property or around it or on the edge of it, but I have
a private airstrip on my property. And airplanes and
transmission lines just don't mix. They're not very
compatible.
    I would have to be forced to close my airstrip
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if this Grain Belt Line goes through. I have three
pipelines going across my property now. The pipe
purchase the Trans Canada and the Keystone Pipeline.
They destroyed the property for over three years
because it was not tillable, it wasn't productive. And
they paid me dearly for it. Eminent domain would not
compensate anyone properly for what damage they have
done. And also a loss of my private strip which we use
sometimes for aerial spraying and private use. And
that's my comments. Thank you.
    MS. COLEMAN: Thank you.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Dennis Smith.
            (Witness sworn.)
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
    MR. SMITH: Dennis Smith, last name is
S-m-i-t-h.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
    MR. SMITH: I'm a property owner in
Randolph County.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
    MR. SMITH: As a landowner and passage
of the proposed line, I'm opposed to the use of eminent
domain for this purpose.
    Grain Belt Express is not a public utility.
```

| 1 | The Ottawa Appellate Court in Illinois ruled that it is |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2 | not a public utility and therefore not entitled to |
| 3 | eminent domain. That alone is sufficient reason to |
| 4 | deny this company access to private property. Other |
| 5 | nations proceeded us in development of wind energy. We |
| 6 | should learn from their mistakes. |
| 7 | The grand promises of cheap energy, jobs and |
| 8 | benefit to society should be viewed critically. There |
| 9 | is a web site termed the Institute for Energy Research |
| 10 | that is a watch group and think-tank group in |
| 11 | Washington, D.C. In the November report, the Europeans |
| 12 | have provided subsidies and instituted policies to |
| 13 | promote renewable energy, primarily wind. These are |
| 14 | actually quotes from their sight. The end result is to |
| 15 | lower gross domestic product, give fewer jobs and |
| 16 | reduce household income and make energy less accessible |
| 17 | and more costly. The end result is -- or excuse me. |
| 18 | The u.S. Chamber of commerce report in this |
| 19 | same report on that site found the European-type |
| 20 | policies in our economy result in a \$700 billion annual |
| 21 | loss to the u.S. economy. So much for all the promises |
| 22 | from Grain Belt Express. 8 million fewer jobs and |
| 23 | Americans would have to pay and extra \$4, 800 per year |
| 24 | on their energy bills. |

cost residents three times more per household than
energy in the United States. Since Germany's wind
energy cannot be controlled its had to backup the power
of fossil fuels, mainly coal. The problem with wind
power is that it's intermittent. Thus it is
uncontrollable by the system operating. Wind and solar
can burn out the girds if they produce too much and not
enough electricity leading to brownouts or blackouts.
Germany's grid has already been damaged in relying on
too much wind power.
In 2015, Germany paid wind farms $\$ 548$ million
to cut their power to try to prevent further damage to
their grid. The International Energy Agency has said
that renewable energy will increase in capacity in the
next five years.
The problem is that wind energy produces only
half the capacity of nuclear, coal or natural gas
plants. The cost to purchasers is increased because
wind energy has to double their capacity to achieve the
same amount of power as nuclear, coal or gas.
A report in July from this Institute for Energy
Research stated and, quote, electricity from new wind
is over 3.5 times more expensive than from existing
nuclear. And 2.5 times more expensive than existing
coal plants. They state that wind energy is unreliable
and causes more blackouts. Wind and solar energy installations provide about $4 \%$ of our electricity. And grid operators struggle to keep the energy supply constant.

Under the curtain administration, wind energy has enjoyed huge subsidies to build and promote it. Grain Belt Express has pushed to get their lucrative transmission line installed before political favoritism has expired. In leveling the playing field by removing costs and taxpayer subsidies will make wind energy only more costly.

Grain Belt Express is a private business in
business for profit. The promise of 4 cent electricity
is ludicrous. Look at the experience in other
countries. How can a company make a promise of 4 cent
electricity if the electricity entering the pipeline is
three times more expensive than what we're already
paying. The marks in the East for businesses currently
trying to meet noxious EPA regulations, under the new
presidency, if those regulations are downgraded who
will be left holding the bag.
Landowners against this project respectfully
request that you consider the real cost to our homes,
livelihoods and personal liberties if this private
company were granted public utility status. Thank you.

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|  |  | Page 34 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | MS. COLEMAN: Thank you. |  |
| 2 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Glenn Duyer. |  |
| 3 | (Witness sworn.) |  |
| 4 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name |  |
| 5 | and spell your last name. |  |
| 6 | MR. DUYER: Glenn Duyer, $\mathrm{D}-\mathrm{u}-\mathrm{y}-\mathrm{e}-\mathrm{r}$. |  |
| 7 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? |  |
| 8 | MR. DUYER: Stewartsville, Missouri. |  |
| 9 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. |  |
| 10 | MR. DUYER: My wife and I are fourth |  |
| 11 | generation farm. That my great grandfather homestead |  |
| 12 | in 1868. And I thank you for this opportunity to share |  |
| 13 | our concerns over this transmission line. |  |
| 14 | We're opposed to the application of this |  |
| 15 | certificate of convenience and necessity and we ask you |  |
| 16 | to deny it. We don't want condemned land easements |  |
| 17 | across this state. You will repeatedly hear others say |  |
| 18 | this project is a creation of multiple investors and |  |
| 19 | corporations seeking federal subsidies and production |  |
| 20 | tax credits. And it has no source for power. And |  |
| 21 | they're not in the business of constructing |  |
| 22 | transmission lines built from wind energy systems. |  |
| 23 | We have a great concern for property values. |  |
| 24 | They will be dramatically affected by transmission |  |
| 25 | lines over time. I want to address this request for |  |

eminent domain to take from private lesson. Before you
grant eminent domain to this company, please reflected
on the investors involved. The frequency of their
startup companies being resold and the options existing
for foreign companies and other investigators.
I believe if you grant this authority for
eminent domain and condemnation of private property you
give every private company an opportunity to follow the
precedent set. Let me illustrate one future scenario.
KCP\&L in Missouri are the operators of a power line
recently constructed using the authority of eminent
domain in DeKalb County. The power is to come from 97
wind turbines and you're going to get to see them this
evening. NextEra has contracts, easements and liens on
all the property containing these wind turbines and
collection lines that run to the substations.
When the wind turbine sites were totally
isolated, NextEra a private company, used county road
right-of-way through private property without owners
permission. I think that's illegal and without the
authority you would grant. But imagine giving NextEra
or any other wind energy developer the right to use any
farmland they choose. The right to ignore the property
rights of our state residents. KCP\&L and TransSource
will own the substations built by NextEra. Who owns

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the collection lines for the wind turbines? Who's to
say in the future that NextEra may not sell or lease
these contracts or lines to a public or private
utility. Would you grant that builder or owner eminent
domain?
    If your certificate is granted to Grain Belt
Express Clean Line what can -- or should I say, what
can't be done inside the 200-foot easements in the
future. Property rights and use of farmland will
definitely be impacted. There is no strategic value to
the future of Missouri to have this line constructed
across our state.
    Our next president has said he will eliminate
the subsidies for tax creates that wind energy are
getting. Eventually eliminating this industry. It
will certainly impact it. If you should inquire -- you
should require new financial data on these corporations
and have them provide proposed utility rates after
President-Elect Trump's actions to drain the swamp.
    Please deny this application of Grain Belt.
Don't keep destroying the farmer and our way of life.
Thank you.
                    JUDGE BUSHMANN: MaryJo Sloan.
            (Witness sworn.)
                        JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
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## TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS 12/13/2017

and spell your last name.
MS. SLOAN: My name is Mary Jo Sloan, S-l-o-a-n.

JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
MS. SLOAN: I live out on a farm outside of Plattsburg in Clinton County.

JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
MS. SLOAN: I wasn't raised on a farm, but I've been blessed by being able to live on a farm for the past 47 years. It's a beautiful family farm that is very special to everyone in our family.

The family has scattered, but it is always special with special times when everyone comes back to the farm. It's home to us. We love the beautiful rural landscape and the peace and the quiet. I don't want it destroyed by greed.

Clean Line wants to be granted eminent domain. And if granted, this line could cross our farm for about a mile. This line will not benefit -- or have no benefit for our state nor our farm. This is a private company for private gain and should not be given eminent domain. We already have three pipelines that cross our farm. We have given enough. I don't want the family farm or my backyard destroyed so that the executive of Clean Line can buy a bigger mansion.

The people in this state have property rights that need to be protected. I ask you to stop this line before we all have to live with the consequences for the rest of our lives. The destruction will be here forever. I know money has been promised to the schools and to the people in town that think this sounds good. Where are they coming up with these figures? Will the schools have to sue to get any money that is owed them.

The landowners are the ones being thrown under bus. I taught school in this state for 25 years. When
I retired, I didn't want anymore money spent in my
classroom. I wanted my students to have strong
families with parents that valued education. Money
can't fix the education system. Strong families can
and money can't buy that. These are things that you
need to think about.

They also promise jobs. These companies always promise jobs. I urge you to ask the people in DeKalb County about the jobs the wind company provided in their county. A drive through their county will reveal a lot of out-of-state license plates. If any jobs come with this destruction of family farms they will be temporary. The landowners are the ones that will loose their land and their quality of life. Is this fair? I don't think so. I know from listening to hours of

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sworn testimony in Clinton County last summary that
wind energy is not clean. It's not cheap. It's not
efficient. And it can't be built without the
production tax credits.
    The energy companies always say, it's not a
subsidy, it's a tax credit. They're the same thing.
The production tax credit means there is less money in
the U.S Treasury reducing the amount of money that can
be used to pay down the national debt and improve our
military and improve the healthcare of veterans and
improve our infrastructure, et cetra.
    We need to stop wasting tax dollars on
businesses that can't support themselves. This company
should not be allowed to steal our land for private
gain. If this company gets eminent domain you will be
opening a box that you can't put the lid back on. Our
beautiful rural areas will all be in danger of
disappearing.
    I want to close with proof that this wind
energy is not going to be cheap for the people of
Missouri. I called KCP&L to ask about pre-charges that
were on my bill. I knew the answer before I called,
but I wanted to hear them say it. So I asked them what
they were for. The answer was, oh, that's a charge you
pay for renewable energy. So I said, "The bottom line
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24 land. My wife taught school for 25 years. With both
25 of us working, we managed to send two sons to college.
We love our farm.
The transmission line will cross our family
farm for about a mile. We already have three pipelines
across our farm. We have given enough. No more. This
is a private company for profit and they should not be
given eminent domain. This company hasn't built
anything. All the numbers they throw around are just
numbers they pulled out of the air. How can they
possibly know they are going to save the people in our
state $\$ 10$ millon.
The line and the turbines aren't even built.
The production tax credits go down by $20 \%$ on December
31st. They don't know what it will cost to build this
line so how in the world could they know how much money
they can save us. I believe with the change in the
works that companies are going to do better than pull
numbers out of the air. Our state doesn't need the
power. This line is to carry wind power to the people
-- this line is to carry wind power in front of the
DeKalb County -- wind energy is a scam. It is not
cheap, not clean, not efficient and can not be built
without production tax credits.
Production tax credits are being phased out and
we're hoping come January 20 it will be phased out
faster than planned. The wind turbines in Kansas

1 aren't even built. What happens if they aren't built and you have given this company eminent domain?

I know from listening to expert witnesses in Clinton County last summer that my property values will go down. Is that fair to us? I don't want to give up my land and my quality of life just so executives can live in South Texas in a multimillion dollar mansion. Our property rights come first.

Your job is to protect the citizens of this State. Do you really believe that this company wants to provide us with cheap electricity? I don't believe that and no one else in this room does either.

If power is needed on the East Coast the wind blows there so build the line there. Let them have the so called savings and electric bills. Let them have the tax money. I want to leave this land in better shape than $I$ found it. I want to leave this land for my children and grandchildren. They love the farm is I do. This farm is our home and the place where we raised two boys. It's special to us.

Do you really believe -- do you really want to be the ones who are responsible for letting our beautiful rural state be destroyed. I certainly hope not. Thank you for your time.

MS. COLEMAN: Thank you.

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|  |  | Page 43 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Larry King. |  |
| 2 | (Witness sworn.) |  |
| 3 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name |  |
| 4 | and spell your last name. |  |
| 5 | MR. KING: Larry King, K-i-n-g. |  |
| 6 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? |  |
| 7 | MR. KING: Cameron, Missouri. |  |
| 8 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. |  |
| 9 | MR. KING: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, the |  |
| 10 | Commissioners for allowing us to visit with you today. |  |
| 11 | I have lived in Clinton County and been in business in |  |
| 12 | Clinton County for 53 years and everytime I hear Grain |  |
| 13 | Belt, negative thoughts come to my mind. Mainly |  |
| 14 | eminent domain, foreign money, no value for Missouri, |  |
| 15 | and a dumping grounds for big business. |  |
| 16 | I understand Grain Belt is 60\% owned by |  |
| 17 | billionaire brothers in Houston, Texas. 40\% owned by |  |
| 18 | foreign money. And I understand that the foreign |  |
|  | owners have an option to purchase it before, during or |  |
| 20 | after construction, which tells me that within the near |  |
| 21 | future, 200-foot easement across Clinton County and |  |
| 22 | across the state of Missouri will be controlled by |  |
| 23 | foreign money. |  |
| 24 | I also understand that they want 200 foot. I |  |
| 25 | also understand that -- I have copies of letters signed |  |

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by seven governors on the East Coast that say they do
not need or want this power that is coming to them.
