			Page 1
1	STATE OF MIS	SOURI	
2	PUBLIC SERVICE	COMISSION	
3			
4			
5			
6	TRANSCRIPT OF P	ROCEEDINGS	
7	Local Public	Hearing	
8	August 12,	2014	
9	Monroe City,	Missouri	
10	Volume	II	
11			
12	In the Matter Of The)	
	Application of Grain Belt)	
13	Express Clean Line LLC For A)	
	Certificate of Convenience And)	
14	Necessity Authorizing It To)	
	Construct, Own, Operate,)File No. EA-2014-0207	1
15	Control, Manage, And Maintain)	
	A high Voltage, Direct Current)	
16	Transmission Line And An)	
	Associated Converter Station)	
17	Providing An Interconnection)	
	On The Maywood - Montgomery)	
18	345 kV Transmission Line)	
19			
	Michael Bushmann,	Presiding	
20	SENIOR REGULATORY	LAW JUDGE	
21	Robert S. K	enney	
	William P.	Kenney	
22	Scott T. R	upp,	
	COMMISSIO	NERS	
23			
24	Reported By:		
	Melissa J. Lane, CCR, CSR		
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                        Me Concerned Landowners and David
2.4
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25
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		Page 3
1	PROCEEDINGS:	
2		
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Before we get started,	
4	there's a couple of administrative issues I wanted to	
5	mention, just in case of an emergency, there's exits,	
6	if you look around, at all four corners of the room.	
7	Should be fine today, but just wanted to make you	
8	aware of that.	
9	Also, the commission will be videotaping.	
10	There's a camera set up here. So there will be a	
11	videotape of the proceedings.	
12	Why don't we go ahead and get started with	
13	the hearing.	
14	We're on the record. Good morning. It's	
15	August 12th, eleven o'clock a.m. The Public Service	
16	Commission has set this time for a local public	
17	hearing in the case captioned, In The Matter of The	
18	Application of Grain Belt Express Clean Line, LLC, for	
19	a certificate of convenience and necessity authorizing	
20	it to construct, own, operate and control, manage and	
21	maintain a high-voltage, direct-current transmission	
22	line and an associated converter station providing an	
23	interconnection on the Maywood-Montgomery 345 kV	
24	transmission line, file number EA-2014-0207.	
25	My name is Michael Bushmann. I'm the	

		Page 4
1	regulatory judge presiding over today's hearing. With	
2	me today is Chairman Robert Kenney and Commissioners	
3	Bill Kenney and Scott Rupp.	
4	Would any of the commissioners like to make	
5	any opening remarks?	
6	COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNY: Good morning,	
7	everybody. Judge Bushmann will make some more	
8	preliminary opening remarks in a few moments. I	
9	wanted to welcome you all to the local public hearing,	
10	thank you for your presence here and assure you that	
11	we'll be taking into account everything that you have	
12	to tell us. There are five commissioners on the	
13	commission. Two of them are commissioners who were	
14	unable to be here today, but there is a court reporter	
15	who will be transcribing all of the information that	
16	is given to us. They will have an equal opportunity	
17	to be able to read and consider the testimony that you	
18	all present here today.	
19	So, again, on behalf of the commission, I	
20	thank you for taking the time to be here, and we look	
21	forward to listening to your testimony.	
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Let's start with counsel	
23	making their entries of appearance.	
24	For Grain Belt Express Clean Line, LLC.	
25	MR. ZOBRIST: Karl Zobrist. I've given my	

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Page 5 name and address to the court reporter. 1 2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. 3 For office of public counsel. MS. BANKER: Christina Baker, P.O. 4 5 Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, appearing on 6 behalf of the office of public counsel. 7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: For commission staff. MR. WILLIAMS: Nathan Williams, deputy 8 9 counsel, P.O. Box 36, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102. 10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Show Me Concerned Landowners. 11 12 MR. AGATHEN: Judge, my name is Paul 13 Agathen. Terry represents that group and asked me to pass on his apologies for not being able to make it to 14 15 this very serious case yesterday, and he's not going to be able to --16 17 UNIDENTIFIED INDIVIDUAL: We can't hear you. Turn the fan off. 18 19 UNIDENTIFIED INDIVIDUAL: Speak up, please. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Missouri Landowners 20 21 Alliance. MR. AGATHEN: My name is Paul Agathen. I 22 have given my name and address and telephone numbers 23 24 to the court reporter. 25 UNIDENTIFIED INDIVIDUAL: We can't hear

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Page 6 you. Is this going to be held a secret? We need to 1 2 be able to hear what these people are saying. 3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: The attorneys are just entering their appearance on behalf of their clients. 4 5 We can get a microphone over there. 6 UNIDENTIFIED INDIVIDUAL: Yes, please. 7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: For the Missouri Division 8 of Energy. 9 MR. DRAG: Gary Drag, address is 3917 A McDonald Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63116-3816. 10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And Randall and Roseanne 11 12 Meyer? 13 MR. DRAG: Myself, Gary Drag, 39 -- do you 14 need for me to repeat it? 15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: No, that's fine. 16 David and Jackie McKnight. 17 MR. AGATHEN: Paul Agathen, same attorney 18 who's representing the Missouri Landowner's Alliance. 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Rocky's Express Pipeline? 20 (No response.) 21 Sierra Club? (No response.) 22 The Way Coalition? (No response.) 23 Wind Alliance? (No response.) 24 Treatment Energy, LLC? (No response.) 25 IBEW Unions? (No response.)

Page 7 Missouri Industrial Energy Consumers? (No 1 2 response.) 3 Kansas City Power and Light Company and KCP&L Greater Missouri Operations Company? (No 4 5 response.) 6 Infinity Wind Power? (No response.) 7 United for Missouri. MR. LINTON: Thank you, Judge. David C. 8 Linton, 314 Romaine Spring View, Fenton, Missouri, on 9 10 behalf of United for Missouri. JUDGE BUSHMANN: And Transource Missouri, 11 12 LLC? (No response.) Before the Court is going to be taking 13 testimony today, I'd like to provide you with some 14 15 information about the commission and why the commission is holding this public hearing. 16 17 Grain Belt Express applied to the comission for approval of its plans to construct a high-voltage, 18 direct-current transmission line and associated 19 facilities within Buchannan, Clinton, Caldwell, 20 21 Carrol, Chariton, Randolph, Monroe and Ralls Counties, Missouri, as well as an associated service station in 22 Ralls County. The commission may grant permission if 23 24 it finds that the construction is necessary or convenient for the public service. The commission 25

		Page 8
1	cannot decide any questions about eminent domain,	
2	including whatever particular property could be taken	
3	or the amount of compensation that would be paid.	
4	Those questions can only be addressed in circuit	
5	court. The commission has already scheduled an	
6	evidentiary hearing for November of this year to take	
7	evidence regarding Grain Belt's application, but it	
8	has also scheduled hearings in each of the counties	
9	affected by the proposed transmission line to give	
10	members of the public a chance to state their support	
11	or opposition to the project, and that's the purpose	
12	of today's hearing.	
13	For those who would like to provide	
14	testimony today, I'm going to call the names listed on	
15	the sign-up sheet. When I call your name, please come	
16	forward to the microphone in front. I'll put you	
17	under oath and ask you to state your name, where you	
18	live, and then you can offer your comments to the	
19	commission. There are a lot of people here today who	
20	would like to speak. So please try to keep your	
21	remarks to under five minutes so that everybody has a	
22	chance to testify.	
23	The commissioners won't be able to answer	
24	any of your questions today because they have to	
25	remain impartial until after the evidence is presented	

		Page 9
1 a	at the evidentiary hearing. If you do have questions,	
2 p	please speak to the representatives of Grain Belt	
3 I	Express or the commission staff or any of the other	
4 p	parties that are here today. I know that there are	
5 5	some informational material in the back of the room in	
6 t	the lobby and also in the front lobby where you came	
7 :	in.	
8	My final request is to please be polite and	
9 0	courteous to everyone speaking here today and treat	
10 t	them as you would like to be treated.	
11	With that, we'll begin the evidentiary part	
12 0	of the testimony, and the first person to sign up is	
13 3	Joe Vance.	
14	Mr. Vance, could you come forward, please.	
15	(Witness sworn.)	
16	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state	
17 <u>-</u>	your name and spell your last name.	
18	JOE VANCE: Joe Vance, V, as in Victor,	
19 <i>1</i>	A-N-C-E.	
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?	
21	JOE VANCE: 3646 Audrain County Road 233,	
22 0	Centralia, Missouri.	
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: All right. You may	
24 p	proceed with your comments. You might want to speak a	
25	little bit closer to the microphone just so that we	

1 can hear you.

2	JOE VANCE: My objections are that the
3	commission would give property rights to families that
4	have helped rural Missouri for several generations to
5	an out-of-state company for a project that would have
6	many risks and few benefits to Missouri. The eastern
7	states has said they don't want it. Many Missourians
8	don't want it. States around us have said "no" to its
9	crossing them. The traffic of construction would hurt
10	the ground for many years. The magnetic fields would
11	create serious health risks. The line would limit the
12	possible economic uses of property it crosses.
13	There's general negative environmental effects of many
14	types. There's a loss of income to families that it's
15	near. There's inadequate plans as far as any
16	maintenance, inadequate structures. They told me what
17	the towers were designed to stand as far as a storm,
18	and we have had storms worse than that. The company's
19	lack of experience is building anything of any kind.
20	These things in my mind and in the mind of my
21	neighbors should cause Grain Belt's request to be
22	denied. Thank you.
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.
24	Could you remain at the podium.
25	Are there any questions from attorneys?

Page 10

Page 11 1 (No response.) 2 Any commissioner questions? 3 COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: May I? Mr. Vance, thanks for being here. You 4 5 mentioned some information that the company provided to you or to members about the company. Did you 6 7 attend any of the open houses that the company 8 sponsored? 9 JOE VANCE: I was at -- Centralia is where they told me that the structures were designed to 10 sustain a certain degree of tornado, and we've had 11 12 tornadoes stronger than that. COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: Did you feel 13 that their outreach efforts were adequate? Did they 14 take into account things that you had to say there? 15 Did you feel like you were being listened to? 16 17 JOE VANCE: Not really. 18 COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: All right. 19 Thank you for taking the time to be here today. 20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir. 21 Andrea Rice. 22 (Witness sworn.) 23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state 24 your full name for the record, please. 25 ANDREA RICE: My name is Andrea Rice.

		Page 12
1	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And spell your last name.	
2	ANDREA RICE: R-I-C-E.	
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside?	
4	ANDREA RICE: 32505 Hawk Avenue in	
5	Salisbury, Missouri, Chariton County.	
6	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. You may proceed.	
7	ANDREA RICE: I'm here today as a mother,	
8	as a farmer's wife and a farm bureau member and also	
9	as a real estate agent. I see that Clean Line has a	
10	valuable place in our state, in our county and in our	
11	community.	
12	As a mother, I see this as a benefit, not	
13	only to our child's tax tax revenue for their	
14	school but also in creating the jobs. In the time I	
15	graduated high school, in 2001, we had a graduating	
16	class of 65 in Salisbury. Right now my daughter's	
17	class has 34. In order to create a viable a viable	
18	environment for my daughter, we need to be able to	
19	have jobs and income to have a quality school.	
20	As a farmer's wife and a farm bureau	
21	member, I see this as a possibility for many farmers	
22	to have some added income. For our for us in our	
23	situation, we had 2012 and '13 as very rough drought	
24	years. In fact, if it wasn't for having cattle as a	
25	backup plan for our row crop, we would have had a	
1		

		Page 13
1	great deal of financial stress. Instead, we were able	
2	to break even. Just like a lot of farmers along I-70	
3	have billboards to assist with making some of their	
4	farm payments, I think that this has a viable place in	
5	the budget for many farmers. In fact, we would have	
6	welcomed the income from it.	
7	As a real estate agent, I'm an agent in	
8	Randolph County, and I serve in Salisbury and Chariton	
9	County. I have done a lot of research and a lot of	
10	homework on the fact that people believe property	
11	values will be dropping. Instead, I have not found	
12	this to be true. I have seen a 3 to 5 percent drop	
13	that has recovered in at most three to four years. In	
14	addition, we also have a situation within our office:	
15	My broker had an auction for an individual on the	
16	end north end of Randolph County, who had a	
17	high-voltage transmission line go through his farm two	
18	years before it was sold, and there was no no	
19	effect in cost.	
20	Because of these reasons, I really do see	
21	that there is a valuable position for Clean Line in	
22	our area.	
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from	
24	attorneys? (No response.)	
25	Any commission questions?	

