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Page 1
                        STATE OF MISSOURI
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                     PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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                     TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
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                      Local Public Hearing
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 7
                         August 14, 2014
                     Jefferson City, Missouri
                            Volume 5
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    In the Matter of the Application
     of Grain Belt Express Clean Line,
                                          )
    LLC, for a Certificate of
11
                                        )
    Convenience and Necessity
                                       )
12
    Authorizing it to Construct, Own,
    Operate, Control, Manage and
                                        )Case No. EA-2014-0207
13
    Maintain a High Voltage Direct
                                        )
    Current Transmission Line and an
    Associated Converter Station
14
                                         )
    Providing an Interconnection on )
    the Maywood-Montgomery 345 KV
                                         )
     Transmission Line,
                                      )
16
17
                      JUDGE MICHAEL BUSHMANN, Presiding
18
                          REGULATORY LAW JUDGE
19
    COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:
20
                      Chairman Robert Kenney
                      Commission Steven Stoll
21
                      Commissioner William Kenney
22
    REPORTED BY:
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Page 3 1 PROCEEDINGS 2 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Good evening. It's 3 August 14th at 6:00 p.m. The Missouri Public Service Commission has set this time for a local 4 5 public hearing in the case captioned as In the 6 Matter of the Application of Grain Belt Express 7 Clean Line, LLC, for a Certificate of Convenience & Necessity Authorizing it to Construct, Own, 8 9 Operate, Control, Manage and Maintain a High 10 Voltage Direct Current Transmission Line and an Associated Converter Station Providing an 11 12 Interconnection on the Maywood-Montgomery 345 KV Transmission Line. File Number is EA-2014-0207. 13 14 My name is Michael Bushmann. I'm 15 the --16 WOMAN IN AUDIENCE: We can't hear you. 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: I am the Regulatory Law Judge that will be providing over this evening's 18 19 hearing. With me this evening are Chairman Robert Kenney and Commissioners Steven Stoll and Bill 20 21 Kenney. Mr. Chairman, did you want to make any opening remarks? 22 23 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Hello. Okay. Sorry. 24 So just briefly. Thank you all, first of all, for being here at 6:00 on a Thursday evening, and we 25

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- 1 appreciate your presence here.
- 2 This, as you know, is the -- or maybe you
- 3 don't know. This is the fourth of eight of these
- 4 local public hearings that we will be doing. We
- 5 have an -- one earlier today, two earlier this
- 6 week, and we'll have four additional local public
- 7 hearings in different parts of the state in early
- 8 September.
- 9 This is the beginning of the process. It
- 10 will culminate with a hearing that will take place
- 11 in Jefferson City in November, after which the
- 12 Commissioners will deliberate and render a
- 13 decision.
- So we very much appreciate you being here.
- 15 We've scheduled many of these local public hearings
- 16 because it is important to us to get public
- 17 feedback. And so it's important to us that we hear
- 18 what you have to say.
- 19 There are five Commissioners on the
- 20 Commission. Three of us were able to be here
- 21 tonight. There is a court reporter who will be
- 22 transcribing all of the testimony at tonight's
- 23 hearing, and that transcript will be made available
- 24 to the other two Commissioners so that all five of
- 25 us will be able to take into account the comments

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- 1 and remarks that you all present here tonight as we
- 2 deliberate and at the conclusion of the hearing.
- 3 So, once again, thank you for being here
- 4 tonight, and we look forward to the testimony that
- 5 you have to offer.
- 6 COMMISSIONER STOLL: I'll simply say,
- 7 again, these local public hearings are very
- 8 important. We appreciate you taking your time to
- 9 come out, and we look forward to your testimony.
- 10 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Again, I will just
- 11 echo the comments that I'm appreciative that each
- 12 of you are here. We know it's a very passionate
- 13 subject and situation, and we just appreciate your
- 14 attendance and look forward to your testimony
- 15 tonight. Thank you.
- 16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Let's have counsel now
- 17 make their entries of appearance.
- 18 MR. ZOBRIST: Karl Zobrist for Grain Belt
- 19 Express Clean Line, LLC, Denton Law Firm, 4520 Main
- 20 Street, Kansas City, Missouri.
- 21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Office of Public Counsel?
- 22 MR. OPITZ: Tim Opitz, Office of Public
- 23 Counsel, P.O. Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri,
- 24 65102.
- 25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Commission Staff?

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- 1 MS. HAMPTON: Whitney Hampton and Nathan
- 2 Williams for the Commission, 200 Madison Street,
- 3 Jefferson City, Missouri, 65102.
- 4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Show-Me Concerned
- 5 Landowners?
- 6 MR. JARRETT: Terry Jarrett for the
- 7 Show-Me Concerned Landowners and the Missouri Farm
- 8 Bureau, 514 East High Street, Suite 22, Jefferson
- 9 City, Missouri, 65101.
- 10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Are there any other
- 11 Counsel from any other parties or Intervenors that
- 12 I haven't called here this evening? Very well.
- 13 Before taking any testimony, I'd like to
- 14 provide you with some information about the
- 15 Commission and why the Commission is holding this
- 16 hearing.
- 17 Grain Belt Express applied to the
- 18 Commission for approval of its plans to construct a
- 19 high voltage direct current transmission line and
- 20 associated facilities within Buchanon, Clinton,
- 21 Caldwell, Carroll, Chariton, Randolph, Monroe and
- 22 Ralls County, Missouri, as well as an associated
- 23 converter station in Ralls County.
- The Commission may grant permission if it
- 25 finds that the construction is necessary or

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- 1 convenient for the public service.
- 2 The Commission cannot decide any questions
- 3 about eminent domain, including whether particular
- 4 property could be taken or the amount of
- 5 compensation to be paid. Those questions can only
- 6 be addressed in Circuit Court.
- 7 The Commission has already scheduled an
- 8 evidentiary hearing for November of this year to
- 9 take evidence regarding Grain Belt Express's
- 10 application. It has also scheduled hearings in
- 11 each of the counties affected by the proposed
- 12 transmission line to give members of the public a
- 13 chance to state their support or their opposition
- 14 to the project.
- And that is the purpose of tonight's
- 16 hearing. For those who would like to provide
- 17 testimony, I'm going to call the names listed on
- 18 the sign-up sheet.
- I also noticed that there were a few
- 20 people who had signed up who have testified at
- 21 previous local public hearings. And for those
- 22 people, I'm going to move you to the end of the
- 23 list to give the people who haven't testified a
- 24 chance first.
- When I call your name, please come down to

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- 1 the podium here in the front. I'll put you under
- 2 oath and ask you to state your name and where you
- 3 live, and then you can offer your comments to the
- 4 Commission.
- 5 There are a lot of people here tonight
- 6 that would like to speak, so please try to keep
- 7 your comments to under five minutes so that
- 8 everybody has a chance to testify. I'll give you a
- 9 warning at the five-minute mark, and then please
- 10 try to conclude your remarks shortly after that.
- 11 The Commissioners won't be able to answer
- 12 any of your questions because they have to remain
- 13 impartial until after the evidence is presented at
- 14 the evidentiary hearing.
- 15 If you do have questions, please talk to
- 16 members of the company, Grain Belt Express, or the
- 17 Commission staff or any of the other parties that
- 18 are here tonight. There is information out in the
- 19 lobby if you would like to use that.
- 20 My final request is to please be polite
- 21 and courteous to those who are speaking here
- 22 tonight and to treat them as you would like to be
- 23 treated. So with that, let's have the first
- 24 witness come testify. That is James Harmon.
- 25 Just right here at the podium, sir. Right

Page 9 there. And you need speak into the microphone. Please raise your right hand. 3 JAMES HARMON, being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole 4 5 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows: 6 TESTIMONY OF JAMES HARMON: 7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state 8 your full name for the record and spell your last name? 9 10 MR. HARMON: James Allen Harmon, 11 H-a-r-m-o-n. 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside? MR. HARMON: 813 East Normal Avenue, 13 Kirksville, Missouri, 63501. 14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. You may proceed. 15 And please try and speak into the microphone so 16 17 that the audience can hear you. Thank you. Mr. HARMON: I speak in favor of the Grain 18 Belt Express Clean Line. Its route incorporates 19 20 benefits from environmental impact assessments by 21 the Natural Resources Defense Fund, among others. This direct current electricity line runs 22 parallel to a significant degree to an existing 23 24 pipeline, which pipeline is probably the greater environmental threat than the -- the power line 25

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- 1 itself.
- 2 For full disclosure, I am a member of the
- 3 Executive Committee of the Missouri Chapter of the
- 4 Sierra Club. Obviously, not a young person. I
- 5 wish to advocate for the younger generations.
- At my age, 72, I may not live to see the
- 7 worst consequences from a failure to transition
- 8 away from fossil fuels. Many of you here tonight,
- 9 however, will, as will a vast majority of people
- 10 around the world.
- 11 Many children and grandchildren will
- 12 experience dire consequences on a global scale from
- 13 further unrestrained fossil fuel consumption.
- 14 When my 9-year-old grandson, Miles, in five to ten
- 15 years asked why we didn't act to stop
- 16 over-consumption of fossil fuels and dangerous
- 17 mining practices like hydraulic fracturing and tar
- 18 sands, oil extractions, what can I say? We were
- 19 too complacent or recklessly stupid or
- 20 self-destructive?
- 21 Why, he may ask, did we not employ energy
- 22 sources like solar and wind, which are clean and
- 23 sustainable? A next generation may ask why our
- 24 generation failed to adopt methods of more
- 25 efficient and retrained use of energy to reduce

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- 1 eminent and threatening changes to the earth's
- 2 weather patterns and temperatures.
- 3 We must act to mitigate such changes. For
- 4 the foreseeable future, we must reduce the waste of
- 5 fossil fuel resources and apply their uniquely
- 6 concentrated and controllable energy output to the
- 7 manufacturer of sophisticated equipment to harvest
- 8 and harness much cleaner sources of power to
- 9 generate electricity, like sun, wind, geothermal
- 10 and moving water.
- 11 The Grain Belt Express DC transmission
- 12 project presents us a positive alternative to
- 13 generation of electricity through burning coal, oil
- 14 or natural gas.
- 15 My grandson does not have asthma. But if
- 16 he lived downwind from a coal-fired power plant, he
- 17 might have asthma. This observation omits mention
- 18 of other metabolic and neurologic disorders caused
- 19 by exposure to the bi-products of burning fossil
- 20 fuels. Wind farms in Kansas will generate
- 21 electricity for Missouri and states eastward.
- Near term construction work and long-term
- 23 operation maintenance and manufacturing jobs will
- 24 be generated by the project.
- 25 Henry Paulson, U.S. Secretary of the

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- 1 Treasury during the presidency of George W. Bush
- 2 writing in the New York Times compared the
- 3 financial crisis of 2008 with the current
- 4 environmental crisis. Paulson concludes --
- 5 concludes in his article that such problems be the
- 6 financial or environmental are best and more
- 7 efficiently and easily solved if addressed earlier
- 8 rather than later.
- 9 Please note that already the late 1960s
- 10 was late. When a conservative financier sees us
- 11 heading for climate disaster and advises urgent and
- 12 immediate steps to avoid climate chaos, we should
- 13 take him very seriously.
- 14 Conversion of clean wind energy into
- 15 electricity and its transition from wind enrich
- 16 Kansas to Missouri and points far distant to the
- 17 east is a step in the right direction.
- 18 Implementation of the Grain Belt Express
- 19 is a positive step. The Grain Belt Express DC
- 20 transmission line, in addition to creating jobs and
- 21 construction, maintenance and manufacturing
- 22 sectors, will generate income for landowners,
- 23 businesses and all communities along its route.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Five minutes.
- MR. HARMON: Above all, and in summary,

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- 1 building this power infrastructure is right -- the
- 2 right thing to do for the environment and for
- 3 Missouri. Thank you.
- 4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Are there any questions
- 5 from attorneys or Commissioners?
- 6 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: No thank you. Thank
- 7 you, Mr. Harmon.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir.
- 9 MR. HARMON: Thank you.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Donna Inglis?
- 11 DONNA INGLIS,
- 12 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 13 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 14 TESTIMONY OF DONNA INGLIS
- 15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you please state
- 16 your name and spell your last name?
- MS. INGLIS: My name is Donna Inglis,
- 18 I-n-g-l-i-s. I live at 1667 Route BB, Huntsville,
- 19 Missouri.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
- MS. INGLIS: To preface my comments, I
- 22 would like to state that if I could snap my fingers
- 23 and Grain Belt would not go through my property or
- 24 the property of my neighbors and friends, I would
- 25 do that. But that is not very realistic.

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- Over the last few months, I, like everyone
- 2 here, has been inundated with information both pro
- 3 and con for the proposed provision. And as
- 4 individuals, we are charged with trying to figure
- 5 out whether what is best for us and what is best
- 6 for the community that lives around us.
- 7 That's not been easy for any of us. There
- 8 has been so much mis-information that we wondered
- 9 and we've studied and we've tried to figure out
- 10 what's rights and what's wrong. It's been very
- 11 confusing and very frustrating for about everybody
- 12 here tonight.
- My husband read me numerous, countless
- 14 letters to the editor in the newspaper. He also
- 15 read me every letter that came into our mailbox.
- 16 We've researched. We've tried to be informed
- 17 residents of our county.
- 18 And so I decided to sit back and think
- 19 about the past. And I thought of my husband's
- 20 family. Many of the people here today, tonight,
- 21 can relate to this. Back when they lived for many
- 22 years, they had no electricity.
- 23 And I will never forget my mother-in-law
- 24 who continually said, What a joy it was when
- 25 electricity came to us.

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- 1 I think we need to think about something
- 2 that happened many years ago and we tend to forget,
- 3 and that is that had no one in the past been
- 4 willing to make the sacrifice, there would be many
- 5 conveniences none of us would enjoy today.
- I tried to put my mind back into the time
- 7 without electricity. And I'm here to tell you that
- 8 the idea of walking out the back door to an
- 9 outhouse or reading a favorite book by the light of
- 10 a kerosene lamp, that really doesn't work very well
- 11 for me.
- 12 Everyone here knows that clean energy is
- 13 beneficial. The confusion is that we wonder what
- 14 is right. Should we be pro or should we be con?
- 15 It's taken a lot of time for me to come up to a
- 16 decision.
- 17 And I was still riding that fence until my
- 18 husband went driving down the road, read a sign to
- 19 me. The sign stated, No eminent domain for private
- 20 gain. And I thought, Oh, really? That's a prime
- 21 example of mis-information.
- 22 AmerenUE, Kansas City Power & Light and
- 23 all of the railroads had the right of eminent
- 24 domain. My husband and I currently have three
- 25 pipelines going through our farm, so we are well

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- 1 aware of the damages that can be caused by a
- 2 project such as this and what it will make and how
- 3 our farm will look differently.
- 4 But having said that, I guess I should
- 5 tell you that all three of our pipelines were also
- 6 companies that were for private gain or for profit,
- 7 and they also had the right of eminent domain.
- I understand that this is a very emotional
- 9 topic. But I hope that each person that is
- 10 impacted will learn all that they can about what is
- 11 factual and try to avoid the pitfalls of believing
- 12 in things that aren't quite true.
- 13 You, the members of the Public Service
- 14 Commission, have a job. And it's not going to be
- 15 easy for you. But what I want everybody here to
- 16 realize tonight is that my understanding is that
- 17 your decisions will be based only on the facts, so
- 18 both sides need to present to you only facts.
- 19 Thank you.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you remain there
- 21 for a minute? Or are there any questions from
- 22 attorneys or Commissioners?
- 23 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you. Thank you
- 24 for your testimony.
- 25 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you.

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1	COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Thank you.
2	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Susan Carter?
3	SUSAN CARTER,
4	being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
5	truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
6	TESTIMONY OF SUSAN CARTER
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state
8	your name and spell your last name?
9	MS. CARTER: Susan C-a-r-t-e-r, 1600 Fisk
10	Avenue, Moberly, Missouri.
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
12	MS. CARTER: Thank you. I'm the Presiding
13	Commissioner of Randolph County, and I am speaking
14	on behalf of the entire County Commission in
15	support of the Grain Belt Express Clean Line energy
16	project.
17	Frankly, this is not something I want to
18	do because among those opposed to the project are
19	our neighbors, colleagues and friends. And the
20	positions taken have been painful on both sides.
21	But coming before you here today is
22	something I feel I must do as an elected official.
23	Those testifying against the project here today
24	will do so for fiercely personal reasons.
25	As County Commissioners, we must put our

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- 1 personal feelings aside and make our decisions
- 2 based on what we believe is best for the County as
- 3 a whole now and in the future.
- 4 We have spent countless hours reviewing
- 5 and discussing information put forth by both sides
- 6 and conducting our own independent research.
- 7 At the end of the day, we feel we have no
- 8 choice but to support this project. We cannot say
- 9 no to the tax revenue we believe will come to the
- 10 County. Most of which will benefit our school
- 11 districts and especially now in light of the
- 12 physicals of dollars that may be lost should the
- 13 tax cuts recently approved by the State Legislature
- 14 become reality.
- We cannot say no to the jobs we believe
- 16 will be created in North Central Missouri should
- 17 the project be approved as well as the revenue that
- 18 would be realized throughout construction as we
- 19 have seen from pipelines that have come through the
- 20 County.
- 21 Most importantly, we cannot say no to this
- 22 chance to add Missouri and Randolph County to the
- 23 nation's clean energy grid.
- Today, the primary source of power here
- 25 and across the state comes from coal-fired power

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- 1 plants. With increasing Federal regulations on
- 2 coal, the future existence of these plants is
- 3 uncertain. A new source of low cost sustainable
- 4 energy will be needed in order to keep energy
- 5 coasts affordable to Missourians.
- And as the demand for power continues to
- 7 grow, we believe this project could offer much of
- 8 that needed renewable energy.
- 9 High voltage direct current lines, many
- 10 privately built and privately owned, have been
- 11 safely moving clean, affordable energy throughout
- 12 our country and throughout the world for decades.
- 13 Missouri now has an opportunity to access clean
- 14 renewable energy in the same way.
- While your deliberations will be
- 16 difficult, in the end, the question you must answer
- 17 is really quite simple. Will Missouri become a
- 18 part of this country's clean energy grid or not?
- We believe future generations of
- 20 Missourians will need all the energy options they
- 21 can get. And we hope, for all these reasons, your
- 22 answer will be yes.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from
- 24 attorneys or Commissioners?
- 25 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: No questions.