    So my question is, what else is going to be
used in this 200-foot easement or controlled by foreign
money taken by eminent domain. I see that Northwest
Missouri has become a dumping grounds for big business.
In the past two years we've got big towers from KCP&L,
P&L and we've got the turbines coming and now they want
to put Grain Belt across us.
    I believe that it's time for someone to take a
stand and stand up for clinton County and Northwest
Missouri. We are part of the State of Missouri. I'd
ask you and I thank you for your time today, and I'd
ask you to keep this beautiful farming, timber,
grasslands and the landscape of Clinton County and
Northwest Missouri protected. I'd urge you to keep the
land ownership in the hands of locals and not foreign
investigators. And just say no to Grain Belt Express.
I thank you for your time today.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Barbara Saunders.
            (Witness sworn.)
        JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
                MS. SAUNDERS: Barbara Saunders,
S-a-u-n-d-e-r-s.
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## TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS 12/13/2017

|  |  | Page 45 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? |  |
| 2 | MS. SAUNDERS: I live in Osborn, |  |
| 3 | Missouri, DeKalb County. |  |
| 4 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. |  |
| 5 | MS. SAUNDERS: I also live in Halfax |  |
| 6 | Township where a wind energy corporation has destroyed |  |
| 7 | the God-given landscape that we were so fortunately |  |
| 8 | able to once enjoy and appreciate. |  |
| 9 | Now the practice of farming, raising livestock |  |
| 10 | and our families are forever changed. I ask that you |  |
| 11 | do not give eminent domain to Grain Belt Express or for |  |
| 12 | that matter any corporation at all. Please understand |  |
| 13 | that by doing so -- that by doing so, for one will in |  |
| 14 | itself set a precedence for others to follow such as |  |
| 15 | oil or any other minerals that corporations could use |  |
| 16 | for money-hungry investigators. And in so doing you |  |
| 17 | will give only a small minority of contract holders |  |
| 18 | permission to destroy not only -- not only their own |  |
| 19 | land, but the land of their neighbors around them that |  |
| 20 | do not have contracts. |  |
| 21 | This is the Public Service Commission so please |  |
| 22 | do your job and work for the public and not for |  |
| 23 | corporations. Thank you for your time. |  |
| 24 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Bill Saunders. |  |
| 25 | (Witness sworn.) |  |

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|  |  | Page 46 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name |  |
| 2 | and spell your last name. |  |
| 3 | MR. SAUNDERS: Bill Saunders, |  |
| 4 | $s-a-u-n-d-e-r-s$. |  |
| 5 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? |  |
| 6 | MR. SAUNDERS: Osborn. |  |
| 7 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. |  |
| 8 | MR. SAUNDERS: I didn't write anything |  |
| 9 | down, but that was my wife that just spoke. We live |  |
| 10 | right in the middle of this mess. I would advise you |  |
| 11 | guys to not give eminent domain to any private company. |  |
| 12 | We have lived firsthand with NextEra a private |  |
| 13 | company. There was no regard for anything, anything. |  |
| 14 | They have ruined Pony Express wildlife area. |  |
| 15 | Twenty-one turbines within a mile right out here. I |  |
| 16 | don't know if any of you have ever been? But the State |  |
| 17 | granted permission. They have no regard. |  |
| 18 | The conservation people asked them to keep them |  |
| 19 | three miles away. No reply. They asked them again, |  |
| 20 | they begged them for a mile set back. No reply. There |  |
| 21 | are 21 within a mile of that conservation area. There |  |
| 22 | are bald eagles, geese, ducks, bats. Everything is |  |
| 23 | going to be ruined. I don't know this private |  |
| 24 | corporation. I have firsthand knowledge of how they |  |
| 25 | work. They don't care about anything for Missouri. |  |

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Please turn this down. No eminent domain. Thank you.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Next witness is, I
believe, is Cedina Phillips Millard?
            (Witness sworn.)
        JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
        MS. MILLARD: Cedina Phillips Millard.
        JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Where do you
live?
        MS. MILLARD: Clinton County, Missouri.
        JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
        MS. MILLARDS: I own one of the largest
single plots free and clear here in Clinton County that
would be effected by the Grain Belt. It stretches two
miles west to east around 620 acres. This farm has
been in my family for 111 years. My family has been
identified with Northwest Missouri since the years of
the following opening of the Platt Bridges for
settlement. They have been considered to be one of the
foremost farmers, politicians, legislatures, bankers,
businessmen in the state.
    We have been a reliable family, one of the
progressive and highly esteemed citizens in Clinton
County. I have been taught the value of industry of
thrift and of fair and square dealing with myself and
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others. I feel as though as I am a woman of impeccable
judgment in financial matters having my BS in
accounting and business management. We are here in
Missouri and I hope -- and I posses a personality that
has made me admired socially in Clinton County. On a
financial term I do not see this benefiting my town, my
country nor my state. I, myself, I'm interested in
church and school and I freely give to any movement for
the improvement of my home, locality or state. But in
this case, I am for blocking the Grain Belt Express for
the reason that Grain Belt Express does not benefit my
family of three, my county of around 21,000, nor my
state of 6.60 million people.
    I am active for benefiting our social and work
affairs in Clinton County. And I do not see this
benefiting us in anyway. It seems everyone always
says, keep jobs local, when I look at see that jobs are
dying and end up being replaced. There are few jobs
that Grain Belt is offering. If this State allows the
Grain Belt Express to come through my property I would
say the PSPs have not been taught the value of square
dealings with others.
    Considering the majority of the landowners
oppose this and are the ones that pay state and local
property taxes. And as Charlie earlier, I'm not going
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to get off point, but my father always told me that it
was made on my family farm.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Katie McKay.
        (Witness sworn.)
        JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
    MS. MCKAY: Katie McKay, M-c-K-a-y. I
live in Cameron, Missouri.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
    MS. MCKAY: Good afternoon. My name is
Katie McKay and I'm a licensee player in the State of
Missouri. I'm also a board member and a treasurer of
Missouri Landowners Alliance a not-for-profit group
fighting the Grain Belt.
    I would like to address some tax revenue claims
made by Clean Line. On June 21, 2014, Clean Line went
on record in St. Joseph News-Press stating, by our
estimates Grain Belt Express would bring in
approximately $550,000 in revenue to Clinton County
starting in the first year of operation.
    Recent claims by Clean Line about tax revenue
amounts per DeKalb County have been $800,000 to a
million dollars. Construction has not yet begun and
the establishments are vastly different. Why is there
such a huge difference from 2014 to now? Which is
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accurate? Nobody including the Missouri State Tax Commission actually knows what assessments will be applied to Grain Belt Express. There are no windmills yet, no lines built yet and no customers yet. Clean Line has never even built a transmission line so we're not sure it will work.

Let's switch gears from hypothetical taxes to discussion in reality. Here's the bottom line on how Missouri property tax works. If you do have property in a taxing jurisdiction you do pay tax to that jurisdiction. If you do not have property in a taxing jurisdiction then you do not pay tax to that jurisdiction. It's that simple. Clean Line will only pay property taxes on this transmission line to taxing jurisdictions crossed by that transmission line. The transmission line will miss most of the taxing jurisdictions in Clinton County and the state of Missouri.

I reviewed a document from the Missouri State Tax Commission that lists each taxing jurisdiction in Clinton County. And the total number of miles in which the line will be present in each of these jurisdiction. It shows which jurisdiction will and will not receive tax revenue. Only those jurisdictions that the line passes through will receive tax revenue off of each

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structures. In review of this document I found that
the majority of taxing jurisdictions in Clinton County
will receive zero benefit. All eight cities in Clinton
County, Cameron, Gower, Holt, Lathrop, Osborn,
Plattsburg, Trimble and Turney will receive zero
benefit. All six school districts, Cameron, Osborn,
Lawson, Carney, Smithville and Stewartsville will
receive zero benefit. Nine of the 14 Special Road
Districts in Clinton County will receive zero benefit.
For the five of them that will receive tax revenue the
mileage that will generate the revenue in these
districts is very minuscule. For example, the Cameron
ambulance district will only receive property tax on
structures for 1.4 miles of this line. You might as
well say zero benefit.
    All four road districts, Cameron Special Road
District; Cameron Voted Road District; Plattsburg
Special Road District and Plattsburg Voted Road
District will zero benefit. Although their heavy
machines I'm sure will tear up our roads so we'll
probably lose money in those districts. And not on the
MSTC document but certainly important, the residents
who will have to live next to this line and look at it
in perpetuity will receive zero benefit. In
conclusion, Clean Line points about tax benefits to
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Missourians are presented with a broad brush stroke
based upon incomplete information. They fail to
mention the fact that the majority of Missourians will
receive little or no tax benefits. Considering the
fact that Clinton County will receive no electricity
from this line, I fail to see either the convenience or
necessity of this line to the majority of Clinton
County residents. Thank you.
    MS. COLEMAN: Thank you.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Ruth Lowenstein.
        (Witness sworn.)
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
    MS. LOWENSTEIN: Ruth Lowenstein,
L-o-w-e-n-s-t-e-i-n.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
    MS. LOWENSTEIN: Cameron, Missouri.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
    MS. LOWENSTEIN: Thank you for being
here today and allowing us to speak. I'm a long time
Clinton County resident and I've been in this fight
since the beginning.
    Right now, things that I can do personally is
-- one thing I can do is write letters to the editors
of papers. To let people know what is the going on
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because a lot of people don't know what's going on.
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because a lot of people don't know what's going on.
I'm a regular contributor to a lot of the papers in
I'm a regular contributor to a lot of the papers in
Clinton County. And last week, I read -- I submitted a
Clinton County. And last week, I read -- I submitted a
letter and I read three letters from other people that
letter and I read three letters from other people that
I have never seen letters from other counties, like
I have never seen letters from other counties, like
Chariton County and Randolph County. And I want to
Chariton County and Randolph County. And I want to
address some of the things that they talked about in
address some of the things that they talked about in
their letters. They were pro Grain Belt. In all three
their letters. They were pro Grain Belt. In all three
letters it was stated that Grain Belt has a deal to
letters it was stated that Grain Belt has a deal to
provide electricity to a group of Missouri
provide electricity to a group of Missouri
municipalities. The municipal utilities estimate this
municipalities. The municipal utilities estimate this
wind energy will save their customers more than 10
wind energy will save their customers more than 10
million on their electricity bills. That seems like a
million on their electricity bills. That seems like a
pretty big benefit, right? And it's suppose to effect
pretty big benefit, right? And it's suppose to effect
340,000 people in this state.
340,000 people in this state.
Well, I thought, okay, well that sounds really
Well, I thought, okay, well that sounds really
good so I started to research it. And I found an
good so I started to research it. And I found an
article from the Hannibal Courier and it was from
article from the Hannibal Courier and it was from
November 25. And it said that it's just been over four
November 25. And it said that it's just been over four
months since the Hannibal City Council threw it's
months since the Hannibal City Council threw it's
support behind the purchase of wind generated power.
support behind the purchase of wind generated power.
Should the opportunity to do so ever present itself
Should the opportunity to do so ever present itself
again the lack of headway on the contract from this is
again the lack of headway on the contract from this is
no fault of the Board of Public Works. A power
no fault of the Board of Public Works. A power
purchase agreement has not materialized, said, Bob

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purchase agreement has not materialized, said, Bob
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Stevenson general manager of the BPW during the November 22 meeting of the BPW board. He added that he expected to receive -- he had expected to receive at least a draft power purchase agreement by early November.

It's hard to approve contract language that you haven't seen. So they were in their meetings and that's what $I$ found about it. So I thought, well, let me see what else $I$ can find on it to see if something has changed. I called this Bob Stevenson numerous times, left messages, never got a call back. Called the public works. Went to the option of zero to try to talk to somebody to find out if anything had changed. Never got ahold of anybody.

I researched online and Googled it to find out if now this was different. That the contract had come through and have been filed. I have not found anything to the contrary so far. In all the letters from the people that were pro Clean Line, they said that there is a lot of misinformation about Clean Line and Grain Belt Express put out there.

You know, reporting that Missouri residents would receive a lot of savings and how many people would receive it and how much would it be, but there's no contract. That seems like misinformation to me.

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And I would just plead with you guys. I really liked
your decision last time. And I would plead with you to
please not give a certificate of convenience and
necessity to Clean Line. And that's all that I have to
say.
            JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Ivan Kanak.
                (Witness sworn.)
            JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
    MR. KANAK: My name is Ivan Kanak,
K-a-n-a-k. Good Irish name.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
        MR. KANAK: I'm a not-so-happy resident
of DeKalb County.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
    MR. KANAK: I am a landowner there and
I must say that over the last 18 months that I've
learned more about the production and transmission of
wind generated electricity and the people who run these
businesses than I ever wanted to know. Having a long
standing belief that the right of eminent domain is as
much a moral decision as it is a legal decision. And
that it was never intended to be granted to private
enterprise or individuals for their personal gain at
the expense of the private citizen. I am adamantly
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opposed to granting this right to the Grain Belt
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Express.
I have learned over the years that if
you can't imagine what might happen in a given
situation then you can't be prepared to deal with it.
The unintended consequences of any action most often
create the most problems. There are a number of
potential problems likely to occur if you grant Grain
Belt's request.
First and foremost, I see a dangerous
precedence being set for future request by private
companies and individuals. Secondly, I see the
possibility of the substantial loss in land value and
property tax income not only along either side of the
transmission line, but across the entire State of
Missouri partially due to the fear that the right of
eminent domain may be granted for any number of
reasons.
Common sense is going to suggest to us
that the presence of the Grain Belt Express will
attract additional wind energy production complexes to
be built across the state. To take advantage of the
easy access to a power line. What will happen to these
production complexes if the federal subsidies and
purchase mandates go away. Ask yourself, can they
survive on their own or will we become like Germany
with vast graveyards of wind power attesting to our
falling.
These production complexes require
thousands of acres of land thus effecting property
values and tax basis even further. The losses can be
substantial. Last July I heard an expert witness
testify regarding rural residential values. The
finding of eight different studies show an average loss
of 25 to $40 \%$ on homes up to three miles from a wind
tower. That is pretty significant.
Well, you might say not many people live
in the country anymore. Certainly if you are people
who make your living from the land anymore, but we are
seeing more and more retired people moving back to the
country and building very nice homes. Many of our
communities have become bedroom communities. Just last
Saturday I was on a farm about ten miles southeast of
Cameron. The owner in is late 40 s or early 50 s had
grown up in Northeast Missouri. He moved to Virginia
and he built a home construction business there over
the past 20 some years. He's now semi retired, moved
back to Missouri, operates his Virginia based business
via the Internet. He lives in a very nice home on a
gravel road. And to my surprise there were several

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other very nice homes in that very rural neighborhood. These homes are an important tax source to Caldwell County. And amazingly, I see the same occurrence in am areas around Northwest Missouri.

Now I can assure you of one thing, bare ag land does not yield much in taxes. Six years ago I purchased 20 acres that fronts a highway. It had a rundown home on it. That year the property taxes totaled \$491. I tore the house down. The taxes dropped to $\$ 23$. This loss to the county does not account for the loss of personal property taxes on cars, trucks, et cetra, if someone had been living there. Bare ag land doesn't yield much in taxes. It will not maintain the roads, the schools, the fire departments needed in a county. So a slow death spiral starts in rural Missouri.

As I stated earlier, it's the unintended consequences that most often create the problems. You can avoid these consequences by doing the morally right thing and turning down the Grain Belt Express for hopefully the final time. Thank you.

JUDGE BUSHMANN: Glen Klippenstein. (Witness sworn.)

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

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|  |  | Page 59 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | MR. KLIPPENSTEIN: My name is Glen, |  |
| 2 | G-l-e-n, Klippenstein, K-l-i-p-p-e-n-s-t-e-i-n. |  |
| 3 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? |  |
| 4 | MR. KLIPPENSTEIN: I live in DeKalb |  |
| 5 | County. |  |
| 6 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. |  |
| 7 | MR. KLIPPENSTEIN: With that name my |  |
| 8 | wife had a problem, too. You know, I'm one of those |  |
| 9 | that never ceases to be amazed that I probably should |  |
| 10 | get over this, by the rich information that is brought |  |
| 11 | about by a hearing like this. |  |
| 12 | Senator, in all your years, did you hear |  |
| 13 | as much -- well, but you personally, when you were a |  |
| 14 | Senator, did you hear that kind of information come |  |
| 15 | from -- only in local America do you get with -- |  |
| 16 | especially when you're being attacked. Then we come to |  |
| 17 | -- and I'll admit what I'm going to say now is a little |  |
| 18 | bit of venting. And if my bride was here, oh boy, |  |
| 19 | would you hear more. So we empathize, we understand |  |
| 20 | what is going on with these people, not only behind us |  |
| 21 | but live in this beautiful God-given country, and |  |
| 22 | county, and state. |  |
| 23 | We have been and are going through in |  |
|  | DeKalb County -- now, we've heard that before, a world |  |
| 25 | of hurt. Our world has been turned upside down and our |  |

community is torn apart. And what is better than
better neighbors their harmony. That is what this
world is about and then blang, counterfeit, inefficient
wind turbines are tearing it apart. As Will
Rogers would say, it ain't right. The loss of freedom
and the disappointment in our fellow man has been
pretty grievous. And we are here because we have an
obligation to each other to do what's right. It's
pretty obvious. We do not have an obligation to do the
bidding of wolves in sheeps clothing. Someone who
makes promises but often promises false promises and
loves you when you yield, but threatens and intimidates
and sues you when you say, no. I grew up in
slow country. I soon learned that I could trust the
footprints where they lived better than the words of a
bully. Who are these people the Grain Belt Express or
whoever they are? They are dead upon obtaining what
they want. Are they friends? Are they even our
citizens? Fellow countrymen?
Remember, we the people, we the people,
we're the energy and the power source of our
communities not wind powers and transmission lines. My
wise mother often said, don't be where you're not
wanted. No means no unless it's consensual. This is
not. They can't force themselves on you even if they
are bigger and use means we are not accustomed to.
This is America.
We must be steadfast and use our common
sense, our honesty, our courage and pray a little and
have confidence that providence will lead to a go end.
And in this case you made the right decision the first
time. Thank you very much.
MR. KENNEY: Senator, I know that was
difficult since you're such a shy and humble person. I
appreciate you getting over that and being able to
express yourself so honestly. As you might remember in
1994, your successor Congressman Sam Graves and I went
he went into the senate when you were retiring way too
soon. I just wanted to thank you for your leadership
you showed in the senate, the leadership you show in
your community and your service to this state. Thank
you very much.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Glenda Aughinbaugh.
(Witness sworn.)
JUDGE BUSHMAN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
MS. AUGHINBAUGH: Glenda Aughinbaugh,
$A-u-g-h-i-n-b-a-u-g-h$.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
MS. AUGHINBAUGH: Stewartsville.

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|  |  | Page 62 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. |  |
| 2 | MS. AUGHINBAUGH: I know that some are |  |
| 3 | proponents of this direct current line having all the |  |
| 4 | benefits of bringing this project to fruition. |  |
| 5 | What I would like to address is, what |  |
| 6 | goes away if this happens. I speak from my experience |  |
| 7 | as a landowner impacted by eminent domain. Briefly as |  |
| 8 | a background we own an 80 acre farm where my parents |  |
| 9 | raised their family. Before they passed on, they set |  |
| 10 | up an agreement for us to purchase it. With two |  |
| 11 | children of our own our dilemma then began about to |  |
| 12 | pass it on to both of them. And as we were wrestling |  |
| 13 | with this issue the Midwest transmission line came into |  |
| 14 | being. We attended many meetings and evidentially got |  |
| 15 | the letter that our property was to be dissected by the |  |
| 16 | line. |  |
| 17 | The land topography slowly drops from |  |
| 18 | the creek to the east of the house. And it has always |  |
| 19 | been a secluded rural area. Now there is a |  |
| 20 | transmission line that accesses by dissecting the lower |  |
| 21 | 40 acres. The transmission line ushered is wind |  |
|  | turbines. These detail was never spoken at any of the |  |
|  | public meetings about the project, but we now know it |  |
|  | was most certainly under the table. But anyway, from |  |
| 25 | that house here is now a rather prominent view of the |  |

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transmission line and wind turbines across the eastern
sky. With further turbine development possible in this
unzoned township.
    Previously both of our children's young
families had interest in living on the property, now
neither have any desire to be there. Both are located
in county and watching the development with an eye
toward relocating if need be somewhere else. So the
first thing that has gone away in our case is the
people. When a Grain Belt representative told us at a
public meeting somewhat incredulously at our
displeasure with the project, but you will be
compensated. My response now is, how do you compensate
a community for making it a less desirable place to
live.
    Our farm is certainly no longer a
desirable habitat. Fewer potential buyers mean lowered
value. If wind turbines or any other industrial
development along the proposed Grain Belt corridor
arise be prepared for a further free fall of property
value, the next of thing that goes away.
    When vital population growth is lost
dwindling tax revenues cannot simply be made up by the
promised sums of the developing company. After all
they have lawyers to be certain that they do not
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overpay. Tax revenue from lost residents goes away.
It goes almost without saying that the option of the
land are forever lost. The land dissecting our farm
should have the best building spot should the property
been split a mute point now that neither family cares
to live there. The easement reads, to have and to hold
steady easements and rights with all and singular, the
rights further to inspect and immunities, thereto
belonging or in anyway of pertaining and to grantee
forever.
    Ironic that one must actually sign these
rights away and yet have no choice whether they sign or
not the world upside down. Another thing that goes
away is the jobs and the workers as quickly as it came.
The wind project company here promised 10 full-time
jobs. Planning promises are just promises. There are
two permanent jobs and these are filled from outside
the area.
    This was always the case. The project
managers always knew, but promising the community many
things works best for getting these investment projects
moving along.
    Lastly, we fully expect the wildlife to
go away in proximity. Wildlife like all life is
sensitive to the change of the electromagnetic field.
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Only they are free to move away. What we cannot move
is our herd of cattle or the well located directly
under line which KCP&L promised to address if it should
impact their transmission line in anyway.
    So what goes away when this development
comes into a community, people, but especially the next
generations of residents in our case. Property values
any other options for the use of the land forever.
Wildlife and the health of livestock. These are all
expenses never calculated by the investors on their
spreadsheet.
    This is a cost that no community should
have to bear. Simply so those with money to invest in
assets with public tax credits at the expense of the
citizens who live and breathe and work and die on a
piece of earth they used to feel blessed to inhabit.
    Researchers in the field of
environmental psychology have found that viewing open
free landscapes has a profound positive impact on both
our mental and physical health.
    What if we had the foresight like
Switzerland which provides massive subsidies to farmers
willing to maintain open pastural landscapes in its
mountains. Here in the U.S. developmental companies
make sure they press all the right buttons so that most
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folks are blind and prevented from actually
contemplating what goes away. Thank you for your time.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. That will
be Number 45.
    (Exhibit No. 45 marked for identification.)
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Next witness is Johnny
Walker.
            (Witness sworn.)
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
    MR. WALKER: My name is Johnny Walker,
W-a-l-k-e-r.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
    MR. WALKER: In DeKalb County near
Osborn, Missouri.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
    MR. WALKER: First of all, I want to
thank you Public Service Commission for giving me the
time to speak with you today. A little background on
me. I'm a third generation farmer here in DeKalb
County. And my livelihood comes from the land. So I
think that's important to hear from the people who live
here.
    I wanted to say, Number 1, I'm firmly
against the proposed Grain Belt transmission line and
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the proposed granting of eminent domain to a private
company. I think that is wrong on many, many reasons.
    Let's get down to the facts here. The
reason we're here and these utility companies are here
for one reason, production tax credits. You've heard
that before in many of the other speakers, but
production tax credits are the reason why these
utilities are here. We're dealing here in DeKalb
County with a windmill company, wind turbine company
NextEra. }97\mathrm{ wind turbines are now being erected here
and based on the output of the megawatt proposal of the
wind turbines. Of those 97 wind turbines here in
DeKalb County over 10 million in production tax credits
will be given annually to NextEra.
    Nothing like a golden parachute to help
out our good neighbors. Well, you know, us and private
business do not have that. If we make a decision we
either -- we're in a risk management. If we make a bad
decision we have to suffer the consequences. Well,
that's not the case here. Obviously, they have a
golden parachute and can do what they want because they
know they have the federal government backing them on
inefficient, unreliable wind energy.
    Us in DeKalb County and Clinton County
last summer had 4 1/2 months of sworn testimony under
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25 to happen to our eagles, our swans, our ducks our
geese? Obviously, we're going to have big, big issues.
500 foot turbines, 160 foot blades. We're going to
have big, big issues with killing the wildlife.
And the big thing is reduction of
property values. We had one of the speakers who is an
expert in property values. Mike McCann speech that a
reduce in property values reduce values if a wind
turbine was within three miles of your property line.
That should scare everyone here.
In summation here, in condemning the 500
acres for a private company is wrong for eminent
domain. I beg you to listen to the people here in
Northwest Missouri. It's high time that the production
tax credits were eliminated and the government should
not be in the business of picking winners and losers.
Thank you very much.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: We have been going for
a while so we're going to take a short break. We'll be
in recess for about ten minutes.
(Recess.)
JUDGE BUSHMANN: We're back on the
record.
One thing to take care of. I believe you had
an exhibit you wanted to enter? And that would be
Exhibit 46.

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(Exhibit No. 46 marked for identification.)
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. The next witness
we have on the list is Bud Wilkerson
(Witness sworn.)
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and spell your last name.