		Page 14
1	COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: Ms. Rice,	
2	thanks again for being here. Did you attend any of	
3	the open houses that Clean Line sponsored?	
4	ANDREA RICE: I wasn't able to attend any.	
5	However, I have met with a few individuals.	
6	COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: A few of the	
7	Clean Line individuals?	
8	ANDREA RICE: Yes, sir.	
9	COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: And what did	
10	they tell you about the ability to use your property	
11	or to continue using your property in the same useful	
12	way that you've been using it, or did they tell you	
13	anything about that?	
14	ANDREA RICE: We did discuss that because	
15	that was a concern, specifically of my husband's.	
16	With the higher power lines, we felt like that was	
17	actually a benefit because we personally have lost	
18	power many times because of farm equipment going under	
19	electric lines in our area. We have also seen a	
20	benefit as far as not only safety to the transmission	
21	lines but also to ourselves and our farm equipment.	
22	As far as the land under it, I've done a	
23	lot of research, and there should not be any effect to	
24	the animals under it as well as just the ability to	
25	get up close to the poles and farm around them. Just	

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	Page 15
1	like we do we have a farm in Randolph County,
2	40 acres with cattle that have power lines coming from
3	Thomas Hill, and we don't have any any ill effects
4	from that, and we farm around them all the time.
5	COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: Thank you
6	again for your testimony.
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may be excused. Thank
8	you.
9	ANDREA RICE: Thank you.
10	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Lea Halleman.
11	(Witness sworn.)
12	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state
13	your name and spell your last name.
14	LEA HALLEMAN: Lea Halleman,
15	H-A-L-E-M-A-N.
16	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?
17	LEA HALLEMAN: 36806 Route D, Perry,
18	Missouri.
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
20	LEA HALLEMAN: My concerns well, I
21	pretty much agree with the first speaker. My concern
22	is the loss of property value, the loss that it could
23	cause in farm income, the damage that can be done to
24	our property while construction is being done or if
25	they have to come back for any maintenance or fix what

		Page 16
1	they might tear up. The Corps of Engineers has	
2	easements on our property, and this line proposed	
3	line is going through the same area. We're not	
4	allowed to put a structure on this property, but, yet,	
5	they're going to be allowed to have a structure on	
6	this property.	
7	In 1993, the floodwaters were very high in	
8	that area. We were paddling around in the treetops in	
9	a boat, and as the first speaker said, tornados are	
10	really bad in this area up here. If a tornado comes	
11	through, the water is up high, what kind of damage	
12	could be done to the wildlife and the homes around the	
13	area? And I don't really feel like you know the	
14	outcome of effects as far as health to people or	
15	animals until after something has gone to operation.	
16	So I'm scared of it.	
17	That's all I have to say. Thank you.	
18	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from	
19	attorneys? (No response.)	
20	Any commissioner questions? (No response.)	
21	Thank you, ma'am.	
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Next witness is Jim	
23	Daniels.	
24	(Witness sworn.)	
25	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state	

Page 17 your name for the record and spell your last name. 1 2 JIM DANIELS: Jim Daniels, D-A-N-I-E-L-S. 3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside, sir? 4 5 JIM DANIELS: 2937 Greenleaf Drive, St. Charles, Missouri 63303, and I do farm in Monroe 6 7 County. 8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 9 JIM DANIELS: All right. I understand that the public domain law is a law that allows private 10 land to be taken for the greater public use. When 11 12 this project was first introduced, no power according to Clean Line was allocated to be dropped into 13 Missouri. After some questions and comments regarding 14 15 this, Grain Belt now says that they will have a small -- very small transmission site, transformer site, in 16 17 Missouri with no identifying customers. 18 Since the gracious amount of power is being taken up east to Indiana, there is little of 19 significant benefit to Missouri. Therefore, I believe 20 21 that giving utility status to a private company is a mistake. 22 23 I'd like to also talk about the health 24 risks. Grain Belt has a statement regarding 25 pacemakers and indicate that there is no problem with

		Page 18
1	pacemakers being in and around their transmission	
2	lines. They do not say anything at all about	
3	defibrillators. I have both a pacemaker and a	
4	defibrillator. I have to drive over one mile	
5	underneath a power line to be able to get to my farm.	
6	Consequently, today, they are only proposing one	
7	transmission line on a tower. As we all know, there	
8	are going to be several arms on each tower, and as	
9	time goes on, several other transmission lines will be	
10	added in the future.	
11	I am requesting of the commission that	
12	should it be approved, before it is approved, that a	
13	study be commissioned that Grain Belt has to show	
14	convincing proof that there is absolutely no health	
15	risks associated with not only the transmission lines	
16	as proposed but also transmission lines that	
17	potentially can be added in the future.	
18	I would also request that the commission	
19	take and put in a statement of liability against Grain	
20	Belt and any future companies that they would sell the	
21	transmission lines, the towers and the easements too,	
22	so that should any health risks come down in the	
23	future that they would be liable for it financially	
24	and to have a remediation plan, also.	
25	Let me give you a little bit of history.	

		Page 19
1	The EPA has said in a Cold Water Creek siting near	
2	Lambert Airport that there were no radiation levels	
3	that were harmful to humans. In the last few weeks,	
4	we have found that to be untrue. Consequently, Grain	
5	Belt, we know that they have changed their stories in	
6	meeting with people many times, and I'm sure that	
7	they'll have to change their story regarding the	
8	safety of this line.	
9	Grain Belt hosted a meeting at ABB Company	
10	in Jeff City several months ago. Two out of the	
11	guests or three out of the guests and myself went	
12	there. It was a private meeting with the director of	
13	economic development, HUB Industry and a few other	
14	small manufacturers and contractors. We were invited	
15	to go by one of the commissioners from Monroe County.	
16	They gave us their invitation to take down so we would	
17	be admitted. We requested admission. We were denied	
18	by Mrs. Adhair Johnson, one of Grain Belt's employees,	
19	and not only was she rude but very forceful and said,	
20	I'm going to ask you to move, and if you don't leave,	
21	we will call the police. And we're not the type	
22	I'm 72 years old. I'm not a demonstration type. I've	
23	never been involved in a demonstration of any kind.	
24	I'm a concerned farmer in Monroe County.	
25	And, consequently, I believe that there is	

		Page 20
1	a hidden agenda, that they had something to say there	
2	to several of the politicians as well as some	
3	contractors that is not transparent to the public.	
4	Grain Belt, I think, needs to have their agendas	
5	completely examined to find out what the overall	
6	picture of their development is.	
7	As a landowner, I don't want to take and	
8	work and live around a known health hazard. You can	
9	be assured that Grain Belt will sell the transmission	
10	line and the easements to somebody else. More lines	
11	will be added, more potential health risks.	
12	I'd like to talk about another item, and	
13	that's the devaluation. Grain Belt visited me at my	
14	home. They called and asked if they could come by and	
15	take and propose putting and buying an easement and	
16	also putting towers on my property. I asked them, I	
17	said, what is the price per acre? And they said,	
18	\$5,600. I said, how do you arrive at that price?	
19	Well, that is the average price for which property is	
20	selling in Monroe County. If you begin to think about	
21	highly rich farm ground, it is expensive and a lot	
22	more than \$5,600. That adds into it also farm ground	
23	valleys, ditches, trash grounds, which sells for a lot	
24	cheaper. So they're going down with what you might	
25	call a wholesale rate for a highly productive farm	

Page 21 ground. No consideration is given for the devaluation 1 2 of the property. 3 I went to my CPA, and I asked him, have you had any experience on what the devaluation would be 4 5 when towers are built on your property? And the answer was, yes. And I said, what do you experience? 6 7 He said, it can be up to and exceeding 50 percent of the value of the ground. You can be assured that more 8 lines will be added to these towers. 9 10 Consequently, somebody having an opportunity to buy a farm, and if they see one with 11 12 transmission lines on it and one without, they're 13 going to go to the one without. 14 Irrigation. 15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Sir, your time has 16 expired. If you could wrap it up. 17 JIM DANIELS: I'll wrap it up real quick. 18 Irrigation. I have spent four years 19 designing plans for irrigation with three pivots. 20 Where they want to put the transmission lines, 21 consequently, it negates all the expense and everything I put in. 22 23 And then farming obstacles, we have 45-foot wide equipment. That's very dangerous to use around 24 25 towers.

Page 22 1 Gentlemen, thank you very much. 2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. 3 Attorneys, any questions? Any attorney questions? (No response.) 4 5 Commissioner questions? (No response.) 6 Thank you, sir. 7 MARK BIRCH: Excuse me? I'm on that list to speak, and I will yield my time to Mr. Daniels, if 8 9 he'd like to speak some more. 10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Do you feel you had more 11 you had to say? 12 JIM DANIELS: I would like to talk about 13 the irrigation and also about farming obstacles. 14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: What's your name, sir, the 15 one that --16 MARK BIRCH: Mark Birch. 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Go ahead. 18 19 JIM DANIELS: Okay. Irrigation. I have spent three to four years designing the feasibility of 20 21 putting three pivots on my farm because dry land farming, we all know, is not nearly as productive as 22 irrigation ground. 23 24 Consequently, as we were about ready to move forward on the irrigation project, Clean Line 25

		Page 23
1	comes in and puts a big question mark: Will you be	
2	able to do this? For us to go ahead and put	
3	irrigation in now would be simply a waste of money	
4	because it would not be able to be operated with the	
5	configuration of the power lines that they want to	
6	use.	
7	The other thing, you're talking about	
8	farming obstacles. With towers on your property, we	
9	use 45-foot wide equipment, and moving that around the	
10	farm with towers, not only is it going to be very	
11	expensive because sooner or later somebody is going to	
12	hang the side of a disk cultivator, a planter and	
13	maybe not only do damage to that piece of equipment	
14	but also damage to one of the towers. The equipment	
15	today is big, and I think that when you begin to look	
16	at crossing potentially great farm ground that there	
17	is in this county and instead of going through areas	
18	that might cost a little more money for them to put	
19	their transmission lines through, it seems absurd to	
20	put it over rich farm ground where you wind up having	
21	the potential of doing thousands upon thousands of	
22	dollars of damage.	
23	That concludes the rest of what I wanted to	
24	say.	
25	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir. Hold on,	

1 Mr. Daniels.

2	COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: Mr. Daniels,
3	thank you for your testimony. The meeting that you
4	described that you were denied admission, what was the
5	reasons cited for why you were denied admission?
6	JIM DANIELS: The reasons were it was a
7	public meeting. In fact, this morning Mr. Mark Lawlor
8	of Grain Belt had seen me walk up to the door. He
9	came over and introduced himself again and said, hi,
10	Jim. I shook hands with him. He said also, I have
11	another lady here that you might know, and Ms. Adhair
12	Johnson walked over there and she put her hand out. I
13	didn't shake hands with her, because in my private
14	life also, I've been a minister for over 50 years.
15	I've never been treated the way I was treated down
16	there. And there was no harsh words on my part or
17	from any of the people from Monroe County that were
18	put forth from our side. We were, in essence,
19	threatened if we didn't immediately leave. We asked
20	the ABB people if it would be all right to take and
21	attend the meeting. They indicated to us that they
22	didn't have a problem with it at all. We kept hearing
23	the same thing, and I heard it again this morning,
24	that it was a private meeting. And I said, you know,
25	transparency where you're going to have meetings

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	Page 25
1	around the whole area to tell everybody what's going
2	on, what is so private about this meeting? And that
3	was the conversation this morning.
4	And after three or four minutes of having a
5	cordial exchange, evidently there is a hidden agenda
6	out there, and I implore the commission who's to take
7	and explore that and get minutes from that meeting and
8	look into it because there's something that's being
9	said past all of us.
10	COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: Thank you.
11	MR. WILLIAMS: Judge, if I might?
12	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Yes.
13	MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Davis, you indicated
14	that Clean Line was looking for an easement across the
15	property that you own in Monroe County?
16	JIM DANIELS: That is correct.
17	MR. WILLIAMS: How long of an easement are
18	they looking for?
19	JIM DANIELS: They're looking to take an
20	8.2 acres or 8.56 acres, but as we all know, they have
21	changed the route several times. When I first looked
22	at the proposal they have, I talked to Mark Lawlor,
23	and my house faces south. Consequently, they were
24	bringing in a power line within 456 feet of my front
25	porch. I talked to him about that, and they changed

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1	it down to about 600 feet, and now it's basically
2	going across a southern end of my property, and I'm
3	not sure exactly how many feet that is, but as I sit
4	on my front porch, I can look at the power lines as I
5	would like to, and then there is one mile of county
6	road that is used, and I'm the only house back there.
7	It's Road 1014. Consequently, I have to travel on
8	egress and ingress both ways underneath the power
9	lines, and one power line may not be a large problem,
10	but the current that is coming off of the power lines,
11	it may be small initially, but you know they're going
12	to fill up those towers with as many power lines as
13	they will hold. And so it's not only a potential
14	problem today, but it's going to be a huge problem
15	later on.
16	MR. WILLIAMS: I have no further questions.
17	Thank you.
18	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir. You may
19	be excused.
20	Next witness is William Tate.
21	(Witness sworn.)
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Can you please state your
23	name for the record and spell your last name.
24	WILLIAM TATE: William Tate, T-A-T-E.
25	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?

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1	WILLIAM TATE: Hannibal, Missouri.	
2	JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may proceed.	
3	WILLIAM TATE: I'm here to just get the	
4	word out that we think this I'm with the IBEW,	
5	International Brother Electrical Workers, that	
6	economically putting people to work environmentally	
7	would be a good thing for this area and get taxes	
8	rolling in.	
9	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from	
10	attorneys? (No response.)	
11	Any commissioner questions?	
12	COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: Which local?	
13	WILLIAM TATE: 350.	
14	COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: Thank you for	
15	being here.	
16	WILLIAM TATE: Okay.	
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir.	
18	David Carpenter.	
19	(Witness sworn.)	
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state	
21	your name.	
22	DAVID CARPENTER: David Carpenter.	
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And your last name is	
24	spelled how?	
25	DAVID CARPENTER: C-A-R-P-E-N-T-E-R.	

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1	JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may go ahead.
2	DAVID CARPENTER: Do you want to know where
3	I live?
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Yes. Thank you. Thank
5	you for reminding me.
6	DAVID CARPENTER: 11564 Route Y in Clark,
7	Missouri. That's in Monroe County.
8	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please proceed.
9	DAVID CARPENTER: My family has owned our
10	family farm since 1817, just one generation after
11	signing the Declaration of Independence. During that
12	time, we've been free to make our own decisions about
13	ownership and access of the property. I happen to
14	give neighbors approval to hunt in our woods and fish
15	in our lake. I remember when our road was improved
16	and nearly widened 60 years ago. A rural electric
17	line in our field was built before I was born. I'm
18	confident my family understood the value of these
19	projects to the community and wholeheartedly supported
20	them. There's no compelling or legitimate reason for
21	the State of Missouri to grant eminent domain and
22	power to Clean Line.
23	Grain Belt Express project provides no
24	long-term benefits to Missouri citizens. It does
25	impose long-term hardship on neighbors along the line.

		Page 29
1	Additional county and state tax revenue is not a	
2	legitimate reason for violating property rights.	
3	There are no studies that definitively prove that	
4	electric lines carrying extremely high power such as	
5	those with Grain Belt Express project do not cause	
6	cancer and other health issues in humans and animals.	
7	Until a nonpartisan study is completed, how can Clean	
8	Line move forward with this project and potentially	
9	put Missouri citizens at risk. It is unacceptable for	
10	my family and owners along the line to play the role	
11	of human guinea pigs.	
12	I've heard that an entire farm can be	
13	devalued by 30 to 40 percent as a direct result of a	
14	power line being built on an easement across the	
15	property. That could be a hundred of thousand dollars	
16	loss for a large farm. Clean Line materials that I	
17	have seen do not state any sort of compensation for	
18	this loss. This devaluation could impact a farmer's	
19	ability to borrow the money needed to finance ongoing	
20	business activity.	
21	Our retirement home, mine and my wife's,	
22	was built on a family farm in 2010, and I retired last	
23	year after living and raising a family in St. Louis.	
24	From our back porch we have a panoramic view of corn	
25	fields and woods. There are no buildings or	

		Page 30
1	dusk-to-dawn lights to block the view. The proposed	
2	power line would run across that view from horizon to	
3	horizon. There is a concern that the electromagnetic	
4	field of this high power line will impact modern	
5	farming techniques that employ GPS.	
6	On my farm, fertilizer is custom mixed and	
7	spread to address the specific needs of each	
8	three-acre section based upon GPS coordinates. Larger	
9	farmers use GPS much more extensively and might not be	
10	competitive without it. My understanding is that	
11	Missouri electric utility companies do not need or	
12	want any power from this project.	
13	I understand that an HVDC conversion	
14	station in Ralls County was added as a token to quiet	
15	the objection that Missouri would receive no power	
16	from line. I've heard that eastern states have	
17	published documents stating that they prefer to	
18	release their own renewable energy and do not intend	
19	to purchase out-of-state power from Clean Line.	
20	I've heard that the lines will be	
21	aboveground rather than being buried because they	
22	generate too much heat. My response is, that's what	
23	engineers are for, to resolve design issues. I	
24	believe landowners would be much more supported if	
25	lines would be buried.	

