

From: [Laurie Smith](#)
To: [Congestion Study Comments](#)
Subject: High Voltage Transmission Lines
Date: Sunday, September 21, 2014 10:02:26 AM

To Whom it May Concern DOE:

For the following reasons I am opposed to the establishment of National Interest Energy Transmission Corridors (NIETC's):

Before the authority of eminent domain should be granted to an energy corp., that corp. should have to prove necessity to the exact locations that the energy is to be transported and that the recipients NEED and WANT that energy and that the region cannot produce their own energy, necessitating the use of other states as unsightly industrial highways for the transmission.

Secondly, the energy companies should be required to have full financial coverage to complete, maintain, and dismantle the transmission lines, if this becomes necessary. Further, they should be financially equipped to adequately compensate landowners for the taking of their lands, considering all aspects of the loss, not simple some calculated flat rate sum per acre.

The lines, if crossing private property, should be buried. This *has* been done and can be done with equipment used for burying pipeline. It is less harmful to people and wildlife and preserves the aesthetics of the landscape. If these lines are allegedly for the public good, why is a minority expected to shoulder the burden? Perhaps the parks that are being 'preserved' are the perfect place for the lines. Again, underground is preferable.

Many of our rural neighbors do not have email because it is unreliable in many country locations and other various reasons. Therefore, though conservative estimates indicate that 90-95% of the people who would live near these lines are opposed, you won't receive statements from the vast majority of them. Also, the majority of the public is not aware of your role and consideration of this matter. There has been so much behind the scenes plotting by these energy companies to do land grabs, and many would-be affected people know nothing of it.

Over the last few months, as more of us have been informed that a HVDC line is projected for our area, we have researched and found that other countries are putting limits on them in residential areas because they are seriously harmful to health. In Brazil a judge ruled that stricter safety standards would have to be met, which overruled a line going through.

In CA one county prohibited a line from being put in near a school because of the dangers to children. Many Californians have had to walk away from homes that would not sell because of power lines. Independent realtors and appraisers have stated that power lines are the most difficult factor to overcome in selling. HUD has ruled them a hazard and a nuisance, and FHA has to adjust appraisals for marketability. The EPA and WHO have ruled them a class B carcinogen. The list of negatives goes on and on.

The 2 positives that we hear over and over again are that it will bring jobs and tax revenues. The Clean Line Energy Partners, LLC (CLEP) have been promising those

things publicly, but privately, they file for 20 year tax abatements. The jobs are for their own specialized workers, and those jobs are short-term. The promise of green energy is a misnomer. The deforestation diminishes the green benefits greatly, and CLEP has admitted that wind alone cannot generate the power, so other energy sources, such as coal, will be used.

My husband served in the military to preserve our freedoms. We have worked and saved for our farm. We are trying to be good stewards of the land and are doing our part for the environment. We are currently installing solar on our property for sustainable, renewable energy, and we are wondering when some of these people who are calling on us to sacrifice are going to do *their* part!

Respectfully,
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