MR. WILKERSON: Bud Wilkerson,
W-i-l-k-e-r-s-o-n.

JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live, sir?
MR. WILKERSON: Over there in Gower and
right across the Gower cemetery. Which is very handy.
Okay. You give me five minutes and that's more minutes
than my wife ever gives me. I appreciate it.

You know, we're facing a problem. We
have questions and we have answers. In the book of
Daniel, that's in the Bible of Old Testament, there's
three men Hebrew boys, there's Me-shack, My-shack and
the Bed-I-go. I'm getting your attention because I
don't want you to go to sleep. I've now got four
minutes and 20 seconds.
Now Nebakanezer looked at that fiery
furnace that they heated up seven times, the guards
died because it was so hot. You got more than four
people here don't you? And you're going to make a
decision that's going to effect these people. You
guys, it's in your hands. But the thing about is that I live on a small farm, 140 acres which is small. It's going south of my farm. Three towers and eight acres they tell me.

Now I went to the meeting at Grain Belt Express and it was all positive. They told me how much I'm going to get. Well, my wife has already spent that Saturday. So I'm going to get nothing. Do you know what I mean? The thing about it is that they tell me how much, so big deal. We're coming back from St. Joe on 169, thereby the interstate batteries with there power lines in there, right? My wife put it in 810 radio, sports because we wanted to know if we won the football games, you know. And the thing about it is as we're going down on the radio, and we're going like this "Zoop, zoop, zoop", and it's on a power line. Now if I got the voltage that's coming through there but they cannot bury it in the ground because there's too much voltage because I asked. And I look out the window and I'm going to hear to here "Zoop, zoop, zoop".

Now that's not going to put me to sleep. It's my bedtime right now and that's not going to put me to asleep. Okay? And the thing about it is you're going to make a decision that's going to effect these
people and myself. Now I hope it's the right decision
because what they told me I said, hey, if you get them
power lines through my farm? What if they become
obsolete? I don't know. What if a tornado or high
wind would knock down one of those three poles? Well,
I don't know.
What is eminent domain? Well, we can go
in there and put them power lines in there and --
anytime we want to. Because what you have done, you
have signed over eight acres that's ours. We can do
anything we want to. What if it don't go through and
what if it's isolated and you don't work anymore. Why
don't you just put a junkyard in there? Well, that
would benefit the power. How? Well they'd sell used
parts. Well, why don't we put a landfill in there?
Well, that would benefit power because people put their
trash in there and they wouldn't have to pay for trash
hauling.
You see what they say is positive to get
you thinking it's a good deal. And you guys have got
to decide if it's a good deal for these people. I'm
glad you're deciding because I've already decided. I
would say no, $n-o$ not $k-n-o-w$. Thank you.
JUDGE BUSHMAN: Next name $I$ think is
Kevin Bootner or --

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|  |  | Page 73 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | MR. BUTNER: Yes. |  |
| 2 | (Witness sworn.) |  |
| 3 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name |  |
| 4 | and spell your last name. |  |
| 5 | MR. BUTNER: Kevin Butner, B-u-t-n-e-r. |  |
| 6 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? |  |
| 7 | MR. BUTNER: Macon, Missouri. |  |
| 8 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. |  |
| 9 | MR. BUTNER: My name is Kevin Butner and |  |
| 10 | I'm a live long entrepreneur who currently works and |  |
| 11 | manage a small concrete hauling business in Macon. We |  |
| 12 | are not proponents of eminent domain by any means. |  |
| 13 | However we are positive towards having new business and |  |
| 14 | opportunities coming to North Missouri. |  |
| 15 | We think that the Express representative |  |
| 16 | who is invested in North Missouri besides our expanded |  |
| 17 | highways. We have not seen any tremendous amount of |  |
| 18 | economic progress in this area for the last several |  |
| 19 | decades. In fact in the 1990s the General Assembly |  |
| 20 | lifted the ban on corporate farming in the state of |  |
| 21 | Missouri counties to keep local economy from going into |  |
| 22 | shambles to maintain the basic services in our area. |  |
| 23 | Not much has changed. And I fear that the next |  |
|  | economic down trend will continue the trends here with |  |
| 25 | fewer people choosing to make North Missouri their home |  |

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because of a lack of opportunity.
    Today less than 5% of Missouri's
population calls Northern Missouri their home, and in
fact both my daughters have left. I understand this
project isn't bit by the local majority, but its
obvious to me that in some areas it is very good and to
the state's public interest to the jobs that it
hopefully will create. The tax base it may provide and
cheap energy it will send to the cities like the one I
live in.
    Green energy is also something
businesses are looking for. In our hometown we have a
large ConAgra factory that would appreciate the
opportunity to have green energy to meet their own
company standards. They are seeking ways to put this
type of information on the labeling of their products.
This project would help make that happen. I realize
that not everyone likes change. We haven't had a lot
of it in our area for the last 50 years. What progress
we have seen in North Missouri is limited and we have
gotten so used to seeing things deteriorate that we
start to distrust anything that could possibly bring
our sons and daughters back home to work because it's
different than our agricultural past.
    The small town company that I work for
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has been very vocal in its support of the project in the past and because we want to keep people employed. Families are relying somewhat on us. There's not many options for the moms and dads that work for us if things slow down. These families in Chauvin and Macon and other towns that are purchasing power from this line would appreciate it in their pocketbooks as well. We have been told that the folks aren't going to use our services anymore because we support the project. We still stand and we feel like it's for the greater good.

I'm told that the Clean Line will make
available 200 megawatt towers of power for Missouri.
Of this 200 megawatt, $4 \%$ will drop to the town $I$ live
in, giving us \$20 megawatt energy, as opposed to the 60
and $\$ 70$ megawatt energy we currently purchase. 34
other Missouri communities should be able to enjoy the
savings as well. This type of money that we're talking
about would help schools retire bonds and give teachers
some raises that are desperately needed. We all need
more new sources of power that is good for our
environment and our real communities. Thanks.
MS. COLEMAN: Mr. Butner?
MR. BUTNER: Yes.
MS. COLEMAN: Would you come back to the

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microphone, please.
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    MR. BUTNER: Sure.
    MS. COLEMAN: You brought up the tax
    base. I'd like to ask you a question about it.
Because a little earlier I addressed Mr. Burdick who
talked about revenue for school taxes and was of the
opinion that the promise in jobs and revenue for school
taxes and monies that might go to there county isn't
really there. So in your support of this have you or
your company looked at how the tax base will be helped?
MR. BUTNER: I'm not sure how that tax
base was figured and how it came about. The numbers
that I have seen are from Monroe County and it was to
the tune of some six and seven digit numbers.
I happen to know some of those schools
have large bonds for their schools and so that is why
we are positive or hopeful that they could put those
bonds to rest and give teachers raises in these very
rural communities.
MS. COLEMAN: Okay. Thank you for your
information.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Dean Snodgrass.
(Witness sworn.)
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.

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last year it rain constantly. A lot of acres didn't
get planted. Some years are dry and that is a problem.
The high cost of machinery and replacement is high.
Now we have got another input the everlasting towers
that cross the land. That will additionally make
farming hard to do. In other word, we might say that
we are all, everyone here, are stewards of the land.
We, each of us here, are responsible for what we do.
Will Clean Line tear down with a bulldozer a butch of
trees? Trees that provide wind, shelter for animals.
Will they clean up the air that we breathe? I just
don't see how that can be.
    We are temporary owners of the land.
We, that make a living on the land have been there for
years and years. But actually we are just there a
short time. And each of us who own land has a
responsibility to farm the land properly such as a
proper amount of pesticides and herbicides.
    Also I might say that I've heard just a
few minutes ago about getting money to schools but I
don't want to sound pessimistic, but I think some of
the school problems is a result of maybe the school
boards and not so much the teachers. I think the
school boards should worry more more about teaching
academic lessons and worry less about last weeks ball
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score would be better.

So I imagine there are CEOs in several
companies up on the corner office in big cities
wondering, well, what do these people want? Well, I'll
tell you what $I$ want and $I$ think what they want. We
just want to be left alone.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Carolyn Lovelace.
(Witness sworn.)
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
MS. LOVELACE: Carolyn Lovelace,
L-o-v-e-l-a-c-e.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
MS. LOVELACE: Lathrop, Missouri.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
MS. LOVELACE: Clinton County, Missouri.
Yes, I live in Lathrop and own a farm in Turney,
Missouri. Both are an Clinton County. I'm here to
testify on behalf of my parents who are no longer here
to protest and protect their land. I'm here to testify
for my children who currently reside on the farm. And
for myself the landowner of this land.
This is land that we have all loved and
held close like it was another family member. My
parents worked hard to purchase and to develop the

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    1 farm. You might state that with their blood, sweat and
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    1 farm. You might state that with their blood, sweat and
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tears. It is so heart breaking to see this land taken
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tears. It is so heart breaking to see this land taken
over possibly by a private for-profit company. One who
over possibly by a private for-profit company. One who
is set to make maybe millions even billions of dollars
is set to make maybe millions even billions of dollars
at the expensive of remote people. It will basically
at the expensive of remote people. It will basically
ruin the value of my farm. There are 86 acres which
ruin the value of my farm. There are 86 acres which
will be divided right across the middle of this land.
will be divided right across the middle of this land.
It will render it useless for several activities. Had
It will render it useless for several activities. Had
we thought about building a new home there, yes.
we thought about building a new home there, yes.
Wouldn't want to do that now.
Wouldn't want to do that now.
My son had thought about possibly making
My son had thought about possibly making
an airstrip. No, can't do that. Now the air spray
an airstrip. No, can't do that. Now the air spray
that someone else mentioned, no. Those are just a few
that someone else mentioned, no. Those are just a few
of the concerns that would be created if the power
of the concerns that would be created if the power
lines go through this land. I would feel it would be
lines go through this land. I would feel it would be
very difficult and maybe impossible to sell this
very difficult and maybe impossible to sell this
property with these monstrosities in the middle of the
property with these monstrosities in the middle of the
land. Should we choose to sell the property, it would
land. Should we choose to sell the property, it would
be a great financial loss.
be a great financial loss.
The towers and line will also be placed
The towers and line will also be placed
way too close and farm house where my daughter,
way too close and farm house where my daughter,
son-in-law and grandchildren live. How dangerous would
son-in-law and grandchildren live. How dangerous would
this be to their health. Also a major gas line, two of
this be to their health. Also a major gas line, two of
them just on the other side of the fence. What
them just on the other side of the fence. What
potential dangers could present themselves under the

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potential dangers could present themselves under the
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right or the worst conditions of this power line and
this gas line be so close together. Do we know the
answer to this? It's a big concern to us. What if a
tornado came through and took down the lines? It's too
close to the house for these power lines for that to
happen. How dangerous would it be under those
conditions? All of this because of private for-profit
company wants to build across our line and our land.
    How is this fair? It takes away our
home our investment. And they are willing to make
money off of that. How fair or morally right is this?
I very respectfully ask how would you feel if it were
your home or your land? If we in Missouri needed the
power to survive in our homes and light our homes and
could not do this without this land and this line maybe
I would look at it differently. However that is the
not the case. If the residents up east need the power
let them build their own windmills. Generate their own
power. Erect their own towers. And string their own
power lines.
    Please do not let any private for-profit
company ruin what can and may be the devastation of
some of my neighbor's livelihood. Thank you for your
time.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Sean Millard.
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day, yesterday ever in your life, your welcome, says every farmer that produced and landowners that provided a place for those crops to be produced. Some of you in fact and generally on that side from out of town that prefer soy milk and tofu -- or local farmers the most -- but you're being paid to say otherwise.

The only people directly affected by the energy transmission line will be the actual landowners and their neighbors whether in accounting or otherwise.
I have not and I will probably never talk to a
landowner from Clinton County that actually is in favor
of this. Those are the people that are being effected.
It's no one else. We are bringing power from someone
that has it in Western Kansas to the East Coast where
they say they need it, like everybody else has said,
let them make their own decisions based on that not,
make decisions for us.
I guess that's it. I'm really surprised
that we're here talking about this. I can't believe
that you guys have the opportunity to take our land
away from us that everyone has worked hard to keep and
maintain. And you guys have the opportunity to take
that away from us. So please make the right decision.
Any questions?

JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Alex Galan.

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|  |  | Page 84 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | (Witness sworn.) |  |
| 2 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name |  |
| 3 | and spell your last name. |  |
| 4 | MR. GALAN: Alex Galan, G-a-l-a-n. |  |
| 5 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? |  |
| 6 | MR. GALAN: Overland Park, Kansas, but I |  |
| 7 | am a Missouri native. |  |
| 8 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. |  |
| 9 | MR. GALAN: For the past 15 years I have |  |
| 10 | worked with PAR Electrical Contractors. PAR's a |  |
| 11 | Missouri corporation with major offices in Kansas City, |  |
| 12 | St. Louis with over 600 local employees. PAR has over |  |
| 13 | 60 years experience in engineering and constructing |  |
| 14 | power lines throughout the U.S. If this project is |  |
| 15 | approved, PAR will be the primary contractor. |  |
| 16 | Clean Line is committed to showing |  |
| 17 | Missourians jobs through it's agreement with PAR and |  |
| 18 | three other Missourian manufacturers. Hubbell Power |  |
| 19 | Systems, GEE and General Cable. The Clean Line |  |
| 20 | agreement with PAR demonstrates how Clean Line and PAR |  |
| 21 | will work together to put Missourians to work to build |  |
| 22 | new and electric infrastructures that will benefit |  |
| 23 | Missourians for decades to come. Projects like this |  |
|  | are key to keeping Missouri crews working at a steady |  |
| 25 | pace. This project if approved will support more than |  |

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1,500 jobs each year for the construction of the Grain
Belt Express Line.