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1	I am a president of the Eastern Missouri
2	Landowner Alliance and Show Me Landowners Group. We
3	are approximately 400 Missouri citizens working
4	together with specific (inaudible) stopping the Grain
5	Belt Express. I support the movement in this country
6	toward the use of renewable energy and at competitive
7	prices to power our economy. I understand the
8	business asking and supporting infrastructure will be
9	required in the future, but I think the Grain Belt
10	Express project with its use of eminent domain power
11	as a private company would not be the right approach.
12	It would be a dangerous precedent that puts the
13	property rights of all Missouri citizens at risk.
14	Planning and delivery of additional power costs across
15	the country should be left to the existing electric
16	utilities. Thank you.
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions from attorneys?
18	(No response.)
19	Commissioner questions?
20	COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: Just to be
21	clear, you say you're the president of Eastern
22	Missouri Landowners Alliance?
23	DAVID CARPENTER: Right.
24	COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: Okay. Thank
25	you. Thanks for being here.

Page 32 1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Ron Henke. 2 (Witness sworn.) 3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state 4 your name and spell your last name. 5 RON HENKE: Ron Henke, H-E-N-K-E. 6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside, sir? 7 RON HENKE: I reside at Salisbury, 8 Missouri, Chariton County. 9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may proceed. 10 RON HENKE: As a previous speaker spoke, I'm a Farm Bureau Member. Farm Bureau came out as a 11 12 whole group of thousands of members, and they are 13 against Clean Line project. And I am a proud member of Farm Bureau. I have quite a few issues. 14 15 We have -- our family has been in Chariton County, and my grandchildren are sixth generation. 16 17 The family moved from St. Louis in the late 1800s to Salisbury, and we're proud to be a part of that 18 19 heritage. 20 My biggest opposition is the unknown health 21 risks. I just got back from Ireland over the weekend, and I was over there for eight days, and every evening 22 you had free time to go to the pubs, and you'd get to 23 24 talking to the locals, and I was told by a dear friend 25 before I went, knowing about the issues that we have

		Page 33
1	with Clean Line, and he has a nephew that is an	
2	employee of the Ireland Department of Health. They	
3	were proposed building a high-voltage line in Ireland,	
4	and the department of health stopped that	
5	because of unknown health risks. And my son lives	
6	less than a half mile from a proposed site and that	
7	would be going across a full mile of our property, and	
8	in that mile excuse me. Please bear with me.	
9	My son, he was he was engaged. He went	
10	out to the beautiful point in this property, and he	
11	proposed to my beautiful daughter-in-law and that was	
12	their dream to build their dream home, and I'll be	
13	damned that Clean Line's got it right smack the	
14	tower on where their property is, where they want to	
15	bring build their dream home. We don't even have a	
16	chance to build our home. I have got two lovely	
17	grandsons, and I do not want to see them as	
18	sacrificial lambs because of an unknown health risk.	
19	I've read articles and I've studied on the	
20	Internet, and in one article, there was a 1,500-page	
21	study done and in that or 1,500 pages, 1,500 pages	
22	designated only to cancer and leukemia. And in that	
23	study the study was done by 30-some doctors, PhDs	
24	worldwide in five countries and and at the	
25	conclusion of the study, they said there was a	

		Page 34
1	500 percent chance higher chance of attracting	
2	leukemia. I can't bear to see my grandchildren	
3	growing up even a mile from that property, much less	
4	five miles because it's just not we live in a	
5	country with high cancer rates. Why do we want to	
6	increase those rates any at all?	
7	And there's so many issues I could keep	
8	bringing up just one right after another, but it's	
9	it's devastating to think that a private person can	
10	have a dream of making billions of dollars taking	
11	our our very valuable farmland that we've toiled	
12	and spent every day of our life trying to pay for, for	
13	our next generation to come and stand on our shoulders	
14	and do the same to produce the cleanest, most healthy	
15	food in the world, and to have somebody just to come	
16	along and try to take that away from us is beyond my	
17	belief, and I I have plenty of more to say, but	
18	there might be a question. So I'll try to address a	
19	question if there is one.	
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from	
21	attorneys? (No response.)	
22	Any commissioner questions?	
23	COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: No. Thanks	
24	for being here.	
25	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.	

Page 35 RON HENKE: Thank you, sir, for letting us 1 2 be here in a free America. 3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Phillip Brown. 4 (Witness sworn.) 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state your name and spell your last name. 6 7 PHILLIP BROWN: Phillip Brown, B-R-O-W-N. 8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside? PHILLIP BROWN: 1017 Timberline Road, 9 Moberly, Missouri. 10 11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may go ahead. 12 PHILLIP BROWN: I want to thank the 13 commissioners and the administrative law judge and the attorneys appearing here today and the public here 14 15 today as we try and evaluate and discuss what proposed Grain Belt Line wants. I agree with many of the 16 17 previous speakers on the opposition of the line. 18 I'd like to add some things, starting out with, I believe it was initially announced for the 19 20 purpose of this hearing to determine the necessity and 21 convenience of this project. So let's stay with necessity. Where is the necessity for this project? 22 Is there any electrical power gridline operator here 23 today saying we need this power two years? 24 Five years? 10 years? What I understand is the 25

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1	answer to that question is consistently no, that Grain	
2	Belt has no contracts to sell the power, and they	
3	haven't even gotten the windmills to produce it.	
4	As to eminent domain, I realize from the	
5	comments made previously, that is mainly a	
6	condemnation action in circuit court. I think that's	
7	something that the commissioners can consider part of	
8	the necessity standard is, what will be the	
9	consequences to Missourians of this Grain Belt	
10	project? What are the benefits? What are the	
11	damages? I think that speaker after speaker today is	
12	speaking about the damages. Where is the benefit?	
13	Where is the power? That's the only benefit they can	
14	provide to us is electrical power.	
15	If you read Grain Belt's materials, it's	
16	always using the word "cheap" with reference to	
17	what? They've priced nothing. They say they say	
18	cheaper than associated electric power from the Thomas	
19	Hill Power Plant. If this is going to be an	
20	environmental issue, then let's solve it some other	
21	way than forcing it through a core. It's been spoken	
22	about the slime coming through and other lines.	
23	Remember, Grain Belt refers to these aerial maps they	
24	have of hoards. They're going to put other lines	
25	through here. Their own material says they have	
1	enough power to be in two or three more lines.	
---	---	
2	Where are these other lines coming? They're coming	
3	through us. Why should they? Grain Belt says that	
4	they're going to bring power to Missouri. They mean	
5	through Missouri.	

6 And this converter in Ralls County, what 7 will that be providing to us, and what arrangements and contract? If you read Grain Belt's materials from 8 Illinois Power Commission, they say they want to be a 9 marketer of power, and after they get their public 10 service commission utility status, they see no further 11 12 need to be regulated by the Public Service Commission of Illinois, and I assume that applies to Missouri. 13 If the East Coast wants power, let them produce it 14 15 locally. Why should we transmit power in Kansas to the East Coast? With what I understand to be the 16 17 electrical engineering standards that as you transmit further, you lose more power. One of the reasons for 18 high-voltage direct current is that it loses less 19 power than alternating current. Well, if they drop 20 21 the direct current off in Indiana, they're still shipping it to the East Coast. That's another five to 22 700 miles. How much of this power is being lost? 23 That is a factor I think the Missouri Public Service 24 Commission can consider of measuring the benefits, the 25

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1 pros and cons of this project.

2	My wife's family farm of five to six
3	generations is in southwest Monroe County, and this
4	line is going through it. It's going to affect the
5	operation of this farm in the future. We have
6	potential for irrigation. This summer we were air
7	lined fungicide for corn. That will be restricted,
8	maybe not prohibited, but we won't be able to fly as
9	close to the line as we would like to if it goes
10	through.
11	The place for this line is interesting. It
12	started out at Highway 36 near St. Joe, and they wind
13	up at Hannibal/New London area, south of Highway 36,
14	and they drop the line all the way down to Renick,
15	Missouri, which is approximately 25 miles south of
16	Highway 36. Why do they do that? Why do they make
17	this big loop? Extra towers, extra mile, extra cost
18	to build, that we, the consumer, is going to have to
19	pay for at some point. Why don't they build it along
20	36? Why don't they bury it? And why do they go
21	through the Amish community of Randolph, Monroe,
22	Audrain County other than thinking maybe they won't
23	fight it as much?
24	I've gone through two meetings of Grain
25	Belt and looked at maps and pointed out twice an Amish

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1	school that is near these lines, and it's still not on	
2	Grain Belt's aerial photographs. I've pointed them	
3	out a rural farm, a little cemetery that's on the	
4	family farm, and it's still not on the map of Grain	
5	Belt. What else have they missed? This is an issue I	
6	think the Public Service Commission needs to take into	
7	consideration on Grain Belt's performance and	
8	placement. Are they placing it if we have to have	
9	this line, or are they placing it in the best place	
10	and identified all of the risks and the pros and cons?	
11	And I think when you examine it, you'll see that they	
12	have not.	
13	As to Grain Belt's wanting to work with	
14	landowners at these public meetings, I've asked Mark	
15	Lawlor himself, and I've written letters saying,	
16	provide me with copies of maps. That was before I	
17	realize you could print them off of the computer. And	
18	he said he would provide them to me. I never received	
19	them. I asked for a copy of the easement. He said he	
20	would send it to me. I never received it. I think	
21	you'll find many stories like this where Grain Belt is	
22	a great marketing team, and that's about it. When you	
23	visit with them about engineering and design and	
24	construction	
25	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Sir, your five minutes has	

Page 40 expired. Could you summarize? 1 2 DALE MORGAN: I'll give him my time back 3 here. UNIDENTIFIED INDIVIDUAL: I'll give him my 4 5 time. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead and finish. 6 7 PHILLIP BROWN: I think the Public Service 8 Commission consider -- should consider the engineering 9 and designing standards that Grain Belt is using. We 10 don't want the minimum standards. We want reasonably high standards of constructing this facility. There's 11 12 been reference to tornados, that they're not built to 13 the strength of tornados that we've historically had. What about ice? We've seen great ice storms take down 14 trees. What is it going to do to steel towers that 15 have been designed? When you go to the marketing 16 17 committee of Grain Belt at these public hearings, they don't have that answer, or at least they didn't tell 18 19 me. 20 Earthquakes. We're in the New Madrid 21 Fault, and recently the U.S. Geological Commission or whatever their exact title is enhanced earthquake risk 22 for north Missouri. Has Grain Belt taken that into 23 24 consideration? We didn't get the answer. I hope that 25 you will.

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1	We talked about the clearance between these
2	towers. There are going to be four to seven per mile.
3	What is the minimum clearance in worst conditions for
4	farmers to operate under? We've heard 33 feet. What
5	will be the exact engineering and design of the
6	towers' clearance line, the line between the two
7	towers, but some of these combines are reaching 20,
8	25 feet or higher, I would assume, and especially the
9	45-foot wide equipment that's been made reference to.
10	Do you want to be operating a piece of equipment
11	10 feet from a 640,000-volt electric commission line?
12	And the standards of Grain Belt. It's
13	always to if they construct something and/or
14	maintain something, their easement refers to they will
15	repair and pay damages. It should be restored, the
16	soil and the dirt and the land. They should be
17	required to seed the ground, cover and maintain the
18	area around the towers so that it's not a resource for
19	the farmers fighting weeds. They should be required
20	to inspect and maintain these things, and then if this
21	project fails, who's going to pay to remove what they
22	built? Where is the bond? Where is the escrow fund?
23	Where is the money to remove it? That should be a
24	requirement, I believe, that the Missouri Public
25	Service Commission can place on Grain Belt.

		Page 42
1	The easement they've shown to a few	
2	landowners I've seen and examined, and to me, it's	
3	very favorable to Grain Belt. They wrote it. It	
4	should be written their way, but it's terribly unfair	
5	to landowners, farmers, operators, tenants and us. I	
6	think Missouri Public Service Commission should	
7	require that an easement used by Grain Belt, whether	
8	it's voluntary or condemnation, be an easement that is	
9	approved by landowners and Grain Belt through some	
10	neutral party acting as a mediator to assist with	
11	coming up with an easement that's more appropriate.	
12	And we can talk about property damage, and	
13	we can talk about land values and farmers, but what	
14	about the issue of impact of this project on the	
15	neighbors of this line? People with homes, five,	
16	10 acres, that's their residence, they got a mortgage,	
17	and all of a sudden now they've got a property	
18	detrimental view from a transmission line. That's an	
19	impact on Missourians that the Missouri Public Service	
20	Commission should consider.	
21	We thank you for your consideration of	
22	these many issues. I'm certain there's more that	
23	other people can comment on, and I do thank you for	
24	your time and consideration.	
25	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions from attorneys?	