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1	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thanks.
2	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Wayne Wilcox?
3	WAYNE WILCOX,
4	being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
5	truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
6	TESTIMONY OF WAYNE WILCOX
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
8	and spell your last name.
9	MR. WILCOX: Wayne Wilcox, W-i-l-c-o-x.
10	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?
11	MR. WILCOX: 2647 County Road 2520,
12	Moberly, Missouri.
13	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
14	MR. WILCOX: I'm a century farm owner, and
15	our family has been there since 1884. We've I'm
16	a Farm Bureau member, a Veteran, former School
17	Board member, and have volunteered to do numerous
18	other projects.
19	And Farm Bureau is opposed to this
20	project. And I've been a former County Farm Bureau
21	President. I've also served as a State Advisory
22	young Farm Advisory Committee member on the State
23	Board and have worked many issues with Farm Bureau.
24	But at this particular point in time, I'm
25	opposed to the stance that they've taken and vote

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- 1 -- vocalized that to my local Board.
- 2 My grandfather was always very
- 3 progressive. And he told me that we needed to --
- 4 and one of the key reasons I'm a Veteran is we need
- 5 to make sacrifices for the good of the country from
- 6 time to time.
- 7 I have three pipelines on my farm.
- 8 I have a 345 KV line on my farm. And at one point,
- 9 I had an AT&T long line across my farm. Now,
- 10 they've removed that. Good stuff, AT&T work. They
- 11 removed that lead coated line from the farm.
- 12 So I've -- I farm three other farms that
- 13 have these 345 or 161 lines on there, so I'm used
- 14 to farming around the structures. They're not a
- 15 problem. You can do it. And it's -- it's -- you
- 16 just go right on. You just don't know that they're
- 17 there.
- 18 So I -- I really am speaking tonight
- 19 because, as a Vietnam veteran, a two-tour Vietnam
- 20 veteran and a two-tour Iraqi war veteran, though we
- 21 were very well treated as Iraqi veterans, I endured
- 22 countless persecution by the vocal minorities that
- 23 were opposed to Vietnam.
- As an older man today, I'm taking a stand
- 25 against the vocal minority that is opposed to this

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- 1 project. I'm very adamantly opposed to that group
- 2 of people trying to dominate my rights that I have
- 3 served my country to preserve.
- 4 Now, I have neighbors that are opposed to
- 5 this, and this is a tough thing to say. But I
- 6 believe, as the other lady said a while ago, there
- 7 are a lot of half-truths or just total falsehoods
- 8 involved in this project.
- 9 Now, I -- I believe I would try to say
- 10 that I'm a voice of reason. I have been all my
- 11 life. My family has been. We've been leaders
- 12 there in the community for -- since the early '90s
- 13 1990s.
- 14 And I've had a great-great-grandfather
- 15 that was a State Representative. My father was a
- 16 Presiding Commissioner. My grandfather served in
- 17 -- in County Government as a Deputy Clerk. So
- 18 we've been progressive. So I believe that this
- 19 project needs to move forward.
- Now, were any of these folks out here on
- 21 the days they talked about eminent domain? Farm
- 22 Bureau fought a good fight. I was on that side
- 23 when they re-wrote the rules for eminent domain in
- 24 the State of Missouri. And those -- those rights
- 25 will protect me as a century farm owner and I would

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- be justly compensated for my property.
- 2 There -- there is a definite need for
- 3 renewable energy that we've heard already here this
- 4 evening. And I believe that wind power in the
- 5 state of Kansas is -- is a great place for it to
- 6 come.
- 7 And the economical way to move it east or
- 8 move it to the State of Missouri is across these DC
- 9 lines. And we're only talking about 500 megawatts.
- 10 But a lot of people say only 500 megawatts.
- 11 We have three power plants in Randolph
- 12 County. Two of them don't even produce enough to
- 13 be 500 megawatts. It's close. Unit 1, Unit 2.
- 14 But No. 3 produces more than that.
- 15 Anyway, I believe that there is a
- 16 necessity for clean renewable energy wind power,
- 17 and I believe that it will help us through the new
- 18 regulations that have recently been introduced from
- 19 EPA.
- 20 If you have renewable energy in your
- 21 portfolio, I believe it will help protect your
- 22 coal-fired generation, and we need to protect that
- 23 in the State of Missouri to keep low cost energy
- 24 available for our citizens, the folks that are
- 25 sitting here.

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- 1 We need to keep that -- and that keeps our
- 2 economic engine running in the State of Missouri --
- 3 the fact that we have low cost energy. So in
- 4 summary, I would say that I am definitely in
- 5 support of this project.
- 6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from
- 7 attorneys or Commissioners?
- 8 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Mr. Wilcox, thanks for
- 9 your testimony. I -- you mentioned having farmed
- 10 on three different farms with 345 KV lines, 161 KV
- 11 lines.
- 12 My -- my question is, is there any
- 13 difference in your ability to maneuver depending on
- 14 whether you're farming crops or tending livestock?
- 15 Because I -- and the reason I ask is because we
- 16 heard some -- some testimony earlier about the
- 17 inability to put in center pivot irrigation in the
- 18 face of transmission lines.
- 19 And so my question is, is there any
- 20 difference in your capabilities if you're farming
- 21 crops versus tending cattle?
- MR. WILCOX: Well, all of the -- all of
- 23 the farms have crops on them that I encounter the
- 24 345. Two of them are the same, 345.
- The one that goes across my property goes

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- 1 southeast and goes across another farm that I farm.
- 2 Then west of me, I farm another one with a 161.
- 3 Yes, they -- they -- if you -- if those poles, the
- 4 H poles, are not set far enough apart in most
- 5 cases, so -- but I understand because I've asked
- 6 that question of the clean line folks.
- 7 They intend to put structures in and to
- 8 try to accommodate the folks that have center pivot
- 9 irrigation or want to put those in. There's a way
- 10 to put your smaller pivots underneath those lines.
- 11 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you for your
- 12 testimony. Appreciate you being here.
- MR. WILCOX: You're welcome.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.
- 15 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Richard Tregnago?
- 17 RICHARD TREGNAGO,
- 18 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 19 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 20 TESTIMONY OF RICHARD TREGNAGO
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
- 22 and spell your last name?
- MR. TREGNAGO: My full name is Richard
- 24 Tregnago. And my last name spelled T-r-e-g-n-a-g-o
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?

Page 26 MR. TREGNAGO: My home address is 3181 1 2 County Road 2530, Higbee, Missouri, 65257. 3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. MR. TREGNAGO: I've got a short 4 5 presentation. And what I'd like do is let you know that Randolph County is anticipating getting about 6 7 21 miles of this line that's coming through. The Grain Belt has talked with Missouri 8 State -- I'd like to tell this panel that I am the Randolph County Assessor. The Grain Belt has 10 indicated to the Missouri State Tax Commission that 11 12 they're estimating a \$400 million expense in the State of Missouri on about 200 miles. 13 14 One-fourth of that could be converter station to take the DC power and transfer it to 15 where it's alternating current for household use or 16 17 business use. So that leaves about \$300 million dollars. Divide it up by 200 miles, gives you 18 about \$1.5 million of cost of construction on the 19 20 average. 21 Now, we don't know what the market value of a power line is going to be. But on a 22 relatively new structure, it might be safe to 23 24 assume that \$1 of cost may be close to \$1 of market

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value just because there's simply no other measures

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- 1 out that there we can use.
- 2 So if we do that and Missouri has a
- 3 fractional assessment state where the clean line
- 4 would be assessed at 32 percent of that market
- 5 value, and in Randolph County, what we're looking
- 6 at is approximately a 10 million to 11 million
- 7 assessed value.
- 8 Every penny of property tax revenue that's
- 9 charged by each individual taxing district would
- 10 generate a little over a thousand dollars.
- 11 We have two school districts that may be
- 12 impacted on the first year by what we call
- 13 construction work in progress that could be in the
- 14 range of \$200,000 per school district of those two
- 15 districts as new construction of actual of actual
- 16 revenue, so it's a significant amount. Smaller tax
- 17 districts have a lesser amount.
- One thing I'd like for -- to also
- 19 understand is projected assessed value of this one
- 20 utility that comes through would be equivalent of
- 21 all of the assessed value of the agricultural land
- 22 in Randolph County. That's an impact that I was
- 23 surprised to learn until I pulled those numbers to
- 24 see that.
- One of the local concerns that was briefly

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- 1 mentioned by Mr. Wilcox, local concern was that we
- 2 do have three coal-fired generating stations in
- 3 Randolph County at Thomas Hill. It's owned by
- 4 Associated Electric.
- 5 And the first one went in, according to
- 6 their records, was put on line in approximately
- 7 1966 and it's 180 megawatts of power. Unit 2 went
- 8 on line approximately 1969, and it's rated at 285
- 9 megawatts. And Unit 3 went on line approximately
- 10 1982 and, it's at 670 megawatts. Total of 1135
- 11 megawatts of electric generating capacity.
- Now, the taxes that Associated Electric
- 13 pays to the County because this is local assessed
- 14 it's not a State utility, exceeds \$5 million in
- 15 property taxes annually.
- 16 Why do I bring up Associated Electric and
- 17 the power plant? Because they're coal-fired. I'm
- 18 very concerned that down the road we have a risk of
- 19 losing some of our coal-fired plants because of
- 20 their age and the lack of ability to modernize them
- 21 and efficient cost.
- 22 If we were to lose Units 1 and 2, that
- 23 would be approximately 465 megawatts of power. How
- 24 are we going to make that up? One alternative
- 25 would be to have alternate sources of electric

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- 1 power at an affordable rate.
- 2 I believe many persons opposed to this construction
- 3 are very sincere in their beliefs. Many of them
- 4 are my neighbors. We farm together.
- 5 I live on a family farm that my
- 6 grandparents bought in 1929. I have actively
- 7 farmed since 1964, been County Assessor since 1985.
- 8 I can see both sides of this equation.
- 9 What I'm simply presenting to you today is
- 10 what is the financial side, the impact to Randolph
- 11 County based on the projected cost and what the
- 12 taxes could be in this realm.
- I was -- as a young child, I was raised
- 14 near a large substation. I was also across the
- 15 railroad tracks of a train that ran daily. It is
- 16 defunct. The rails are gone now. But when I was a
- 17 child, it ran daily.
- 18 The danger of living next to a railroad or
- 19 next to a substation to a child didn't really sink
- 20 in. All I remember about those, and to this day,
- 21 is after a few years, you don't see them.
- 22 And that's one of the biggest arguments
- 23 I've heard about this transmission line is the
- 24 towers are half again to double the size of what we
- 25 see now.

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- 1 We have a farm that has 161 KV lines
- 2 running through them, have run through them for 40
- 3 years, 30 years on one set, 40 years on the other
- 4 set. You don't see them after a while.
- 5 There are people that say it's going to
- 6 destroy our timber land and destroy the wildlife
- 7 that goes through there. As a hunter, I will tell
- 8 you that open area is what the wild animals go to.
- 9 They want the timber for shelter, but the food is
- in the open areas, and that's where you find most
- 11 of your ability for hunters to access those wild
- 12 game.
- I assume that there are valid arguments
- 14 with concerns that high voltage lines submit
- 15 electrical magnetic fields. I am no physicist. I
- 16 am no scientist. It's been 45 years since I've
- 17 been in high school, and I just don't remember how
- 18 that impact works.
- 19 I've not been informed by technical
- 20 evidence, by reputable physicists that offer a
- 21 level of exposure to its field or exposure at high
- 22 risk levels. I'm not a scientist, as I mentioned,
- 23 and I have no expertise in these matters.
- I'm simply presenting the financial
- 25 potential benefits to various tax industries should

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- 1 this line be constructed. And I also believe it
- 2 would be better to have one right-of-way, even
- 3 though it's 200 feet wide, with this high voltage
- 4 DC transmission line than to have multiple smaller
- 5 lines criss-crossing our County and our State.
- I just think it would be easier to have it
- 7 on a pole all under one roof. That concludes my
- 8 testimony, sir.
- 9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Questions from attorneys
- 10 or Commissioners?
- 11 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you for your
- 12 testimony.
- MR. WILLIAMS: The only question I have, I
- 14 noticed you brought in some documents with you. I
- 15 didn't know if you wanted to present those to the
- 16 Commission for them to see.
- 17 MR. TREGNAGO: May I? I have a copy if
- 18 you'd like.
- 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you like to have
- 20 those included in the record? If so --
- 21 MR. TREGNAGO: Can I do that if it's --
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Take them to the
- 23 attorneys' table. And I'll get them later.
- MR. TREGNAGO: Any questions?
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Yeah. Hold on.

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- 1 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Yes, sir. Thank
- 2 you. I just have one question just to educate me.
- 3 Are the -- the various category rates in Missouri
- 4 still 12 for agricultural and 19 for residential
- 5 and 32 for commercial?
- 6 MR. TREGNAGO: 32 percent for commercial.
- 7 I'm sorry. I didn't quite understand your
- 8 question.
- 9 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: My question was are
- 10 those still the 12, 19 and 32?
- 11 MR. TREGNAGO: Yeah.
- 12 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Okay. And this
- 13 would be -- this would be classified as a 32?
- 14 MR. TREGNAGO: Yes.
- 15 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Okay. Thank you.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Sir, if you want to, just
- 17 take that over to the counsel table.
- 18 MR. TREGNAGO: Thank you.
- 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And for Counsel, the
- 20 exhibit will be admitted subject to Counsel's
- 21 objections. You'll have five days after being
- 22 submitted before being posted to the information
- 23 system at the Commission1. Next witness is Joe
- 24 Kroner.
- JOE KRONER,

Page 33 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole 2 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows: 3 TESTIMONY OF JOE KRONER JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name 4 5 and spell your last name. 6 MR. KRONER: I am Joe Kroner, spelled 7 K-r-o-n-e-r. 8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside? 9 MR. KRONER: At 4951 Highway AA in Randolph County. 10 11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may proceed. 12 MR. KRONER: I wish to speak in opposition 13 to the Grain Belt Express Clean Line project. County Commissioners that have just testified are 14 15 friends of mine, but I just vehemently disagree 16 with them. 17 And the big question is who bears the burden, the heavy load? Most people I live and 18 work with -- most people that live and work in the 19 path of the shadow of this high voltage line don't 20 21 want it. It is disruptive to their lives and 22 property. 23 We expect very little benefit from this 24 electric line. At the Monroe County hearing,

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Shelby County Commissioner and the Shelby County

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- 1 Economic Development person stated that they were
- 2 for this project for economic reasons. Those are
- 3 the same reasons that we've heard so far here
- 4 tonight.
- 5 Those folks don't have much skin in this
- 6 game. Moberly and Randolph County just experienced
- 7 an economic development disaster called Mamtek.
- 8 Somebody did not do due -- did not do due diligence
- 9 when verifying the proposal.
- 10 I have not heard of a comprehensive and
- 11 unbiased environmental impact study, particularly
- 12 one that assesses health risks.
- 13 Eminent domain is surely not about
- 14 granting to someone with an out-of-state and
- 15 out-of-nation ownership the rights to build high
- 16 voltage transmission lines that place such heavy
- 17 burden on the lives and property of those that live
- 18 and work in the path of the shadow of this line.
- 19 I respectfully request that Grain Belt,
- 20 that the Missouri Public Service Commission deny
- 21 the Grain Belt Express application for a
- 22 Certificate of Convenience & Necessity. Thanks
- 23 again.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?
- 25 Mr. Kroner? Mr. Kroner, could you come back?

Page 35 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Yeah. I didn't 1 2 hear. Are you -- are you a farmer? Do you have --3 MR. KRONER: Oh, yes, I do. COMMISSIONER KENNEY: And does this go 4 5 over your property? 6 MR. KRONER: At one location, it does. 7 And at another location, it goes in about 400 feet 8 from my house. 9 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Okay. Thank you. 10 MR. KRONER: I have two separate water 11 district pipelines on my property. I have a 345 KV 12 line on it in two properties. I have three 13 pipelines. These -- but this is a really big significant issue to us. 15 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Thank you. 16 MR. KRONER: Goodbye. 17 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you. 18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: The next name I have on 19 my list is Scott Hughes. Mr. Hughes, are you the same one that testified at a previous hearing? 20 21 MR. HUGHES: Yes, sir. JUDGE BUSHMANN: I'm going to skip over 22 23 you for now, and I'll come back to you later. John Hobbs? 24 25 JOHN HOBBS,

	Page 36
1	being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
2	truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
3	TESTIMONY OF JOHN HOBBS
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Can you please state your
5	name and spell your last name?
6	MR. HOBBS: My name is John Hobbs,
7	H-o-b-s.
8	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?
9	MR. HOBBS: 2095 County Road 2160,
10	Huntsville, Missouri.
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
12	MR. HOBBS: I'm opposed to the power
13	lines. I have worked all my life for the property
14	that I own. And now that I am disabled and unable
15	to work, I am making my income from my father's
16	cattle that he left me last year when he passed
17	away.
18	People that know my farm and the area that
19	I live in, it is very poor land. We have a lot of
20	timber where the power lines are going through.
21	This will destroy a lot of my timber land. For the
22	last six years, I have leased my timber land for
23	hunting and have made a very good income off from
24	it.
25	Unlike people are saying, the people that

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- 1 are coming out of Kansas City, Chicago, these big
- 2 hunters, they want brush. They don't want open
- 3 land. They do like open -- brush beside land that
- 4 has corn and soybeans. I will agree with them
- 5 there.
- 6 My land is too poor to raise corn and
- 7 soybeans. I also rely on timber. And it is not
- 8 just the oak trees and the walnut trees that I have
- 9 that are bringing me in money at the present time.
- 10 I have a company coming in that are taking the
- 11 little six and 8-inch hickory trees that they are
- 12 using to make wood chips for barbecue, and it is
- 13 bringing me in quite a bit of money.
- I have seen my next-door neighbor has
- 15 three of the underground pipelines. I have seen
- 16 what has happened to the roads. I've seen what's
- 17 happened to the ground in my area.
- I just got finished mowing, raking and
- 19 baling hay over those pipelines. I know we have
- 20 been through a drought, but I see where it's going
- 21 to take the gentlemen all the money that he has
- 22 coming in from that to get the land back up to
- 23 where it will be usable.
- In my area, when I was a child, my father
- 25 owned his side of the farm. I still can show you

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- where they pulled up the big AT&T power -- the
- 2 telephone line. I can still take you to my
- 3 property -- father's property and show you the
- 4 damage that it had done to the property. We still
- 5 have ground settlement. And I was in grade school
- 6 when they did this.
- 7 I don't want to wake up in the morning and
- 8 look outside of my door and see giant power lines.
- 9 I also don't understand -- I can't -- I read a lot.
- 10 I've been sick and in the hospital. And I read
- 11 several different newspapers, and I listen to the
- 12 news.
- I did not get the truth of what you all
- 14 are telling me an amount that we will be paid. And
- 15 will it bring my property -- they're estimating my
- 16 land to be twice the value of what it was appraised
- just a year ago before my father passed away.
- 18 They're appraising my land at almost double of what
- 19 it was appraised for just a year ago by two
- 20 different appraisal companies.
- One appraisal land is my next-door
- 22 neighbor. I -- I just don't see what good this is
- 23 going to do to our community. I know in the future
- that we will need clean energy of some source.
- 25 But I don't see -- it's just like the

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- 1 pipeline coming through. Yes, we see the money
- 2 today, but -- in the last few weeks and months that
- 3 the pipeline have gone, look at what -- what has
- 4 happened to our economy. It's starting to crash in
- 5 Randolph County again.
- They say, no, it's not. Yeah, it is. I
- 7 know. I'm a businessman. I see it every day. And
- 8 I'm just opposed to this. Like I say, I make money
- 9 from leasing deer land. I make money off my
- 10 timber. I make money off my cattle. And I don't
- 11 know what it -- what it will affect with my cattle
- 12 with those big lines running across or what it will
- 13 affect me personally or my livestock. Thank you.
- 14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from
- 15 attorneys or Commissioners?
- 16 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
- 17 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you.
- 18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.
- 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Patrick Campbell?
- 20 PATRICK CAMPBELL,
- 21 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 22 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 23 TESTIMONY OF PATRICK CAMPBELL
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state
- your name and spell your last name?