    For the life of the project, that's over
1 0 \text { million man-hours, taxable man-hours for state and}
federal. Many of these jobs will be good paying union
jobs for local IPW members. Our local unions 53 in
Kansas City and Number 2 in St. Louis.
    Additionally, significant revenues
throughout the construction will be realized locally
for lodging, fuel, supplies, restaurants, repair shops,
et cetera. All of that will be beneficial for the
local community. On a large scale this project will
save participating municipal utilities over $10 million
in energy costs. It will also provide long-term
benefits to communities and schools providing more than
$7.2 million in taxes to support the schools and public
services in eight Missouri counties In the first year
of operation. And it will continue to provide property
taxes for the life of the project.
    The Grain Belt Express Clean Line is
with great importance to Missouri and to our country.
Hard people have worked forward to bring it to fruition
and to serve Missouri communities. And I would also
like to say that I've heard that there's concern with
regards to the care for the local land when
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construction activities are being undertaken. PAR has
an outstanding relationship and experience with regards
to protecting land. We have built transmission lines
all across the U.S. in highly sensitive environmental
areas. We have worked with landowners all over the
country and have deep respect for them. I hope you
approve this project.
Thank you.
                    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Joe Laney.
Joe Laney. Evon Hales.
                    (Witness sworn.)
                            JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name?.
    MS. HALES: Evon Hales, H-a-l-e-s.
        JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
        MS. HALES: I live in Johnson County,
but I own land in Clinton County. And my family still
lives in Clinton County near Plattsburg.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
    MS. HALES: Mr. Chairman and members of
the Commission, my family has been in Missouri since
before the Civil War. We have been generations of
farmers, taxpayers and good stewards of this land, but
today we are very concerned that a dangerous precedence
will be to allow a for-profit company to take private
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    1 land to enhance there corporate dollar. This is a
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    1 land to enhance there corporate dollar. This is a
    2 slippery slope. Where will it end?

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2 slippery slope. Where will it end?
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    We will be opening a door that will
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    We will be opening a door that will
    allow for additional corporations seeking profits to
allow for additional corporations seeking profits to
take over more and more private land. We have seen
take over more and more private land. We have seen
this with the oil and gas pipelines. First there was
this with the oil and gas pipelines. First there was
one that came in then a second and now we have four
one that came in then a second and now we have four
pipelines. The next thing that happened was this, with
pipelines. The next thing that happened was this, with
these for-profit activities. This won't be the last.
these for-profit activities. This won't be the last.
As other companies see the profit potential they will
As other companies see the profit potential they will
be asking for the same thing. And if the precedence is
be asking for the same thing. And if the precedence is
set there might not be anything to stop it. And as we
set there might not be anything to stop it. And as we
have seen, these companies have huge resources, money,
have seen, these companies have huge resources, money,
lawyers, corporate taxes for experts. But the
lawyers, corporate taxes for experts. But the
resources are there to maximize company profits not
resources are there to maximize company profits not
ensure a win/win for the people of Missouri or the
ensure a win/win for the people of Missouri or the
state of Missouri.
state of Missouri.
I ask that you not allow Clean Line to
I ask that you not allow Clean Line to
take private Missouri land to enhance their company
take private Missouri land to enhance their company
profits and open a door we won't be able to close.
profits and open a door we won't be able to close.
Thank you.
Thank you.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Is Mike
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Is Mike
Rump.
Rump.
(Witness sworn.)
(Witness sworn.)
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name

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                            JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
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and spell your last name.
MR. RUMP: Mike Rump, $R-u-m-p$. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? MR. RUMP: Overland Park, Kansas. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. MR. RUMP: Yes. My name is Mike Rump and I work for PAR Electric and have since 2008. Prior to that, $I$ worked in the electric utility business for really more years than $I$ care to admit. But I'm here in support of this project. I want to note what Alex Galan said and support that. You know, I think there are some benefits to this project. As he's noted there are employees with PAR which is a Missouri company with people that live and work in Missouri that will be involved in building this project.

You build a project of this size there are assets that are subject to tax. The tax will be paid. How it's allocated is obviously subject to Missouri law in that subject. But it will be something that adds tax revenue to the communities.

Clean Line has developed an agricultural impact mitigation protocol for this project. That's to ensure that landowners are treated with respect. That their land is treated with respect. And I can certainly say that dealing with property owners and

25 Second, I don't believe that any foreign owned company,
private company has any eminent domain rights in our
country regardless of the reason they own the request,
off the top. I am an FAA commercial rated pilot and
own an airplane that is based at the Plattsburg Airport
in Clinton County. As Mr. Elliott said earlier, if you
review those paths of the Grain Belt power line it will
pass two miles north of the Plattsburg Airport and four
miles south of my residence. Without a doubt tall
tower structures and high power lines do not belong in
proximity of general aviation aircraft flight paths.
Finally, when can we say enough is
enough. During the past ten years our county has
granted eminent domain rights to pipelines, several
pipelines that have dissected our county. And we've
given eminent domain rights to $K C P \& L$ to install a high
voltage power line that runs directly across our
county. Our neighboring county, DeKalb has installed
over 95, 500-foot tall wind turbines located -- well
starting within one mile of our northern boundary of
our county. Clinton County is currently in a court
battle as we speak trying to keep wind turbines out of
our county. In conclusion, please keep Grain Belt
Clean power lines out of Clinton County.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Dave
Curtis.

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|  |  | Page 91 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | (Witness sworn.) |  |
| 2 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name |  |
| 3 | and spell your last name. |  |
| 4 | MR. CURTIS: Dave Curtis, C-u-r-t-i-s. |  |
| 5 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? |  |
| 6 | MR. CURTIS: Cameron. |  |
| 7 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. |  |
| 8 | MR. CURTIS: I'll started out by saying |  |
| 9 | that I don't think I can out do Glenn back here. My |  |
| 10 | family came here with the first settlers to DeKalb |  |
| 11 | County. And I have family that owns -- we own ground |  |
| 12 | in Clinton and DeKalb County right now. And we're not |  |
| 13 | very proud of DeKalb County. We've had a terrible |  |
| 14 | year. It's probably been -- I've heard it compared to |  |
| 15 | as bad a time as the Civil War, somebody said. |  |
| 16 | We can't have any of us know that because it was a long |  |
| 17 | time ago. Our county has been literally destroyed with |  |
| 18 | wind turbine project. Neighbor against neighbor. So a |  |
| 19 | year ago I didn't know anything about wind turbines and |  |
|  | a guy told me he said, you need to open your mind. So |  |
| 21 | I started studying. I know a lot now. I know that it |  |
| 22 | takes a big power line to have wind turbines. And |  |
| 23 | that's the first step. We saw the Trans Source power |  |
|  | line come in. And it came through our county and it |  |
| 25 | came through Clinton County. It was eminent domain. |  |

## TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS 12/13/2017

|  |  | Page 92 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | And at the hearing here in Cameron over |  |
| 2 | two years ago at the public service hearing, I talked |  |
| 3 | to a lot of people. I wasn't there. There was no |  |
| 4 | mention of wind turbines at that hearing I was told. |  |
| 5 | So I got to looking up documents and I looked up a lot. |  |
| 6 | And I finally found a document filed with the federal |  |
| 7 | government. And it was a 12 page document, I believe, |  |
| 8 | a permit document. And right towards the end of that |  |
| 9 | document there was two sentences I found that said, |  |
| 10 | "The Trans Source line will have the capacity for three |  |
| 11 | to 5,000 wind turbines." So it wasn't mentioned but it |  |
| 12 | was hidden. |  |
| 13 | So I want everybody in this room to know |  |
| 14 | why we're here today in my opinion. It's the |  |
| 15 | production tax credit and without it you have no wind |  |
| 16 | turbine projects. It's been allowed to expire several |  |
| 17 | times. In 2012 it expired and for six months there was |  |
| 18 | no new start-ups of wind turbine projects. So I don't |  |
| 19 | know if the people in the back of the room. I'm sure |  |
| 20 | they know that. The production tax credit is very |  |
| 21 | important. It drives these projects. |  |
| 22 | NextEra shows \$32 billion in assets. |  |
| 23 | And a CEO that makes 14 million a year according to |  |
|  | there web site. Yet this project up here with 97 |  |
| 25 | turbines, I did some figuring. They make \$23 a |  |

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megawatt hour after that starts turning up there from
this production tax credit from the federal government.
So we figured that up. They're going to make $10
million a year, NextEra is, they are going to get a
check from the federal government. You can call it
subsidies or tax credits it's the same. It comes from
the Treasury Department. That's going to be $100
million.
    Hey people, for just that one little
project up here. So we're talking about this big power
line which they're going to build. I don't want to see
all these counties go through hell like we did here
because first, we don't need the power from wind
turbines. I worked at the I-10 coal plant and built
the unit, too. The old schools was to build power
plants by the cities where they need it. We don't need
much power out here. That worked real well, but we --
our administration seems to think that didn't work too
well, so now they're going to destroy our rural
communities with power lines and wind turbines. Not
happy about it.
    And I don't want eminent domain. I'm
not in favor of it for this power line. So thank you
all for listening to me. I can go on a lot longer.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Cheryl
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Needham.
(Witness sworn.)
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and spell your last name.

MS. NEEDHAM: Cheryl, C-h-e-r-y-l.
Needham, $N-e-e-d-h-a-m$. I live in Clinton County and $I$ own a farm there.

JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
MS. NEEDHAM: My property was one of the first ones that Grain Belt was considering building a line across and so I began to educate myself on what that would mean and what advantages or disadvantages would be involved.

So I'm a city kid that's transplanted to a farm. And so from a city kid's perspective land is just open land and good grief, why do the farmers need all that land. I mean, can't they just spare a little string here and there? It won't make a big difference, right?

Well, dog gone it $I$ moved on to a farm and my perspective of my farm making me money changed. So when I began to look at what Grain Belt had to offer me I realized that it was more about -- we're talking about convenience and necessity so it seemed like the convenience was who's pocket was the money going to go

1 in. And you know honestly I'm a for-profit farmer and
2 I like the money to go into my pocket. It's a good
3 thing. So I'm not opposed to people making money, but
4 I do think that there is a problem if the money is
5 being transferred out of my wages into somebody else's
6 wages. So one of the things that I have
7 realized is my farm uses my wages. Once I have a power
8 line that goes across my farm it reduces my wages. It reduces what $I$ can do with the land. Maybe I want to build houses on my land because my farmer husband is also a builder. Maybe I'll be a high rise in London. So we can sell off a part of our land and would it be large parcels and we could build big houses but that was where the power line was going to go.

So if the power lines go in there nobody is going to buy an expensive house sitting under a power line. They just don't want it. That's not what they're looking for. Maybe in the city that wouldn't be bad, but not in the country. That's the -- they're looking for something different. My retirement is tied to my property. So if you change my property and you reduce the value of my property you have taken away from my retirement.

So I respect the people that want to have their wages increased by having the power lines

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run. But the problem is they are increasing their
wages at the expense of reducing my wage. They're not
losing their retirement, a portion of it, I am. I
think that there's something a little out of sink with
that because if I'm a for-profit and they're a
for-profit but it's my land where does that eminent
domain come in? I think that it needs to be very
seriously considered.
    I'm wondering what guarantee do you have
from Grain Belt that they are not going to become
defunct like some of these other power lines that were
built. And now they're either not operating or they're
just in a state of disarray. This is happening in the
United States and other parts of world. But no one is
taking them down. They're still there, they're just
not doing anything.
    I have been to a number of hearings and
I've heard Grain Belt Express claim that they have a
lot of customers. If they have a lot of customers why
would they need eminent domain to take land away from
me and reduce my wages, reduce my retirement? I wonder
sometimes about the fact that the Missouri Department
of Transportation, if I understand it correctly, has
decided they don't want Grain Belt Express to build
along their highways because they're concerned about
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## TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS 12/13/2017

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24 is also in Clinton County. So we're right on the
25 DeKalb, Clinton County line. As a Missouri

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landowner I am asking this Commission to deny public
utility status to Grain Belt Express Clean Line Energy,
to construct a high voltage transmission line across
our state.
    Granting eminent domain to a private
company which is not a public utility would set a never
ending precedent whereby landowners would be forced to
give up property rights for reasons of little or no
benefit to them personally. On our Clinton County
property across from our home we already have been
forced to accept Kansas City Power & Light transmission
lines against our will to enable NextEra Energy, to
invade DeKalb County with 97, 500-foot wind turbines.