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     (No response.)
 1
 2
                 Commissioner questions? (No response.)
 3
                 COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: No, thanks.
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you very much.
 4
 5
                 It seems to be getting a little warm here.
 6
    Would you all like to try the AC again?
 7
                 UNIDENTIFIED INDIVIDUAL: Yes.
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Can we try and turn the AC
 8
    back on and talk a little further?
 9
10
                 Our next witness is Marilyn O'Bannon.
11
                 MARILYN O'BANNON: Hi.
12
                 (Witness sworn.)
13
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name for
    the record, please.
14
15
                 MARILYN O'BANNON: Marilyn O'Bannon, O,
16
    apostrophe, B-A-N-N-O-N.
17
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?
18
                 MARILYN O'BANNON: 17234 Route M, Madison,
    Missouri. That's in Monroe County, and I'm on the
19
20
    Grain Belt Express line, the route.
21
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
                 MARILYN O'BANNON: My husband and I have a
22
23
     140-acre farm right on Route M that is mostly
24
    tillable, and the Clean Line easement would take
     approximately 12 acres. I'm opposed for many reasons.
25
```

Page 44 Clean Line either intentionally or 1 2 inadvertently left landowners out of meetings and 3 conversations regarding the Grain Belt Express Line. Actually, I think that was kind of understandable 4 5 after I read some of their strategies and tactics in working with rural America and a public participation 6 7 for transmitting transmission citing an agenda where 8 they mention there was a workshop entitled, Marketing 9 to Mayberry. Later that sponsorship of that workshop 10 was changed to, I think, a different sponsor, and I have those two copies, if you would like those. 11 12 Clean Line met with our county commissioners about a year before there was ever a 13 public meeting, which was held in July of last year 14 15 here in Monroe City. For folks on the southern Monroe County route, Monroe City's about close to an hour 16 17 away, 45 minutes to an hour away. It was not held at the county seat, where it would have been more 18 accessible for people on the line, if they had known 19 about the meeting. Most of the people I have talked 20 21 to never received any kind of notice of that meeting. Clean Line states that (inaudible) of 22 landowners and transparent in business operations. 23 Ι 24 rarely have not experienced this. I sent an e-mail to project manager Mark Lawlor on January 24th to follow 25

	Page 45
1	up on how Clean Line would respond to tornados. It's
2	already been brought up here today, but I specifically
3	asked him in a meeting, what what would be your
4	plan? And he did not know that southwest Monroe
5	County was kind of known as tornado alley. And he
6	asked me to e-mail him and he would find out an
7	answer. I've got my e-mail right here with me today.
8	It's never had a response.
9	As mentioned earlier, the ABB press
10	conference that was held in Jeff City, I was one of
11	the one of the four that was in attendance. We did
12	get clearance by ABB to enter. We were met at the
13	door by Clean Line staff with arms spread out telling
14	us to leave. Now, the only thing I want to add
15	different here is that I asked, what about landowners?
16	We're stakeholders in this project. Why aren't we
17	allowed? And the response was, you will get your
18	meeting later. Okay. This is the end of January.
19	At the end of February, they had their open
20	business office hours meeting in Paris. I attended
21	that, but that was about a month before the
22	application was filed with the PSC. At that meeting
23	in Paris at the end of February, I asked again about
24	handling either emergencies, how would that be
25	handled, and after several times of asking several

Page 46 staff members, I was told, we're just the developers; 1 2 we can't answer those questions. 3 Just to give a little perspective about landowners, and particularly farmers, when we get --4 5 when we get a farm, we are -- we buy a farm. It's usually for a lifetime. We're not in it to buy and 6 7 sell. The land becomes part of us, and it's always our goal, and I think, speaking for my husband and I 8 9 and probably other farmers, that we want to sustain 10 this ground and agriculture and pass it on to the next generation. That -- that's very -- we're very 11 12 passionate about that. I consider myself a very good 13 steward and nurturer of the land with all (inaudible) spend quite a bit of money necessary to enhance the 14 15 soil productivity. Having a company come in and pour up to 16 17 36 feet of concrete beneath the soil really sickens 18 me. 19 And I'm sorry, that's all I have to say for 20 now, but thank you very much. 21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions from the 22 attorneys? (No response.) 23 Questions from commissioners? 2.4 COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: Just very 25 briefly, Ms. O'Bannon, thanks for being here. The

Page 47 document that you referred to, what was -- was that a 1 2 conference? 3 MARILYN O'BANNON: Yes. COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: What was the 4 5 conference? 6 MARILYN O'BANNON: It was an EUCI 7 conference. Would you like -- I'm going to leave it with you, if you would like that. 8 COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: Sure. And the 9 meeting that you referred to is the same meeting that 10 Mr. Daniels talked about? 11 12 MARILYN O'BANNON: Yes, it was. Mr. Daniels and my brother and my sister-in-law 13 14 Debbie. 15 COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: All right. 16 Thank you. 17 MARILYN O'BANNON: Yes. Okay. I did just want to show you this picture of -- of the farm, and 18 there are current transmission lines going across, and 19 the Grain Belt Express Line would just go to the 20 21 north, which would basically make this mostly tillable ground farming around transmission lines. 22 23 COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: Thank you. MARILYN O'BANNON: Would you like this? 24 Can I leave these for exhibits? 25

Page 48 1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: If you want to offer 2 something as an exhibit, bring it up. 3 I'd like to have these marked as exhibits. For the attorneys, what I'm going to do to save time 4 5 today is give you an opportunity, after they've been 6 submitted into the electronic filing system, you'll 7 have five business days to review them and to make any objections, so they would be admitted only contingent 8 upon any objections that I receive later. 9 10 Next witness is Bob Benoit. 11 (Witness sworn.) 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Will you state your name. BOB BENOIT: My name is Robert -- Robert 13 14 Benoit. 15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: How do you spell your last 16 name? 17 BOB BENOIT: B-E-N-O-I-T. 18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside, 19 sir? 20 BOB BENOIT: 6500 Audrain Road 124, 21 Centralia, Missouri. 22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 23 BOB BENOIT: Yeah. Okay. At that location 24 is where I live, but -- and that's in Audrain County, but we bought ground and bought land in Monroe County 25

		Page 49
1	along the proposed route in 1991, and that's when I	
2	started my my farming career. We now have one and	
3	a half miles of cropland that are along the route,	
4	along this proposed route. It's all cropland.	
5	It's we have a multigenerational row crop farm	
6	and and I guess my concerns I'm going to talk about	
7	have to do with being a row crop farmer and what it	
8	involves when something like this goes through your	
9	property.	
10	My first concern is irrigation, and I know	
11	it's been mentioned before, but we actually have an	
12	irrigation system along this route. We have three	
13	center irrigation systems that would be affected by	
14	this by this proposed route. I originally	
15	installed the irrigation equipment in 1994, and I	
16	honestly don't know if I would have made it as a	
17	farmer without that irrigation. It really has carried	
18	me through the earlier years when I was a young man.	
19	We figure that we get approximately \$200 per acre of	
20	additional income for every irrigated acre each year	
21	on average. So any interference with those irrigation	
22	would be very costly to our operation. That's my	
23	first point is irrigation.	
24	Another point is obstruction to the field,	
25	having those obstructions in the field. Power lines	

		Page 50
1	or any other type of obstructions really kills the	
2	efficiency of my farm equipment. It's like having a	
3	detour on the road when you're going somewhere. You	
4	have to stop, turn, go around, back up, and it really	
5	takes much more time than you would think that it	
6	does, and that's every trip through the field you have	
7	that. And once those poles are there, you know, I	
8	would assume probably be there indefinitely. I've	
9	already got a son involved in farming, and, you know,	
10	I don't know how many more generations all going to	
11	have to work around those those obstructions.	
12	Henceforth, another concern I have is	
13	aircraft. With the aircraft, that seems to be an	
14	increasing thing. We're using more and more trying to	
15	increase the yields on the farm, and obviously, those	
16	will be somewhat limited by by power lines and	
17	and towers.	
18	Another concern is interference with GPS	
19	equipment. Virtually all of our equipment now is	
20	equipped with GPS, and it's become quite an important	
21	part of the of the farm modern farming	
22	operations. I don't know if it would be affected, but	
23	it seems likely a big concern of ours.	
24	For these reasons and others that you've	
25	heard, our family stands opposed to the approval of	

Page 51 the Clean Line application. Thank you. 1 2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions from attorneys? 3 (No response.) Commissioner questions? (No response.) 4 5 Thank you. 6 Jay O'Bannon. 7 (Witness sworn.) 8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name for 9 the record. 10 JAY O'BANNON: Jay O'Bannon. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Spell the last name. 11 12 JAY O'BANNON: Capital O, apostrophe, 13 B-A-N-N-O-N. I reside at 817 Shawn Court, Centralia, Missouri. I'd like to mention that I -- my brother 14 15 and I rent a farm that will be directly impacted by the proposed power line. 16 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Do you have any other comments you'd like to make? 18 19 JAY O'BANNON: Yes. Like I said, we -- me and my brother and I farm ground right there at Route 20 21 M by the farm zone by Mr. David Krusemark, and four or five years ago graciously gave us an opportunity for 22 two young guys that love agriculture to get started in 23 agriculture, and we're forever grateful for that. The 24 line -- the farm that we farm is right at the junction 25

		Page 52
1	of Route M and C. This farm currently has a	
2	consolidated substation on the property. It also has	
3	power lines coming in and out of the substation. The	
4	proposed route of Clean Line actually will enter along	
5	the northwest side of an existing power line coming	
6	into the farm. We'll it'll come up to the south	
7	part of the farm and go exactly in the middle of the	
8	farm, and then take a hard right-hand turn and hit due	
9	east down north route of Route M across across	
10	from the main part of the property. For this property	
11	now will have a substation and basically three sets of	
12	power lines through it, but with that being said,	
13	we've heard a lot about other people in my group	
14	follow statements about that.	
15	I want to talk a little bit. I'm a	
16	part-time farmer, and I'm also a grain merchandiser	
17	for a large agriculture company here in Missouri. I	
18	had a chance to meet with Mark Lawlor in late January.	
19	I didn't know anything about the Grain Belt Express	
20	and what they were trying to do, but after that	
21	meeting it's come pretty relevant what this whole	
22	project is: Financial commodity. We all know that.	
23	I'm in the commodity business every day. When you	
24	control the freight of a commodity, you have all the	
25	leverage, and that's what this is. It's a leverage	

		Page 53
1	game. It's plain and simple. Basic first thing I	
2	was taught when I took my job, you control the	
3	freight, you control the leverage of the deal. But	
4	learning more about this and talking to other	
5	consolidated or other electricity professionals and	
6	I got this forwarded me from a manager of Consolidated	
7	Electrical, and I just want to read this. This is	
8	from the Southwestern Power administration. It's an	
9	agency of the U.S. Department of Energy that markets	
10	hydroelectric power of 24 Corps of Engineers	
11	multipurpose dam and rural cooperative, mostly in	
12	Oklahoma, Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, Texas, and	
13	Louisiana. This was forwarded from a manager at	
14	Consolidated Electric. And I'll I'll give this to	
15	you later. I'm just going to read this comes from	
16	their Web site about Clean Line Energy.	
17	Clean Line Energy Partners plans to build	
18	two major electric transmission lines, one from the	
19	Oklahoma panhandle to Memphis, Tennessee, area, and	
20	the other one from west Kansas through Missouri, two	
21	points east, to transport wind energy from plain	
22	states over great distances to the east and	
23	southeastern United States. Unlike typical electric	
24	transmission lines, which transmit high-voltage AC,	
25	the clean line project will utilize high-voltage	

		Page 54
1	direct-current electricity. The choice of HVAC line	
2	has significance for electric consumers in Oklahoma,	
3	Kansas, Texas, Arkansas, Missouri. HVAC and HVDC	
4	transmission systems are not directly compatible. DC	
5	electricity for the Clean Line projects will have to	
6	be converted into AC current before it can be injected	
7	into the existing electric grid. AC and DC conversion	
8	stations have expense to build and require significant	
9	upgrades in existing HVAC systems, making it	
10	economically infeasible to make multiple terminations	
11	with the HVAC grid. This is the result the result,	
12	the proposed Clean Line project will likely be a	
13	one-way pipeline transmitting wind energy from western	
14	Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas to the far reach of the	
15	country. The project will fly over the entire	
16	midwest, about seven to 800 miles (inaudible) without	
17	the connecting or benefitting any electric consumers	
18	in between.	
19	This was from Southwestern Power	
20	Administration. That was forwarded to me by the	
21	manager of Consolidated Electric. Thank you.	
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions from attorneys?	
23	(No response.)	
24	Commissioner questions? (No response.)	
25	Thank you.	

Page 55 1 JAY O'BANNON: Thank you for your time. 2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Dale Morgan. 3 DALE MORGAN: I gave up my time. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Might have to help 4 5 me with this one. Cindy O'Laughlin. I'm saying that 6 wrong, I'm sure. 7 CINDY O'LAUGHLIN: No. You're right. 8 (Witness sworn.) 9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state your name for the record. 10 CINDY O'LAUGHLIN: My name is Cindy 11 12 O'Laughlin. It's spelled O, apostrophe, L-A-U-G-H-L-I-N. 13 14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside, Ms. O'Laughlin? 15 16 CINDY O'LAUGHLIN: 6584 Francis Lane, 17 Shelbina, Missouri. 18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 19 CINDY O'LAUGHLIN: Thank you. 20 Well, I want to say that I realize this is 21 a difficult topic, and I have friends who are on both sides of the topic, and I'm glad that I'm not the one 22 making the decision, and I'm guessing that most of the 23 24 people here will not be making the decision, either. 25 I do know that each of our homes and our

		Page 56
1	businesses we are in business. We've been in	
2	business for 60 years. We employ about 35 people.	
3	Some of them have worked there as much as 40 years.	
4	So we understand that utility costs are a big thing in	
5	people's budgets and their ability to make of it. I	
6	know that in 2008, the voters of Missouri approved the	
7	ballot measure that said a certain percentage of our	
8	power had to come from renewable sources. Well, we	
9	don't have those sources. So this deadline is coming	
10	in a few years.	
11	So I guess I feel like the question is not	
12	if this type of power that's coming, but when the	
13	power is coming, and I feel like it's up to you to	
14	determine what is right and what is fair to the people	
15	who own land and that the line crosses.	
16	I heard someone say that maybe it should	
17	come down Highway 36, not across their farmland.	
18	Well, there's farmland next to Highway 36. I mean, no	
19	matter where you put it, if it's coming across	
20	Missouri, it's going to come across someone's farmland	
21	because we are an agricultural state. So I feel like	
22	it's sort of an inevitable thing. I don't know if	
23	this will be this project or not. I feel like it's	
24	coming and the voters voted for it, and so here we're	
25	seeing the results of that.	

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1	If I could say that I'm a farm bureau	
2	member also, and I heard someone mention Mayberry, and	
3	I feel like we all appreciate the rural nature of our	
4	communities, and we all want to continue to live	
5	there, and we want to be able to make a living, raise	
6	our children there, and we want to pass our	
7	businesses, whether it's the business that we own or a	
8	farm business, to the next generation.	
9	Our opportunities for business are very	
10	limited. So the 35 people who work for us that I feel	
11	like I need to speak up for them, we're looking for	
12	opportunities to do business. This company is talking	
13	about investing \$500 million in the State of Missouri.	
14	When was the last time anyone invested \$500 million in	
15	the State of Missouri and particularly in northern	
16	Missouri? We're losing population. We're losing tax	
17	base. If we all yet we all want to have good	
18	schools, good ambulances, good roads and bridges. We	
19	want those advantages, but we are rapidly losing the	
20	ability to pay for those advantages.	
21	I feel like this project, if it's approved,	
22	could provide part of the answer for that. I guess my	
23	closing statement would be, I have not had the	
24	experience that some of the people here have	
25	mentioned, but I have met with Mark Lawlor numerous	

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		Page 58
1	times, and I've talked with people both for and	
2	against, and they have had questions, and I have	
3	always contacted him with questions. I've e-mailed	
4	him. I have called him. I have always gotten an	
5	answer. I can't speak to what other people have	
6	experienced, but I know that has been my experience.	
7	So I don't think that the project should be	
8	considered, you know, entirely negative for Missouri	
9	because I don't believe that it is, and it is a decent	
10	investment in Missouri, that those are my comments.	
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.	
12	Any questions from the attorneys? (No	
13	response.)	
14	Commissioner questions? (No response.)	
15	Thank you, ma'am.	