Page 40 MR. CAMPBELL: I'm Patrick Campbell, 1 2 Campbell, C-a-m-p-b-e-l-l. 3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you live, sir? 4 5 MR. CAMPBELL: 3890 Highway NN, Moberly, Missouri. 7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. MR. CAMPBELL: All right. We've got a 8 power line, Grain Belt, that wants to go across my 10 property. They've offered me a pretty good sum of 11 money. 12 The taxations that's been talked about, 13 sure, it would increase the taxes in the county. 14 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Excuse me, sir. 15 Could you step closer to the mic? 16 MR. CAMPBELL: But let me ask you, what's 17 it do for our health? Is there a distance a person has to live from a power line to be safe? 18 19 Take, for instance, the damage it does to crops that are planted out in the field that are 20 21 underneath one of them DC current power lines. The production has been reduced tremendously. The harm 22 23 it has caused some cattle, it has damaged cattle 24 growth. 25 One question. What is it going to do to

Page 41 the humans, the people? What's the effect to 2 people? This line might be a -- an advancement or 3 whatever, but are we going to be around to celebrate this advancement? 4 5 I am definitely opposed, and I'd like to cut my talk short so I can introduce a different 6 7 party. Thank you. 8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you. 10 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you sir. COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Thank you, 11 12 Mr. Campbell. 13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: John Riperger? 14 JOHN RIPERGER, 15 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows: 16 17 TESTIMONY OF JOHN RIPERGER 18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Can you state your name and spell your last name? 19 20 MR. RIPERGER: John Riperger, 21 R-i-p-e-r-g-e-r. 5613 ACR-144. 22 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 23 MR. RIPERGER: Moberly, MO. I do not -- I 24 do not run a cattle farm or a proposed -- on the 25 map, a proposed farm. But I do farm on one of the

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- 1 proposed sites that was -- there was a trunk line
- 2 that crosses my property. This was constructed in
- 3 the mid '30s when the ground soil went for 25 to
- 4 \$30 an acre and were paid \$5 to \$10 per pole
- 5 setting. That was approximately 75 years ago.
- This left me with some questions and some
- 7 thoughts to consider. Do you have and will you
- 8 maintain a surety bond that will cover and
- 9 quarantee for the entire time of the easement that
- 10 you will do and perform all you say and no more and
- 11 no less? Then present it.
- 12 This would also prevent a glorified Mantek
- 13 deal as Moberly area people know only too well. If
- 14 not, why? Do you want others to be held
- 15 accountable but you not?
- The easement is basically the same as a
- 17 bond. Same intent, same results. The easement
- 18 guarantees total access for the duration. The bond
- 19 guarantees that you will do all and only what is in
- 20 the agreement. Same intent, same results, only
- 21 different words.
- 22 You are demanding that the current owner
- 23 of the property accept your so-called today's fair
- 24 market value forever. Looking at the value of land
- 25 today, as compared to 75 years ago, this is not

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- 1 taking total time for the easement, only comparing
- 2 it to the value 75 years from now.
- 3 Ground value today is four to 500 times
- 4 the value of what it was 75 years ago, not four or
- 5 500 percent, but that many times the value at the
- 6 same rate of increase in the value from the 1930s
- 7 till now, then use the same math and rate of
- 8 increase from now till the next 75 years. The price
- 9 of land could be from 5 million to 7 and a half
- 10 million dollars per acre.
- 11 Economists in 1930 would not believe land
- 12 prices could increase to what they are today. Not
- 13 many economists today would expect those in 19 --
- in 75 years from now to match the same percentage
- 15 on that. But you do the math.
- Now, are you going to provide electricity
- 17 for the duration of the easement at today's fair
- 18 market of electricity? If not, why? You expect
- 19 the landowner to do that for you.
- 20 Will Grain Belt and Grain Belt only be
- 21 able to use the easement and not sell or lease the
- 22 easement? If you sell at least or use of other
- 23 word to achieve the same result, why then should
- 24 that not affect the change in the price of the
- 25 easement?

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- 1 Are you now or in the future applying for
- 2 a -- or accepting funds that are available and in
- 3 any way come from the dollars paid to -- by tax
- 4 payers to the Government?
- 5 Are you going to pay any of your taxes
- 6 that you promised the schools and counties and
- 7 states from any tax you receive or any returns on
- 8 the tax received from any of the tax payers?
- 9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Five minutes, sir.
- 10 MR. RIPERGER: Pardon?
- 11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: It's been five minutes.
- MR. RIPERGER: Okay. Thank you.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: You can -- you can
- 14 summarize or finish your remarks.
- 15 MR. RIPERGER: This -- I also had some
- 16 others that someone would want to see it. But I
- wonder why they expect the land owners to be
- 18 accountable, held accountable, and they not. Thank
- 19 you for the time.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?
- 21 MR. WILLIAMS: Sir, I believe you
- 22 indicated that had you some other information that
- 23 you might put in front of the Commission. If you
- 24 have it written down, I believe you probably could
- 25 have that marked as an exhibit and offered.

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1	MR. RIPERGER: Okay.
2	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you like to do
3	that, sir?
4	MR. RIPERGER: Sure.
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Can you take it
6	over to Counsel table? The next witness is Lori
7	Smith.
8	LORI SMITH,
9	being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
10	truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
11	TESTIMONY OF LORI SMITH
12	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state
13	your name and spell your last name?
14	MS. SMITH: Lori Smith, S-m-i-t-h.
15	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?
16	MS. SMITH: 3705 Highway NN in Moberly.
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
18	MS. SMITH: Thank you. My family is
19	opposed to Grain Belt Express due to abuse of
20	eminent domain.
21	After weeks of hearing about benefits for
22	our state, we resigned ourselves to acceptance.
23	But that acceptance would come with difficulty and
24	only if two criteria were met.
25	First, that the land would fill a need

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- 1 benefiting all Missourians. And second, that
- 2 landowners would receive fair and just compensation
- 3 commensurate to their loss.
- 4 At a Randolph County public meeting, a
- 5 gentleman testified that his wife's oncologist
- 6 advised that such a line would necessitate their
- 7 relocation.
- 8 This concerned me greatly having worked
- 9 for years with doctors, including prominent
- 10 oncologists. And as the wife of a physician, I am
- 11 well aware that doctors don't give such serious
- 12 instructions without sound basis.
- So a third criterion of much greater
- 14 importance was born. To accept the lines, they
- 15 must do no harm. Once my husband heard of this
- 16 gentleman's testimony and of a woman who was
- 17 physically removed from a public meeting for
- 18 speaking about a European study of adverse health
- 19 effects, he began intense research on it.
- 20 Those wanting tax benefits say the
- 21 emissions are not harmful, that we use cell phones
- 22 and microwaves daily and are exposed to EMF from
- 23 those. Well, we have a choice in the use of those
- 24 items.
- The power lines would impose another layer

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- of emissions on us 24/7 with no choice. The Amish
- 2 people use no electricity, and the route curiously
- 3 takes a diversion through their lands. They don't
- 4 draw attention to themselves nor speak in public
- 5 meeting.
- 6 And clean line has said they've chosen
- 7 this route because it has the least impact. It
- 8 appears to be a route where they expected the least
- 9 push-back.
- In regard to health, simply the perception
- of adverse health effects drives potential buyers
- 12 away. And this has already happened in our area.
- 13 In fact, the EPA and the World Health Organization
- 14 have ruled EMF as a Class 2-B carcinogen.
- To say there are no adverse health effects
- 16 with the growing body of evidence that EMF is
- 17 harmful is unacceptable denial. There will always
- 18 be a percentage of the population that is sensitive
- 19 to any given external stimulus.
- It is known that children, especially the
- 21 unborn, the elderly, cancer patients and those
- 22 susceptible to cancer are vulnerable to EMF.
- For many of us, moving is not an option.
- 24 And why allow the lines if there is any question of
- 25 harm? As with tobacco and asbestos, the cost to

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- 1 society far outweighs any possible benefits.
- 2 Clean Lines reps continually deny any
- 3 adverse health effects as well as any land
- 4 de-evaluation. Their president, Michael Skelly,
- 5 said he's seen no loss of property values with
- 6 these lines, yet a study done by independent
- 7 appraisers in Houston where Michael Skelly resides
- 8 showed a 30.7 percent drop in value due to the
- 9 lines where there is no other factor to which to
- 10 attribute the de-valuation.
- 11 This statistic does not take into account
- 12 properties that can't be sold at all. Many
- 13 Californians have had to walk away from unsold
- 14 properties with power lines. HUD has ruled
- 15 overhead high voltage transmission towers and lines
- 16 a hazards and a nuisance.
- 17 FHA appraisals have to be adjusted to
- 18 address the effect on marketability. An alleged
- 19 real estate agent and farmer's wife stated in the
- 20 Monroe City meeting that she favors the line
- 21 because she needs money.
- 22 She mistakenly stated that the lines don't
- 23 affect property values. The verifiable studies
- 24 showing the significant negative effects on value
- 25 can be easily accessed and have previously been

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- 1 submitted to the Moberly Monitor, which they did a
- 2 good story on it.
- 3 And it was appalling to hear a woman
- 4 testify that Missouri needs the money. This
- 5 implies that those seeking financial gain are more
- 6 important than the significant segment of the
- 7 population whose land would be stolen from them.
- 8 I believe the woman who made that
- 9 assertion has a concrete business which could
- 10 certainly profit greatly if it were to provide the
- 11 anchors for those power towers.
- 12 In regard to necessity for Missouri, as
- 13 Jim Hanson stated, Missourians are smart enough to
- 14 create their own electricity. And our State has
- 15 been selling excess electricity in the cold of
- 16 winter. If -- if there were a need for money, it
- 17 should not come through the selling of private
- 18 properties without the property owners' consent.
- 19 Further, there's all this mention about
- 20 the coal plants here. But the electricity that
- 21 clean line is saying they're going to provide is
- 22 not coming to Missouri, so I don't know the
- 23 relevance of that.
- 24 And lastly, Clean Line has denied that
- 25 there is technology for underground HVDC lines, but

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- 1 these underground lines are already in existence.
- 2 They can be run along highways and railroads, and
- 3 this would virtually eliminate the problems that
- 4 are causing public concern. Thank you.
- 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? Ms.
- 6 Smith, real quick hold on.
- 7 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you for your
- 8 testimony. The -- the study that you cited about
- 9 the de-valuation of property in Houston, where do
- 10 -- who -- who was that performed by? Can you give
- 11 me any more information about it?
- 12 MS. SMITH: I -- I can get that and
- 13 provide it at a later date. But I turned it over
- 14 to a reporter, Connie Duvall, from the Moberly
- 15 Monitor, and she did a wonderful story on it. She
- 16 did her own research and verified more than what we
- 17 had given her.
- 18 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you very much for
- 19 taking the time.
- 20 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you, Ms. Smith.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Angie Smith.
- 22 MS. ANGIE SMITH: I would like to give my
- 23 time for my dad as he has an extra exhibit in
- 24 addition to his testimony.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Very well. And you must

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1	be Dennis?
2	MR. SMITH: I am Dennis Smith. And
3	this
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Hold on.
5	DENNIS SMITH,
6	being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
7	truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
8	DIRECT EXAMINATION
9	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
10	for the record and spell your last name.
11	MR. SMITH: Dennis Smith, S-m-i-t-h.
12	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside?
13	MR. SMITH: 3705 Highway NN, Moberly,
14	Missouri.
15	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
16	MR. SMITH: The reason my daughter asked
17	me to take her time this is not my statement. I
18	have a letter that I will submit for evidence from
19	Representative John Wright, that he sent to me
20	today and asked me to read at this meeting, if
21	that's allowable.
22	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
23	MR. SMITH: To the Missouri Public Service
24	Commission, although I cannot be physically present
25	to testify tonight, I want to express in the

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- 1 clearest possible terms my reservations about the
- 2 potential use of the power of eminent domain to
- 3 facilitate the Grain Belt Express transmission
- 4 line.
- 5 As the elected State Representative for
- 6 the 47th District, it is my responsibility to
- 7 transmit legitimate complaints and concerns from
- 8 the residents of Mid-Missouri when State action
- 9 threatens their interests.
- 10 Over the past several months, my office
- 11 has received dozens of phone calls, letters and
- 12 e-mails from concerned citizens whose family farms
- 13 lie on or near the proposed transmission route.
- Eminent domain puts the State against one
- 15 of the foundational individual -- individual
- 16 interests in American life, the property interests
- 17 that a man or woman holds is his -- in his own or
- 18 her own home.
- 19 Moreover, the compensation that the use of
- 20 eminent domain provides a family whose home is
- 21 affected is rarely equal to the harm caused to that
- 22 family.
- 23 Many of the farmers in our region have
- 24 been held by local families for 100 years or more,
- and market value does not begin to approach the

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- 1 true value that a family farm has to a person whose
- 2 parents, grandparents and great-grandparents have
- 3 worked through decades to preserve their home and
- 4 way of life for their posterity.
- 5 For these and other reasons, the power of
- 6 eminent domain must be used only in limited
- 7 circumstances when there is a highly compelling
- 8 public interest at stake and when all other
- 9 alternatives have been exhausted.
- 10 For the primary purpose -- purpose of the
- 11 Grain Belt Express transmission line -- excuse me.
- 12 The primary purpose of Grain Belt transmission line
- is to carry electricity from regions to the west of
- 14 Missouri to the regions to the east of Missouri.
- 15 Although many individuals and groups
- 16 outside of our state may benefit from this project,
- 17 Mid-Missouri citizens have rightly questioned
- 18 whether the State of Missouri itself has a
- 19 compelling interest in this project.
- They have argued that the State and local
- 21 authorities have an interest in the project because
- 22 the installation of new lines and equipment will
- 23 bring new property tax revenues into the public
- 24 coffers that help improve local schools and
- 25 transportation infrastructure.

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- 1 While this may be true, Missouri law
- 2 Section 523.271 explicitly states that the power of
- 3 eminent domain shall not be used solely for such
- 4 purposes.
- 5 Our county has -- country has always
- 6 recognized that private property rights are among
- 7 the foundational rights of any free society.
- 8 I urge you to listen carefully to the
- 9 grievances and potential of the -- the potentially
- 10 affected citizens and families in Mid-Missouri and
- 11 please consider whether the potential benefits of
- 12 the proposed Grain Belt Express transmission line
- 13 to the State of Missouri are such as to justify
- 14 abrogating the foundational rights of fellow
- 15 Missourians.
- 16 Please feel free to call me any time to
- 17 further discuss this matter. Signed, Yours Truly,
- 18 John Wright, Missouri State Representative, 47th
- 19 District.
- 20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Did you want to include
- 21 that as part of the record?
- MR. SMITH: I do.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Then at the end of
- 24 your remarks, if you'll take it to Counsel table.
- 25 Were there any additional remarks you wanted to

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- 1 make for yourself?
- 2 MR. SMITH: I have my own remarks. I've
- 3 signed up to speak as well.
- 4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Proceed.
- 5 MR. SMITH: I'm a landowner, business
- 6 owner, taxpayer, physician and a citizen of
- 7 Randolph County.
- 8 As a landowner, I am opposed to concept of
- 9 eminent domain to allow a private corporation to
- 10 access, confiscate a portion or permanently alter
- 11 the landscape of private property, including the
- 12 property my wife and I have worked hard to obtain
- 13 and maintain.
- 14 We chose our rural lifestyle for many of
- 15 the intangibles which will be violated by a power
- 16 line. Those intangibles include privacy, the
- 17 avoidance of light pollution and noise pollution
- 18 and the unhindered view of the sky line, to mention
- 19 a few.
- 20 A few people, including our Randolph
- 21 County Commissioners, have welcomed Clean Line
- 22 Green Belt to our county for the purpose of
- 23 increased tax income, increased employment and
- 24 their impression that it will improve the economic
- 25 health of the community.

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- 1 Missouri's statute -- and I actually found
- 2 this before John Wright sent the letter today. But
- 3 Missouri statute specifically prohibits this
- 4 misguided approach at leveling undue burden on the
- 5 sacrificial few for the purposes they are touting
- 6 as beneficial.
- 7 And Section 523.271, Condemnation
- 8 proceedings dated August 28th, 2013, the statute
- 9 reads, Exercise of eminent domain over private
- 10 property for economic development purposes is
- 11 prohibited.
- Definition, 523.271.1, No condemning
- 13 authority shall acquire private property through
- 14 the process of eminent domain for solely economic
- development purposes. And, No. 2, for the purposes
- 16 of this section, economic development shall mean a
- 17 use of a specific piece of property or properties
- 18 which would provide an increase in the tax base,
- 19 tax revenues, employment and general economic
- 20 health.
- 21 The report by the United States Government
- 22 Accounting Office to Congress dated February 1st,
- 23 2008, looked specifically at high voltage DC lines.
- 24 This highly quoted and respected non-partisan
- 25 accounting office points out some of the same items

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- 1 the citizens have expressed as concerns.
- 2 The office points out, quote, Currently,
- 3 Federal statutes as well as Federal and State
- 4 guidance encourage the collocation of new
- 5 transmission lines along existing transportation
- 6 and other rights of way.
- 7 Many of us have questioned why Clean Line
- 8 must clutter currently unmarred landscape with
- 9 their lines. The Government Accounting Agency also
- 10 pointed out potential problems. Among those
- 11 problems were diminished economic or aesthetic
- 12 values of land on which -- when the lines are built
- 13 above ground. And this is the effect they
- 14 repeatedly deny as far as affecting land values.
- 15 Raise the electricity prices in areas
- 16 where the electricity is being taken and reduced
- 17 incentives to identify alternatives that decrease
- 18 demand.
- 19 Also, potential disadvantage of using HVDC
- 20 over HVAC technology is also listed in the GAL
- 21 report in the report higher cost for short distance
- 22 lines due to the cost of equipment needed to
- 23 convert DC to AC electricity used by residents and
- 24 the lack of energy benefits to consumers living
- 25 along the lines unless converter stations are

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- 1 installed at intermediate locations because such
- 2 lines are generally not connected to local
- 3 electricity lines.
- 4 This is the case where the Clean Line has
- 5 proposed dropping a converter station in Missouri
- 6 providing energy for about 200,000 homes, which is
- 7 about one-three-thousandths of the energy our state
- 8 needs. That is miniscule.
- 9 I have public -- I have publicly recorded
- 10 evidence of adverse health effects and have been
- 11 asked to testify to the Public Service Commission
- 12 those adverse health effects which include cancers
- 13 and Alzheimer's disease.
- 14 Clean Line uses international regulatory
- 15 agencies to state their claim that there are no
- 16 adverse health effects, and there is much evidence
- 17 to dispute that claim as well as evidence that the
- 18 regulatory agencies have set the safety limits far
- 19 too high due to the influence of business and
- 20 videos that are proposing these lines.
- 21 A poll result as well as recently as July
- 22 21st recognizes the health dangers and ruled
- 23 against the dangers of these lines. That concludes
- 24 my statements.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from

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1	attorneys or Commissioners?
2	CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you, Dr. Smith.
3	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Mr. Smith? Could you
5	take your letter up to the so we can have your
6	letter included as part of the record?
7	MR. SMITH: Okay.
8	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Ed Mitchell?
9	MAN IN AUDIENCE: Eddie Mitchell had to
10	leave. He did want to be moved to the bottom of
11	the list if you'll move him back.
12	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Brian Nichols?
13	BRIAN NICHOLS,
14	being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
15	truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
16	TESTIMONY OF BRIAN NICHOLS
17	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
18	and spell your last name.
19	MR. NICHOLS: My name is Brian Nichols. I
20	live at 9001 Highway W in Hannibal.
21	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And can you spell your
22	last name, please?
23	MR. NICHOLS: N-i-c-h-o-l-s.
24	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Please
25	proceed.