Many of which have been erected on adjoining and nearby
farms where our home is place on the DeKalb, Clinton
County line.
    Due to these projects our landscape is
unrecognizable and changed forever. Clinton County's
planning and zoning board allowed months of expert
testimony and heard landowners concerns before banning
industrial wind complex construction in Clinton County.
After witnessing every one of these testimonies I am
convinced that wind energy movement is nothing more
than a money grab made possible through government
subsidies. I feel this applies to Grain Belt Express
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## TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS 12/13/2017

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as well.
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    Why should landowners give up rights to
    their land and receive so little benefit. Thank you so
much for your time.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Bruce Moss.
(Witness sworn.)
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
MR. MOSS: Bruce Moss, M-o-s-s.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
MR. MOSS: South of Stewartsville.
Clinton County.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
MS. MOSS: Thank you Commissioners for
taking the time to come and listen to some of our
concerns. My family has been on some of the same
ground for four generations. And our goal is to leave
a safe, productive and noncluttered environment for our
grandchildren.
I have concerns about stray voltage. I
have concerns that at some point, God forbid, we're
close to tornado alley that one of those things would
come barreling up through and we'd have the right
conditions and the Fall of the year like they had in
the Southeast part of the country, we could have a big

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mess. We could burn up the country.
    I have health concerns for family
members and for livestock producers that the stray
voltage corrupts the GPS technology on the newer farm
equipment that just about everybody has adapted. Many
of us are real conscience about stewardship on our
farms. We use fungicides we use -- different crops in
the Fall of the year and many of those are applied by
spray plane. And there is a safety issue for those
pilots besides a big inconvenience.
    The utility poles are unsightly, unsafe
and by all -- well, they're not necessary. That many
of the East Coast governors have said that they simply
do not need the power. If we can put a man on the moon
I don't know why we can't bury a cable down the median
of Interstate 70 if they need a transmission line that
bad. And I would ask any of the supports in the back
of the room, would they like to have this tower in one
of their backyards? Thank you very much for your time.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Karen Anderson.
        (Witness sworn.)
        JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
        and spell your last name.
        MS. ANDERSON: Karen Anderson,
A-n-d-e-r-s-o-n. I'm a resident of DeKalb County.
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|  |  | Page 101 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Two years ago today I was packing to |  |
| 2 | move to DeKalb County. Had I known then what I know |  |
| 3 | now we probably would not have. We would not have |  |
| 4 | built the house that Ivan talked about. We would not |  |
| 5 | be paying taxes. We would be elsewhere. You've heard |  |
| 6 | so many speak today on eminent domain, unintended |  |
| 7 | consequences, they are right on target, they really |  |
| 8 | are. |  |
| 9 | According to an article in the St. Louis |  |
| 10 | Post Dispatch dated April 7, 2016 by David Barker. |  |
| 11 | "The State of Arkansas has agreed to allow this |  |
| 12 | transmission line to cross their state if Missouri |  |
| 13 | turns it down again." I request that you allow |  |
| 14 | Arkansas to do this bidding. Consider a large |  |
| 15 | transmission line, so will follow commercial wind |  |
| 16 | turbines. Being a resident of DeKalb County and having |  |
| 17 | studied the large turbines after the fact, I am sadly |  |
| 18 | aware of the wrath that it brings to all things that |  |
| 19 | fly, wildlife, domestic animals and humans. |  |
| 20 | These words literally flew out of me on |  |
| 21 | to a piece of notebook paper as I was riding down the |  |
| 22 | road when my husband and I were headed to town. |  |
| 23 | Needles pierced the sky. Sharp points jabbed at the |  |
|  | soft clouds. They're good we're told. Green as grass |  |
| 25 | they say. Slowly they spin their web of deceit. |  |

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Friends, family, countryside are torn under. Birds are
pushed out. Animals assaulted. Green money or blood
money.
    Please quit allowing big companies to
take advantage of mid America. To them we are just
fly-over people. They do not understand how valuable
our land is to us. As well as how much food we give
them. EMF is a complicated situation. Experts are
still delivering. In 2005 the British Medical Journal
stated babies who live near high voltage are twice as
likely to develop leukemia during childhood. That was
in 2005. That is a relatively new study.
    Many of the studies that you look for
out there are 14 years old. Could it be that much of
big business does not want us to have newer studies?
Do you remember the infamous statement before the
Affordable Healthcare Act was passed? You'll have to
pass it to see what's in it. We know now how that's
ending up. You are in a position of building it to see
how it will effect us. Please deny Grain Belt
accessibility. Thank you for your time.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Danny Frederick.
            (Witness sworn.)
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
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|  |  | Page 103 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | MR. FREDERICK: Danny Frederick, |  |
| 2 | F-r-e-d-e-r-i-c-k. |  |
| 3 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? |  |
| 4 | MR. FREDERICK: Cooper County. |  |
| 5 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. |  |
| 6 | MR. FREDERICK: Hello my name is Danny |  |
| 7 | Frederick and I'm a lifelong resident of Central |  |
| 8 | Missouri growing up in rural Cooper County. I just |  |
| 9 | wanted to come out today and speak in favor of this |  |
| 10 | project because of all the positive impacts that this |  |
| 11 | project can have for Missouri. This |  |
| 12 | project will bring clean renewable wind energy to |  |
| 13 | Missouri and bring with it many jobs for Missouri |  |
| 14 | workers. And most importantly the project will bring |  |
| 15 | in millions of dollars in the form of property taxes |  |
| 16 | for rural Missouri counties. All, while not costing |  |
| 17 | the residents of Missouri any taxpayer dollars. While |  |
| 18 | nobody wants a transmission line on their land, the |  |
| 19 | benefits for all Missourians heavily outweigh the |  |
| 20 | downside. |  |
| 21 | Thanks for allowing me to voice my |  |
| 22 | opinion. Thank you. |  |
| 23 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Ross |  |
| 24 | Pritchard. |  |
| 25 | (Witness sworn.) |  |

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|  |  | Page 105 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? |  |
| 2 | MR. KNIGHT: Lee Summit, Missouri. |  |
| 3 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. |  |
| 4 | MR. KNIGHT: Like to say that I'm a |  |
| 5 | Missouri resident land surveyor with a company out of |  |
| 6 | Kansas City. I think this project will be fantastic |  |
| 7 | for our state. I'm an advocate and support this |  |
| 8 | project as a fourth generation -- |  |
| 9 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Hold on. And would |  |
| 10 | like to remind the crowd to please be courteous and |  |
| 11 | polite to the witnesses. That does not included making |  |
| 12 | disparaging comments and noises during their testimony. |  |
| 13 | Thank you. |  |
| 14 | Sorry, sir. You may precede. |  |
| 15 | MR. KNIGHT: As a fourth generation |  |
| 16 | Missourian who grew up in rural Cass County, I see this |  |
| 17 | as a -- as a comprehensive and well thought-out utility |  |
| 18 | corridor that can benefit our infrastructure in our |  |
| 19 | state. |  |
| 20 | For my company it will bring jobs to |  |
| 21 | Kansas City including companies from Marceline, |  |
| 22 | Columbia and Hannibal. Our surveyors show great |  |
| 23 | stewardship to the land while we are out there working. |  |
| 24 | In closing, I think this will be a great |  |
| 25 | opportunity for our profession our state and to bring |  |

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new economic development to my home.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Trace
Calabrese.
(Witness sworn.)
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
MR. CALABRESE: Trace Calabrese,
$c-a-l-a-b-r-e-s-e$.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
MR. CALABRESE: Johnson County.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
MR. CALABRESE: I work for Schafer,
Kline \& Warren a full service surveying, engineering
and construction firm with three offices in Missouri,
Kansas City, Macon and Columbia with over 200 local
employees.
We have provided services to cities,
counties and private clients throughout the state of
Missouri since 1950. SKW has also successfully
provided survey design and maintained construction
services for a number of cross-country utilities
throughout the United States. Considering these
experiences we are confident that the Grain Belt
Express Clean Line project can be completed safely,
effectively, efficiently considering our stated goals

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of putting the public interest first.
    Support the project for its potential to
double supply of low cost clean, renewable energy
currently provided in Missouri. And provide lower
electricity rates for the local cities, counties,
businesses and residents it will serve. This project
is private capital investment in state and will support
1,500 jobs during the three years of construction.
Once online the potential savings to participating
municipalities is estimated to be $10 million annually.
These are savings that can be passed along to benefit
the community.
    This project also contributes to the
state's modernized electric grid. This project will
provide Missouri's largest employers including General
Motors, Target, Kellogg's, Proctor & Gamble to name a
few, and potentially many local employers low cost
clean energy that they have asked for. This should
have a positive effect on keeping these valued jobs
within the state of Missouri. It also positions the
state as an attractive place for new businesses that
want access to this of type of energy.
Today's Clean Belt has identified more than 35
municipal utility providers across the state that will
purchase power via the project. And once concluded,
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the list of providers is expect to expand. This new
source of clean
energy will be provided in the same manner as other
for-profit companies with an increase focus on impacts
to the environment and landowners concerns about the
use of their land in proximity to power lines and
structures.
    As I said, I have been involved in
multiple cross country utility projects of this type
and my assessment is that Clean energy -- Clean Line
Energy has approached this project with respect for all
involved in a manner that benefits cities, counties,
businesses and residents of Missouri. Thank you.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Lou Nelsen.
        (Witness sworn.)
        JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
        and spell your last name.
            MR. NELSEN: Lou Nelson, N-e-l-s-e-n
            JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
            MR. NELSEN: Lyons, Nebraska.
            JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
            MR. NELSEN: My name is Lou Nelsen and
I'm a policy associate with the East Center for Rural
Affairs. I work on transmission site emissions in the
Midwest and Great Plains.
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|  |  | Page 109 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | I wanted to come here to comment |  |
| 2 | specifically on two items that are part of this new |  |
| 3 | application for the Grain Belt project. And that is |  |
| 4 | the landowner protection protocol and the ag lands |  |
| 5 | impact medication protocol. I think both of these |  |
| 6 | highlight a good commitment to best practices and |  |
| 7 | acknowledging landowner concerns and address those |  |
| 8 | concerns. |  |
| 9 | I have seen these same protocols or |  |
| 10 | similar protocols help to address these concerns in |  |
| 11 | other states on other projects whether it be |  |
| 12 | transmissions or wind energy. And so I think those are |  |
| 13 | two positive inclusions. And additionally with the |  |
| 14 | landowner protections. I've heard some concerns about |  |
| 15 | what happens to the project at the end of its life |  |
| 16 | span. A decommissioning fund which is in that land |  |
| 17 | protection protocol helps thrust it. And so I think |  |
| 18 | it's important to acknowledge those commitments and |  |
| 19 | acknowledge those positive steps. |  |
| 20 | Obviously, there are more concerns that |  |
| 21 | need to be address, you've heard several of them today. |  |
| 22 | And I think it's good to focus on those positive steps. |  |
| 23 | And also look at what needs to be done in the future. |  |
| 24 | Thank you. |  |
| 25 | CHAIRMAN HALL: Hold on. What's the |  |

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name of your organization again?
    MR. NELSEN: Center for Rural Affairs.
And we're based in Lyons as well.
    CHAIRMAN HALL: I am sorry?
    MR. NELSEN: We're based in Lyons,
Nebraska as well.
    CHAIRMAN HALL: Have you done any
written analysis of these protocols that we've
discussed?
    MR. NELSEN: I haven't done any written
analysis yet, I have been reading them over, but I've
looked at similar protocols in other states. Not so
much for transmission lines there, but they're normally
more of a response for folks on projects.
    CHAIRMAN HALL: Okay. How is your
organization funded?
    MR. NELSEN: Grant money.
    CHAIRMAN HALL: By who? What entities?
    MR. NELSEN: Private foundations, but
also donations from citizens as well.
    CHAIRMAN HALL: And do you routinely
testify on transmission siding cases?
    MR. NELSEN: Yes.
    CHAIRMAN HALL: In Nebraska and
Missouri? All over the Midwest?
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judgment right now. As I mentioned, I haven't gone through the written analyses so. If I were to go line-by-line that would be kind of difficult -- I guess, $I$ don't even know how much time $I$ have left. CHAIRMAN HALL: You got all the time. MR. NELSEN: Okay. It would be
difficult, you know, if we were to go line-by-line it
would be hard in this format. I would like to take
more time to analyze each one because like I said maybe
there are still improvements that can be made, but I
think it is a positive indication.
CHAIRMAN HALL: Thank you.
MR. NELSEN: Yeah. Any other questions?
JUDGE BUSHMANN: No, thank you. Phyllis
Parker.
(Witness sworn.)
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
MS. PARKER: My name is Phyllis Parker,
$P-a-r-k-e-r$.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live at.
MS. PARKER: I live at -- my address is
Pole.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
MR. PARKER: In 1970 my husband and I

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bought our farm. And although it is paid for and -- we
had title to it, it still belongs to my God and
Creator. And I feel that we are in -- we are
caretakers of this land, of our Creators land. And I
think that -- I agree with everything that others that
had witnessed against it, I'm against it. I guess the
power line would go very close to my two very small
houses.
