

From: [Maryellen H. McVicker](#)
To: [Congestion Study Comments](#)
Subject: National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors
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I oppose the transfer of eminent domain power to the federal government to purchase property for wind powered transmission lines.

I have just been through such an attempt and it is not fun. My farm north of Centralia, Missouri, has a REA high line running through it that was installed in the early 1950's. A proposed wind transmission line wanted to come through the property and take an easement 200 feet wide. The concept of wind transmission lines is very appealing until it comes through your farm and means your field is ruined. This easement on top of the already established electric line running the entire length of the field would not allow any irrigation to ever be installed in the field as the line goes right through the middle. Nor could terraces be built if needed in the future for soil erosion.

Thankfully the wind transmission line decided to impinge on another family a mile north of my farm but I realized my vulnerability. I am trying to make a living. We have farmed in this neighborhood since 1867. We are not newcomers; we have maintained our land and our lifestyle for generations. I have grandchildren who hopefully will love and care for this property in the future.

After this experience I quickly realized that the government is too far away and too impersonal to be of any assistance to me in my rural home. I have always been a liberal Democrat which in rural Missouri is as scarce as hens teeth and I always thought my farmer neighbors were just waving the proverbial big government cape in front of bullish farmers to get them motivated. I don't think that anymore. I think that people in far away places who have never been on a farm and who know nothing about farming except for nostalgic fairy tales do not understand what it takes to make a living off the land. Adding eminent domain will only compound the problem.

Therefore, I oppose the use of eminent domain by the federal government for the purpose of purchasing easements and lines for wind transmission.

Thank you.

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