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- 1 MR. NICHOLS: I live on five acres in
- 2 rural Marion County. And my in-laws live on
- 3 several acres in rural Ralls County.
- 4 And so I understand the concerns with
- 5 eminent domain and the concerns that the opponents
- 6 of this project have.
- 7 I also understand the issues with the
- 8 decrease in population in rural counties and, thus,
- 9 a decrease in the tax base and the effect that that
- 10 has on schools and roads in our rural areas.
- 11 But what I want to talk about today is
- 12 transparency. And I haven't heard it tonight so
- 13 much. But I was at the hearing in Hannibal on
- 14 Tuesday night, and I heard this several times,
- 15 concerns over the transparency issues related to
- 16 Grain Belt Express.
- They say they're for transparency, and
- 18 they've been transparent, and the opponents of the
- 19 project say that they have not been.
- I host a radio show that broadcasts in
- 21 northeast Missouri, a large portion of where the
- 22 project would be on the eastern side of the state.
- 23 And Adara Johnson at Grain Belt, who I've not heard
- 24 her name tonight, but I heard it used several times
- 25 the other evening, she was a guest on our program

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- 1 several months ago.
- 2 And I will say that she was most
- 3 informative, most helpful and most transparent
- 4 during the course of that interview.
- 5 What you need to understand is that the
- 6 show that we do is not one that's necessarily very
- 7 friendly towards alternative energy, green energy,
- 8 whatever you want to call it. Typically, we don't
- 9 come down on the side of that. So going into that
- 10 process and through that process of the interview,
- 11 it's not one that's necessarily going to be, for
- 12 lack of a better way of putting it, very friendly.
- 13 It will be very to the point, and we will
- 14 ask very pointed and direct questions. And she was
- 15 -- she answered the questions that we had for her
- 16 to my satisfaction multiple times.
- 17 And so, to me, that kind of flies in the
- 18 face of the idea that Grain Belt Express was not
- 19 transparent or hasn't been transparent because that
- 20 was on the public air waves for anyone to listen
- 21 to. And, also, it is available online.
- I also heard people say the other night
- 23 that they didn't have access to information that
- 24 would tell them about public meetings, open house,
- 25 things such as that, that they weren't properly

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- 1 informed or that the meetings weren't held at
- 2 convenient times.
- 3 However, being a member of the media and
- 4 having seen all of the notices that were put out by
- 5 Green Belt Express and subsequently broadcasting
- 6 them on the radio, I would argue that if those were
- 7 missed, those folks simply weren't paying
- 8 attention.
- 9 And, also, in broadcasting those, every
- 10 open house that I saw was scheduled from 7 to
- 11 9 a.m., 4 to 6 p.m., 5 to 7 p.m., basically, as
- 12 convenient of times as you could ask for. I'm not
- 13 sure when else they could have held them that would
- 14 have been more convenient.
- And I will tell you that we see this all
- 16 the time in the media and in radio. People hear
- 17 what they want to hear. They catch bits and
- 18 pieces. They're busy. They're traveling,
- 19 whatever, and so they don't catch all of what was
- 20 said. And then when they find out after the fact,
- 21 they're upset about that and they feel that they
- 22 were not properly informed.
- 23 And I would say that this is the case in
- 24 this instance. Now, there could be disagreement
- 25 and debate over this project. And, certainly, I

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- 1 see both sides of it. Absolutely. And I'm not
- 2 necessarily taking one side or the other. But I
- 3 would argue that people -- creating a new reality
- 4 to support your point of view because you might
- 5 have missed something here or there along the line
- 6 -- along the line, excuse me, is simply not helpful
- 7 to the discussion. Thank you.
- 8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from
- 9 attorneys or Commissioners?
- 10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.
- 11 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Mr. Nichols, thanks for
- 12 coming in here to the -- what -- where does your
- 13 show air? What radio station?
- MR. NICHOLS: It originates out of Quincy,
- 15 Illinois.
- 16 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: What's the station?
- 17 MR. NICHOLS: It's WTAD.
- 18 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: And when does your show
- 19 air?
- MR. NICHOLS: It's 10 a.m. every weekend.
- 21 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Every day?
- MR. NICHOLS: (Mr. Nichols nods head.)
- 23 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Okay. And so when was
- 24 Ms. Johnson on your show?
- MR. NICHOLS: I believe that was May 7th.

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- 1 And I believe, if I recall correctly, she was also
- 2 on Cress radio that day as well if we want to bring
- 3 it closer to home.
- 4 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: What was that?
- 5 MR. NICHOLS: She was also on Cress Radio
- 6 that day, if I recall correctly. She had an
- 7 interview there after we got done.
- 8 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Cress?
- 9 MR. NICHOLS: That's in Moberly. That's
- 10 here in town.
- 11 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: And what's your
- 12 listenership? Do you have like -- do you guys get
- 13 arbitrage ratings and all that?
- MR. NICHOLS: We do. But they send out
- 15 maybe 18 diaries. People don't fill them out,
- 16 so --
- 17 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: All right. Well, thanks
- 18 for providing your perspective. We appreciate it.
- MR. NICHOLS: Absolutely.
- 20 MR. WILLIAMS: Judge, I --
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
- 22 MR. WILLIAMS: I do have -- I do have one
- 23 -- I don't know. There we go. I do have one
- 24 question.
- MR. NICHOLS: Yes.

Page 65 MR. WILLIAMS: You indicated that an 1 2 interview was available online. Where would one 3 find that? MR. NICHOLS: That would be at WTAD.com. 4 5 Although I better check that because we've just 6 switched our web site servers, and I don't know how 7 far back they have archived. For a while, I don't 8 think it was. I'll check that and can provide it, if you would like, if it's not there. 10 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you. 11 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, Mr. Nichols. 12 MR. NICHOLS: Thank you. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Rose Kroner? 13 14 ROSE KRONER, 15 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows: 16 17 TESTIMONY OF ROSE KRONER 18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please sate your name and spell your last name? 19 20 MS. KRONER: Rose Kroner, spelled 21 K-r-o-n-e-r. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside? 22 23 MS. KRONER: 4951 Highway AA, Randolph County, Missouri. 24

Fax: 314.644.1334

JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.

25

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- 1 MS. KRONER: Okay. Commissioners and
- 2 Staff, thank you for being here. I am Rose Kroner,
- 3 and I live in Randolph County at 4951 Highway AA.
- 4 Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak
- 5 in regard to the Grain Belt Clean Line Express
- 6 proposal to build a direct current line across
- 7 Missouri.
- 8 As a two-time cancer survivor found by
- 9 routine screenings with colon cancer in 2010 and
- 10 breast cancer in January of 2012, I am against the
- 11 construction of Grain Belt Clean -- Grain Belt
- 12 Express Clean Line.
- 13 As this line is now proposed, it will be
- 14 approximately 400 feet from our home. In May of
- 15 2014, I told my breast cancer oncologist about the
- 16 proposed -- proposed DC high voltage line and its
- 17 closeness to our home.
- 18 My oncologist told me that, If this high
- 19 voltage line becomes a reality, you will have to
- 20 relocate your home. Pardon me. This is the home
- 21 where we raised our family and now our
- 22 grandchildren.
- It is a home where we have worked our
- 24 entire lives to own and have designed where and how
- 25 we wanted it, handicapped accessible. This is the

Page 67 home that we planned to live in until we leave this 2 world. And now I am told that I will have to 3 relocate if this high voltage line becomes a 4 reality. 5 I ask that the Commission deny Grain Belt Express Clean Line's application for a Certificate 6 7 of Convenience & Necessity. Thank you. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? 8 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you. 10 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for 11 testifying. 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, ma'am. 13 MS. KRONER: Thank you. 14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: John Truesdell? 15 JOHN TRUESDELL, being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole 16 17 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows: TESTIMONY OF JOHN TRUESDELL 18 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name 20 and spell your last name. 21 MR. TRUESDELL: John Richard Truesdell, 22 T-r-u-e-s-d-e-l-l. 23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside? 24 MR. TRUESDELL: 4897 Highway B, Clark,

Fax: 314.644.1334

Missouri.

25

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- 1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
- 2 MR. TRUESDELL: I came here tonight to let
- 3 you all know that I oppose the Grain Belt Express.
- 4 I don't see any reason that's inside of this where
- 5 I can see that necessity has been proved from what
- 6 they have to offer.
- 7 I echo what Dr. Smith had said, though,
- 8 earlier in what he has found as far as inside of
- 9 our state statutes. And in that regard, I was well
- 10 aware of where those were at.
- I'll give you a little bit of my
- 12 background. Former Vice President for O
- 13 International, a large information technology firm.
- 14 I headed up a state local government for that unit.
- 15 And as such, I was involved in a number of
- 16 different units where I have closely worked with a
- 17 number of different State agencies and different
- 18 Commissions. So I appreciate the fact of gentlemen
- 19 being here tonight. I understand the gravity of
- 20 what we're studying and the job that you gentlemen
- 21 have in front of you. I appreciate that very much.
- 22 The health issues that we see inside this
- 23 thing are clearly left open. Otherwise, you
- 24 wouldn't see so many people that are here wondering
- 25 about what's inside of it.

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- 2 that some of the colleagues who share my opinion
- 3 have got in this.
- 4 The testimony I was to give here for this
- 5 end, you've heard some testimony that was given
- 6 that you believe that the people who oppose this
- 7 are a minority.
- 8 I'm currently running in a political race
- 9 here inside this county. And not only myself, but
- 10 my opponent, we both agree that this project should
- 11 not go through this county and should not be here.
- 12 You'll probably have a chance to hear from him
- 13 later.
- 14 But the -- the Grain Belt does not bring
- 15 to us the things we want. That's why so many
- 16 people in this county oppose it. It's not just
- 17 landowners.
- 18 At my home in Clark, this does not go
- 19 through my property, doesn't go anywhere near me.
- 20 But I do oppose it for all the right reasons. It
- 21 is a clear violation, in my opinion, to the rights
- 22 of the landowners that we have that's here.
- 23 And when you measure that against any kind
- 24 of financial return against the rights that we
- 25 share here in Missouri, there's no amount of money

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- 1 that would turn around and change my opinion to
- 2 accept what they have and what they're offering to
- 3 my friends and to my neighbors.
- 4 And that is why I completely oppose it.
- 5 As I've been going through this county within my
- 6 campaign, I can tell you that I have not found the
- 7 supporters. I will tell you that the people who
- 8 are opposed to this are the minority -- or the
- 9 majority. Excuse me. They're the majority inside
- 10 this county, and that's what I have seen. Thank
- 11 you.
- 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from
- 13 attorneys or Commissioners?
- 14 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you, sir.
- 15 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: William Henke?
- 17 MR. HENKE: I would like to go to the
- 18 bottom.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: I'm sorry, sir?
- MR. HENKE: I spoke at the last one.
- 21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you like to speak
- 22 at the end?
- MR. HENKE: Yeah.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Thank you. Doug
- 25 Kirk?

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1	DOUG KIRK,
2	being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
3	truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
4	TESTIMONY OF DOUG KIRK
5	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
6	and spell your last name.
7	MR. KIRK: Doug Kirk, K-i-r-k.
8	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside?
9	MR. KIRK: 4405 Hockaday Place, Columbia,
10	Missouri.
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
12	MR. KIRK: Okay. Thanks for allowing me
13	to speak. My name is Doug Kirk. I'm employed by
14	Hubble Power Systems just down the road.
15	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Can you pull the
16	microphone up a little bit so that would help?
17	Thank you.
18	MR. KIRK: My name is Doug Kirk. I'm
19	employed by Hubble Power Systems just down the road
20	in Centralia, Missouri. I'm the Business Unit
21	Manager.
22	I'm here to speak in favor of the Grain
23	Belt Express project for economic reasons. For
24	more than a century, more than a hundred years,
25	Hubble Power Systems or some of the locals around

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- 1 here may know us as A.B. Chance, we've been
- 2 designing and manufacturing and selling products
- 3 for the electrical utility industry, a wide range
- 4 of products for transmission, distribution,
- 5 substation, telecommunication, et cetera.
- 6 Our products are sold all over the world.
- 7 We currently employ about 700 people in Centralia,
- 8 Missouri. Hubble has factories all over the United
- 9 States as well.
- 10 Hubble is thrilled to be selected as a
- 11 partner with Clean Line Energy to help build the
- 12 Grain Belt Express project. For this project,
- 13 Hubble will be supplying a product we call a tower
- 14 pack, which is a -- a bundle of multiple products
- 15 that essentially includes insulators and all the
- 16 sundry hardware and connection points to connect to
- 17 the connector to the -- the conductor to the
- 18 transmission structure.
- 19 We would be supplying literally thousands
- 20 of these tower packs that would created just within
- 21 the Hubble organization about 65 jobs, 50 of which
- 22 would be right down the road in Centralia,
- 23 Missouri.
- These jobs would include a wide range from
- 25 manufacturing, engineering, customer service,

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- 1 warehouse and logistics, et cetera.
- 2 These jobs would be good paying jobs, jobs
- 3 with benefits living wages, if you will, not -- not
- 4 minimum wage service jobs. And, of course,
- 5 additional jobs would be created by our suppliers
- 6 feeding us again many of those who are in Missouri.
- 7 And then, of course, the construction
- 8 jobs, you know, the workers out there actually
- 9 building and constructing this -- this line.
- 10 Again, those would be well paying, living wage
- 11 jobs.
- 12 And -- and that's why I'm here. That's
- 13 why Hubble supports this. We think it's good for
- 14 the state and for the surrounding area. That's all
- 15 I have. Thanks for the time
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?
- 17 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Mr. Kirk, real quick.
- 18 Thanks for being here tonight. I think one of your
- 19 colleagues joined us at an earlier one. The 65
- 20 jobs that will be created --
- MR. KIRK: Yes.
- 22 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: -- when this project is
- 23 concluded, will Hubble have or does it anticipate
- 24 enough growth to sustain those 65 jobs after this
- 25 project is completed?

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- 1 MR. HUBBLE: Yes. At least half, maybe
- 2 all of them. Depends what the economy does. Right
- 3 now, we are in the middle of a \$9 million
- 4 renovation in Centralia facility upgrading our test
- 5 labs, our manufacturing facilities so that we are
- 6 ready to accept those 50 people locally and to put
- 7 them to work.
- And we're making that investment because
- 9 this is not the only project. There's lots of
- 10 projects nationwide. You know, that's -- a lot of
- 11 people know the infrastructure in general across
- 12 the U.S. is -- is not in good shape. Black-outs,
- 13 brown-outs, you see them on the news.
- 14 So these projects are going to continue to
- 15 come in the future. So we believe that most, if
- 16 not all of the 50 jobs will become permanent.
- 17 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you. Thanks for
- 18 being here tonight.
- 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Molly free bear.
- 20 MOLLY FREBAIRN,
- 21 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 22 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 23 TESTIMONY OF MOLLY FREBAIRN
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
- 25 and spell your last name.

Page 75 Molly Frebairn, F-r-e, b as in boy, 2 a-i-r-n. 3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside? Where do you live? 4 5 MS. FREBAIRN: Oh, sorry. 303 Norris, like Chuck Norris, Drive, Jefferson City, Missouri. 6 7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 8 MS. FREBAIRN: I am an energy and environmental scientist. I worked with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources for 18 10 years, followed by the last three years as a solar 11 12 energy educator and consultant with Missouri Solar Applications, and, also, with Show-Me Solar where 13 I'm on the Board of Directors. 15 Missouri currently outsources most of their energy dollars and jobs by generating most --16 17 or 80 percent of Missouri's electricity burning coal, which is in significance to releasing over 80 18 million tons of greenhouse gases also, thousands of 19 tons of sulfur and nitrogen oxides, acid rain, 20 21 Mercury -- tons of Mercury, toxic heavy metals, and dozens, if not hundreds, of human carcinogens such 22 as dioxins and furians so that coal burning is very 23 24 toxic to human health and wildlife throughout 25 Missouri and is known to be the cause of asthma,

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- 1 autism, cancer, heart disease and other types of
- 2 degenerative neurological and reproductive
- 3 diseases.
- 4 The most abundant energy resources which
- 5 we need for economic reasons as well, our solar,
- 6 wind, geothermal and energy efficiency. And these
- 7 have the potential to create many more jobs than
- 8 they would replace in the fossil fuel industry
- 9 across a wide range of the economic sector,
- 10 including manufacturing, construction, engineering,
- 11 marketing, transportation and education.
- 12 Coal plants in Missouri currently employ
- 13 approximately 3,000 jobs which is also about the
- 14 same number of jobs that have been created in
- 15 Missouri in the -- in the solar industry in the
- 16 last four years since Missouri voters passed
- 17 Proposition C, which established the renewable
- 18 energy standards in Missouri which called for the
- 19 -- the solar rebates that were launched -- launched
- 20 the solar industry in Missouri over the last four
- 21 years creating these 3,000 jobs for about 50 small
- 22 businesses across the State.
- 23 And at the end of 2013, the solar rebates
- 24 were terminated. That's currently being challenged
- 25 by the solar energy industries and the Missouri

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- 1 Coalition for the Environment.
- 2 But the solar industry had only tapped
- 3 less than 1 percent of Missouri's energy market.
- 4 So the -- the economic opportunity for renewable
- 5 energy, solar and wind, wind is really bigger in
- 6 terms of what it has the potential to -- to
- 7 contribute to Missouri -- up to about 60 percent of
- 8 Missouri's energy could be provided by wind, both
- 9 in state and in our neighboring states that we're
- 10 so fortunate to have right next-door.
- 11 Iowa is one, our neighbors to the north,
- 12 who now generate 30 percent of their electricity
- 13 with wind energy and 70, 80 percent of the public
- 14 believes that is the very best electricity source
- 15 to have.
- 16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Five minutes.
- 17 MS. FREBAIRN: To have for Iowa. Just to
- 18 address the health effects a little bit more from
- 19 wind versus coal, I know because my neighborhood
- 20 has high voltage transmission lines from the
- 21 nuclear power plant running right through the
- 22 middle of it.
- 23 And many homes and families live right
- 24 next-door, and we all seem to be doing fine. And
- 25 that is something that I've read up on and did have

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- 1 concerns about. But the more -- more years I've
- 2 lived there, 15 years now and the longer that I
- 3 live there, the more that I believe that that is a
- 4 much less greater source of concern as a health
- 5 effect than coal burning is.
- 6 But the Grain Belt Express which will
- 7 enable delivery of up to 500 megawatts of low cost
- 8 winds power to the Missouri grid, 500 megawatts
- 9 would be power over 200,000 homes, which is more
- 10 than in Randolph County and the seven surrounding
- 11 states, so that would be a big contribution to
- 12 Missouri's energy needs and helping to meet
- 13 Missouri's renewable energy standards.
- 14 Yeah. The current power lines coming into
- 15 the State are maxed out for wind energy. The
- 16 Missouri electric co-ops have purchased as much
- 17 electricity as they can, but now we -- we need more
- 18 capacity in order to bring more energy winds energy
- 19 to Missouri. Thank you.
- 20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from
- 21 attorneys or Commissioners? Thank you.
- 22 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thanks very much.
- 23 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: The next two names are
- 25 Ron Staggs and Gretchen Barwick. I think you

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1	testified earlier, so I'll just skip over you and
2	we'll do you a little later. Kelsey Robinson?
3	KELSEY ROBINSON,
4	being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
5	truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
6	TESTIMONY OF KELSEY ROBINSON
7	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
8	and spell your last name.
9	MR. ROBINSON: Kelsey Robinson,
10	R-o-b-i-n-s-o-n.
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?
12	MS. ROBINSON: 8 South Purdy Lane,
13	Columbia, Missouri, 65201.
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may proceed.
15	MS. ROBINSON: My name is Kelsey Robinson.
16	I'm the outreach organizer for Renew Missouri.
17	Thank you for the opportunity to give Renew
18	Missouri's perspective on Clean Line's proposed
19	transmission project.
20	A little history about us. Renew Missouri
21	is a non-profit clean energy advocacy group based
22	out of Columbia, Missouri. Our mission is to
23	transform Missouri into a leading state in
24	renewable energy and energy efficiency by 2016.
25	We work with clean energy advocates,

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- 1 utilities and consumer groups throughout the State,
- 2 primarily on state-wide energy issues as well as
- 3 municipal and regional issues.
- 4 In addition to work, in transforming
- 5 Missouri into a leading state and renewable energy
- 6 and energy efficiency, Renew Missouri is also
- 7 working to ensure that Missouri achieves compliance
- 8 with the EPA's clean power plan, which gives the
- 9 states large flexibility to figure out how to
- 10 achieve a 21 percent reduction in carbon emissions
- 11 from 2012 by 2030.
- 12 Renew Missouri is interested in this
- 13 project to the extent that it may increase the
- 14 amount of renewable energy actually delivered to
- 15 Missouri and to the extent that it will help
- 16 Missouri utilities achieve compliance with the
- 17 state's renewable energy standard of 15 percent
- 18 renewables by 2021.
- 19 Renew Missouri was the primary group that
- 20 worked to pass the renewable energy standard by
- 21 state-wide ballot initiative in 2008 when 66
- 22 percent of Missouri declared that utilities must
- 23 quickly ramp up their use of renewable energy.
- 24 In addition, Renew Missouri is interested
- 25 to what extent this project may contribute to

