From: <u>Audrea Keninger</u>

To: <u>Congestion Study Comments</u>

Subject:Oppose transmission lines across nationDate:Saturday, October 04, 2014 3:30:22 PM

We are one of the thousands of unfortunate landowners that Clean line energy wants to steal our land from with the use of eminent domain. We worked hard and sacrificed to be able to purchase this land to live off and raise our family. This land is OUR income and assets we need to support ourselves and our family.

EMINENT DOMAIN- STEALING WHAT OTHERS HAVE WORKED FOR says it all. Farmers are always in competition to buy more land-- few farms are up for sale and are at increasingly high prices--- we NEED to keep what we have or we WILL be living off the government!

Stringing lines across valuable, non renewable farmland is ludicrous! Renewable energy, wether it be solar, wind or hydro, can be provided any where. Use the resources you have locally, provide jobs locally, and not impose on others way of living. Maybe these wind farms could make money out west, BUT why do I have to be penalized and loose hundreds of thousands of dollars (due to land devaluation, increase costs farming-arieal spraying, fuel, seed, time, hazards etc.) because my land happens to be in the path of the wind turbine farms and the power plant? Why does the middle man have NO CHOICE, but everyone else does? Why can the DOT and DNR have the choice and choose to say NO (which they have!) to providing easements for the transmission lines? Why can these lines be permitted to go THROUGH the middle of the fields. Two electric companies around here have just upgraded their lines, and don't do this and have used VERY LITTLE eminent domain. These companies have been fair and respectful to landowners and have worked with them. Landowners, including us, have signed voluntary easements with them, BUT REFUSE to sign to Rock Island Clean Line projects. Their --- I can take whatever i want ---attitude is very concerning. They are banking on using eminent domain on whatever they need to --- which after over a year of trying to obtain voluntary easements, they have obtain about 11% voluntary easements, which mean 89% will need eminent domain! Does this sound like a project people are in favor of? There is a very large, organized organization fighting each of these lines--these are landowners and concerned citizens FIGHTING to keep their property! We paid for our land-- Why do we now have to pay thousands more to protect it?

I have yet to hear that the east coast even WANTS this energy, In fact, I believe there were letters signed by the east coast states saying they DON"T want it! They want to produce locally renewable energy and provide jobs there. The only ones wanting this is Clean Line, the wind farms and the wind industry!

If this project is built and later not needed-- the damage will still be there! YOU will have ruined the farmland forever! There is no way to get all the concrete and rerod out of the ground and compaction in attempting to do so will worsen the situation again. Technology is advancing rapidly. Lets focus on renewable energy, which ever

form it may be, in producing it locally and not destroy non renewable resources unnecessarily.

I also do not appreciate that I and my family, get to be the guinea pigs to see if this line has any health risks. It is already a safety hazard that we would have to endure even though we didn't choose to have this line in the middle of our operation. If Clean line wants to build the transmission line-Make sure they are SAFE and MAKE them purchase property like everyone else- where the seller AGREES to sell to buyer at agreed upon terms!

So, YES, I am very opposed to the establishment of National Interest Energy Transmission Corridors.

Thank you,

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