16	CINDY O'LAUGHLIN: Thank you.	
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Norm Fishel.	
18	(Witness sworn.)	
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you step closer to	
20	the microphone, and state your name for the record.	
21	NORM FISHEL: Norm Fishel, F-I-S-H-E-L.	
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you live?	
23	NORM FISHEL: I live in Missouri, a suburb	
24	of St. Louis. My wife and I have been landowners in	
25	south Monroe County for more than 30 years. We've had	

		Page 59
1	a number of capable farmers manage that and approve it	
2	over the years. The proposed line goes directly	
3	across our property, but rather than speak to some of	
4	those effects today, I'd like to talk about the	
5	necessity of the public need for this. As one reason	
6	for Clean Line or Rock Island proposals, not only use	
7	it	
8	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Speak up to the	
9	NORM FISHEL: Not only have they evolved	
10	over the years, but we have also uncertainties. At	
11	times you'll see in Missouri they spent 4,000	
12	megawatts times, 3,500. For the breakout station in	
13	Ralls County, it's 500 megawatts, 1,000 megawatts.	
14	Well, let's look at what we need the power at all here	
15	in Missouri or whether it's needed to the east.	
16	First of all, most of it concerns the	
17	public utilities. Missouri, Kansas City Power & Light	
18	(inaudible) employ both are members of the	
19	southwestern power pole, not me. None of this power	
20	will go to them. They have already if you looked	
21	at their innovative resource plan and the renewable	
22	energy, things they are already satisfying that they	
23	would be able to meet all of these. So we're left	
24	with (inaudible) Mark Lawlor in April said that he's	
25	had some talks with Amren about the Ralls County	

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1	breakout station, but no negotiations at that point.	
2	Amren declined and Amren in their innovative plan in	
3	their renewable energy standards indicate that they're	
4	in pretty good standing to 2025, 2030, including their	
5	recent announced decision to retire their cold fire	
6	plant. So there does not appear to be any need for	
7	the cooperatives. Associated Electric of Missouri,	
8	once again, they've already indicated that they have	
9	more than adequate renewable power as do some	
10	independent (inaudible) like Columbia and Kirksville.	
11	To produce cheap electric power by putting	
12	in a 2-billion-dollar or 2.1-billion-dollar line just	
13	doesn't cut it. And as you look deeply into their	
14	numbers, if you take 2.1 billion dollars and take the	
15	reasonable rate of return, let's say 4 percent	
16	(inaudible) rather a return actually and amortize over	
17	a 40-year lifetime of a transmission tower, which	
18	incidentally is going to come from national grid Clean	
19	Line's benefactor. If you take that, you're talking	
20	about somewhere in the order of \$0.10 kilowatt an hour	
21	just for the transmission.	
22	The Western Power in Kansas is not the	
23	cheapest energy in the United States. As it's been	
24	stated by Clean Line, you can find hydro going down to	
25	low as half a cent. You can find wind energy as low	

		Page 61
1	as a penny. In any case, if you want to make it	
2	cheap, why not shorten the line? Why not build it in	
3	Kansas instead of out in Four County, 75 miles,	
4	produce the lawsuits. It might be cheaper energy but	
5	the cost of investing that is a real problem. In	
6	fact, the benefactor of national grid last year and	
7	most recent report, which was 2013, '14 (inaudible)	
8	engineer because that's how it's reported in. Their	
9	rate of return on the investments in the United States	
10	was 9 percent, a little over 10 percent for those	
11	things that involve (inaudible). If that's the case,	
12	the cost of transmission, I would suspect national	
13	grid once (inaudible) return more like that rather	
14	than 4 percent you're talking in between for	
15	transmitting this. That's not cheap energy. Amren	
16	where I live, 8.6 cent kilowatt an hour. I don't want	
17	the 20,000 transmission added onto that. Is this	
18	needed for MISO or PJM? No. Both have indicated that	
19	the option for PJM for renewables took place in May	
20	going through 2017. Clean Line is not part of that.	
21	In fact, it's kind of interesting if you look at PJM,	
22	Grain Belt is listed to being an affiliate of Rock	
23	Island, not actually a member of PJM. Is this because	
24	we've got three lines, the Rock Island, the plains and	
25	eastern, and the grain Belt that these were one-size	

		Page 62
1	facilities all trying to cram 3,500 megawatt	
2	multi-hundred-dollar line in each of these areas?	
3	That one sticks	
4	(inaudible) PJM doesn't want this.	
5	The other thing, kind of interesting,	
6	whenever you see the calculations by Grain Belt, they	
7	typically use efficiency on the windmills in 50,	
8	55 percent of the lines that all these people built	
9	when they're members of the Horizon Wind, now owned by	
10	a Portuguese company, 30, 35 percent the median that	
11	comes out of Kansas. It's not wind energy. We're	
12	getting thousand megawatts from wind energy from	
13	Kansas today (inaudible) out in Cloud County, Kansas,	
14	that I'm sorry. I've lot lost my train of thought	
15	on that.	
16	But in any case, it's not oh, that's	
17	big. About 45, 46 percent. When you see Grain Belt's	
18	calculations, it's all the in the 50 or 55 percent	
19	efficiency, which kind of negates they're going to put	
20	something other than wind energy on the line for their	
21	own. I understand that.	
22	There's been no mention as to where this is	3
23	going to come from. Are we going to build something	
24	in Missouri? No. Because there's no are they	
25	going to be filled out in Four County, Kansas? No.	

		Page 63
1	Now, we are out there, fought for years to get a new	
2	coal plant, which was just approved in the last couple	
3	months, already going north to Nebraska, so a new line	
4	at a 40 percent efficiency, if that's the case, then	
5	we need to include Missouri in such things as an	
6	additional gas plant or something like that, and that	
7	ought to be part of the cost, not saying cheap wind	
8	energy and that today PJM and MISO both indicate that	
9	they have more than enough power and more than enough	
10	renewables. And at the moment, even though they're	
11	making progress and having submitted proposal to it,	
12	Clean Line is not part of that. Thank you.	
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions from attorneys?	
14	(No response.)	
15	Commissioner questions? (No response.)	
16	Thank you, sir.	
17	Jim Hansen.	
18	(Witness sworn.)	
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state	
20	your name for the record, spelling your last name.	
21	JIM HANSEN: Jim Hansen, H-A-N-S-E-N.	
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live?	
23	JIM HANSEN: I live at 5877 Highway C,	
24	Frankford, Missouri, 63441, Pike County.	
25	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.	
1		

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1	JIM HANSEN: If I can raise this up just a
2	little bit. Thank you very much.
3	First, what I would like to do is thank the
4	Public Service Commission for agreeing to hold these
5	meetings in Monroe and Ralls County today. These two
6	counties make up half of my district as a state
7	representative, so I have a fairly large area, and it
8	only includes, like I said, Ralls and Monroe County,
9	but it also includes all of Pike County and a small
10	portion of Lincoln County. It will be these two
11	hearings today and the six others scheduled through
12	September 4th that will give the concerned citizens of
13	Missouri a chance to express their opposition or
14	support for Grain Belt Express.
15	Every day it just seems like every day
16	in my life in the last few years, we hear of new
17	regulations of laws that restrict our freedoms as
18	Americans, and if the people of this great state and
19	nation don't take the stand for their individual
20	liberties, there will be no liberty.
21	Today I come to speak out for myself and my
22	citizens who oppose this project, because I don't see
23	enough value of benefits for the 40th district and the
24	citizens of Missouri. I feel our state has resources
25	to come up with solutions to implement renewable

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1	resources for energy. These solutions for renewable	
2	energy should originate in our state and design to	
3	benefit all citizens of Missouri. When we have a	
4	major project that crosses eight counties, it does not	
5	make sense to give up property rights for a project	
6	that originates in Kansas, ends in providing	
7	electricity for eastern states without being more	
8	beneficial to Missouri. Since this project does not	
9	have benefits for Missouri, it is hard for me to	
10	rationalize why it should be granted the power of	
11	eminent domain.	
12	There are many of you here today in	
13	opposition to this high-voltage power line, but my	
14	biggest opposition is taking away of private	
15	properties to eminent domain. This is just another	
16	example of private companies trying to limit our	
17	personal liberties. We should have a freedom to	
18	determine how our property is used, not Grain Belt	
19	Express, a private company. I'm not opposed to	
20	renewable energy, but I'm opposed to giving up our	
21	liberty and private property rights to benefit any	
22	projects that favors a private company over our	
23	citizens' rights.	
24	There are many options that could be	
25	explored and benefit Missouri. There's some wind	

		Page 66
1	energy projects we can do in Missouri. You know, the	
2	wind blows in Missouri. It doesn't blow in Kansas.	
3	You know, we have wind here. Also, if we want to put	
4	up a windmill, we can put up a windmill in Missouri,	
5	and it would benefit Missouri citizens. It could	
6	start in Missouri; it could end in Missouri, if that's	
7	what we want. We have other options that we could be	
8	exploring in Missouri. (Inaudible) reactors are being	
9	investigated and tested and worked on right now. We	
10	have nuclear power in Missouri, Callaway, a very clean	
11	source of energy.	
12	We have hydropower in my district, Cannon	
13	Dam, which provides a tremendous amount of electricity	
14	to Ralls County and the citizens of Missouri, and my	
15	district sits in two counties, Ralls County and Pike	
16	County, border the Mississippi River, which also are	
17	the home of the Saverton Dam and the Clarksville Dam,	
18	and you can't tell me we aren't smart enough to put a	
19	turbine or two in those two dams to create clean	
20	energy. We have the resources. We can do this.	
21	I attended my first opposition meeting in	
22	Madison, Missouri, on January the 25th, 2014, and all	
23	the other meetings that were scheduled throughout	
24	Monroe and Ralls and Pike County, and as a result, I	
25	wrote my letter in opposition on March 19th, 2014. I	

		Page 67
1	was copied on letters from attorneys representing	
2	landowners in my districts in the Grain Belt Express	
3	in opposition. I also received a letter from Monroe	
4	County Farm Bureau in opposition. I am also aware	
5	that the commissioners of Ralls and Monroe Counties	
6	stand in opposition to the Grain Belt Express project.	
7	There has been legislation considered in	
8	the house of representatives under house bill 299.29	
9	dealing with this issue that was introduced too late	
10	in the session but would probably be reviewed and	
11	discussed in the session resuming in January.	
12	I want to say thanks again for holding	
13	these hearings in the 40th district. I really greatly	
14	appreciate you coming out to do that for the citizens.	
15	It's my hope and desire that you stand with my	
16	constituents and the citizens of Missouri to protect	
17	our freedom, their liberty to make a choice to	
18	determine how their property is used. Thank you very	
19	much.	
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions from attorneys?	
21	(No response.)	
22	Commissioner questions? (No response.)	
23	Thank you, sir.	
24	JIM HANSEN: Thanks again.	
25	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Next witness is Don it	

Page 68 looks like K-L-E-U-S maybe? 1 2 (Witness sworn.) 3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state 4 your name and spell your last name. 5 DON WELLS: Don Wells, W-E-L-L-S, 208 East Birch, Shelbina, Missouri. 6 7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 8 DON WELLS: Thank you, gentlemen. 9 Actually, I just have a question. And all the points that have been raised have been excellent, and I can 10 11 understand the comments from all these speakers. 12 I did have the opportunity to work for United 20 years in my division mining, and on an 13 annual basis the concerns there was always power, and 14 today those units (inaudible) the ones I'm still at or 15 concede their scheduled life. So if we don't start 16 17 investigating at least in renewables -- everyone seems to lean to nuclear -- has been a nuclear option for a 18 long time. The whole industry has suffered and we was 19 20 extended, so the renewable sources are there. And 21 granted, all of them are going to have problems, and I wouldn't want to be in your position right now, but I 22 think for our future and for our children's future 23 that the problems we have ought to be investigated and 24 solved so these renewables can be used in our state, 25

Page 69 even though as many of us have said, maybe only 500 1 2 megawatts off this particular project, but what about 3 the next one? And the power line issue, we've got --4 5 we've got power. That's all I'm going to say. 500 6 mega lines go through Thomas Hill. So I just think 7 that, you know, we're going to have -- we're going to have to address the issues and solve the problem. 8 9 Thank you. 10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions from attorneys? 11 (No response.) Commissioner questions? (No response.) 12 Thank you, sir. 13 14 Raymond Dowell. Mr. Dowell. Okay. Mr. Dowell. 15 16 RAYMOND DOWELL: I'm declining at this 17 time. I think all my issues have been addressed. 18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Very good, sir. 19 RAYMOND DOWELL: Thank you. 20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Next witness is Glen 21 Eagan. 22 (Witness sworn.) 23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and 24 spell your last name. 25 GLEN EAGAN: Glen Eagan, E-A-G-A-N.

	Page 70
1	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?
2	GLEN EAGAN: 703 East Main Street in
3	Shelbyville, Missouri.
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
5	GLEN EAGAN: I'm a county commissioner from
6	Shelby County, and I would like to speak on the
7	importance of Clean Line Energy Project for many
8	reasons. The project will provide many people in
9	Missouri and our friends to the east with clean,
10	affordable, renewable energy that we will not need but
11	do require to have in the future. This great country
12	of ours and the State of Missouri started up
13	infrastructure projects over several years ago and all
14	types on private property. These projects of many
15	types, such as railroad, highways, airports and, yes,
16	our electric grids, have all interrupted someone's
17	lives, businesses, crossing over their property. Yes,
18	it can be an inconvenience and people may not want it
19	crossing their land, but what could you can you do?
20	Compensate them the fair price, what you are taking to
21	complete the project. Where would we be if we had to
22	stop these projects many years ago? No trains, no
23	planes, no highways, no electricity would have kept us
24	from progressing what this country has built today
25	based on the fact that infrastructure of all types

Page 71 needs to be built for the betterment of our country 1 2 and the state of Missouri. 3 Another very important reason, many tax dollars created for our schools and many other taxes 4 5 in our country. Just this year in Shelby County, Flanagan South Pineline went through 24 1/2 miles in 6 7 our county, and it will recreate nearly 20 percent increase in our taxes. This will enable our tax 8 annuities and updates and keep our facilities 9 maintained. This project was based (inaudible) as 10 much of it lays in Monroe County and would benefit 11 12 from this project. 13 In closing, I want to thank the Public Service Comission for consideration to allow this 14 project to go forward and to also thank people of the 15 last 100 years of making the sacrifice for their 16 17 country and state to allow infrastructure to cross their land. This obligation has shaped our land and 18 shaped progress from our society today. Thank you. 19 20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Attorney questions? (No 21 response.) 22 Commissioner questions? (No response.) 23 Thank you, sir. 2.4 GLEN EAGAN: Thank you. 25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: I don't know. It looks

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Page 72
    like V-I-L-L-E-M-E-R. Maybe I'm reading that
 1
 2
     incorrectly. (No response.)
 3
                 Okay. Louis Meyer.
                 LOUIS MEYER: Commissioners, our property
 4
 5
    is in Ralls County.
 6
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Sir, I need to swear you
 7
     in first.
 8
                 (Witness sworn.)
 9
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Can you state your name
     and spell your last name.
10
11
                 LOUIS MEYER: Louis Meyer, M-E-Y-E-R.
12
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?
                 LOUIS MEYER: 3648 Rocky Road 113 in
13
14
    Carbondale, Colorado.
15
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Please proceed.
16
                 LOUIS MEYER: Commissioners, our property
17
    is in Ralls County. Our farm is referred to Monroe
18
    County (inaudible) farmers today. Thank you.
19
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.
20
                 Any questions from attorneys or
21
    commissioners? (No response.)
22
                 Kent Dye.
23
                 (Witness sworn.)
24
                 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and
    spell your last name.
25
```
	Page
1	KENT DYE: My name is Kent Dye, D-Y-E. I
2	reside at 25948 Monroe Road 830, Paris, Missouri.
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
4	KENT DYE: My name is Kent Dye, and my
5	family and I live south of Paris in southern Monroe
6	County. We own four farms representing three miles of
7	line on the proposed route of Grain Belt Express. My
8	parents live on one of the farms. My brother and his
9	family live on another tract of land. On this trail,
10	half of them have lived 150 feet. This would
11	encompass 54 acres of land under easement, and it has
12	more tower than to be required to have flashing lights
13	that would be seen for miles, and I'm talking towers
14	that are 150 feet higher than the required towers, on
15	lights over everything. This would be an unsightly
16	scar on the rural landscape for generations to come.
17	There have been many studies done by real
18	estate appraisers as well as documented that property
19	devaluation does occur. Devaluation of the proposed
20	easement, for example, shows our current market value
21	will would not begin to cover the market value of
22	the entire farm. The construction process alone will
23	cause long-term paction and loss and current future
24	income involved in digging holes 30 to 50 feet deep
25	(inaudible) hundred yards of concrete and tons of