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- 1 Missouri achieving compliance with the EPA's carbon
- 2 reduction goals set for our state.
- 3 Our director, P.J. Wilson, is originally
- 4 from Moberly, so he has a special connection to the
- 5 proposal and shares the concerns for how it will
- 6 affect the area and the community.
- 7 So far, Renew Missouri has remained
- 8 neutral on the -- on this project, however. In
- 9 saying that, one reality of wind development is
- 10 that somebody has to pay for the new transmission
- 11 line infrastructure.
- 12 We recognize that this proposed project
- 13 could be helpful -- or to that end, Renew Missouri
- 14 would consider supporting this project only if
- 15 there is an off ramp in Missouri that results in a
- 16 significant amount of renewable energy actually
- 17 being delivered to Missouri customers and if a
- 18 Missouri utility commits to purchasing all of this
- 19 clean energy.
- 20 We understand that part of this proposed
- 21 -- part of the proposed plan is for such an off
- 22 ramp in Ralls County, Missouri, that would deliver
- 23 around 500 megawatts into the Ameren Missouri
- 24 service territory.
- To the extent that those plans proceed and

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- 1 a Missouri utility commits to purchasing all of the
- 2 500 megawatts on a long-term basis, only then would
- 3 Renew Missouri consider supporting this project.
- 4 Thank you.
- 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from
- 6 attorneys or Commissioners?
- 7 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.
- 8 MS. ROBINSON: Thank you.
- 9 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you for your
- 10 testimony.
- 11 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
- 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Sandy Jordan?
- 13 SANDY JORDAN,
- 14 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 15 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 16 TESTIMONY OF SANDY JORDAN
- 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
- 18 and spell your last name.
- 19 MS. JORDAN: Sandy Jordan, J-o-r-d-a-n. I
- 20 live at 1323 County Road 2734, Moberly, Missouri.
- 21 And I just wanted to relate to the Commissioners
- 22 that my personal experience in -- in finding out
- 23 about this project and talking with my neighbors
- 24 and friends.
- We learned of it early in the spring. And

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- 1 it is going to go across our property. And it's
- 2 going to affect many, many of my neighbors. A lot
- 3 of them, it's not going to go across their property
- 4 but it's going to be very near their home. It's
- 5 going to be in the view of their front porch, their
- 6 back porch, their patio.
- 7 And I -- but we weren't sure of -- of
- 8 which side we were on at first. And we
- 9 investigated, and I talked with many of my friends
- 10 and nieghbors.
- 11 And when I would say, What do you think
- 12 about the Clean Line project that's coming through?
- 13 And most of them would say, What Clean Line project
- 14 coming through? We've not heard anything.
- And I'd say, Well, you know, look into it.
- 16 We're looking at this web site. We've looked at
- 17 the clean line web site. We've looked at the Block
- 18 Grain Belt.
- 19 And then later I would speak with them,
- 20 and 90 percent of the people I spoke with were very
- 21 opposed to it. Five percent were probably on the
- 22 fence and another 5 percent were -- were for it.
- 23 But there were -- there are an awful lot of people
- 24 in this county that are really not aware of what it
- 25 entails, what they're going to see out their back

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- 1 door, their front door.
- 2 Most of us -- most of us moved to the
- 3 country and live in the country for the calm
- 4 serenity and the environment. And if this comes
- 5 through, this is what we're going to see from our
- front yard or our back yard. We're going to see
- 7 the Eiffel Tower of power, and that's not what we
- 8 want in our county. Thank you.
- 9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? Thank
- 10 you.
- 11 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you.
- 12 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your
- 13 testimony.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Candy Greene?
- 15 CANDACE GREENE,
- 16 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 17 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 18 TESTIMONY OF CANDACE GREENE
- 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
- 20 and spell your last name for the record, spell it.
- MS. GREENE: Candace Dowlin Greene,
- 22 D-o-w-l-i-n G-r-e-e-n-e.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?
- MS. GREENE: 14622 Route M, Madison,
- 25 Missouri.

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- 1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
- MS. GREENE: Thank you. Good evening.
- 3 I'd like to thank the Public Service Commission for
- 4 allowing us this venue and this opportunity to
- 5 express our concerns and opinions about Clean Line
- 6 Express and their -- Clean Line and Grain Belt
- 7 Express and their request for a public utility
- 8 status.
- 9 I also want to thank the representatives
- 10 of Clean Line for being present and consenting to
- 11 these hearings. And I applaud their forward
- 12 thinking for desiring to be progressively working
- 13 toward moving our country away from dependence on
- 14 fossil fuels and foreign oil.
- 15 Additionally, I want to thank those others
- 16 who are present who have come out this evening
- 17 express their opinions and concerns.
- 18 For the record, I am not a member of any
- 19 landowner group. We do not -- we do receive a
- 20 newsletter from a group out of Cameron, but we are
- 21 not a member of that group.
- I do not represent or speak on behalf of
- 23 anyone else and the opinions that I am expressing
- 24 are strictly my own that I have gleaned based on
- 25 information from research in the past few days.

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- 1 That research has been the Clean Line web
- 2 site, the -- a letter that was sent to a community
- 3 member from Clean Line and, additionally, the web
- 4 site's national grid who is Clean Line or one of
- 5 Clean Line's major investors.
- I am not a stakeholder in this process.
- 7 Our property will not be affected. But the
- 8 property of several of our friends and neighbors
- 9 and community will be. And, therefore, I decided
- 10 to take a closer look at these two companies.
- 11 For this reason, Clean Line's web site
- 12 indicates three major investors. And I couldn't
- 13 find any information as to whether Clean Line is a
- 14 publicly traded company or not. Whether it is, I
- don't know the answer to that question.
- 16 There are three major investors, the
- 17 Klukilla family out of Houston, ZBI Investments out
- 18 of New York and National Grid, which is a publicly
- 19 traded international company based in United
- 20 Kingdom.
- 21 A press release on Clean Line's website
- 22 dated January 28th, 2013, announced an initial
- 23 investment by this company. And under the terms of
- 24 the transaction, National Grid will have the
- 25 ability to acquire a significant ownership stake in

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- 1 Clean Line's HVDC project.
- 2 Why would the United Kingdom company want
- 3 a stake in Clean Line's projects across the State
- 4 of Missouri? National Grid is a company that
- 5 specializes in electricity and natural gas. It
- 6 powers London, most of the rest of England, Wales,
- 7 some of Ireland, and they oversee the management of
- 8 the power grid in Scotland.
- 9 They have affiliates in the Netherlands
- 10 and France and Canada. They also have a US branch
- 11 that powers most of the states of New York, the
- 12 State of Massachusetts, the State of Rhode Island.
- 13 Formerly, they powered the State of New Hampshire,
- 14 but they did sell off those interests in 2012. And
- 15 they have transmissions lines that still run
- 16 through the State of New Hampshire to power other
- 17 areas.
- 18 An additional agreement with Long Island
- 19 Power Authority that powers New York City or allows
- 20 them to power New York City.
- 21 Clean Line and their investors have
- 22 offered Missouri landowners what they claim to be a
- 23 fair market price for the ownership, use and rights
- 24 of way of those properties on which those towers
- 25 and lines would traverse.

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- 1 And if we figure that out, on the high
- 2 side, gentlemen, of about \$5,000 an acre. And say
- 3 you may have ten acres, that is \$50,000. That's
- 4 not a bad sum for the use of something of that
- 5 nature.
- 6 But when you consider and look at the
- 7 financial reports of National Grid, we see that
- 8 their total operating profit for 2013 and '14
- 9 ending in March of 2014 was the equivalent of one
- 10 billion, 761,000, 790 million U.S. dollars.
- Now, if my math is correct, that means
- 12 that Clean Line and National Grid, their investor,
- 13 is offering the farmers of this area the equivalent
- of two point eight-one-hundredths of 1 percent of
- 15 their profits for one year for the use of their
- lands to make profits in perpetuity.
- 17 I'm sorry. In my opinion, gentlemen,
- 18 that's like offering an ice cream cone for them to
- 19 sell themselves, and that's not enough.
- 20 Additionally, my hearsay information, if
- 21 that is correct, is that Clean Line is offering
- 22 counties an additional initial sum, and I'm not
- 23 sure exactly of what that is.
- 24 But does that sum cover the cost of
- 25 infrastructure repair of the roads and bridges once

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- 1 the material and the labor is transported? Isn't
- 2 it going to be a mess when those things get
- 3 through? I'm sorry.
- What about the emergency management plans
- 5 and the administration of that? An employee of
- 6 Hubble Power, A.B. Chance, Centralia told me in
- 7 casual conversation a couple months ago that
- 8 following partnering of Hubble with Clean Line,
- 9 they were told by a Clean Line representative that
- 10 these lines could fall as close as 30 feet off the
- 11 ground between the towers.
- 12 That's 8 feet taller than my house. I'm
- 13 sorry. You know, what's the -- what is the safe
- 14 operating distance for a line of that magnitude?
- 15 This is to be the biggest, heaviest dutiest
- 16 operating line in the entire world. How safe will
- 17 it be for that? How tall is a combine, gentlemen,
- 18 to come close to that?
- The probability of a national disaster or
- 20 a natural disaster happening that might affect that
- 21 might be slim, but the possibility is very real.
- 22 The Japanese are some of the most prepared
- 23 people in the entire world for seismic and nuclear
- 24 problems. And two years ago, they had a meltdown.
- Who could have predicted a few weeks ago

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- 1 in Toledo that an algae problem in their water
- 2 system would shut down the entire water system for
- 3 400,000 people over the weekend? Who should have
- 4 seen that coming?
- 5 And how many of us 13 years ago saw 9/11
- 6 coming in three weeks? We can't predict those
- 7 things. How is Clean Line going to help cover the
- 8 possibility that something of that nature may
- 9 occur?
- 10 Are the funds that they are offering and
- 11 the payments and stipends that they are offering
- 12 enough to cover Federal and State and local
- 13 emergency management preparations?
- 14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Five minutes.
- MS. GREENE: Thank you. I would implore
- 16 you that if you do elect to recommend or Clean Line
- 17 to -- approve Clean Line's request for status as a
- 18 public utility, and I do pray that do you not, and
- 19 I understand that you can only recommend some of
- 20 these things because you cannot make financial
- 21 decisions about this based on what you said
- 22 earlier, but I would recommend that Clean Line
- 23 provide an annual payment to the landowners, not
- 24 just a one-time upfront payment.
- 25 Additionally, should the ownership of the

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- lines be ceased, transferred, bought out the
- 2 required payments responsibility would
- 3 automatically transfer to the new owners of the
- 4 Clean Lines.
- 5 The right of payment would transfer with
- 6 property. The property sells. The counties should
- 7 receive much, much more than what they're going to
- 8 get upfront for the purpose of infrastructure
- 9 rebuilding and for emergency management development
- 10 plus stipends on a yearly basis.
- 11 And it sure wouldn't hurt to add
- 12 additional money for school districts. The State
- 13 of Missouri should receive an upfront payment of at
- 14 least \$10 million, again, to State and Federal
- 15 infrastructure for public utilities oversight and
- 16 for SEMA funding.
- 17 And, additionally, an additional stipend
- 18 of approximately \$2 million in a trust fund should
- 19 be established in the amount of \$50 million or more
- 20 by Clean Line and its investors so that the funds
- 21 would be available for utilization by the
- 22 landowners, the counties and the state in the event
- 23 of an emergency to help with cost and damages.
- 24 These -- Clean Line and its investors are
- 25 offering Missouri two eight-one-hundredths of 1

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- 1 percent of their profits for one year so that they
- 2 can utilize land for the rest of their lives.
- 3 That's not fair.
- 4 It's nothing personal. I know that. But
- 5 it is global big business. And I know that the
- 6 tenants of Democracy do not support that kind of
- 7 usury of our citizens.
- I want to thank you for your time, and I
- 9 do want to ask, please, that you consider that the
- 10 citizens and the landowners in the State of
- 11 Missouri are worth more than an ice cream cone.
- 12 Thank you.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: We've been going for
- 14 almost a couple of hours now. Why don't we take a
- 15 short break? We'll be in recess until about five
- 16 minutes after eight.
- 17 (Break in proceedings.)
- 18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: The next witness -- I'm
- 19 having a little trouble reading this. It's Roy
- 20 Davingo, maybe? Dazingo?
- 21 ROY MOZINGO,
- 22 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 23 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 24 TESTIMONY OF ROY MOZINGO
- 25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state

Page 93 your name and spell your last name? 2 MR. MOZINGO: Roy Mozingo, M-o-z-i-n-g-o. 3 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside? MR. MOZINGO: 1318 County Road 2345, 4 5 Moberly, Missouri. 6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 7 MR. MOZINGO: I'd like to start by saying 8 that I am in opposition to Clean Line. If you will notice, most of the supporters of Clean Line, or several of them, live outside of Randolph County or 10 11 they -- you know, they know someone that lives in 12 Randolph County. The people here in opposition live and 13 work in Randolph County. I'd like to give the rest 14 15 of my time to Loren Sprouse, if that's possible to run with his time. 16 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: That's fine. 18 MR. MOZINGO: Thank you. 19 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Thank you. 20 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you. 21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Loren Sprouse. 22 LOREN SPROUSE, 23 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole 24 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows: 25 TESTIMONY OF LAUREN SPROUSE

Page 94 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name 1 2 and spell your last name. 3 MR. SPROUSE: Loren Sprouse, 4 S-p-r-o-u-s-e. 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside? MR. SPROUSE: I live at 3300 West 86th 6 7 Street, Leawood, Kansas. 8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. MR. SPROUSE: Okay. Can you hear me? 10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Yeah. If you want to 11 maybe pull the microphone up a little bit. 12 MR. SPROUSE: Okay. Is that better? 13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Yes. MR. SPROUSE: Okay. My name is Loren 14 15 Sprouse. I'm a landowner in Cole County. You know, I'd be happy to join -- join either of the 16 17 sessions we do either in Hamilton or Cameron. I'm a third generation landowner in that 18 area. And just as an aside, from a peer standpoint 19 20 point, I've been active in technology, engineer 21 design build, led and worked in Fortune 500 companies to build, mainly in the telecommunication 22 areas and then consulting in that last few years. 23 24 But I really am here to represent -- I 25 just want to cover some topics. I wasn't going to

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- 1 speak this evening, but I want to come in and talk
- 2 because there's some concerns that I've heard in an
- 3 earlier session and I just ought to clarify some
- 4 points and try to figure out some of the points we
- 5 need to -- that we want you all to be making
- 6 decisions on.
- 7 And, first of all, I am a landowner in
- 8 Cole County, third generation landowner. My
- 9 brothers and I have a farm there. We have -- we
- 10 peacefully co-exist with three gas pipelines, two
- 11 -- two oil pipelines, several telecommunications
- 12 lines.
- One of the gentlemen mentioned he's got an
- 14 abandoned AT&T cable. Well, we also have
- 15 abandoned, by the way, the aftermath. They
- 16 abandoned sites with concrete and building not
- 17 being able to remove from our property, which is
- one of the aftermath, long-term unintended
- 19 consequence of working with some utilities.
- 20 But -- and when the water -- when the
- 21 rural water was approved in our county, you know,
- 22 we saw a really significant public benefit to that.
- 23 We gave free right-of-way to make it available so
- 24 we got few water meters for our properties. So we
- 25 operate around at least ten miles of water lines

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- 1 that we maintain. By the way, all of this is
- 2 buried facilities.
- 3 And the point I'm trying to make with that
- 4 is it's out of sight, but it's not out of mind
- 5 because, you know, yet today we can't take a
- 6 backhoe or a post hole digger anywhere in
- 7 right-of-way without having to make sure to call
- 8 One Call or inform the proper people who make those
- 9 kind of decisions.
- 10 And in certain cases, we've had issues
- 11 with pipelines being exposed, gas leaks and those
- 12 kind of things like that that we've had to work
- 13 through. So it's active issue to have these kinds
- 14 of facilities on your properties.
- 15 The -- the reason I want to make the
- 16 comment today -- this situation on this thing is
- 17 different. And a couple points I want to make on
- 18 it from my perspective, first of all, this property
- 19 doesn't really generate the -- the compelling
- 20 public good that -- to the Missouri citizens.
- 21 And the reason -- one of the reasons I say
- 22 that is that -- in fact, let's start off by making
- 23 a comment. Let's make sure we understand what this
- 24 really is.
- 25 This is not a utility that we're talking

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- 1 about here with Clean Line. What Clean Line really
- 2 is is a private wholesale energy generation and
- 3 transport company. And they ought to be treated
- 4 accordingly.
- 5 They're not a utility in this state and
- 6 really never will be. They're a private company,
- 7 and they -- and they are -- and you know, I operate
- 8 private company in terms of our farm business and
- 9 other business that we have there.
- 10 And if -- if Clean Line wants to interact
- 11 with me, they ought to interact with me
- 12 accordingly. We ought to be two private companies
- 13 interacting with each other. If they want a
- 14 right-of-way, they need to come to me to buy it,
- and they don't need the right to have eminent
- 16 domain.
- 17 Now, I strongly believe the Public Service
- 18 Commission -- there's a number of issues here as I
- 19 will talk to you when in Caldwell County when I get
- 20 there, but I did want to try to clarify a few
- 21 points today, and I really wasn't prepared to speak
- 22 tonight.
- But what I want to cover is, clearly, the
- 24 Public Service Commission really needs to
- 25 administer stringent standards on this new line

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- 1 because this is beating edge technology.
- 2 You know, we're talking about some of the
- 3 highest voltages, you know, that have been
- 4 operating these longs long distances, lots of
- 5 issues in terms of understanding long-term
- 6 consequences to buildings, lines, safety both from
- 7 a risk management standpoint as well as public
- 8 safety issues.
- 9 So, yes, the Public Service Commission
- 10 would be involved in the -- in the construction
- 11 standards and maintenance standards to be used for
- 12 this line to reduce that risk.
- 13 However, it doesn't meet the public --
- 14 that eminent domain ought to be made available to
- 15 this organization. And the reason I say that,
- 16 there are precedents that have been set for this in
- 17 other parts of the United States.
- In California, which, typically, you know,
- 19 I do not necessarily view that as the most friendly
- 20 place to do business. But in California, Con
- 21 Edison bought a -- I have personally been to this
- 22 site.
- 23 They bought a large built -- bought and
- 24 built a large solar farm in -- in Central Valley of
- 25 California. And they -- they bought their own

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- 1 private rights of way for a few miles to connect
- 2 this to -- to public -- to Pacific Gas Electric in
- 3 that area to inter -- so they can interconnect with
- 4 that system.
- 5 They built and bought that right of way,
- 6 but they didn't have rates. They bought that
- 7 right-of-way to connect their farm. In that
- 8 situation, they -- by the way, in that particular
- 9 environment, we think about Con Edison as being a
- 10 utility. But in that case, they were a private,
- 11 wholesale electric generation and transport
- 12 company. And so -- and they were -- they were
- 13 private and they were treated accordingly in the
- 14 state of California.
- 15 The -- the way I look at it, the utilities
- in the State of Missouri, you know, have eminent
- 17 domain rights because they -- they bring with them
- 18 a significant public good.
- 19 I think there's a lot of issues here that
- 20 would suggest to me that some of the public good
- 21 here is -- is really just cursory public good in
- 22 terms of being able to say they operate the State
- 23 but really not in a significant fashion.
- 24 And, therefore, they -- they -- if they're
- 25 a private transport company, they -- the -- the