    And I pray that you will deny it. And
after having said that, I will say that I think we
waste a lot of energy. I try to -- I think we need to
be more conservative of our energy, maybe we wouldn't
need these extra power lines maybe if we didn't waste
our energy. And I don't have TV and I don't have a lot
of things, but I do have a clothes dryer and every
chance I get, and that means about everytime I wash, I
hang my clothes out. I hung my clothes out last week
and my fingers got cold and in no time. Those jeans
were as stiff as a board, but I do it for three
reasons. To save energy, to save money and to prove
that at 80 I still can accomplish it.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Susan Pavlokis. Susan
Pavlokis. James Smith.
            (Witness sworn.)
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
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and spell your last name.
MR. SMITH: James Smith, S-m-i-t-h.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
MR. SMITH: Columbia, Missouri.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
MR. SMITH: I'm a supporter of the Grain
Belt Express because this project will bring many
public benefits to Missouri and its infrastructure required for growth. I'm also a supporter of power that is generated by a renewable source.

I work for Hubbell Power Systems in
Centralia, Missouri. Hubbell Power Systems is a large manufacturer of transmission distribution and substation electrical products. Hubbell is thrilled to be selected as a partner with Clean Line Energy to help build Grain Belt Express. Our company will supply transmission hardware insulators for the project and we are also in discussion to provide anchoring products for various parts of the line.

We have about 700 employees that work in Centralia office. And a project such as Grain Belt Express would be a benefit not only to our company but to the community and surrounding communities. The project could potentially bring 50 to 65 new jobs to Hubbell with approximately $8 \%$ of those residing in

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Centralia supporting our community and the families
within. These are go jobs. Manufacturing, customer
service, engineering, operations and logistics.
    Essentially we would create good jobs
with good benefits that would support Missouri
families. These types of projects like the Grain Belt
Express also provide opportunities to reinvest in our
people and our business. In addition to the benefits
of this project that will bring to Hubbell and its
employees the Grain Belt Express Clean Line will also
be a long-term benefit to the City of Centralia,
Missouri, and its residents and its businesses.
    Centralia recently committed to join
other Missouri communities in purchasing energy off the
power line. The Grain Belt Express Clean Line is
needed to deliver this renewable green energy that is
projected to save Centralia hundreds of thousands of
dollars.
    Thank you for taking the time to listen
to me today. I encourage you to approve this important
project.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Ruth Finet.
            (Witness sworn.)
            JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
        and spell your last name?
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|  |  | Page 116 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | MS. FINET: My name is Ruth Finet, |  |
| 2 | F-i-n-e-t. |  |
| 3 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? |  |
| 4 | MS. FINET: I live in Lee Summit, |  |
| 5 | Missouri. |  |
| 6 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. |  |
| 7 | MS. FINET: Good afternoon. I rely on a |  |
| 8 | modern dependable infrastructure. I own two small |  |
| 9 | businesses in Missouri and Kansas. Frankly, I expect |  |
| 10 | it to be in place. Projects like the Grain Belt |  |
| 11 | Express are needed to ensure our infrastructure is up |  |
| 12 | to date and providing the best economic conditions for |  |
| 13 | individuals and businesses in Missouri. |  |
| 14 | This project would provide access to low |  |
| 15 | cost energy that is currently inaccessible with the |  |
| 16 | existing grid system. It's development would also |  |
| 17 | create jobs in Missouri. It positions Missouri in |  |
| 18 | attracting new businesses. They would greatly benefit |  |
| 19 | from lowest cost clean energy. The two small |  |
| 20 | businesses that I own are significantly impacted by the |  |
| 21 | cost of utilities. My bottom line depends on how |  |
| 22 | affordable I can run my business to pay my employees. |  |
| 23 | I encourage you to approve the |  |
| 24 | application by Grain Belt Express and keep Missouri |  |
| 25 | moving forward and competitive. Thank you for your |  |

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time and your service to Missouri and most importantly
your consideration of this project.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Tom
Rinehart.
    (Witness sworn.)
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
    MR. RINEHART: Tom Rinehart,
R-i-n-e-h-a-r-t.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live, sir?
    MR. RINEHART: Lake Latawana, Jackson
County, Missouri.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
    MR. RINEHART: Ladies and gentlemen, I
would like to read the following comments into the
record. I am a landowner in both Missouri and Kansas.
I am also a businessman and I have spent my total
career in energy business. I've seen a lot of change
during these years. And the truth of the matter is
that economic growth and progress has always been made
possible by infrastructure i.e, highways, pipelines,
bridges, dams and, yes, transmission lines.
    The energy policy that supports the U.S.
economy has changed over the years and will continue to
change regardless of politics. Clean energy sources
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including wind and solar have become our lowest cost of
energy and they will power more and more of our
country's growth from manufacturing to high tech
industries.
    I have transmissions lines that run
across some of my farm properties in Western Kansas.
These lines haven't reduced the value of these lands or
make them any less productive. Therefore, I support
Clean Lines Grain Belt Express project because it
represents future economic progress and I support the
future. Thank you very much.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. John
Thompson.
    (Witness sworn.)
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
    MR. THOMPSON: John D. Thompson,
T-h-o-m-p-s-o-n.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
    MR. THOMPSON: I live in south DeKalb
County here in Missouri.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
        MR. THOMPSON: I agree with all the
        people that have spoken before me accept the last 12.
        I have lived in south DeKalb County for 52 years and
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north Clinton County the rest of my life near Jay Highway. Hello, to all the good people that are here and whoever else is left.

I don't believe in eminent domain for private gain. It's funny that people on the east and west coast and certain so called educated people around here think that the people in rural America and Missouri don't have a dog in the fight or as David and Goliath, we still have a few rocks in our pocket. I still don't believe in eminent domain for private gain. You know by TV and you have to sort that out on whoever is talking that the wind does blow in New York, Pennsylvania, Michigan, et cetra, because the wind has made whiteouts when it snowed and 30,40 and 50 car pileups. So the wind does blow off Lake Erie. So they should put the windmills there and you don't have to have it in Missouri with eminent domain.

Our country life in the Midwest -- I have 22 windmills out my front window that I see now that have been put up in the last year. It is not a pretty sight for me. I have been associated with a small piece of property in DeKalb County, Missouri, that was in eminent domain by Kansas City Power \& Light to run the power so we could have our windmills. So we had to settle for peanuts on what they did to our

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crops. And this is -- this Grain Belt Express is a way
bigger problem than we had with that.
    We haven't had -- we wouldn't have had
our problems in DeKalb County expect for some crooked
commissioners in our township bored, zoning bored.
They got the windmills that they voted for. The jobs
that they created in DeKalb County were for fixing
windshields, tires for old people. That's where
windmill people tore up. }90\mathrm{ to }100\mathrm{ pickups that were
used were licensed in Utah. Hope this doesn't turn out
like our zoning meeting in Colfax Township where we had
9 5 ~ a g a i n s t ~ w i n d m i l l s ~ a n d ~ f i v e ~ f o r ~ i t .
    All these people for the Line are from
away from here and maybe 50 miles or farther so they
don't have to worry about seeing this in their
backyard. Thank you.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. The next
name is a little hard to read here. Josh Nade Sheridon
or something like that. Looks like S-h-e-r -- last
name. John or Josh. Doesn't ring a bell with anybody?
Okay.
    Let's go on to the next one. Roger Day.
Roger Day. All right. Jennifer Guthrie. Jennifer
Guthrie.
    Karen Blake.
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|  |  | Page 121 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | (Witness sworn.) |  |
| 2 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name |  |
| 3 | and spell your last name. |  |
| 4 | MS. BLAKE: Karen Blake, B-l-a-k-e. |  |
| 5 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? |  |
| 6 |  |  |
| 7 | MS. BLAKE: Mirable, Caldwell County. |  |
| 8 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. |  |
| 9 | MS. BLAKE: Being a landowner that |  |
| 10 | already has three pipelines on it, I have also |  |
| 11 | experienced some of the stray electricity being zapped |  |
| 12 | by my electric fence. It worries me about this line |  |
| 13 | going across that -- I have an electric fence that goes |  |
| 14 | completely around the perimeter of the property plus |  |
| 15 | it's grass -- graze. |  |
| 16 | Anyway, it's divided in to parts. Just |  |
| 17 | the fact that when the pipeline was going through they |  |
| 18 | promised you no worries. They said anything, sure, |  |
| 19 | yeah, sure. As long as you would sign. Once you |  |
| 20 | signed, even though it was in the contract when it came |  |
|  | to looking at the contract to be fulfilled, no. So it |  |
| 22 | just makes me feel that here's another company that |  |
| 23 | wants to come in and say, for the good of everyone, but |  |
|  | I don't believe it. And I don't think any of you would |  |
| 25 | want something like this in your backyard. And I'm |  |


| 1 | totally opposed to this Grain Line being built. Thank |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2 | you. |
| 3 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Gary Stuchlik. |
| 4 | (Witness sworn.) |
| 5 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name |
| 6 | and spell your last name. |
| 7 | MR. STUCHLIK: My name is Gary Stuchlik, |
| 8 | $S-t-u-c-h-l-i-k$. |
| 9 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live? |
| 10 | MR. STUCHLIK: I live just south of |
| 11 | Mirable in Caldwell County. |
| 12 | JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. |
| 13 | MR. STUCHLIK: Well, here we are again. |
| 14 | I have seen some of your faces before. I'd like to |
| 15 | thank you all for being here today and giving us the |
| 16 | opportunity to speak since we're having to go through |
| 17 | this again. |
| 18 | First of all, the eminent domain issue, |
| 19 | I think it's totally absurd considering that this is a |
| 20 | foreign company, or at least partially owned by a |
| 21 | foreign company. Second of all, we've got two |
| 22 | sides here today, the majority of it is landowners. I |
| 23 | don't think one landowner has come up here today and |
| 24 | has been for this. On the other hand, those that are |
| 25 | for it are again, they all are seeking to profit from |

1 it. Jobs, they say there's going to be a few jobs. We 2 know how that goes, yeah, they come in they build it
and most of them out-of-state construction workers then
they're gone. They hire a few people but we all know
that it's not that much.
Second of all, the issue of taxes.
There is quite a debate about that. I don't have all
those numbers. You've all heard it. You guys have
heard it time and time again. I'm not going to go
there. What it basically comes down to is this, okay?
First of all, let me give you my personal issue with
it. This line, if it comes like they tell me, is going
to come right between my house and my barn. And it's
going to go over a power line that I have going out to
my tank to run my water for my horses.
A lot of people said today that it will
reduce their property value if this line goes through.
Let me tell you something, with the little acreage I
got and the house that I've built there, I've lived
there almost 40 years. If this goes through my house
-- my property value will not go down, I will basically
be unsaleable. I know I certainly wouldn't buy it. If
that goes through.
The bottom line is you guys are here to
determine what is best for Missouri. That's your job

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    1 is to determine whether this is better for Missouri or
not. The first time we went through it you guys said
no, it's not good for Missouri. I think you made the
right decision. And I'm here today to ask you to
please make the same decision again.
Do the right thing. Thank you very much.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Mark Richardson.
        (Witness sworn.)
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Can you state your name
and spell your last name.
    MR. RICHARDSON: Mark Richardson,
R-i-c-h-a-r-d-s-o-n.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
    MR. RICHARDSON: Hutchinson -- or Reno
County, Kansas.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
    MR. RICHARDSON: Good afternoon. Thank
you for allowing me to speak today. Growing up on a
farm I learned to drive tractors and combines at an
early age included how to dodge utility poles scattered
throughout along the side of the fields.
    Our farm included one field that had
three-quarters of a mile of poles spaced approximately
3 0 0 \text { feet apart through the middle of the field. The}
same field was in the shape of a triangle as a result
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of a railroad built on 45 degree angle southeast,
northwest, }140\mathrm{ years ago and a subsequent parallel
highway. Then more recently the land was further
encumbered by a sewage pipe line for which I received a
significant easement payment.
    Naturally, I would prefer the 300 acres
be in the shape of a rectangle with no poles or
pipeline. On the other hand the benefit -- I benefit
from the electricity that flows through the
transmission line. The railroad that hauls my grain to
market. The highway that provides access to my field.
And the money I receive for the pipeline and more
importantly public interest is served in many ways.
The electricity from wind farms will flow on the
proposed transmission line and will originate in
southwest Kansas approximately 120 miles west of my
farm.
    Therefore, I do not stand to benefit
from construction of the Grain Belt Express. However,
I do know that farmers in southwest Kansas who are
having a tough time making it financially because of
frequent droughts that will benefit if this line is
built. So sometimes landowners have to think about the
public interest whether it's your neighbor down the
road who need the easement payments from project like
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Grain Belt Express or those that will benefit from
lower cost electricity. Or it might be another farmer
that needs a construction job on a project to make his
land payments. Perhaps if local schools
benefit from additional tax revenue from the line
built. Last year Kansas farm income dropped from an
average of $120,000 to $106,000. I imagine the numbers
are similar in Missouri with corn around $3 a bush and
lower cattle prices.