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		Page 74
1	steel they've said it required to do so. Where would	
2	all that unproductive play be? The potential for	
3	irrigation or other (inaudible) on these farms would	
4	be lost forever. Every time we pull one steel	
5	(inaudible) more time and input costs to overlapping	
6	the increasing around the towers. If anybody's	
7	operating equipment, by the time you back up and turn	
8	around and back up and turn around four times on a	
9	tire, you don't have anything left.	
10	Also, a very high risk will exist	
11	(inaudible) would result in a disastrous (inaudible),	
12	including expensive repair and down time, personal	
13	injury or any of that. And I read about a case in	
14	Kansas where a farmer hit a tower that was hundreds of	
15	thousands of volts and grounded from the ground, and	
16	he tried to install and he immediately from electric	
17	shock. This isn't just a hypothetical case. The	
18	amount of farming is done after dark. The possibility	
19	of this happening is very real. I'm sure most farmers	
20	hit a hole at one time. I know I have.	
21	Also, drive technology is already here.	
22	Providing without anyone in mind, we'll have to	
23	navigate on this property around (inaudible) whether	
24	real workers (inaudible) people given a choice will	
25	not want to live near or purchase real estate near	

Page 75 this line. 1 2 In closing, the citizens of Missouri do not 3 need this line. Missouri is now an expert in electricity and power (inaudible) will receive our 4 5 electricity (inaudible) just completed and upgraded 6 their existing line that nearly doubled their 7 capacity. Therefore, I am strongly opposed to Grain Belt Express to build a new plant in the state of 8 Missouri. 9 10 I want to thank you for allowing us to 11 express my concerns today. 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any attorney questions? 13 (No response.) 14 Thank you. 15 John Utterback. 16 (Witness sworn.) 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and 18 spell your last name. JOHN UTTERBACK: John Utterback. 19 U-T-T-E-R-B-A-C-K. 20 21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you move a little closer to the microphone so they can hear you in the 22 23 back. 2.4 JOHN UTTERBACK: Yes. 25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?

		Page 76
1	JOHN UTTERBACK: 9140 Haul Drive Lenexa,	
2	Kansas. Our property is in Monroe County.	
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.	
4	JOHN UTTERBACK: Grain Line Express will	
5	affect at least two pieces of our property. One of	
6	those properties is a prime building area, and I'm	
7	sure what I'm hearing here today is Grain Line does	
8	not offer anywhere near what this property is valued	
9	at. What sounds like to me is, you have a company	
10	here that wants to get in the business to have no need	
11	for the product that they want to produce, and what	
12	limited information I have is, they have no money at	
13	this point to finance this company, and they want to	
14	produce the company. At this point anyway, the	
15	facility producing this product is not even on line,	
16	and many things here doesn't add up. And one of them	
17	is, we didn't list the property owner did not or	
18	receive or heard in these early meetings, and so we	
19	know it's like I said, it's limited information	
20	available. That's all I have.	
21	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from	
22	attorneys? (No response.)	
23	Questions from commissioners? (No	
24	response.)	
25	Thank you.	

Page 77 1 Ron Staggs. 2 (Witness sworn.) 3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and spell your last name. 4 5 RON STAGGS: My name is Ron Staggs, spelled S-T-A-G-G-S. 6 7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside? 8 RON STAGGS: 18157 Monroe Road 445, Paris, Missouri. 9 10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. RON STAGGS: I have a little bit different 11 12 perspective on -- on this proceeding today. I will 13 either benefit or probably will not gain anything through tax dollars based on your decisions. What I'm 14 15 concerned with is, is it really an economically viable issue for a power line going across which Missouri 16 17 will not receive much benefit, if any at all, other than tax dollars? And I also believe that if you 18 negotiate fairly without a power of eminent domain, 19 20 everybody's going to be satisfied. You may not make 21 as much money on the business end, but at least the property owners can be fairly treated. That's what 22 it's all -- negotiation is what it's all about, but 23 24 once eminent domain is granted, there is no negotiations. You'll pay a price, and we cannot 25

Page 78 afford the attorney to fight it in court. 1 2 Also, I think the public meeting in Paris 3 that Grain Belt put on, I proposed the same question and I never did receive an answer, which I was assured 4 5 that the report states that power lines are an 6 unsustainable venture. 7 Now we're talking environmental issues. A 8 power line is not a sound environmental undertaking. 9 When you look at it, a source of power should be located near the user, not 700 miles away. Another 10 11 issue that it's not near the power, but I just 12 recently attended EPA and the Department of Natural 13 Resources of nonpoint source pollution, and I don't know whether any of you have ever seen how towers are 14 15 maintained. They're maintained (inaudible) or chemically. Now, how many streams and how many creeks 16 17 and how many valleys, gullies will this line cross that will be sprayed with herbicides? That's a 18 nonpoint source pollution. 19 20 Now, no matter how much money you make --21 I've heard estimates about how much money a county will get for tax revenue, but if one person gets 22 cancer from a chemical, that exceeds a mighty big 23 hospital bill, all of them exceeding the amount 24 they're even proposing to pay the county local. 25

		Page 79
1	So I wish that you will consider these	
2	things. If you'll have your staff look up the	
3	environmental report, they'll tell you it's not	
4	sustainable environment because of those particular	
5	items.	
6	And then also economically, it's not	
7	economical to transport power clear across the	
8	country. Certainly, if they need power, let them move	
9	here or where we have the power. That's sustainable	
10	and that's what the economy's always been about. Move	
11	with us. Why should we suffer their lifestyle, which	
12	is unsustainable? Thank you.	
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any attorney questions?	
14	(No response.)	
15	Any commissioner questions? (No response.)	
16	Thank you, sir.	
17	Nathan Rose.	
18	(Witness sworn.)	
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: State your name for the	
20	record.	
21	NATHAN ROSE: Nathan Rose, R-O-S-E.	
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside?	
23	NATHAN ROSE: Wentzville, Missouri.	
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.	
25	NATHAN ROSE: I'm a business agent with the	<u>)</u>

Page 80 Laborers' Local 660 and I'm for --1 2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Can you go to the 3 microphone, please. NATHAN ROSE: I'm a business agent for 4 5 Laborers' Local 660, and I support jobs. So I support 6 this project. That's it. 7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any attorney questions? 8 (No response.) Commissioner questions? (No response.) 9 10 Thank you very much. 11 Evelyn Mareschal. 12 ROBERT MARESCHAL: She's passed. 13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Robert Mareschal. 14 (Witness sworn.) 15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Can you state your name please and spell your last name. 16 17 GARY MARESCHAL: Gary Mareschal, 18 M-A-R-E-S-C-H-A-L. 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside? 20 GARY MARESCHAL: 540 Timber Ridge Drive, 21 St. Peters, Missouri. 22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 23 GARY MARESCHAL: Okay. Good afternoon. 24 I'm a resident of St. Charles County and landowner of Monroe County. Grain Belt -- Grain Belt Clean Line 25

		Page 81
1	Express's planned route two farms I'm involved with,	
2	totaling of about 560 acres. I'd like to thank	
3	Missouri Public Service Commission for giving	
4	individuals who could be impacted by power lines a	
5	chance to voice concerns. I am a bit surprised,	
6	however, at this public hearing regarding certificate	
7	of convenience and necessity is even necessary in	
8	light of some of the information I had previously	
9	received from Clean Line indicating they were willing	
10	to directly communicate with property owners and other	
11	interested parties. At any rate, I have some	
12	substantial concerns relative to Clean Line's	
13	proposal.	
14	First, it's hard for me to believe that	
15	Clean Line would be considered public service.	
16	100 percent power being transported going across most	
17	of Missouri with a dollop of power be provided to	
18	Missouri. Clean Line is clearly a profit business	
19	entity hoping to sell power to obtain the greatest	
20	return of their investment. A private business	
21	providing municipal benefits to Missouri have no right	
22	to public utility status.	
23	Second, I don't believe it's in the best	
24	interest to give our state clear-cut and divide it by	
25	powers and power that runs across the state. We have	

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		Page 82
1	a beautiful state that would be with 50	
2	200-foot-wide clear easements and 100- to 200-high	
3	foot towers every 17th quarter mile across the state	
4	will be an atrocity. It will be worse, in my opinion,	
5	than billboards along the highways. At least the	
6	billboards are placed in willing landowners' land. I	
7	don't find many lighted towers appealing at night.	
8	Third, I'm concerned about the health of	
9	individuals, livestock and wildlife with the proposed	
10	power lines. All some of this Clean Line Web	
11	site indicates that these lines should be safe. I	
12	don't know that they the reaction or experience	
13	with power lines guarantees that. In addition, I know	
14	that the U.S. Food & Drug Administrations have	
15	required testing before medications are put out for	
16	public use, and even after years of testing many of	
17	those drugs get recalled.	
18	What are the consequences of health? I'm	
19	sorry. What are the consequences of health issues	
20	arise involving Clean Line's power after the line is	
21	installed? Who is responsible for the issues of	
22	possibly removing the line power easements?	
23	Four, all we own this farmland. We	
24	currently lease to farmers who farm in the area. My	
25	understanding is that the power line that's being	

		Page 83
1	emitted or the power's being emitted will interfere	
2	with the use of GPS and other equipment used to	
3	attempt farm equipment effect and cost effect, an	
4	inability to utilize farming as a possibility to make	
5	the difference between a profitable yield or loss at	
6	this time. That's especially true because of reduced	
7	grain prices and the utilization of fuel, fertilizer,	
8	grain, herbicide, all yields to great loss and less	
9	production. It actually sets form substantially in	
10	those costs need to be considered. And if it makes a	
11	difference, it's a result of additional farmers and	
12	workers the 200-feet easement being requested could	
13	result in substantial crop loss if the line were	
14	installed or maintained where crops in the field	
15	currently.	
16	That is exactly that's what happened on	
17	our two existing farms with Consolidated Electric	
18	where they've completed maintenance and destroyed a	
19	substantial number of crops in that easement. Our	
20	understanding, Clean Line's easement would run	
21	existing easement. If so, we have a 200 actually,	
22	a 250-feet easement on these farms. If for some	
23	reason Clean Line's proposal is not to run adjacent to	
24	an existing easement, further sections of farm less	
25	space for potentially future use with even a greater	

1 land loss.