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- 1 people who need the right of eminent domain are the
- 2 utilities. And the utilities, if they want to
- 3 build it for Clean Line, they can do that. And if
- 4 they don't want to, they don't have to.
- 5 And, in fact, one of the questions I've
- 6 had that's for the longest, why are we spending all
- 7 the time we are with this discussion until Clean
- 8 Line gets the agreement -- power agreements with
- 9 the -- with the utilities that says that they're
- 10 going to buy the power and, you know, that's in
- 11 place and has interconnection service agreements
- 12 with the interconnection service operator that --
- 13 that -- and they agree to -- to build what's
- 14 required to build the infrastructure on the
- 15 existing power grid in the state of Missouri so
- 16 that they can deliver power?
- 17 And I haven't heard those kinds of
- 18 conversations anywhere in any of the discussions.
- 19 I've asked some questions of the reps and I've not
- 20 gotten any answers yet.
- 21 The -- so anyway, the point I'm -- the
- 22 first point I want to make is this is not a
- 23 utility, and it doesn't demonstrate this public
- 24 good.
- 25 If they had public good, they would be

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- 1 dropping power in the major metropolitan areas in
- 2 this state. They'd drop power in the west portion
- 3 of the state of Missouri, the central portion of
- 4 the state of Missouri and the eastern portion of
- 5 the state of Missouri.
- And the reason we all know they're not
- 7 doing that is cost. They don't want to spend that
- 8 money. It doesn't give them a chance to make a
- 9 profit. So that's Point No. 1.
- 10 The second point I want to make is it
- 11 reminds me of a phrase attributed to Mark Twain
- 12 many years ago, but actually maybe came from many
- 13 years earlier, and that's the story, There are
- 14 three kinds of lies. There are -- you know, there
- 15 are lies, there are damn lies and there are
- 16 statistics.
- 17 And the one statistic that I keep hearing,
- 18 heard it today over and over again -- and I can't
- 19 get math together. I'm an engineer, so I sometimes
- 20 maybe need this explained to me.
- 21 But I keep hearing about 500 megawatts of
- 22 power serving 200,000 households. So to me, when I
- 23 do the math of that peak -- or peak level -- level,
- 24 that's two kilowatts per home at the peak periods
- and that's even when the wind is blowing at an

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- 1 optimal speed.
- 2 So, therefore, in the -- and what I look
- 3 at that, and I say, Well, one of my air
- 4 conditioners on my house is 7.2 kilowatts. My
- 5 daughter's blow dryer is 1.2 kilowatts.
- 6 And so when I -- you know, we could
- 7 probably get some engineers in here and talk to
- 8 this. We could talk about point equations,
- 9 statistical models, about power that's being used
- 10 from different homes. We could do all that.
- But the point is that this math doesn't
- 12 hold together for them to be saying they're going
- 13 to serve 200,000 households with this. My math
- 14 says that on a hot day, you know, even with a great
- 15 wind that they -- they couldn't support these
- 16 200,000 houses. I'd say 10 percent of that would
- 17 be what they could support. Or maybe even less
- 18 than that.
- 19 And then along with that -- take that a
- 20 step further. The -- and when we -- we hear all
- 21 this discussion about this wind power and how it's
- 22 going to replace coal and fossil fire -- fossil
- 23 fuel power.
- 24 I've been reading a lot of articles coming
- 25 into Fortune magazine about wind power losing a bit

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- of its luster. And I'm all for renewable energy.
- 2 I really think it's the right thing to do.
- 3 But losing a little bit of luster here
- 4 because a lot of people have been saying for the
- 5 misconception suddenly we're going to shut down
- 6 Thomas Hill Power Plant because we've got all this
- 7 renewable energy and we're not going have all this
- 8 coal and stuff being burned and sent into the
- 9 atmosphere.
- 10 But in reality, the interconnection system
- 11 operator, who is the person who has to take the
- 12 power from this -- this company and -- and put it
- in the grid, they're going to be dealing with lots
- 14 of issues.
- 15 For instance, gusty wind. You know, the
- 16 statistics show that these wind generation plants
- 17 generate strong wind or optimal wind 30 percent of
- 18 the time. So where's the power coming for the rest
- 19 of the 70 percent of the time?
- It's coming from coal, natural gas plants
- 21 that to be sitting idle to peak in whenever these
- 22 -- whenever the wind fails to deliver. So to me,
- 23 it's kind of a fallacy of people thinking that
- 24 suddenly we're going to be able to get rid of some
- 25 of these plants.

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- 2 fact, it creates a risk of -- a risk factor which I
- 3 really want to make sure issue with you, with the
- 4 Public Service Commission is that by adding this
- 5 power dramatically increases the risk in managing
- 6 the grid within the State of Missouri
- 7 And if you look at it, solar power is
- 8 probably a much more stable power than -- so I'm
- 9 speaking kind of in support of the solar groups
- 10 because solar power could be added to the grid a
- 11 lot more easy than this power just this peak nature
- 12 of what's coming through the grid.
- 13 And so the -- and so where I'm at -- I
- 14 look at this back to this point about the power
- 15 purchase agreements.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Ten minutes.
- 17 MR. SPROUSE: Okay. The real utilities
- 18 like Ameren and local co-ops sign up for this power
- 19 and we use it on a -- on a compelling level across
- 20 the State. Well, then, you know, there is really
- 21 no reason for us to be spending a lot of time on
- 22 this particular issue.
- 23 We shouldn't -- this should not be getting
- 24 the attention that it gets as being considered a
- 25 utility. And if Clean Line wants to continue to

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- 1 build their projects as a private entity and buy
- 2 private right-of-way like Con Ed in California,
- 3 they can do that, but not with the right of eminent
- 4 domain. Thank you.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?
- 6 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you.
- 7 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
- 8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Mike McKeown?
- 9 MIKE MCKEOWN,
- 10 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 11 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 12 TESTIMONY OF MIKE MCKEOWN
- 13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
- 14 and spell your last name.
- MR. MCKEOWN: Mike McKeown, M-c-K-e-o-w-n.
- 16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside?
- MR. MCKEOWN: 4898 Highway AA, Moberly.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
- 19 MR. MCKEOWN: Thank you. I don't have a
- 20 big prepared speech. I'm asking you to deny these
- 21 folks access to eminent domain.
- 22 My farm lays down here south of town.
- 23 That line will go a mile and a quarter, the best I
- 24 can tell, through my farm, 500 -- 500 feet south of
- 25 my house, 300 feet from my daughter's.

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- 1 My mom and all three of my kids and six
- 2 grandkids live within and less than a quarter mile
- 3 of where this line is going to be.
- 4 I'm a little concerned about health.
- 5 We've heard a lot of things tonight about health.
- 6 We've heard about farming around them and not
- 7 farming around them.
- 8 I am a farmer. You stick something out in
- 9 the middle of the field, you've got to drive around
- 10 it. So, I mean, it just makes sense. So you have
- 11 to pay attention to those kinds of things.
- 12 My farm is not going to be sold. I might
- 13 lose it. But -- and the intent of my wife and kids
- 14 is to pass that -- or the intent of my wife and
- 15 myself is to pass that farm on to our kids who I
- 16 told you live on that farm and then on to our
- 17 grandkids who live on that farm.
- 18 Property rights is a big deal. Where will
- 19 this stop? What will be next? That's why you need
- 20 to deny these folks access to my farm and to my
- 21 neighbors' farms.
- 22 I don't think at this time it's that
- 23 important to us. I know about the tax thing. I'm
- 24 on the -- President of the School Board, one of the
- 25 School Boards that Richard mentioned that line was

Page 107 going through. Schools need money, but at what

- 2 expense?
- 3 So I'm asking you please to consider
- 4 denying these folks access to eminent domain, to my
- 5 farm and to -- and to my neighbors. Thank you.
- 6 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? Harry
- 7 Overly.
- 8 HARRY OVERLY,
- 9 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 10 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 11 TESTIMONY OF HARRY OVERLY
- 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
- 13 and spell your last name.
- MR. OVERLY: Harry Overly, O-v, as in
- 15 Victor, e-r-l-y.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside?
- 17 MR. OVERLY: 3456 County Road 2735.
- 18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
- 19 MR. OVERLY: Moberly, Missouri. I haven't
- 20 got a lot to say, but I heard about the hearing
- 21 tonight. And the health issues, I agree a hundred
- 22 percent.
- 23 A hundred percent I'm against eminent
- 24 domain, which does not in any way -- you take a
- 25 position in this particular situation. As even

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- 1 applying, it doesn't apply to it. Eminent domain
- 2 was for sake of a road or the water line or -- or
- 3 an actual power company or something like that.
- 4 But as far as this private enterprise is
- 5 concerned, as you can see, there's a great number
- of people here that it will affect and that it will
- 7 hurt. And I'm one of them.
- 8 I -- if this goes through, I'll just be a
- 9 few hundred feet -- my house will be a few hundred
- 10 feet from this line that's going through.
- 11 Therefore, it's very much -- I'm very much
- 12 concerned. I've got five acres. I worked very
- 13 hard for what I've got. I don't have a lot. But
- 14 what I have is mine. And I hope to pass this on to
- 15 my children.
- 16 And the health issues are -- are great. I
- 17 mean, there's so many other aspects to it. But
- 18 just the health issues alone would be enough for me
- 19 to oppose it 100 percent. And I do oppose it 100
- 20 percent.
- 21 And my neighbors Dennis and -- and Lori
- 22 Smith, I'd say, like they have said, I come to the
- 23 country for serenity, to have a quiet place, a
- 24 place that they can raise their children and -- and
- 25 so forth, and that's why I moved to the country.

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- I wanted a quiet place. I wanted a place
- 2 that I could raise my -- my children and my
- 3 grandchildren, my great grandchildren that come and
- 4 so forth.
- 5 And I just -- like I say, I don't have a
- 6 lot to say. These -- these folks said a whole lot
- 7 tonight to convince to you deny these people this
- 8 here so-called eminent domain to take people's
- 9 property. They said it -- they presented it very
- 10 well.
- 11 And the people that were for this thing,
- 12 like I say, like one already said, they were
- 13 somewhere else. It didn't affect their property.
- 14 Maybe one of them. He said he had all kinds of
- 15 pipelines whatever through there. Not trying to
- 16 throw down on him, but the thing about it is, and
- 17 the fact is, that it will not and never be -
- 18 whether you let it go or not, it will never be
- 19 something that this eminent domain would cover
- 20 would be -- be in it. It never will be.
- 21 A little tiny people -- tiny group of
- 22 people at the end over there I guess in the east
- 23 might get a little bit of a trickle off from this
- 24 area. This -- if this state wants wind -- I have
- 25 -- I'm not against wind energy. But let somebody

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- 1 buy a farm that's for sale, put up their wind thing
- 2 and put it into the utility of that particular
- 3 state, I'm sure that they could, you know, that
- 4 there will be people that will allow them to maybe
- 5 -- maybe cross their land or -- or why not go down
- 6 a road?
- 7 My son-in-law just suggested, Well, why
- 8 don't they go down the Interstate 70? You know,
- 9 the side of the road, right through, take it over
- 10 there to someplace else. Let them do that.
- 11 There's -- there's other -- when I was
- 12 here before and they showed all these different
- 13 routes, I pointed out the fact, Okay, here's
- 14 somepeople that already sold their land to a
- 15 pipeline that went through. They already sold it.
- 16 You know, they already had the
- 17 right-of-way go through there. Why not go to these
- 18 people instead of trying to force other people out
- 19 of their homes or -- or, you know, all this
- 20 disruption it is and so forth? Why don't they go
- 21 to them and ask them to sell them a little piece
- 22 right next to it and go on through.
- 23 There's a lot of different ways that --
- 24 that it can be -- them choosing this way, like one
- 25 said that I heard tonight about the Amish people,

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- 1 they're my neighbors and my friends. No, they
- 2 don't have access to television, radio and all that
- 3 kind of stuff. So it was kind of easy for them to
- 4 say, Well, we won't get any -- any feedback from
- 5 these people, you know, and because they just don't
- 6 have the knowledge of it.
- 7 But I want to tell you something. They
- 8 don't believe in electricity. They don't have
- 9 electricity. I'm sure they don't want their
- 10 children to be exposed to the health factors that
- it's connected with, nd I am implore you to deny
- 12 this and go on with our -- let them go on with
- 13 their business.
- If they want to create solar -- or, I
- 15 mean, wind energy in their state, let them do it.
- 16 Let them pump it into their particular utilities.
- 17 If we want to, well, they've got enough money, let
- 18 they them buy a farm. Let them go legally to
- 19 people that want to sell and pump it into their
- 20 utility -- or utility companies. And whatever --
- 21 whatever one we're under.
- 22 Same way with the other states. There's
- 23 no common -- common good for the State of Missouri
- 24 none whatsoever. That's all I've got to say.
- 25 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Susie

Page 112 Everhart? 2 SUSIE EVERHART, 3 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows: 5 TESTIMONY OF SUSIE EVERHART JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name 7 and spell your last name. 8 MS. EVERHART: My name? JUDGE BUSHMANN: And speak -- get up close to the microphone. Thank you. 10 MS. EVERHART: My name is Susie Everhart. 11 12 That's E-v, as in Victor, e-r-h-a-r-t. 13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside? 14 MS. EVERHART: 1001 Monroe Road 959, Madison, Missouri. 15 16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Please go ahead. MS. EVERHART: I would like to respectfully demand that you deny public service 18 19 status to the Grain Belt people. 20 I live less than a half mile from the 21 proposed route, and I greatly fear the health benefits, the health detriments that might come 22 with this line should it come through. 23 24 Also, the property devaluation possibility of that. I have many friends and neighbors that 25

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- 1 are farmers and are going to have to deal with the
- 2 problems with the GPS, farming and these things
- 3 which could be a danger to their health and
- 4 equipment.
- 5 I -- I defer to Mrs. Smith who --
- 6 everything she said, I totally agree with. I just
- 7 greatly disagree with this, and that's all I have
- 8 to say.
- 9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Any
- 10 questions?
- 11 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you.
- 12 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you for your
- 13 testimony.
- 14 COMMISSIONER KENNEY: Thank you.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Betty O'Bannon? Betty
- 16 O'Bannon?
- 17 BETTY O'BANNON,
- 18 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 19 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 20 TESTIMONY OF BETTY O'BANNON
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
- 22 and spell your last name.
- MS. O'BANNON: Betty O'Bannon, capital
- 24 O-'-B-a-n-n-o-n. 12479 Highway 151, Madison.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please proceed.

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- 1 MS. O'BANNON: I do own a farm in
- 2 southwest part of Monroe County where the Clean
- 3 Line has proposed their route. So I am very
- 4 interested in them.
- 5 They plan to build wind mills in Kansas to
- 6 generate their electricity. I grew up in Iowa. In
- 7 northwest Iowa, they are looking to construct wind
- 8 mills there and line crossing diagonally to
- 9 Davenport on the river. Some of Iowa's best farm
- 10 lands will be lost, and they do have some of the
- 11 best in the United States.
- 12 Northwest Iowa has a lot of wind mills
- 13 that supply electricity to the State like the Iowa
- 14 Public Service. What is going to happen to those
- 15 when Clean Line comes in and builds these tall
- 16 towers? They won't be receiving any wind to
- 17 generate their turbines. The wind in Kansas and
- 18 Iowa does not blow all the time.
- 19 It is required by law that Clean Line has
- 20 to have an extra source of electricity when they
- 21 cannot provide it on their own. Where is this
- 22 place? Do they have a written agreement with them?
- 23 If they fail, where do they go? Is it a
- 24 coal-fueled electrical plant?
- 25 There is talk about closing coal mines and

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1	plants that furnish electricity. What would Clean
2	Line do if this happened? What are their plans?
3	There are so many questions that are
4	unanswered. Several questions have already been
5	asked. We live in a wonderful country, and we need
6	to take care of our land.
7	All the billions that some people have
8	should not let ourselves be persuaded to give up
9	land for someone's questionable venture.
10	I invite everyone to come and see my
11	beautiful farm, my beautiful neighborhood and the
12	Amish community. I hope you can give me answers to
13	my questions. Thank you.
14	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? Thank
15	you, ma'am.
16	CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you, Ms. O'Bannon.
17	COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
18	MS. O'BANNON: Thank you.
19	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Carol Ann Smith?
20	CAROL ANN SMITH,
21	being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
22	truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
23	TESTIMONY OF CAROL ANN SMITH

Fax: 314.644.1334

JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name

and spell your last name.

24

25

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- 1 MS. SMITH: My name is Carol Ann Smith,
- 2 S-m-i-t-h. And first let me state that I did not
- 3 know that I was going to give my testimony tonight.
- 4 But I am happy to do so and will do my best to
- 5 state my opposition to the Grain Belt Express.
- I am a retired widow. I have worked hard
- 7 for the -- and paid for a peaceful retirement home.
- 8 And it's also handicapped accessible. I am also a
- 9 cancer survivor of five months. And believe me,
- 10 that was not very fun.
- 11 According to the cancer doctor, if these
- 12 lines are permitted to go in, I will be forced to
- 13 move out of my home because I would be so affected
- 14 by the cancer -- the cancer ability again.
- Now, I would be forced out of my home and
- 16 for the property to be given for an out-of-state
- 17 private company. How will I be able to afford
- 18 this?
- 19 Also, I live within the woods. I use my
- 20 woods for money to help me get by. Now, they will
- 21 take my woods. I want that not to be allowed.
- Now, according to a study, children who
- 23 are raised for the first five years of life within
- 24 300 meters, which is 985 plus feet, have a lifetime
- 25 risk that is 500 percent higher for developing some

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- 1 kinds of cancer. And it is also the biggest
- 2 concern is childhood leukemia. Also, according to
- 3 the same study, breast cancer risks increase.
- So, lastly, let me state that I have --
- 5 oh, just a minute. I forgot. I am not willing to
- 6 put my children and the children of Missouri at
- 7 risk for the cheaper energy, which I understand
- 8 Missouri will not be on the receiving end.
- 9 Are you willing to carry that burden on
- 10 your conscious for money that may be gained? Well,
- 11 I am not.
- 12 Let me state lastly, that I have received
- 13 a copy of the contract that I did not sign.
- 14 According to the eminent domain lawyer at the
- 15 meeting in Salsbury, the amount stated in the
- 16 letters in the information I had received in the
- 17 mail is very misleading and false.
- 18 What happened to the rights of the
- 19 citizens of the rural Missouri? Thank you.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? Thank
- 21 you, ma'am.
- 22 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you.
- 23 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Diane Ragsdale?
- 25 DIANE RAGSDALE,

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1	being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
2	truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
3	TESTIMONY OF DIANE RAGSDALE
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state
5	your name and spell your last name?
6	MS. RAGSDALE: My name is Diane Ragsdale,
7	R-a-g-s-d-a-l-e.
8	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside?
9	MS. RAGSDALE: 1488 County Road 2734,
10	Moberly, Missouri.
11	JUDGE BUSHMANN: You may go ahead.
12	MS. RAGSDALE: Thank you. First, I would
13	like to thank Commissioners of the Missouri Public
14	Service Committee for taking the time to come to
15	Moberly and listen to our concerns.

This last May, I, along with a couple of

It was clear that the majority of Randolph

other people, spent less than 24 hours total

gathering signatures to ask our Commissioners on a

County citizens did not support Grain Belt Express.

Petition to rescind their support for Grain Belt

 $25\,$   $\,$  amount of time. We even had people that would come

Fax: 314.644.1334

Express.

