

Plainsandean

From: Karen Long <dklong.1718@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2015 10:33 PM
To: Plainsandean
Subject: Comments on the Clean Line Plains & Eastern Application

Mike Skelly is the Founder and President of Clean Line Energy Partners. His wife, Anne, stated during an interview in the Houston Chronicle, "We don't think a long time about things . . . That seems like a good idea! Let's do that!" - that's the extent of our long-range planning." I find it amazing that this couple can flip ideas so easily about other person's homes and livelihoods. I have watched the manipulation of people, government officials, and businesses in the quest to get the very best building and agricultural land possible, for THEIR lowest cost, for huge transmission lines which would span over several states.

We purchased this land at a higher cost than surrounding areas because of its location, its soil content, and its proximity to schools and hospitals. This high-maintenance transmission line would cut through the middle of our land, depriving us of almost ½ our acreage during any transmission work. Nonetheless, plans are being made to gain monetary value, destroying hundreds of people's ways of lives, in the name of potential (albeit, temporary) profits.

The first revised proposal for Clean Line included names of companies which were no longer in business. Now, in order to garner support, Clean Line goes to various local businesses (near the affected communities) to talk about profits and gains that can be made with the construction of these lines. As planned, many of these businesses have thrown in their support in their quest to make temporary profits, even at the landowners' expense – the people whose lands and health are permanently affected by these monstrosities of electric transmission lines. I would be very much amazed, however, if any of these dealings have any substantial contracts. Clean Line has a way of manipulating data and ideas. It is amazing what money can buy.

I have attended several meetings, and most of the business's spokespersons do not talk about the need for wind-electricity, which carries a higher cost to produce than other forms of energy. They almost always talk about profits that can be made for their organization or area, using the justification of these temporary jobs.

They all plan to make their profits off the backs of the middle-class landowners. Many people have invested their lives and money into their land, believing they could someday quit the daily work grind and relax in peace in their own backyard.

And all these stockholders, organizations, and future business partners are scheming to get money from our loss. Clean Line is working its tentacles during an economic downturn. We will never recoup our losses if this goes through.

In our own local paper, the Sequoyah County Times, an article about Clean Line begins with, "angry, uninformed, and confused landowners . . ." However, I would like to state that we are not uninformed or confused.

We may not understand all the details of the energy market, but we understand the dichotomy between a true solution and one that is merely being packaged and sold for profit.

We may not have understood all the political maneuverings that were taking place during the early years of this idea, but we have 20-20 vision when we examine the Department of Energy and Clean Line's entwined past.

We know that we are being sold a poor bill of goods when people talk about being properly reimbursed. Past history proves this is almost always a false assumption.

We notice when politicians refuse to speak up, or hope their failed policies are white-washed and buried over time. When people state, "It's a done deal," and "There's nothing that can be done," we know they are using the weapon of despair, and we wonder how many of these people have been paid by the representatives of Clean Line.

We understand the need to make copies of internet stories used for citations because some of these have disappeared.

And we understand the manipulation of statistics, and the blurring of facts.

But, yes, we are angry.

It is crony capitalism at its deepest, most nauseating, form.

Sincerely,

Karen Long

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