

From: [alinda baker](#)
To: [Congestion Study Comments](#)
Subject: Energy Development Oversight vs Midwest Farmer Heartache
Date: Sunday, September 21, 2014 2:51:40 PM

FERC needs to mandate transmission lines are be within existing right of ways such as utility and highway corridors as intended by our legislature in S1462. FERC needs to mandate these lines are to be buried using current technology such as HVDC Light Line, following the best practices in Canada and Europe. In Missouri this is north of the fragile Karst limestone formations or within Highway 36.

FERC needs to realize that for-profit companies routing transmission through farmland are interested in acquiring the extremely profitable corridor and are not interested in paying rent to the States for use of their corridors. This is a competing land use priority. The U.S. controls half the world grain exports. The States have to deal with impaired farmland and an economic devaluation of real estate caused by a new corridor. The States have to deal with overhead line outages caused by by severe weather including tornadoes. The States will not receive existing corridor rents. The cost of HVDC Light Line burial is about two times the amount of overhead lines and may be repaid over time by less outages, smaller easements, less real estate devaluation and existing corridor rents to the States.

Overbuilding transmission lines is a huge and unnecessary expense to consumers and energy developers. If the distance is not adequate between HVDC converter stations, the losses due to limited overload capacity in the Converter Stations may not create an advantage over using HVAC. Given many Corporate financing, construction and engineering uncertainties, if the gains of using HVDC excel HVAC, the government may need to engineer, finance and enact the burial of the line and construction of the HVDC converter station in each state for the upload and download of power.

Massive amount of power is available from Canada to stabilize the Northeast. Eleven eastern governors support distributed generation. This is similar to the military walkie-talkie and generators. Put the talk and power where it will be used. Shoring up the grid and protecting power sources in each state means generating more than one type of energy at each location rather than a transmission line which can experience single point failure anywhere along the line. Green money to Missouri can fund existing hydroelectric potential. The Truman Dam originally built as flood control needs redesign and Low-Head Hydropower is an option for locations along the many rivers.

I am for distributed generation and against a national transmission corridor, however, if this is built, more DOE government oversight and control is needed and the selection of a responsible entity enacting the best practices of burying the lines within existing corridors is required. Save our Farmers the heartache. I would like to see this made retroactive to Kansas.

Sincerely,

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