16

17

18

19

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- 1 and actually walk down the street looking for us to
- 2 seek us out to sign the Petition.
- 3 The proposed line is not on my property,
- 4 although it would be less than 100 meters, which
- 5 Grain Belt people told me that it was 276 feet
- 6 within my home -- close to my home.
- 7 Basically, it goes through my front yard.
- 8 I will receive no compensation. As a retired
- 9 school teacher and now a nurse in the medical
- 10 field, I have many concerns.
- I would like to ask the Commissioners to
- 12 consider the following risk and promises made by
- 13 Clean Line's Grain Belt Express before making their
- 14 final decision on what is best for Missourians.
- The promise of the amount of only 1
- 16 percent of the total electricity for the entire
- 17 State of Missouri. The proposed high voltage
- 18 direct lines, direct current lines have no proven
- 19 benefit to the residents of the State of Missouri
- 20 in either transmitting or receiving energy for our
- 21 state.
- 22 As a former teacher, I'm concerned about
- 23 the idea of tax money for schools being promised.
- 24 The money promised is less than .01 percent per
- 25 student. This is a drop in the bucket.

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- 1 In addition, this company has filed a tax
- 2 abatement in Kansas where they made the same
- 3 promises. So we do not -- we may not get any
- 4 money.
- 5 The potential health risks, as mentioned
- 6 earlier, with increased chance of cancer to our
- 7 children is a concern. I have Amish neighbors with
- 8 large families of young -- a lot of young children.
- 9 I am also a breast cancer survivor. Most
- 10 importantly, giving this company the use of eminent
- 11 domain -- eminent domain was not put in place for a
- 12 private for-profit company to take away the rights
- 13 of landowners. This is just wrong.
- 14 I strongly oppose Clean Line's Grain Belt
- 15 Express. Commissioners, I'm asking you to please
- 16 do what is best for Missouri and Missourians. Do
- 17 not allow this transmission line to be built.
- 18 Thank you again.
- 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? Ken Dye?
- 20 KEN DYE,
- 21 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 22 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 23 TESTIMONY OF KEN DYE
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please state your name
- 25 and spell your last name.

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- 1 MR. DYE: My name is Ken Dye, D-y-e. I
- 2 live at 25948 Monroe Road 830, Paris, Missouri,
- 3 which is in Monroe County.
- 4 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
- 5 MR. DYE: This is my third public hearing.
- 6 I did testify at the Monroe City hearing which is
- 7 -- the Monroe County hearing was held and expressed
- 8 my concerns as a landowner.
- 9 And so after going to these hearings, I've
- 10 listened to about a hundred people now testify.
- 11 I've kind of jotted down some notes and what I've
- 12 witnessed here.
- 13 And I'm going to start, the landowners on
- 14 the route or near the route are overwhelmingly and
- 15 heartily opposed to this line for a lot of good
- 16 reasons and will have to make the most sacrifices
- 17 for anyone to benefit.
- 18 Many not near the landowners also oppose
- 19 because of their concerns for the well-being of
- 20 fellow Missourians' property rights, dangerous use
- 21 of eminent domain and so on.
- 22 The people are for this line -- the
- 23 majority of them are in it for the money. They
- 24 want to receive money on the backs of somebody else
- 25 that has to put up their land.

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- 1 I've heard about all the jobs that this
- 2 will create in the need for more lines. The
- 3 transmission line -- our local co-op just finished
- 4 upgrading their line to have extra capacity for
- 5 future use and this line goes through some of our
- 6 property. And I might state that we have four
- 7 farms, my family and I do, that represent about
- 8 three miles that this line will go through. So we
- 9 are going to be definitely directly affected.
- 10 This recent upgrade, they used a standard
- 11 40-foot wooden pole, now two poles that carry
- 12 69,000 AC voltage, which is a little over 10
- 13 percent of what this proposed line would carry.
- 14 This process started last year.
- 15 And I talked to people today that did the
- 16 work and watched them throughout the year. They
- 17 are all from Mississippi, Texas, Georgia and other
- 18 southern states. No local labor was used here.
- 19 They said this is a very small project. I
- 20 told them about the proposed line. And they said,
- 21 Yeah, said we've built power lines all of our lives
- 22 and we've built 200 foot towers. Instead, if this
- 23 line gets built, probably our company or a company
- 24 like ours will be called in to build it.
- I can't imagine any local company that has

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- 1 expertise to build it to build these lines. I've
- 2 heard a lot of local electricians and unions talk
- 3 about favor of local jobs. How many did this
- 4 outfit hire? Zero. They bring their own people
- 5 in. They work together. They live together.
- 6 They've worked together for a lot of these guys 15,
- 7 20 years. They don't come in from the southern
- 8 states and hire somebody local to go with them and
- 9 help them with their work.
- 10 MAN IN AUDIENCE: Man, that's right.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Find my place. So
- 12 there's been a lot of questions early on about
- 13 Clean Line, who is going to build the line that
- 14 they've never built the line. Who is going to
- 15 maintain?
- They've never had any answers. Well,
- 17 here's why. Because they're not going to use any
- 18 local labor. They bring -- that's what they do for
- 19 a living. That's what they're good at. That's
- 20 what they know how to do.
- 21 There's more than that transmission
- 22 capacity of the state now. I talked to my local
- 23 co-op. And I said, you know, so do we have -- do
- 24 we have enough lines here or what? Because this
- 25 line that they just finished was nearly double the

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- 1 load, could carry 162 KW just as well as 69,000.
- 2 They said, We -- most lines in this
- 3 country now in this state, I'm sorry, has got more
- 4 than adequate power. They can carry more
- 5 transmission. We don't need more lines. Everybody
- 6 here has got a wire going their house for
- 7 electricity. We don't need another line coming
- 8 through to provide that.
- 9 As far as, you know, the source of these
- 10 lines, if we cut down on some, if we lose all our
- 11 coal power, are we not going have any electricity?
- 12 No, we're going to have electricity. We're already
- 13 got the lines here. We don't need this extra line.
- 14 Missourican build their own wind power.
- 15 They Can generate electricity from hydro or
- 16 whatever. And the future electricity will probably
- 17 be generated differently, but we have the lines
- 18 here now. We don't need to give more easements and
- 19 right-of-way for somebody like this to come in.
- 20 Here's something I don't think that
- 21 anybody has probably heard or even heard about.
- 22 But in February, I received a call from a gentleman
- 23 named Herb Prior in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.
- 24 And I was at work and in the shop, and he called.
- 25 And he -- and he had read an article in a

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- 1 publication in a location in Pennsylvania. They
- 2 did that interview with an Associated Press
- 3 gentleman out of St. Louis. And this article got
- 4 published all across the country. And he read
- 5 about it in Pennsylvania, Lancaster County.
- 6 And I thought, What in the world would
- 7 somebody from Pennsylvania be calling me about?
- 8 And he said, I just want to let you know what
- 9 happened out here, and I want to warn you what can
- 10 happen there.
- 11 He lives in Lancaster County with some of
- 12 the highest property value in the United States. I
- 13 was there in 1991, and that land was \$12,000 an
- 14 acre then.
- There's three major power companies,
- 16 Pennsylvania Power & Light, Philadelphia Electric,
- 17 who is two of them, and there was another one. Of
- 18 course, when he called, I didn't have my pen out to
- 19 start taking notes.
- I didn't know the kind of conversation I
- 21 was going to be having. But they signed a -- he
- 22 called it a right-of-way, the same thing, easement.
- 23 They took compensation for it. He said, for 35
- 24 years, you know, we existed. The power lines
- 25 existed.

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- 1 These powers were so big that he could
- 2 drive his -- he's got a dairy farm and he could
- 3 drive his tractor and salvage wagons between the
- 4 legs of these towers.
- 5 Two to three years ago, the power
- 6 companies started to charge the landowners rent on
- 7 this easement on their land. They -- the
- 8 landowners took the power company to court, and
- 9 they lost in court.
- Now they have to pay this power company
- 11 rent on their own land that they signed an easement
- 12 on 35 years ago.
- I have a copy of the easement of Clean
- 14 Line, and I've read it. It is written to benefit
- 15 them. So when those people signed that easement 35
- 16 years ago, I don't know what it says, but it didn't
- 17 say what they thought it said.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Five minutes.
- 19 MR. DYE: I just want to --
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Five minutes.
- MR. DYE: About to close.
- 22 WOMAN IN AUDIENCE: I'll defer my time to
- 23 Mr. Dye, Christine Elsbury.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, ma'am. Go
- ahead.

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- 1 MR. DYE: I want to talk about the -- as
- 2 far as constructing these lines, you know, the
- 3 traffic -- the counties talk about all this money
- 4 they're going to receive, this tax money.
- 5 The heavy equipment, when you're hauling
- 6 in, you know thousands and thousands of yards of
- 7 concrete and steel and tires of this size, loading
- 8 trucks run over the ends of the culverts and
- 9 destroy gravel roads, state highways.
- 10 We've seen this from small construction
- 11 projects in our neighborhoods. There is a cost to
- 12 the counties and state when these companies come in
- 13 and build things like this.
- And, yes, there may be some local
- 15 companies that build supplies and parts that might
- 16 get a temporary boost in business. But when the
- 17 job is done, if it's even built, I wonder how many
- 18 promises are made about local jobs.
- 19 So in closing, I just have to ask, at what
- 20 cost and how much sacrifice will Missourians have
- 21 to pay to receive little or no benefit? I am
- 22 strongly opposed to building this line. Thank you
- 23 for your time.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: L.E. Gillispie.
- L.E. GILLISPIE,

Page 128 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole 2 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows: 3 TESTIMONY OF L.E. GILLISPIE JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state 4 5 your --6 MR. GILLISPIE: My name is Brian 7 Gillespie. I live on County Road 3210, 2735, 8 east of Moberly, Missouri. JUDGE BUSHMANN: And how do you spell your last name, sir? 10 MR. GILLISPIE: G-i-l-l-i-s-i-e. 11 12 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 13 MR. GILLISPIE: Thank you. I don't think -- and I know your time is important, and I'm a 14 busy person. So are you. 15 But you've heard enough evidence here tonight 16

- 17 that it would be foolish to go against the truth
- 18 and the evidence that's been presented here
- 19 tonight.
- 20 The road's not going to -- line's not going to
- 21 come on my property. I'm a father. I've got lines
- 22 -- I've got power lines and stuff on a farm I own,
- 23 and I've had a lot of problems from it.
- And it's like that once they're there, you
- 25 live with the problem. This will be quarter --

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- 1 less than a quarter of mile from where I do live on
- 2 the site. And there's nothing that will benefit
- 3 this from this -- from them coming through.
- As he stated, you've done heard all of the
- 5 -- the dis-benefit. But what it's going to cost
- 6 our county by the time they come in and tear up the
- 7 roads and the highway and everything else and we as
- 8 tax payers here in this county are going to clean
- 9 up this mess.
- 10 And it's not going to benefit Randolph
- 11 County or anybody else in the State of Missouri
- 12 nothing at all. I'm against it and I ask that
- 13 you'ns will stand for our right.
- 14 It would be no different than me giving
- 15 somebody else permission to come in and do
- 16 something on your yard and dig your yard up and do
- 17 whatever they want to do. This is the very same
- 18 thing.
- 19 And I'm asking you to stand for America
- 20 and our rights as American people. Thank you.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Mark Haim.
- 22 MARK HAIM,
- 23 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 24 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 25 TESTIMONY OF MARK HAIM

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- 1 MR. HAIM: Good evening.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state
- 3 your name and spell your last name?
- 4 MR. HAIM: It's Mark, M-a-r-k, Haim,
- $5 \quad H-a-i-m.$
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: And where do you reside,
- 7 sir?
- 8 MR. HAIM: 1402 Richardson Street in
- 9 Columbia, 65201.
- 10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
- 11 MR. HAIM: Good evening. I come here
- 12 tonight to speak to you as Director of Mid-Missouri
- 13 Peace Works, which is a grass roots organization
- 14 representing approximately 500 member individuals
- or households residing in the Central Missouri
- 16 area.
- 17 And I thank you for taking the time to
- 18 listen to myself and other voices of concerned
- 19 Missourians. I know you're seeking comments on a
- 20 transmission line, but my comments will be
- 21 addressing that.
- But whenever you look at an issue, you
- 23 have to put in 234 in context. Every decision is
- 24 in a context. And the decision to approve or not
- 25 to approve the Grain Belt Express is one that I

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- 1 hope you'll consider in the context of a crisis
- 2 that far too few citizens and decision-makers are
- 3 recognizing let alone taking action to address.
- 4 I refer, of course, to the climate crisis.
- 5 My greatest concern when I think about what kind of
- 6 future we're leaving for our kids and for our
- 7 grandkids is climate change.
- 8 There are many problems facing humanity,
- 9 but only a handful of these are what we considered
- 10 existential threats, threats to our very existence.
- 11 Climate change and nuclear weapons are two that
- 12 stand out as those most likely to end life as we
- 13 know it.
- And as such, we cannot afford inaction on
- 15 the climate crisis. As I'm sure you and I hope in
- of the other people here tonight know, carbon
- 17 dioxide is a greenhouse gas and beyond any shadow
- 18 of a doubt is already altering our planet's
- 19 climate.
- 20 Much of the CO2 -- much of this greenhouse
- 21 gases are CO-2 which come from burning coal and
- 22 natural gas to generate electricity.
- 23 Since the dawn of the industrial age in
- 24 the late 1700s, a concentration of CO-2 in our
- 25 planetary atmosphere has gone from 280 per million

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- 1 to 400 parts per million. This is a 43 percent
- 2 increase in just a little over 200 years. That's
- 3 something unprecedented.
- 4 And levels of CO2 in the atmosphere are
- 5 now higher than they've been at any time in the
- 6 last 650,000 years. It's worthy of note that most
- 7 of the rise in the greenhouse gases has taken place
- 8 in the last 30 years.
- 9 And if we don't take significant action
- 10 and do it properly to reverse this build-up, we'll
- 11 cause irreversible and highly detrimental changes
- 12 to our planetary environment. And there are
- 13 certainties that our prodigy will be forced to deal
- 14 with.
- 15 I'm not only talking about a much hotter
- 16 planet, but also one with much more extreme weather
- 17 including severe droughts, super storms, excessive
- 18 rainfall, flooding, fires and more.
- We're already seeing rising sea levels
- 20 around the world. And in coming decades, these are
- 21 going to threaten low-lying coastal areas where a
- 22 large portion of humanity lives.
- 23 The combination of these factors would
- 24 likely lead to unprecedented mass migrations.
- 25 Climate change also means reduced food production,

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- loss of bio-diversity and spread of more diseases.
- 2 It's in this context that I'd like to ask
- 3 you to consider all decisions about energy policy
- 4 and infrastructure, including the decision on the
- 5 Clean Line Green Belt Express power line.
- 6 Wind power is clean and green with
- 7 extremely low carbon footprint, but it is most
- 8 abundant and consistently available in places like
- 9 western Kansas where relatively few people live.
- 10 The North American High Plains have been
- 11 called the Saudi Arabia of wind. And there's been
- 12 relatively rapid growth in wind generation in this
- 13 region over this past decade.
- 14 However, the pace of installation of
- 15 cleaner energy generating capacity has not been
- 16 nearly fast enough to meet our pressing need to
- 17 phase out fossil fuel use, including coal and gas
- 18 for generating electricity.
- 19 There aren't technical limitations,
- 20 though. We have the technology to harvest this
- 21 green energy. What is limited is the transmission
- 22 line capacity to move the clean energy from areas
- 23 where it's relatively cheaply and abundantly
- 24 available to locales where populations live.
- 25 And for this reason, I applaud Clean Line

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- 1 Energy Partners for their efforts to build the
- 2 Grain Belt Express and several other direct current
- 3 transmission lines.
- 4 Once completed, these lines will be able
- 5 to very efficiently move large amounts of
- 6 electricity over significant distances with very
- 7 minimal line losses.
- 8 I understand that some Missourians whose
- 9 property the proposed line may cross or will cross
- 10 if it's built may not be happy with the proposal.
- 11 I've heard a lot of that here tonight, and I
- 12 understand that.
- 13 It's necessary, however, to consider the
- 14 overall benefit of a project like this and weigh
- 15 that against its costs. It's my hope that property
- 16 owners will recognize there's a compelling public
- 17 interest served in putting this transmission line
- 18 in place.
- I also trust that Clean Line will do
- 20 everything in its power to set the line as far as
- 21 from the property owners whose lands would be
- 22 traversed.
- I also hope the Public Service Commission
- 24 will recognize an over-arching public interest in
- 25 addressing the climate crisis. And this involves

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- 1 seeing as much of this very low carbon power used
- 2 in our states as quickly as possible to phase out
- 3 the carbon intensive generation.
- 4 This can and must be done through mandates
- 5 to use ever larger amounts of renewable energy
- 6 through efficiency programs and through the
- 7 approval of transmission infrastructure needed to
- 8 provide this much-needed wind energy to Missourians
- 9 and others in neighboring states.
- 10 I thank you for your time and -- and
- 11 listening to the concerns of myself and our
- members.
- 13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions from
- 14 attorneys or Commissioners?
- 15 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you for your
- 16 testimony.
- 17 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
- 18 MR. HAIM: Thank you. Do I leave a copy
- 19 with your Staff?
- 20 JUDGE BUSHMANN: You could leave it at
- 21 counsel table. Do you want to include that as part
- 22 of the record?
- MR. HAIM: Sure. No applause?
- MEMBER OF AUDIENCE: No applause.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: There's a few more

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- 1 speakers. The remaining speakers have testified
- 2 before, so I would just request when you come up to
- 3 limit your testimony to new or additional things
- 4 want to tell us and not just repeat what you've
- 5 said before. The first witness is Julie Viel.
- JULIE VIEL,
- 7 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 8 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 9 TESTIMONY OF JULIE VIEL
- 10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state
- 11 your name and spell your last name?
- MS. VIEL: Julie Viel, V-i-e-l.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside?
- 14 MS. VIEL: Eight Daytona Court, O'Fallon,
- 15 Missouri.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead.
- MS. VIEL: All right. So I'm a mom and a
- 18 grandma, and I'm concerned about our future and our
- 19 kids.
- 20 And I wanted to show you a big -- and,
- 21 also, the people of the audience because if we
- 22 don't consider our future and our -- what our kids
- 23 are going to have, then I think we're missing some
- 24 of the -- the whole reason why we're having this
- 25 transmission line put in here in the first place.

