## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

### OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

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In the Matter of the Application of Grain Belt Express Clean Line LLC for a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity Authorizing it to Construct, Own, Operate, Control, Manage, and Maintain a High Voltage, Direct Current Transmission Line and an Associated Converter Station Providing an Interconnection on the Maywood – Montgomery 345 kV Transmission Line.

Case No. EA-2014-0207

# **NOTICE OF COMMUNICATION**

Issue Date: April 25, 2014

Attached are letters received since our last filing on April 21, 2014, sent to Commissioner Kenney regarding EA-2014-0207 in the matter of the application of Grain Belt Express Clean Line LLC for a certificate of convenience and necessity authorizing it to construct, own, operate, control, manage and maintain a high voltage, direct current transmission line and an associated converter station providing an interconnection on the Maywood-Montgomery 345 kV transmission line.

These filings are made in compliance with this Commissioner's interpretation of the "standards of conduct" in 4 CSR 240-4.010 and 4.020 relating to ex parte and extra record communications and does not otherwise imply or reflect the position of the Missouri Public Service Commission or any other commissioner.

Respectfully submitted,

William P. Kenney, Commissioner

Lachel M Deurs

Rachel M. Lewis Advisor to Commissioner William P. Kenney

Joyce Neuner Assistant to Commissioner William P. Kenney

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri, on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014.

**Missouri Public Service Commission** 260 Madison Street, P.O. Box 0360 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Reference Case No. EA-2014-0207

Dear Commissioners,

I am a resident of  $R_{\alpha}//\varsigma$ \_\_\_\_\_County. I am adamantly opposed to the Grain Belt Express transmission line and ask that you urge you to deny them Public Utility status. Missourians do not need the electricity and would not benefit from it. It would violate our property rights, reduce our property value far more than compensation, spoil our rural landscape, cause hundreds of acres of deforestation, create obstacles to farming, limit future land use options, and cause potential health risks to human, livestock, and wildlife. Thank you!

Respectfully,

Signature

Name (Printed)

Address

63459 MO

State & Zip



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Name (Printed)

Address

State & Zip



#### Subject: EA-2014-0207- Grain Belt Express

April 19, 2014

Ms. Rachel Lewis Advisor to Commissioner Kenney Missouri Public Service Commission 200 Madison Street Governor Office Building Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

Dear Ms. Lewis,

Please deny public utility status to Clean Line Energy's Grain Belt Express (GBE) Clean Line. The GBE does more harm than good to Missouri.

GBE will permanently damage fertile farmland and remove the land from farming. GBE will also negate the sensitive ecological work my family has personally conducted over the last 20 years on the first permanent settlement in Ralls County.

We restored Missouri's ecologically sensitive native oak savanna wildlife habitat in a section of Ralls County during a 20year effort with USDA's Natural Resource Conservation Service. This habitat is now threatened by GBE's development plans to install power lines in this rare habitat. Native oak savanna habitat, a mixture of oak trees and prairie grasses, was once predominant in Missouri and the Midwest but centuries of human activity have all but destroyed less than 0.02% of the savanna's original extent. Bird species dependent on this habitat have and continue to decline. For example, turkey populations have declined 40% in Missouri while the area historically supported one of the highest known turkey population densities.

Clean Line's GBE will ruin a 20-year effort in Ralls County that my family initiated to protect Missouri's endangered savanna habitat.

Clean Line's GBE aims to use the power of eminent domain to transfer privately held land from one private individual to a private company. This is unacceptable. The Missouri public does not gain "public use" through this application of eminent domain.

I am absolutely opposed to Clean Line's GBE and their desire to acquire farmland and to remove it from production. Not only will Clean Line's GBE irrevocably damage fertile farmland, but it will also destroy threatened Missouri native oak savanna habitat in Ralls County and traverse the first permanent settlement in Ralls County.

Clean Line's GBE would harm the historically-significant first permanent settlement in Ralls County and ruin a 20-year native habitat development project that successfully reestablished sensitive and scarce Missouri native oak savanna habitat. Declining wild turkey populations are dependent on this habitat that is threatened by Clean Line Energy's GBE.

Further, Clean Line never contacted me or my family before or after proposing to place high-voltage power lines across our land. It is unacceptable for one private individual to make plans for another private individual's land without first consulting the original landowner.

Clean Line's actions are in total disregard to the counties it's project will cross.

Please deny Clean Line public utility status.

Respectfully,

Austin Parham New London, MO



#### Subject: EA-2014-0207- Grain Belt Express

April 19, 2014

Ms. Joyce Neuner Office of Commissioner William Kenney Missouri Public Service Commission 200 Madison Street Governor Office Building Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

Dear Ms. Neuner,

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Mr. William Kenney Missouri Public Service Commission 200 Madison Street Governor Office Building Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

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Clean Line's actions are in total disregard to the counties it's project will cross.

# Please deny Clean Line public utility status.

Respectfully, Carbon

Austin Parham New London, MO

April 18, 2014

Missouri Public Service Commission Governor's Office Building Attn: William Kenney PO Box 360 200 Madison Street Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

Dear Mr. Kenney:

I am writing this letter to oppose the Grain Belt Express Clean Line Energy extremely high voltage transmission line across Missouri. I think the case number is EA-2014-0207.

The final proposed line is going through our Ralls County farm that has been in the family since 1935. We here in the state of Missouri use very little if any DC current. Everything we use is AC current. Not one of our electric suppliers is supporting this project. I think the Commission will be setting a very dangerous precedent if they grant Clean Line eminent domain status. If eminent domain is granted then any company will be able to build whatever across Missouri.

Farm land is not being discovered even with all the new technology. Easements and highways are going to drive food prices higher. Acres are going out of production agriculture. We farmers work hard to produce food for over 150 people each year. If Clean Line Energy is granted eminent domain status, then your grandchildren will have to eat fruits, vegetables and meat products that are imported and far more expensive.

In short the transmission lines will violate property rights, they will be eye sores, obstacles to farm around even with GPS, limit land use and reduce property values.

The real bottom line is this proposal has no positive merit. We in Missouri do not need it and will get no benefits from it. Thus, it does not qualify to be a utility company that should be granted the power of eminent domain. If you grant eminent domain to this company then you will destroy agriculture on over 5,000 acres of Missouri land.

Sincerely, rles Rosenkion

Charles Rosenkrans