

**From:** [Donald Sanders](#)  
**To:** [Plainsandeantern](#)  
**Subject:** Against the Engery Line across AR  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 09, 2015 7:32:39 AM

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## Clean Line (Solar Energy Company)

To whom it may best Concern:

Some 55 years ago at the tender age of 17 I chose a life in a military uniform. I wore that uniform for three decades at which time I was forced to retire due to age and in accordance with military policy. I then chose to continue my service to country and have continued to do so. I am now 71 years of age. Several reasons were involved in my decisions to continue serving. One is a basic need to work and have the means to support a family. It was also very satisfying work which I doubt I could have found anywhere else. However somewhere in this equation was a deep love for America and what it stands for. You see I love America and count my blessings every day that I was born an American. I have always loved America for the many freedoms that it affords its citizens. To me America and Freedom are synonymous words.

However in spite of Americas proven unique benefits does not mean that I sometimes quarrel with some of my governments decisions. It is equally wonderful that I have the freedom to disagree and espouse my reasons therefore. I intend to write about a decision currently being considered that I vehemently have negative feelings about. I am referring directly to the misuse of the Law of Eminent Domain. This law was passed early on in our history to allow our government to confiscate land for the purpose of construction of roads and rail lines which would directly enhance American expansion efforts and subsequently benefit all citizens of America. In the last few years this law has been used to support construction of shopping centers, housing tracts and other things that benefit only a modest few of our citizens. It is astonishing how far afield it has become and how is used in direct contrast to the reasons for which it was originally intended. One clear example of this overuse is land being targeted for the construction of an energy line (called Clean Line). This Energy Company based in Muskogee OK is intending to construct a solar energy line from Oklahoma to Tennessee. This gigantic power line company intends

that it be given access to lands that will completely crisscross the state of Arkansas which if allowed will provide only a modest temporary benefit to the citizens of this great state.

The government in order to support Clean Line is now considering whether the Law of Eminent Domain is lawful which if approved would allow this company to identify and confiscate private lands to construct massive power lines designed to provide solar energy to the state of Tennessee. As stated earlier Arkansas will receive only a marginal benefit but it will permanently disrupt dozens of Arkansas citizens. These power lines will disfigure beautiful forestry and farm lands. I cannot in any way support this construction effort and believe that other alternatives are available to achieve the same result.

The Clean Line Energy Company makes it living selling solar energy and certainly on the surface this sounds like something that would benefit everyone. However I think further examination is in order.

Solar power requires sunshine. Oklahoma certainly has an abundance of sunshine however I have been to Tennessee many times in my life and every time I have been there I have enjoyed sunshine. If it wind power, there is also wind. My point is that if the state of Tennessee needs or desires solar and or wind power they are quite capable of establishing its own power grid in order to use the power of solar and wind energy.

They do not need for this solar power to be imported from Oklahoma or anywhere else which by doing so would interrupt the well-being of Arkansas citizens. I would also point out that many families in Oklahoma will also be negatively affected by this construction.

I can almost hear the opposing viewpoint which will certainly argue that this power line only will take up small amounts of property and its construction will create jobs for Arkansas. First off, I do think a half-acre of land per tower (there will be hundreds) is a small tract of land; I do not think that a constant humming of these power lines is something anyone wants to hear 24 hours a day and certainly the destruction of pristine forests is not anything anyone wants to see happening. I am going to make one other allegation and that is the Clean Line Company is set to make a lot of money. Nothing against making money unless it serves to adversely impacts a lot of people in the process. This will without doubt be the obvious result. This is not the American way and goes against everything I have believed in for so many years.

I want this letter to be considered before making a final decision. Money and greed are prime reasons for this intended power line and everybody knows it. Attempting to camouflage the issue with statements that it will benefit everyone is just not fact and unless it can be proved to be of a lasting benefit to everyone approval would violate directly the intended application of the Law of Eminent Domain.. I will be disappointed if it is approved and so will many others.

Thank You

Don Sanders -Resident and land owner of Mulberry Arkansas at present; not sure what will happen if this power line is built.