    Clean Line's easement payments totaling
$32 million in Missouri will undoubtedly will provide
financial relief for many farmers and ranchers in
Missouri. Assume the project will be built.
    Today I come here to share my opinion.
I believe the opinion of many other farmers. The
inconvenience of farming around structures is more than
offset by the broad public benefit it will provide
Missouri. As a farmer, I have read the Grain Belt's
agricultural impact mitigation protocol which addresses
many of the concerns raised by landowners. Therefore
-- furthermore, I extend Grain Belt as opposed to these
obligations on themselves which are above and beyond
that are typically seen by utilities which demonstrates
Grain Belt's commitment to the respectful treatment of
landowners. Therefore, I respectfully ask this
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Commission to grant the authority to Clean Line energy
partners for the development of the Grain Belt Express.
Thank you.
            JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Carol
Kisser.
            (Witness sworn.)
            JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
    MS. KISSER: Carol Kisser, K-i-s-s-e-r.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
    MS. KISSER: North of Amity, Missouri.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
    MS. KISSER: Gentlemen, lady, thank you
for letting me come here. In }1976\mathrm{ we bought a farm in
DeKalb County we thought it would be our forever home.
And for my late husband, it is as I thought it would be
for me. But I'm surrounded by big wind towers and
because of their threat to my health I am being forced
to move away from my home. This could happen to many
others who are unfortunate to live near the proposed
Clean Line. I want to move near my daughters who
happen to live in the area of the proposed line and
trying to find a place I can call my own is very
difficult. why do these big companies,
conglomerates or even foreign countries think it's okay
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to come to our area and threaten eminent domain when
they don't have any right to our land. Do they think
we are people who can be walked over to think they have
to get into the money hungry land grabbers, wrong. Why
should we have to change our way of living for
monstrous towers who could threaten our lives.
    It's too late to stop the building of the wind
towers but it is not too late to do something about the
power lines. By the way I can see 31 towers in one
spot in my driveway near my house. All I have to do is
look around.
    I come from a family who had lived into
their late 90s as I would like to do. I'm 83 and I
work outside in my garden and tend my flowers, mow my
lawn. I walk with my dog several times a day and even
they are smart enough to look at the wind towers and
refuse to walk in that direction. What would it be
like if we have to change our life style because of the
huge electrical towers towering over us. Do the people
who build them live near them. Do we have to ask. As
for the jobs they would bring in, how long do they
last? I've seen the benefits of these around me. A
new ATV for the kids to ride. A new dump truck with a
fancy name job on the side.
    But once the blades are turning and the
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electricity is running, neither of which is any benefit
to us, it goes elsewhere. Who takes care of things if
something goes wrong? It would their specialists. Not
the retired people who chose to live in the area nor
their sons and daughters who have moved away to pursue
their education, jobs and homes in the city. To
paraphrase an old song, I got along without you before
I met you. I can get along without you now. I guess
that dates me. Clean Line go home to someone who wants
you. We don't.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Ted Hartsig.
            (Witness sworn.)
        JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
    MR. HARTSIG: Ted Hartsig,
H-a-r-t-s-i-g.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
    MR. HARTSIG: Overland Park, Kansas.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: I work for Olsson
Associates an engineering firm with seven offices
throughout Missouri with over 250 employees in the
state.
    Now, I am here to share our support to
the Clean Line project. We do a lot of work in
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Northern Missouri specifically even within these
counties where most of the Clean Line -- or the Grain
Belt line is proposed.
    In our environmental analysis we
routinely find that there's much to do in -- the social
economic environment is every bit a part of what we
analyze. And more often than not the social economic
environment in this part of state is in a great need
for help economically. We hear it constantly right in
our reports that economic need is there, whether it be
water, transportation or electricity. The Grain
Belt Line provides an opportunity to bring lower cost
energy to the cities in these counties that can help
sustain new businesses, existing businesses and help
keep jobs in the area.
    Furthermore the Clean Line has basically
produced protocols that after 35 years of doing
environmental impact analysis I have not seen other
types of environmental work. You have to provide
safeguards in working with the communities in land
protection and environmental protection and primed to
meet the needs of all the landowners. The
environmental analysis process is not a statement into
itself, we listen to people. We listen to their needs
as much is being done here today. And in so doing
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there are tweaks, there are changes, there are
opportunities made. So Clean Line and the Grain Belt
Express present more opportunity for this area to
continue in growth and to keep people here to sustain
jobs not just directly from the power line itself but
ancillary and the other businesses that it will
support. Therefore we very definitely support this
Grain Belt Express Line. Thank you.
        JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. John Burr.
            (Witness sworn.)
        JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell the last name.
    MR. BURR: John Burr, B-u-r-r.
        JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
        MR. BURR: Austin, Missouri.
        JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
        MR. BURR: I just want to say one thing.
Eminent domain sets a bad precedent. If you do it for
one private company you're never going to be able to
say no to another private company if they want to build
anything. Right now you can tell every private
company, no.
    The other thing is, these companies they
talk about being good neighbors. We've witnessed the
good neighbor in DeKalb County. I'm only five miles to
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DeKalb County, and like everybody else, I can see 28 of
them sitting on my front porch. That's five miles
away.
    You know, the road -- North Platt Road
runs right on the county line, runs east and west of
the southern border of DeKalb County. Clinton County
has maintained that road and DeKalb County spends no
money in maintaining it. And they have admitted that.
When Clinton County officials asked for a road use
agreement for them to use that road for money up front
for repairs to that road for the damage that they do.
They told our commissioner where to stick it. They
said, we don't have to.
    So that road has been torn up and
Clinton County will have to pay to restructure that
road. Another road up in DeKalb County, a state paved
road has been turned into a gravel road. All the black
top, all the tar is gone. They've had to take road
graders in and tear off the ridges because of the ruts
a foot deep in that road from all the trucks. They had
to go and turn it into a gravel road and it's a state
paved road.
                    You know, they're not good neighbors.
We had another one -- the sights up there they needed
to make a turn line to get the big equipment in to one
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of the sights so instead of coming in from the opposite
direction and making the turn lane on the leaseholder's
property they made the turn lane in a non leaseholder's
property tearing out about }100\mathrm{ foot of tree line. And
said, oh, our bad.
    At the same point in order to make that
swing they drove through a non leaseholder's yard --
driving over some his "no turbine signs" while he did
and putting ruts in his yard about that deep. My bad.
They offered the guy -- they took out 100 foot of hedge
trees and I think they offered him $500 to replace
hundred-year-old trees. That's not go neighbors.
You've heard about Pony Express conservation area. 21
wind turbines circle that -- are going circle that
lake. Conservation Department asked for a two to three
mile set back of the boundaries of the conservation
area. They said, there's no law that makes us. They
measured a mile from the center of the lake, not the
boundary of the conservation area, but from the center
of the lake. Study after study Missouri is one of the
largest homes for domestic area of eagles in the lower
48. I drive a mail route. The other day I saw four
eagles while I was on my mail route. Didn't see that
when I was a kid. It's amazing to see these great
birds. And they can buy a permit to chop them up. We
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got geese, bats, everything here. Somebody needs to protect them. Like I said, they're not good neighbors. And the eminent domain is a very bad idea. Thank you.

JUDGE BUSHMANN: I see from the list
that we have six names left. We've only got 15 minutes
before we need to stop for the day. So I would
encourage those who are coming up now to please be
concise, and say what you need to say so that everyone
gets a chance. Next is Kyle Carrol. Kyle Carrol.
Janet Storum. Janet Storum.
MS. STORUM: I'm not going to speak.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Scott Battles.
(Witness sworn.)
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
MR. BATTLES: Scott Battles,
B-a-t-t-l-e-s.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
MR. BATTLES: Liberty, Missouri.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
MR. BATTLES: I teach wind energy and I
work with some of these wind farms. Specifically, over
here in Kansas City the past few years back, about 2.5
years. So I just wanted to hit some key points.
I've heard issues as far as the birds.

Wind turbines kill . 02 percent of birds killed in the United States. The bigger things that kills birds in the United States is buildings, cars. You know, it's a very small number. The wind turbines up in that area, I have worked them for $21 / 2$ years and I've seen one bald eagle flying around the turbines. I've seen one bird possibly killed by the turbine. And I stress the word possible. It is not an endangered species in any shape or form. No bats. I have not seen one single bat.

So one of the other issues that I wanted to hit was the basic situation if they go away. There's a decommissioned fund, there is a decommissioned fund to basically take these, you know, lines down if it comes down to that.

One key thing I wanted to really hit
upon was pollution. You know a lot of people here got shirts on that the says, no gain. The gain $I$ see is called breathable air. If you go down to Kansas City from right here today you will find quickly the air is not as good. The air up here is much better. If you go up to New York the air is terrible. You go up to upstate New York, yeah, it's decent. They have places where they can put wind turbines but it's not enough. If you go out to Gillette, Wyoming,
you've got a coal mine that is 15 miles in length, 200 feet deep. It is going to be a perpetual scar on the land. We have to come up with cleaner ways to produce our energy. And it's a no-brainer that today our whole environment is being trashed because of what we're doing from the chemicals we put into the water to the chemicals we put into the air. Power plants are unnecessary issue -- a unnecessary part of our infrastructure. Seriously? So I've heard the assertion that turbines are inefficient. My contention is, no, they're not inefficient. I've worked on these machines and I can tell you that. You show me the facts, the figures, the numbers. Turbines that $I$ work on, they were $98.87 \%$ efficient. We ran $99.87 \%$ most of the time.

MS. COLEMAN: Mr. Battles, would you speak to us, please?

MR. BATTLES: So in any case as far as the turbines are concerned being inefficient, no, they're not. You wouldn't see the companies that you have today building wind turbines at the rate they are.

As far as the production tax credit goes, the production tax credit died about a year, year and a half ago when the industry flourished. It's not going to go away. The country needs clean energy.

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They need clean air. We need to get away from trashing
our environment. And this is a critical part of the
infrastructure that we need. We need more grid
infrastructure in this country, it needs to be updated.
Much of our grid infrastructure dates back to the
1940s.
    I have seen assertions up here today that
trying -- to stray voltage. It's EMI, basically
electro magnetic interference. It comes from AC power
lines and not DC power lines. DC power lines, if you
could measure it, it would be very negligible, I'll put
it that way.
    And again, up here there were a lot of
assertions as far as the wind turbines causing health
issues. I have worked around these things for 2 1/2
years and I didn't have a single health issue expect
for climbing and essentially cutting it -- doing work
on my knees. But it has nothing to do with the wind
turbines. Are they unsightly? Some people would say
that they are. Are they necessary? Absolutely. They
are a necessary evil. It's better to get away from
have strip pits basically, you know, mining away whole
mountains for coal in this country.
    You know, the pollution -- I've seen a study
here about a year ago and some brilliant scientists
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came to a collusion that pollution is circulated
worldwide. I'm sitting here reading this and going,
seriously, it took a scientific study to figure this
out. The reality of one-on-one is pollution, yes, it's
circulated worldwide. It shouldn't take a study to
figure this out.
    You know, my contention is that gain is you get
clean air, you get a cleaner environment. Thank you
very much.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Jenny
Maskill.
            (Witness sworn.)
            JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
and spell your last name.
    MS. MASKILL: Jenny Maskill,
M-a-s-k-i-l-l.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?
    MS. MASKILL: Lee Summit, Missouri.
    JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
    MS. MASKILL: I have a farm on the
project it's a family farm in Caroll County. It's been
in my family since the 1800s.
    I'm a Missouri real estate broker so I
understand the domain law -- the laws, but I -- and at
the same time, I am a right-of-way agent.
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I travel around the United States and I work for landowners such as this when the Public Service Commission decides that that's where the project needs to go. And I have seen quite a bit. I have been in several states and worked on several projects. I have done pipeline. I've done electrical. I've worked with wind farms. We have put pipes in the ground through the wind farms. I've worked with all the landowners through all the issues. Many, many issues that $I$ heard here today and many, many more. There are a lot of issues. When there's a project like this not everybody is going to like it.

There are places that I've been into and they love it. And there are places that they hate it. But regardless the Grain Belt will work with the landowners one-on-one to help them resolve all their issues. With that $I$ extremely believe in green energy.
I believe that America should be as self sufficient as
possible. I really -- I believe -- I have seen
firsthand seen construction where thousands of people
come in and bring many, many dollars to the counties,
the state. I have seen the tax money that comes in.
The jobs. It's really -- it really will benefit
Missouri. Thank you.
JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Eric

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CERTIFICATE
STATE OF MISSOURI )
STATE OF MISSOURI )
) SS:
) SS:
COUNTY OF CLINTON )
COUNTY OF CLINTON )
I, Albert Narvaez, a certified court reporter within and for the State of Missouri, certify that the foregoing proceeding was taken by me in stenotype and thereafter transcribed by computer and is a true and correct transcript of the foregoing proceeding; that the foregoing proceeding was taken on December 13, 2016, at Cameron Community Center, Cameron, Missouri; that I am not an attorney for nor relative of either party, or otherwise interested in this action.
Witness my hand and seal of office on the 30th day of December 2016.

Albert Narvaez, CCR For the state of Missouri

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