2 Fifth, from my perspective -- farm business 3 could cause other properties -- would not be effected by this. The power line logically follows that. Our 4 5 income in the ground (inaudible) be produced. If a farm is not as profitable, also can mean that the sale 6 7 of that property would diminish as well, should farm be sold as agriculture. Further, the land could be 8 9 sold for something other than agricultural purposes. It would seem that as a farm with power lines with 10 200-feet easement (inaudible) severe limit what could 11 12 be done on that property for development purposes and 13 either eliminate the property for consideration for sale or reduce the price of the property. Those 14 situations aren't either fair to the farm or the 15 landowner. 16 17 Finally, the farms that we have that we have purchased -- that we have purchased -- would 18 purchase for the value, beauty and as a source of 19 relaxation and recreation and Mark Twain land. They 20 21 replace farmland previously held in St. Louis County, has continued to expand. The land we own provides a 22 bit of solitude, the right of privacy, and several 23

family members have expressed a desire to relocate to those farms, and they've got these power lines somehow Page 84

		Page 85
1	becomes a reality, definitely would not help.	
2	In the event that somehow Clean Line is	
3	granted a certificate of convenience and necessity, I	
4	would hope for safety, health and no effect on farmer	
5	operations, land values, et cetera, are required to be	
6	guaranteed by them (inaudible) with severe	
7	consequences they farm.	
8	Clean Line makes a great sales pitch,	
9	because that's what they do, but my experience with	
10	sales pitches is that all too frequent is there's	
11	little assistance backing them up, because a lot of	
12	money is supporting their efforts. My guess is that	
13	most members of the audience that supports Clean Line	
14	derive from national benefit from Clean Line while	
15	those who oppose derive no financial benefit or	
16	believe they will suffer long-term financial loss,	
17	possible health damage or loss of surrounding	
18	serenity. It's eventually up to you. Almost anything	
19	it's all a game, but what about those who will lose	
20	substantial amount? They are the residents and	
21	landowners who Clean Line so that others may	
22	benefit. What is the rural regarded property	
23	ownership landowners do easement to a private	
24	excuse me to a private corporation result passed	
25	off and a public utility service business using	

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1	minimum required standards should not be required to
2	do so. And I hope the Public Service Commission can
3	see through the smoke and mirrors and disapprove the
4	Grain Belt's application. Thank you.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any attorney questions?
6	(No response.)
7	Any commissioner questions? (No response.)
8	You may be excused.
9	Nate Walker.
10	(Witness sworn.)
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name for
12	the record.
13	NATE WALKER: My name is Nathan Walker.
14	I'm known as Nate Walker. I represent the 3rd
15	district of the state of Missouri, which is the city
16	of Kirksville, western parts of Adair County, Sullivan
17	County, Putnam County, Mercer County, which is where
18	Mercer and Princeton are.
19	I've been involved in lots of things in
20	north Missouri all my life. This is where I was born
21	and raised. Fellow Representative Hansen, who did an
22	outstanding job and got a standing ovation, he's my
23	roommate office at the capitol, good friend of mine,
24	and I respect him. I was following this issue through
25	his office for quite a while. Donnie Wells, who

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Page 87 spoke, we went to one of the schoolhouses and we 1 2 graduated together. 3 I'm in support of the Grain Belt project. I think it's an economic development project that is 4 5 required and needed. Just because some of the testimony says that there's no direct benefits to the 6 7 state of Missouri, I think that's probably wrong. I grew up in a family of public servants. My 8 9 grandfather, Preston Walker, was one of the founding 10 people for Rural Electric Cooperative in north Missouri. He was actually the first organizer for the 11 12 making of Rural Electric Co-Op. I remember sitting as a little boy, sitting on his lap, and he told me about 13 different factories who didn't want the rural 14 15 electric, didn't want it to come to rural Missouri because it was going to do different things and harm 16 17 them, but I think we now know that's something that benefitted our area. I think this project is 18 something that is going to benefit our area and 19 require us to move forward with the economic 20 21 development and that sort of thing. I support this project. I think it's a 22 good project. Infrastructure is part of the key for 23 24 anything, and my family has been involved in situations to where we've owned land where roads have 25

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		Page 88
1	come in for the betterment of the public. We've	
2	always supported those kinds of things. I'm a	
3	landowner and in Macon County and also in Adair	
4	County, and I think there's benefits of this project	
5	for rural development, and therefore, I support this	
6	project.	
7	I thank you all for coming to north	
8	Missouri and getting the input from all these people.	
9	If there's any questions, I'd be glad to answer.	
10	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions from attorneys?	
11	(No response.)	
12	Questions from commissioners? (No	
13	response.)	
14	Thank you very much.	
15	NATE WALKER: Thank you very much.	
16	JUDGE BUSHMANN: This seems to be a good	
17	time to take a break. We'll be in recess until about	
18	1:15.	
19	(WHEREIN, a recess was taken.)	
20	(WHEREIN, LPH Deposition Exhibit Nos. 1, 2,	
21	3, 4 and 5 were marked for identification by the Court	
22	Reporter.)	
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Everybody take their seat,	
24	please. Everybody would like to take a seat, we would	
25	like to continue with the hearing.	

Page 89 Let's go back on the record. Next witness 1 2 on the witness list is Tom Willis. Is Mr. Willis 3 here? (No response.) How about Troy Renner. Troy Renner? 4 5 (Witness sworn.) JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name for 6 the record and spell your last name. 7 TROY RENNER: Troy Renner, R-E-N-N-E-R. 8 9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside? 10 TROY RENNER: 511 North Shelby, Clarence, Missouri. 11 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may go ahead. 13 TROY RENNER: For the record, gentlemen, ladies and gentlemen, I am the executive director of 14 15 Shelby County Economic Development. I'm based in Shelbina, Missouri. I serve under a 10-member board 16 17 of directors. Our mission is to boost the economic line of Shelby County, creating business and existing 18 businesses and through such reach out (inaudible) and 19 Shelby County farmers market. Our board of directors 20 21 comes from all walks of life from agriculture to 22 self-employment to banking. We have two mayors on our board. We also have an ambulance administrator and a 23 24 missionary and the Heartland Community. 25 A little background about myself, I am a

		Page 90
1	northeast Missouri native. I've been around farming	
2	my whole life, although I do not farm at this time.	
3	I'm not a landowner. Was born in Hannibal, raised in	
4	Clarence. I graduated from South Shelby High School	
5	in 1982, and I have a bachelor of degree in mass	
6	communications from Truman State University. I was a	
7	1986 graduate, and I have spent the last 28 years in	
8	professional radio.	
9	Needless to say, the last nine months have	
10	been a learning experience. It's a thankless job. It	
11	hasn't been easy. Some of these are exciting, but the	
12	first business opens out of my office this Saturday,	
13	but when you operate what is basically a one-horse	
14	economic drop-off in a county of 6,400 people with a	
15	new four-lane highway and limited infrastructure, you	
16	look for that tax dollar every chance you get and	
17	everywhere you can. And that is why my office	
18	supports the Clean Line Project. Some people call my	
19	job mission impossible, but my mission is to serve	
20	Shelby County to the best of my ability and to the	
21	best interest of the county.	
22	You have probably heard that the	
23	Environmental Protection Agency is pushing to limit	
24	coal fire-powered plants, but to use sequestration	
25	technology to limit carbon dioxide emissions, which	

		Page 91
1	would in effect possibly drive up the electricity bill	
2	for a million of residents in the State of Missouri,	
3	and more of the EPA-regulated coal fired plants, which	
4	will account for 75 percent of the year (inaudible) in	
5	Missouri, the more we need to look for form of	
6	renewable sources of energy for the generations to	
7	come.	
8	We have a need and a desire for more jobs	
9	in our area. I think that'll become clearer today	
10	with the hearing. Some said that have said these	
11	drops are temporary, but all construction jobs are	
12	temporary. That's any industry. In Shelby County,	
13	many adjoining counties, we recently experienced a	
14	financial boost of revenue with the upbringing	
15	Flanagan South Pipeline Project, which is about near	
16	completion. With Clean Line, the counties who are	
17	directly involved in the route will also receive a	
18	significant increase in property tax revenue for each	
19	mile of the line traverses to the town of \$800,000 for	
20	each county, and they expect to pay millions of	
21	dollars in property taxes beginning in year one of	
22	operation, which would be used to support public	
23	schools, roads, police, ambulance and other community	
24	services in the decades to come.	
25	So, therefore, the capital infusion from	

		Page 92
1	the Clean Line project to our area, I don't consider	
2	temporary. In fact, this project should come to a	
3	place with working fruition to employers and employees	
4	who would then turn to reinvest and protect their	
5	companies. And this can provide a ripple effect in	
6	years to come for employers, to employee and to	
7	landowners.	
8	Now, the alliance itself will not be going	
9	through Shelby County or our neighbors in Macon or	
10	Marion County. However, we appreciate all the work	
11	and revenue this project would bring to our friends in	
12	Chariton, Randolph, Monroe and Ralls Counties and	
13	beyond.	
14	I mentioned that I have worked 28 years in	
15	radio. I am a lifelong resident of northeast Missouri	
16	and a longtime resident of Shelby County. I see a lot	
17	of friends, colleagues from school, from college, from	
18	radio and just friends in this room who are on both	
19	sides of the issue, but as Representative Nate Walker	
20	mentioned, this is an economic development issue, and	
21	Shelby County Economic Development will continue to	
22	work to our best ability with county residents, its	
23	partners and also local partners, including	
24	O'Laughlin, Incorporated. They've identified	
25	themselves (inaudible) in this project. As a Shelby	

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1	County (inaudible), Incorporated. I would like to
2	offer our support of the Clean Line project, and we
3	appreciate the opportunity to provide provide
4	comments before you today. Thank you.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from
6	attorneys? (No response.)
7	Commissioner questions? (No response.)
8	Thank you for your time.
9	Dave Birch.
10	(Witness sworn.)
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state
12	your name spell your last name.
13	DAVID BIRCH: David Birch, B-I-R-C-H.
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: All right. Where do you
15	reside?
16	DAVID BIRCH: 280359 Highway D in Perry,
17	Ralls County.
18	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please proceed.
19	DAVID BIRCH: Well, we've heard from a lot
20	of families here. We've been here many generations.
21	I've only been here 16 years, and I'm a landowner in
22	Ralls County, but I'm opposed to this Grain Belt
23	Express because I don't think that it offers any
24	benefit for the State of Missouri to just travel
25	across Missouri and we won't have the benefit. We're

	I	Page 94
1	going to get our electricity needs to be filled by	
2	another number of years. The jobs that might be	
3	created by this would be eliminated as soon as the	
4	last bit of concrete dries to put them up, then	
5	there's no extra jobs to be someone brought up that	
6	when there was another company who would have invested	
7	\$500 millions in Missouri, all of that agricultural,	
8	all farmers would 500 farms would do more than	
9	\$500 million investment every year.	
10	So I don't see I don't have a lot of	
11	technical information to share with the group, but I	
12	just did want to register my opposition to it. Thank	
13	you.	
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from	
15	attorneys or commissioners? (No response.)	
16	Laura Long.	
17	LAURA LONG: Good afternoon.	
18	(Witness sworn.)	
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you state your name	
20	and spell your last name.	
21	LAURA LONG: Laura Long, L-O-N-G, and my	
22	address is 12814 Monroe Road 859, Paris, Missouri.	
23	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.	
24	LAURA LONG: Okay. So, first off, I guess	
25	I'll start, guys, by telling you that I personally am	

		Page 95
1	affected by the proposed route. I live at 12814	
2	Monroe Road, and my husband and I own a 320-acre farm	
3	at that address, and that is also our homestead and a	
4	place where we built our farming operation. We live	
5	there with two young girls, and basically the proposed	
6	route would go down the southern end of the farm and	
7	across through the southern end of the farm along the	
8	north side of Route M. So I am a stakeholder in this.	
9	I also will tell you a little bit more	
10	background. I hold a bachelor of science degree in	
11	economics from the University of Illinois. I spent	
12	29 years in the ag industry. I am a CCA, certified	
13	crop advisor and make a lot of recommendations to	
14	farmers about what input they should try to do to	
15	increase their their productivity on their farms.	
16	In addition to that, I also have an MB from Columbia	
17	University in New York City, and I will be more than	
18	happy to answer any questions that anyone has about	
19	some of the financial implications. I think some of	
20	my friends and neighbors have given you some ideas	
21	about how we view this and how we can effect our	
22	finances as an ag industry in the State of Missouri.	
23	My understanding is that tourism and	
24	agriculture are the top two industries. I hope that	
25	that weighs in some of the decision making that you	

1 guys make along the way.

2	I would actually like to use what's left of
3	my five minutes to tell you a little bit of a personal
4	story. I do think it's relevant because as as you
5	are weighing the pros and cons of this, I do recognize
6	there's some economic benefits. I think it's
7	important that you understand from a landowner's
8	perspective the emotion that comes with this and the
9	implications for us as a farm family in the State of
10	Missouri. So I'm going to kind of begin and some
11	of my friends and neighbors probably don't know how
12	great or I'm in Paris, Missouri, so I'll bore them
13	as well.

14 I grew up on a farm in Central Illinois, and my father was very proud of the farming operation 15 16 that he had built. It's something that is hard to explain to someone who didn't grow up on a farm, but 17 it's -- it just becomes kind of part of who you are. 18 I don't remember it, but I'm told by my brothers my 19 20 dad used to dump a five-gallon bucket of corn on the 21 sidewalk. When I was in diapers, they would go the field. I would haul that grain with my little toy 22 tractor and my wagon up to the well platform and in 23 the afternoon tell me to haul it back. I would do 24 25 that. So I didn't grow up playing with dolls. I grew

		Page 97
1	up farming. It's kind of part of who I am.	
2	So with that being said, went to the	
3	university, took my first job in Columbia, Missouri.	
4	My brothers took over the farming operation in	
5	Illinois and are older than I am. So going back to	
6	the farm wasn't really financially feasible to me at	
7	that time.	
8	I won't say I set out to marry a farmer,	
9	but probably had it in the back of my mind I wanted to	
10	marry someone who had the same dream that I had. And	
11	I happened to meet Greg Long, and he's going to be	
12	really modest back there and doesn't like the public	
13	eye very much, but I met Greg in Columbia where he was	
14	also employed in the ag industry. We married, I	
15	guess, 20, 23 years ago. We have spent our entire	
16	lives trying to build the farming operation that we	
17	have today. We didn't inherit it. I really, really	
18	appreciate my neighbors' stories about the heritage	
19	that several generations have passed down, but we	
20	built it. We took corporate jobs. We moved around.	
21	We saved money. We lived very frugally. We saved	
22	money for a down payment, and shortly after we were	
23	married, about four or five years into our marriage,	
24	we had enough money for a down payment. We moved to	
25	Paris, Missouri, from New York City and purchased the	

1 farm that we're on today.

2 So our farming operation -- and we have 3 some pictures that I'd be happy to leave for exhibits, but our farming operation has already been built from 4 5 a lot of hard work and a lot of lay hours. It was our dream to raise kids in the stable environment that we 6 7 were both able to be raised in. It's something that 8 was very important to us and made a lot of sacrifices 9 in an effort to get that done. We live in great communities, and our friends and neighbors, they have 10 dreams and stories just like Greg and I did. I'm not 11 12 saying that I want to stand in front of progress. I 13 understand big business. I've been in a corporate environment for 29 years, but it really appears to me 14 15 that this benefits someone financially as they are speculating and betting on the comp and entrepreneur 16 17 and venture -- ugly mess. My understanding prior to this -- this situation, eminent domain and public 18 utility status, was that it should benefit the public, 19 not private industry. And -- and so if it's not 20 21 benefitting the public, A, in general, then my plea to you all as you is, denying their certificate is to not 22 prioritize their dream as being more important than my 23 24 dream. And I hope that makes sense. 25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions from attorneys?

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Page 99 (No response.) 1 2 Any questions from the commissioners? 3 COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: No, thanks. 4 Thank you, Ms. Long. 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. 6 LAURA LONG: Thank you. 7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Scott Hughes. 8 (Witness sworn.) 9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name for the record and spell your last name. 10 SCOTT HUGHES: My name is Scott Hughes, 11 12 H-U-G-H-E-S, and I reside in Wildwood, Missouri. I work with Midwest Region Labors Employers Corporation 13 and Education Trust between labor unions and our 14 15 construction contractors here in Missouri and across 10 states in the midwest. 16 17 We see this project as one that has opportunities, not only for our members who reside in 18 this area, but all the way across the route of this 19 project, but also for our contractors, being of whom 20 21 small business owners that this project will create opportunities for, and with that, we support the 22 23 project. 24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions from the 25 attorneys? (No response.)