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- 1 So by the end of this century, 2100, which
- 2 is -- you know, I have a 3-year-old granddaughter.
- 3 She may even conceivably live to the end of this
- 4 century. And she's going to want to have children
- 5 and they're, you know, they're going to want to
- 6 have children.
- 7 So by the end of the century, our
- 8 temperature, if we continue to burn carbon and gas,
- 9 which emits methane, too, as it seeps and leaks,
- 10 and oil, we're going to be at temperatures that are
- 11 many degrees Farenheit above normal than what we've
- 12 seen even just now.
- 13 So this is it. And it's -- it's from the
- 14 National Climate Assessment Report that came out in
- 15 2014. And it's linked on globalchange.gov.
- 16 We here in Missouri haven't seen the full
- impact of the temperatures that have already
- 18 happened. Mostly the Arctic has seen most of the
- 19 temperature increases. And the Arctic is melting
- 20 by 75 percent, by volume from the 1950s to 2012.
- 21 And that impacts our jet stream.
- We've already seen the jet stream change
- 23 because of the different -- temperature
- 24 differentiation and doctor -- there's different
- 25 things out there. I forgot her name. That show

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- 1 how the jet stream is changing.
- We're warming, also. The -- the
- 3 temperatures had been nice and tight, like the
- 4 temperature distribution in the 1950s.
- 5 It's getting warmer and getting looser, meaning
- 6 it's more varied by this last decade.
- 7 What's it going to be like when the
- 8 temperature even increases more and more? As the
- 9 global temperature increases, we're going to have
- 10 more humidity. A warmer atmosphere holds more
- 11 moisture, and it -- it -- that warm moisture comes
- 12 up as -- stays there, but then when it comes down,
- 13 it comes down like a big bathtub emptying. And
- 14 that's our big rain storms that we've seen more and
- 15 more.
- I don't know how our kids are going to
- 17 make it. I went to a presentation by the people at
- 18 globalchange.gov. Don Weebles presented it at the
- 19 St. Louis Zoo. And he said that those low curves
- 20 where we would get off carbon emissions by
- 21 6 percent a year, he said that that low curve is
- 22 not likely to happen.
- 23 And when he said that, it was a stab to my
- 24 heart knowing that this is what my kids and
- 25 grandkids will likely -- so if not likely, then

Page 139 it's likely it will be the high one. And I'm just, you know, really frightened, 3 and I -- but I think there's something we can still do. So that means let's do it now. Let's be 5 serious about it. Let's talk about it. Let's move 6 forward. 7 So I hope that the people -- everybody 8 will just realize there's a lot at stake here. It's not just money. It's our future. Thank you. 10 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions? 11 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you. 12 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thanks very much. JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. 13 14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Ed Mitchell? Did Mr. Mitchell come back? 15 16 MAN IN AUDIENCE: He has not. 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay. Scott Hughes? Scott Hughes? William Anglen? 18 19 WILLIAM ANGLEN, being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole 20 21 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows: TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM ANGLEN 22 23 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state 24 your name for the record and spell your last name? MR. ANGLEN: William Anglen, A-n-g-l-e-n. 25

Page 140 1 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please go ahead. 2 MR. ANGLEN: As a landowner being affected 3 by Grain Belt, I dislike hearing from unions and groups outside the area saying how good this is. 4 5 What can -- what do they lose? This is the -another not in my back yard situation. 6 7 Missouri is being used as an extension 8 cord with only one outlet. The East Coast has wave energy and wind energy out the kazoo and they can use that to produce their electricity. 10 11 Why do we have to pull it from the State 12 of Kansas across the country? Thank you. 13 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. 14 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you, sir. 15 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you. 16 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you, sir. Ron 17 Staggs? 18 RON STAGGS, being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole 19 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows: 20 21 TESTIMONY OF RON STAGGS JUDGE BUSHMANN: And please state your 22 name and spell your last name. 23 24 MR. STAGGS: My name is Ron Staggs, 25 s-t-a-g-g-s. I live at 18157 Monroe Road 445,

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- 1 Paris, Missouri. I'm testifying here tonight -- I
- 2 was at the one in Monroe City. And I've had a
- 3 revelation based on -- I kind of discerned that the
- 4 people that are for it are either environmentalists
- 5 or there's an economic gain for them.
- I heard union people talk about jobs. But
- 7 what's happening to the coal miners? They're
- 8 losing their jobs.
- 9 The environmentalists talk about carbon.
- 10 You know, carbon dioxide is the prime ingredient in
- 11 photo synthesis. All of our crops need it. Our
- 12 trees take it in and release oxygen.
- Now, we're going to be clearing a lot of
- 14 -- lot of timber. So we're going to lose a lot of
- 15 trees. That contributes to global warming, if you
- 16 believe in that.
- 17 Now, I'm kind of a skeptic when it comes
- 18 to global warming because I wasn't around in 19 --
- 19 in the 1930s, the Dust Bowl era. But when you look
- 20 at the record temperatures during the summertime in
- 21 this area, they're all from '302, from that era.
- 22 That predates the normal 30-year cycle
- 23 that our climate takes, and that's what we're
- 24 looking at. That's what our scientists keep
- 25 telling us. From 50 to 80. Three years.

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- 1 Most of the global warming is attributed
- 2 to the closeness of the earth in and its orbit
- 3 around the sun.
- 4 Let's also talk about -- one of people
- 5 that talked about the pollution of carbon and
- 6 Mercury. Well, our same EPA people had told us
- 7 that we need to go with CFLs. But if you drop or
- 8 break one of those CFLs in your house, one of these
- 9 days, they're going to declare it a hazardous waste
- 10 site. What's your property going to be worth?
- 11 Or what's it going to cost to you have it cleaned
- 12 up?
- 13 All of this said, talk about the
- 14 environment -- the environmentalists talk out both
- 15 sides of their mouth. We have an Endangered
- 16 Species Act. Winds mills are slaughtering
- 17 migratory birds, endangered species, eagles,
- 18 predatory birds, California Condor.
- 19 Yet they get away with it. Kansas is not void of
- 20 birds, believe me. Or any other place.
- If we need wind power, we have a wind
- 22 generating company in northeast Missouri or
- 23 northwest Missouri. They could probably meet our
- 24 commitments for renewable energy locally despite,
- 25 you know, having to bring a line clear across

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- 1 Missouri being supplied from Kansas.
- I had two things to say real quick. If
- 3 you remember Enron, Enron tried to form the market
- 4 on unregulated energy where they could transfer it
- 5 around the country.
- 6 Well, this is -- this is another big Enron
- 7 scheme. This energy will be transferred around the
- 8 country but to the east coast. And as we all know,
- 9 or at least our -- our Commissioners ought to know,
- 10 that unregulated energy is added to the rate base
- 11 without any exceptions.
- 12 You can't -- you can't regulate it.
- 13 Therefore, wind energy for -- you estimate 35 times
- 14 more expensive than what we're currently paying. I
- 15 pay about approximately 10 cents a kilowatt hour.
- 16 You're talking about \$3.50 a kilowatt hour.
- 17 If we would produce -- if we would have to
- 18 add so that we had 50 percent supplied by wind, can
- 19 you imagine how much your energy bill would be?
- 20 There are better ways to produce renewable energy.
- 21 And without going into it -- I don't want
- 22 to waste my time on that. However, we just need to
- 23 be aware that the EPA, in their regulatory
- 24 environment, has made it unable for this company
- 25 who is actually just going to be a pass-through.

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- 1 They have no experience in being a utility or a
- 2 transmission carrier.
- 3 Of course, you could hire that expertise.
- 4 But why should we gamble on somebody that has no
- 5 experience? If it's such a good deal, why aren't
- 6 the local utilities banding together to build this
- 7 power line?
- 8 Why should we give unfair competitive
- 9 advantage by giving this private company eminent
- 10 domain ability? It destroys property rights for
- 11 financial.
- 12 And whatever gain any of these people say
- 13 they're going to get is negligible into the cost of
- 14 what wind power is ultimately going to be. Thank
- 15 you.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any questions?
- 17 MR. STAGGS: Thank you.
- 18 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you sir.
- 19 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you.
- 20 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you, sir.
- 21 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Gretchen Waddell Barwick?
- 22 Ms. Barwick? That's all the names that I have on
- 23 the list to sign up to testify. Is there anyone
- 24 who has not testified that would like to?
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Yes, sir.

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- 1 GARY KRIBBS,
- 2 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 3 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 4 TESTIMONY OF GARY KRIBBS
- 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you state your name
- 6 and spell your last name?
- 7 MR. KRIBBS: My name is Gary. My last
- 8 name is Kribbs, K-r-i-b-b-s. I live at 83231
- 9 County Road 2755 in Moberly, Missouri. I am in the
- 10 direct line -- at least the proposed line for Clean
- 11 Line energy.
- 12 Obviously, I'm adamantly opposed to it.
- 13 I'm sure some of you gentlemen have heard a famous
- 14 line once said, I have a dream. Well, in 1996, my
- 15 wife and I had a dream.
- 16 We found that there was a hundred acres
- 17 across the road from us, and we decided that we
- 18 wanted that land.
- 19 Why did we want that land? Well, it was
- 20 partially woodland. Our goal -- and everybody sets
- 21 goals. I don't care what field you're in. Our
- 22 goal was to set up that whole hundred acres in a
- 23 big woodland, lake in the middle of it or a small
- 24 lake, little orchard in the middle of it and a
- 25 place for our grandchildren and our

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- 1 great-grandchildren to have access to, that they
- 2 could have access to this land any time they wanted
- 3 without asking permission, that they could breathe
- 4 the clean air that was from that woodland.
- 5 I've heard people tonight state that, Oh,
- 6 I served in service and I did such a job for the
- 7 service. Well, I served as well. I served in
- 8 Vietnam. I think I earned the right to own my
- 9 land, and I earned it with the risk of my life.
- 10 I don't believe clean energy -- this Clean
- 11 Line is anything what they purport to be. I, like
- 12 someone else earlier tonight, believe it's another
- 13 Mamtek. I don't want them contacting me.
- I would implore you to deny their request.
- 15 It is what the shirt says, No benefit, no gain. I
- 16 don't believe that their eminent domain should be
- 17 given to a private entity, especially one that's
- 18 held overseas.
- 19 I heard about all of the places in the
- 20 northeast that this same company is involved in.
- 21 But when was the last time you watched the news and
- 22 saw how many brown-outs there were in the
- 23 northeast? Why? If they're so great, why do they
- 24 have brown-outs? If their line was so necessary,
- 25 why are there brown-outs?

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- 1 Gentlemen, I just don't happen to believe
- 2 everything that they say. Is everything they said
- 3 on either side completely correct? Probably not.
- 4 But, obviously, I believe one way. I don't want
- 5 the land that my wife and I planted 25,000 trees on
- 6 to be bulldozed under.
- 7 We just planted another 8,000 this year
- 8 before all this came to a boil. We had intentions.
- 9 We still have intentions of having this for our
- 10 great -grandchildren.
- 11 Obviously, we won't be here. I'm 66 years
- 12 old. But that doesn't mean my great-grandchildren
- 13 can't benefit from it. I heard about oxygen
- 14 depletion. I heard about climate change. I heard
- 15 about all of it.
- 16 How much oxygen do you think we get from
- 17 the trees that they're going to bulldoze out?
- 18 Quite a bit, I should imagine. I'm not the
- 19 scientist there.
- 20 I'm just a pharmacist who owns 182 acres
- 21 and sees a dream that I had and my wife had being
- 22 pulled away by a company that I don't believe in.
- 23 If it was for the good of Missourians, I'd
- 24 have to look at it differently. But it's not for
- 25 the good of Missourians. One three-thousandth of

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- 1 the power that Missourians need is not for the good
- 2 of Missourians.
- 3 That's all I have to say. Thank you for
- 4 your time. I appreciate it.
- 5 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. I saw another
- 6 hand back there. Was there someone else? Someone
- 7 else wanted to testify?
- 8 MR. HENKE: I have a real short comment.
- 9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: This gentleman here.
- 10 KEN HUTCHINSON,
- 11 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 12 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 13 TESTIMONY OF KEN HUTCHINSON
- 14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please states your name
- 15 and spell your last name.
- MR. HUTCHINSON: Ken Hutchinson,
- 17 H-u-t-c-h-i-n-s-o-n. 1419 Countryshire Drive,
- 18 Columbia, Missouri.
- 19 I own a farm three and a half miles
- 20 southeast of Salsbury in Chariton County, Missouri.
- 21 I certainly echo some -- you know, many of the
- 22 earlier comments expressed in opposition to the
- 23 so-called Clean Line.
- I wasn't going to say anything, but I
- 25 started taking some notes when the individual from

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- 1 Quincy, Illinois, began talking about that.
- 2 It's a very -- touting transparency. My
- 3 comments will be straightforward and very brief. I
- 4 guess the main question I have -- and these will be
- 5 in the form of questions, and I know that you won't
- 6 be answering them.
- 7 But how can three wealthy families own 60
- 8 percent of this venture and have this kind of
- 9 influence in Missouri? I would like to understand
- 10 that better.
- 11 Has the Commission reviewed the business
- 12 proformas of Grain Belt Express? I would like to
- 13 know whether you have or haven't at some point.
- 14 I have asked for those proformas and have been
- 15 denied them for one, three, five and ten years.
- 16 Also, what goes into the consideration in
- 17 determining the greater good in a decision like
- 18 this? I would applaud transparency on that.
- 19 And how, in good conscience, can the
- 20 Commission provide the underpinnings to three
- 21 families and give them the right to take our family
- 22 property and pay agricultural value and turn around
- 23 the next day and sell it for business value?
- 24 Someone mentioned earlier stealing. It is
- 25 legal thievery if that were to occur. How many of

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- 1 the Commissioners have met with these three
- 2 families? I would be interested in that.
- 3 How many -- you know, has the Governor met with
- 4 these three families in the last three to five
- 5 years? I would be interested in that. So I'm all
- 6 for transparency. Thank you very much.
- 7 MR. HENKE: Real short.
- 8 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Yes, sir. The one behind
- 9 you, I think, has not testified before.
- 10 JEROME MANK,
- 11 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 12 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 13 TESTIMONY OF JEROME MANK
- 14 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you please state
- 15 your name and spell your last name?
- 16 MR. MANK: My name is Dr. Jerome J. Mank.
- 17 Last name is spelled M-a-n-k. I live in Centralia,
- 18 Missouri, and my wife and her family own a farm in
- 19 Salsbury which would be affected.
- 20 I didn't come prepared to speak, but I was
- 21 listening to this tonight. I heard various people
- 22 talk. And I hear the environmental folks talk.
- 23 And I think that's lot of bull.
- 24 And I think we all believe we have to be
- 25 protected, I think, in the next century. The right

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- 1 of privacy is one of the most important things we
- 2 have to look at.
- 3 But I don't think many of the
- 4 environmentalists understand how rural Missourians
- 5 really love the environment and how we take care of
- 6 it.
- 7 I'd like to tell the story of my wife's
- 8 family. They settled here in the 1800s, in the
- 9 1800s, around 1860. And they came here around
- 10 Salsbury and they accumulated a section of ground
- 11 north of town.
- 12 And in this those days, this was mostly
- 13 prairie. And there wasn't many trees. They bought
- 14 about 54 acres south of town expressly for the
- 15 purpose of timber.
- 16 And they have held this land now for about
- 17 150 years. That 54 acres has been in timber the
- 18 entire time. We've never taken it out of the
- 19 timber.
- Not only that, but my father-in-law, talk
- 21 about environment, in 1968, roughly , he was the
- 22 first person in Chariton County to start doing no
- 23 till farming. And he did it at considerable
- 24 expense because they weren't very good at it then
- 25 and it didn't work out for him. But he was a

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- 1 pioneer in bringing that. And now it's a standard
- 2 practice.
- 3 His father and his father's father planted
- 4 hedge trees. We have miles of hedge trees that are
- 5 over 150 years old. These things are massive.
- 6 Many people would tell us to doze them out. We've
- 7 been criticized for not dozing them out.
- 8 The point is, this family has been a
- 9 steward of lands for 150 years. And this power
- 10 line, to avoid going across the golf courses, is
- 11 going to go a swath across our timber that produces
- 12 CO-2, that produces -- I mean, produces oxygen,
- 13 uses CO2.
- 14 All I see is these worst kind of pollution
- 15 replacing what is beautiful and serene, and I beg
- 16 you to a oppose this eminent domain. Thank you.
- 17 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you for your
- 19 testimony.
- 20 COMMISSIONER STOLL: Thank you.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Thank you. Sir, you had
- 22 something to add?
- 23 Real short.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Okay.
- 25 RON HENKE,

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1	being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
2	truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
3	TESTIMONY OF RON HENKE
4	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Would you state your name
5	and spell your last name?
6	MR. HENKE: Ron Henke, H-e-n-k-e,
7	Salsbury, Missouri.
8	JUDGE BUSHMANN: Go ahead.
9	MR. HENKE: I'm a tenant of the guy that
10	just got through speaking. I've witnessed for 20
11	20 some years now of the dedication that family
12	has to conservation and environment.
13	But the issue I would like to bring to
14	your attention right now, I lived all my life in
15	chariton County, 20 miles from this podium.
16	The main source of media comes from
17	Randolph County, the radio station and the media.
18	And it's very often that you hear or read the
19	Randolph County Government squabbling and bickering
20	amongst theirselves.
21	They created a huge problem for their
22	community by rushing in and getting Mamtek into the
23	community. They rushed ahead of Saline County
24	thinking they would get it before Saline County.
25	Saline County did a little more research

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- 1 and said, Well, I don't think this will be what we
- 2 want. Randolph County found it out. They
- 3 shouldn't have rushed in. And I have my sympathy
- 4 to all of the residents of Randolph County.
- Now they're asking you, their
- 6 Commissioners, they're asking you to try to make
- 7 that issue not be so bad, but this could be worse
- 8 than Mamtek. Thank you.
- 9 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Any other witnesses?
- 10 Yes.
- DON LOWENSTEIN,
- 12 being first duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole
- 13 truth, and nothing but the truth, testified as follows:
- 14 TESTIMONY OF DON LOWENSTEIN
- 15 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Could you state your name
- 16 and spell your last name?
- 17 MR. LOWENSTEIN: Don Lowenstein,
- 18 L-o-w-e-n-s-t-e-i-n.
- 19 JUDGE BUSHMANN: Where do you reside?
- MR. LOWENSTEIN: 10450 Northeast 336th
- 21 Street, Cameron, Missouri
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: Please proceed.
- MR. LOWENSTEIN: I didn't plan on speaking
- 24 tonight, but in spirit of chiming in, I have two
- 25 things that I want to add.

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- One is on the topic of transparency. One
- 2 of the lines was coming across my land about just
- 3 right in my front yard. I found out through a
- 4 neighbor. Clean Line never contacted me. One of
- 5 my neighbors contacted me. And that was that.
- 6 Imagine my shock.
- 7 As far as the gentleman that spoke tonight
- 8 about on the radio and all the transparency of
- 9 Clean Line, don't forget that was like last May. I
- 10 believe they filed their application in March of
- 11 this year; is that correct?
- To me, publicly promoting the transparency
- 13 after they already filed the application, I think
- 14 that was out of sequence.
- But my main point here is I kind of have
- 16 the ability to boil things down to the simple and
- 17 I'm going to cut through all the fooforah here.
- 18 What I heard tonight that they are
- 19 proposing to drop less than half the power produced
- 20 by Randolph County to the State of Missouri, I
- 21 started wondering -- I was under the impression it
- 22 was the job of you guys to decide whether this
- 23 project was for the benefit of the State of
- 24 Missouri and the majority of the citizens or not.
- 25 It's that simple.

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- 1 In my opinion, sirs, providing --
- 2 disrupting the lives of farms across the State for
- 3 the benefit that we may get half of the power in
- 4 Missouri that Randolph County produces, I don't
- 5 even see why we're having such long, elaborate
- 6 debates.
- 7 Clearly, the benefit is going to be
- 8 outside of the State of Missouri. If I were Grain
- 9 Clean Line, why would I invest 400, \$500 million
- 10 for a converter station to keep the people in
- 11 Missouri happy? It doesn't make economic sense.
- Maybe we'll get the power. Maybe we
- 13 won't. But keep in mind, the grand total gross
- 14 power they're proposing to drop is less than half
- of what the County of Randolph County, Missouri,
- 16 produces.
- And, sirs, in my opinion, that does not
- 18 benefit the majority of the Missourians. Thank
- 19 you.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: I don't think I saw any
- 21 other hands.
- 22 CHAIRMAN KENNEY: Thank you all for coming
- 23 out. Goodnight.
- JUDGE BUSHMANN: We're off the record.
- 25 (The proceedings were concluded at 9:30 p.m. on

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1	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
2	
3	STATE OF MISSOURI )
	)ss.
4	COUNTY OF OSAGE)
5	
6	I, Monnie S. Mealy, Certified Shorthand Reporter,
7	Certified Court Reporter #0538, and Registered Professional
8	Reporter, within and for the State of Missouri, do hereby
9	certify that I was personally present at the proceedings as
10	set forth in the caption sheet hereof; that I then and there
11	took down in stenotype the proceedings had at said time and
12	was thereafter transcribed by me, and is fully and accurately
13	set forth in the preceding pages.
14	
15	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and
16	seal on, 2014.
17	
18	
19	
20	Monnie S. Mealy, CSR, CCR #0538
21	Registered Professional Reporter
22	
23	
24	
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