Page 100 1 Ouestion from the commissioners? (No 2 response.) 3 Thank you very much. Donna O'Bannon. 4 5 (Witness sworn.) 6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And can you state your 7 name and spell your last name. 8 DONNA O'BANNON: Donna O'Bannon, O, 9 apostrophe, capital B, A-N-N-O-N, 12481 Highway 151, Madison, Monroe County. 10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may proceed. And if 11 12 you could step closer to the mic so we can hear you. 13 DONNA O'BANNON: I would like to present a conversation with Grain Belt from the open house in 14 15 Moberly in March of this year. I would like the PSC to listen to this CD so they can hear the promises 16 17 that were made by Grain Belt. With the consent of Mark Lawlor, we taped our conversation. My husband 18 and I, our main concerns of health, and I know our 19 20 Amish friends feel the same way, is the health issue 21 is so important. We all support the documentation on -- regarding the health, the issues caused by the 22 voltage lines. We also asked him for the 23 24 documentation regarding the feasibility of burying the lines underground. They promised that they had this 25

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1	information and they could extend it to us on these
2	very important issues. We gave them our names, our
3	addresses, and to this day we have not received a
4	thing in the mail or online.
5	In addition, at this meeting Grain Belt
6	told us if we were concerned and seriously concerned
7	about the lines that they could move the lines off of
8	our property onto our neighbor's. This is
9	unthinkable. If I'm concerned about health issues for
10	my family, I sure wouldn't want it for my neighbor
11	either, and it's worth noting that when the line
12	the proposed line came out, we're not on the line, but
13	my understanding correctly, after they would get it to
14	eminent domain, they can move it anywhere and all of
15	us we could all be on the line.
16	In closing, I'm asking the PSC to review
17	the information on the CD. And I know that Grain Belt
18	made little promises to us, and they did not follow
19	through with them. If they can't follow through on
20	the little promises, how can they follow through on
21	the big ones? So I ask you to please, I hope you can
22	get the reports, because the health issue is our main
23	concern.
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Do you want to include
25	that in your testimony?

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1	DONNA O'BANNON: I would, please.
2	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Attorneys, you will have
3	five days after it's made available in the electronic
4	mailing system to make any objections.
5	Robert Brown? (No response.)
6	Linda or Robert Brown? (No response.)
7	Dean Arthand? (No response.)
8	Bobbi Light? (No response.)
9	Bill McClinton? (No response.)
10	Jason Kable? (No response.)
11	Rebecca McElroy.
12	(Witness sworn.)
13	REBECCA MCELROY: And I'll have some
14	opinions that you I can prove to you.
15	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Can you state your
16	name and spell your last name.
17	REBECCA MCELROY: Rebecca McElroy, M-C,
18	capital E, L-R-O-Y. I reside at 45209 Chestnut Lane,
19	Monroe City, Missouri.
20	JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may proceed.
21	REBECCA MCELROY: Thank you.
22	We have farmed in Ralls County, Missouri,
23	and we have some land also in Marion County, Missouri.
24	The land in Marion County, Missouri, faces Highway 36
25	just right out of town here. The land in Ralls County

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1	is about seven miles down the road, for the most part,
2	and it's about two and a half miles from Highway 36.
3	And according to the testimony here today, we're in a
4	logical place for them to put this line through.
5	We've not had any reason to think they're going to.
6	However, my church is also two miles from Highway 36,
7	and since it's not written in stone as to where things
8	will go, we might be affected by it.
9	I personally would be in favor of people
10	crossing our line if they were bringing a pipeline of
11	oil down from Canada, if they were building a nuclear
12	plant that was safe and clean. I like power. I want
13	people to have plenty of it, but this business is very
14	murky. We don't know who will get the power. I've
15	even heard that people in Great Britain are expecting
16	to get power to an ocean line generated by power.
17	That sounds fantastic, but some of the other stuff
18	also sounds fantastic, too.
19	I want to tell you a couple of stories that
20	happened to me in my house. One was in the 1970s
21	shortly after we had built our house and children
22	started school in the fall. I sat down and looked out
23	my window, and I saw something I had never seen before
24	and I've never seen again, but it was a trail of
25	Monarch butterflies riding the jet stream, and they

	Page 104
1	went on and on and on, just a lovely trail of
2	butterflies. Had I gotten a can of insect spray and
3	sprayed those butterflies as they streamed by my
4	window, you would have thought I was a monster, and
5	there probably would have been a number of other
6	agencies who would have had an opinion about what I
7	just did.
8	Another thing happened this year: A Bald
9	Eagle sat in the maple tree in our backyard for quite
10	some time, and we were spotting and watching him so
11	close to the house. Eventually, he flew right over
12	our deck. Had I taken out my gun and shot that eagle,
13	then as he flew by so beautifully, I'd have been in
14	big trouble with any number of people; wouldn't I?
15	These windmills that they have acres of in
16	some areas kill untold numbers of birds, butterflies
17	I don't know how the bees do, maybe bees are
18	avoided. To call this green, to call it a lovely
19	environmental situation is galling. I can't think of
20	anything more disgusting except maybe when the trains
21	were going by in the early days while people shot the
22	buffalo from off the trains. Now, frankly, farmers
23	had buffalo trails on our property. Somebody had to
24	do something about the buffalos, but just to slaughter
25	birds in migration and butterflies in migration and

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1	have people log this as progress, beautiful, wonderful
2	progress, I don't think so.
3	I am really concerned that people get
4	dollars in their eyes when they think about how
5	wonderful having this coming through our area to be.
6	Sorry for you. I stopped and talked with a gentleman
7	when they were laying the pipeline across Audrain
8	County. I didn't know what it was at the time. I
9	thought they were wonderful looking pipes, but nothing
10	else. Curious. And he said, where are you from?
11	Well, I'm from Missouri. He was from out west
12	somewhere. I don't know if the whole crew was out
13	west somewhere, but his job wasn't a Missouri job.
14	They brought their own crew and put that pipeline
15	through. Maybe they hired people along the way, but I
16	wouldn't get really excited about how much it's
17	beginning to benefit Missouri workers without knowing
18	a lot more than we do know.
19	We have an old, old farm. We don't want
20	something ruined, but that's not my issue. My issue
21	is, I think it's just darn irresponsible to generate
22	power in this way and try to ram through a state
23	that's not going to benefit much of any part of it,
24	and who knows of any of the end point for this power.
25	I hope people will stop this thing.

Page 106 1 Thank you very much. 2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: John McElroy. 3 JOHN MCELROY: I didn't realize that I was on your list. I didn't put my name there. My wife 4 5 has spoken quite well, I think, and she has expressed 6 my sentiments quite well. 7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Very good. 8 Karen Hunt. (No response.) And John Cauthorn. 9 10 (Witness sworn.) 11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state 12 your name and spell your last name. JOHN CAUTHORN: John Cauthorn, 13 14 C-A-U-T-H-O-R-N. 15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: What -- where do you reside, sir? 16 17 JOHN CAUTHORN: 32712 Lane Road 364, Mexico, Missouri. 18 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please proceed. 20 JOHN CAUTHORN: Thank you. Pleasure to be 21 here today in front of distinguished people. Hope you're enjoying your little activities here in 22 23 northeast Missouri. I'm John Cauthorn. I live in a farm in 24 Audrain County. We own property in Monroe County and 25

	Page 107
1	Audrain. The first one of the first was actually
2	going through our property in Audrain, and it was
3	going to destroy three (inaudible) and mess up our
4	farm totally. Today I actually speak for Missouri
5	cattlemen from the state of Missouri, which I served
6	as president, vice president, secretary, treasurer.
7	You know, anytime you use eminent domain,
8	it's a great concern for the number one history in the
9	State of Missouri, which is agriculture, and the of
10	that policy in effect for many years that states the
11	right it states that the rights excuse me
12	policy, and for many years states that eminent domain
13	should not be used to save property, property for
14	profit by private entity and that the easement cannot
15	be sold without due process. I know a few years also
16	it was also down in Buchannan County when Amren and
17	the rural electric co-ops, somebody had a line they
18	didn't want to use it, but property owners rebelled
19	against that when they were trying to get that
20	easement to somebody else.
21	In a document prepared by Grain Belt, LLC,
22	titled, Transmission Line Easement, it states that the
23	rights under this easement agreement may be sold,
24	assigned a mortgage or lease, whole or in part by
25	Grain Belt of any kind. This proposal is in direct

	Page 108
1	conflict with Missouri policy. There's also a lack of
2	trust with this company or these people proposing
3	this this project. On Grain Belt's web page dated
4	March 4, 2014 is a list of entities that Grain Belt
5	claims were supportive of a proposed power plant. I
6	researched this and only checked the ones in Audrain
7	County. On that list was next to our chamber of
8	commerce, MFA Oil, Audrain Medical Center, Edward
9	Jones Financial Services, Missouri American Water. I
10	called these companies. I ended up talking to the
11	local MFA Oil representative sending me to American
12	Water Company, who sent me to St. Louis. So I went to
13	those folks. Nobody knew their name was on that
14	support list. Nobody knew Grain Belt has people
15	listed on that. I don't know whether it's to date or
16	not that were listed. Nobody knew their name was on
17	that list or said they were supportive of this
18	project.
19	So we have a lack of of trust
20	personally personal trust with this company and
21	about how they treat us folks. I know I'm Mayberry,
22	and I'm proud of it, but if you put something on your
23	web page in Mayberry, it better be the truth.
24	Now, I appreciate your time I appreciate
25	your time and opportunity to be here.
Page 109 1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from 2 attorneys? 3 COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: Mr. Cauthorn, thanks for being here. Do you recall who you talked 4 5 to at MFA or Missouri American --6 JOHN CAUTHORN: I talked to MFA Oil 7 Company. COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: Okay. 8 JOHN CAUTHORN: And I can find out that 9 information about Missouri Medical Oil Company. It 10 was -- I think -- I don't know. It wasn't their 11 12 lobbyist. Somebody else called me out of their 13 company. 14 COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: Thank you for 15 being here. Thank you for taking your time. 16 JOHN CAUTHORN: Thank you. 17 COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: Mr. Cauthorn, a personal thank you for your service you gave to the 18 19 state and the state senator and state representative. 20 Thank you very much. 21 JOHN CAUTHORN: I would like to thank you, Commissioner Kenney, for allowing me to make that big 22 23 paycheck for \$31,000 a year. 24 JUDGE BUSHMANN: That's all the names I have on the list of people who have signed up to 25

Page 110 testify. Is there anyone else in the audience who 1 2 would like to testify at this time? 3 Please come forward. (Witness sworn.) 4 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name and 6 spell your last name. 7 JENNA POWER: My name is Jenna Power, 8 P-O-W-E-R, and I live at Perry, Missouri. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead. 9 10 JENNA POWER: I've heard a lot of 11 testimonies today and we have some community members 12 who are for this, and everybody has a right to their opinion, but I didn't really, except for one speaker, 13 notice that this is affecting them. This isn't their 14 15 backyard. This isn't affecting their families. I'm hearing dollar signs from them. They're saying how 16 17 their business is going to profit. Your profit is another person's destruction. So is it worth 18 destroying agriculture in Missouri just for a buck? 19 20 That's really all I want to say. 21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Anybody else who would 22 like to testify? 23 JIM DANIELS: Can I make an additional comment first? 24 25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: I suppose. Wait a minute.

Page 111 There's somebody else that wants to testify. 1 2 Sir, could you come forward? You haven't 3 had an opportunity. 4 (Witness sworn.) 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you state your name and spell your last name. 6 7 WILLIAM ENGLAND: William England, E-N-G-L-A-N-D. 8 9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside? 10 WILLIAM ENGLAND: I live at 129619 Monroe 11 Road 881. It's going to go through the middle of my 12 property. 13 I'd just like to make a comment to the other people here that you're all trying to get your 14 15 money in -- out of the company. You're not having no concern for the people of the State of Missouri or for 16 17 poor little farmers to take care of that. We grow crops, but you all seem to think that you are better 18 19 than us and are able to tell us what we should do. 20 Thank you. 21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from 22 attorneys? (No response.) 23 Thank you, sir. Mr. Daniels, if you have just very brief 24 comments that would --25

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1	JIM DANIELS: I again would like to
2	encourage the commission to take and require a study
3	of Grain Belt on the health issues. You know, there
4	are studies that are done for burial sites. We don't
5	make sure we don't disturb any. There's studies
6	done on tadpoles and all other extinct species. Are
7	those about surely, human beings are more important
8	than they are. If this project is approved if this
9	project is approved, the only thing that we've done in
10	the State of Missouri is taken billionaires and made
11	mega-billionaires out of them. Thank you again.
12	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would the commissioners
13	like to make any closing comments?
14	COMMISSIONER ROBERT KENNEY: As the judge
15	already indicated, this is just the beginning of the
16	process with respect to local public hearings. We
17	have another one today, two additional two
18	additional later this week on Thursday and then four
19	additional in early September. So public comment is
20	important to us as. That's why we scheduled eight of
21	these in each of the counties.
22	We do appreciate your taking your time to
23	be here today to culminate and in a evidentiary
24	hearing in November in Jefferson City, at which time
25	we'll weigh all the evidence and render a decision.

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	Page 113
1	Thank you for being here today. We do
2	appreciate you taking the time to come out.
3	JUDGE BUSHMANN: That concludes today's
4	hearing. We're adjourned and off the record.
5	(WHEREIN, LPH Deposition Exhibit No. 6 was
6	marked for identification by the Court Reporter.)
7	(WHEREUPON, the public hearing was
8	concluded.)
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		Page 116
1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER	
2	STATE OF MISSOURI)	
) ss.	
3	CITY OF HANNIBAL)	
4	I, Melissa J. Lane, a Certified Court	
5	Reporter (MO), Certified Shorthand Reporter (IL), and	
6	a Notary Public within and for the State of Missouri,	
7	do hereby certify that the foregoing testimony appears	
8	in the foregoing hearing; that the testimony of said	
9	witnesses were taken by me to the best of my ability	
10	and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my	
11	direction; that I am neither counsel for, related to,	
12	nor employed by any of the parties to the action in	
13	which this hearing was taken, and further that I am	
14	not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel	
15	employed by the parties thereto, nor financially or	
16	otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.	
17		
18		
19		
20		
21	Notary Public within and for	
22	The State of Missouri	
23		
24		
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