

From: [Beck, Rick](#)
To: [PlainsandEastern](#)
Subject: Plains and Eastern project
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I am writing you these comments as a concerned land owner and as a state representative of one of the many districts in Arkansas that the propose high voltage DC transmission line will have profound negative social and economic effects. Many of the farms in my district are small family-owned businesses. These farms of been handed down from generation to generation each generation preserving their way of life for the next generation. If approved the transmission line will cross the northern half of District 65 where the majority of farms in this area range in size from 100 to 500 acres. Most of the farms are cattle and poultry operations that are family-owned and operated. The proposed route for the transmission line will severely reduce the size of many farms limiting their operation while forcing other farms to completely shut down .

The proposed transmission line will be a single source high voltage DC line. It's will deliver 3500MW of wind energy from the Texas Panhandle to an inverter station near Memphis Tennessee. The Tennessee authorities have indicated that the power that would be provided by this transmission line is not needed until the year 2030, there is no immediate need to begin this project.

As I mentioned earlier this DC line will be a single source line, as a single source transmission line it will require that there be a constant spinning backup generator to supply power in the event of a disruption of power in Tennessee. As a single source line this project will also provide the Plains in Eastern company a transmission monopoly. If you are a wind energy producer in the Texas Panhandle there will only be one line to deliver your services to potential customers in Tennessee. The single source line will also provide a supplier side monopoly in Tennessee.

The Plains and Eastern company has made many promises and commitments to Arkansas in order to receive the eminent domain that it needs. Most of these promises and commitments seem to be tailor-made for each crowd. The Plains and Eastern company have spent massive amounts of revenue launching a campaign promoting their project. But their efforts have failed as indicated by the letter drafted to the Department of Energy from Arkansas's Joint Energy committee earlier this year. In the letter the Arkansas Joint Energy committee's opposes the Plains and Eastern efforts to gain eminent domain across Arkansas lands from the Department of Energy. The action of petitioning the Department of Energy serves to a will circumvent the duly elected legislators of Arkansas. The Plains and Eastern company was also denied eminent domain from the Arkansas Public service commission. So the Plains and Eastern company after failing in Arkansas and Missouri are now knocking on your door asking you to provide them with what they could not get from the states. So I guess the ball is in your court you can deny the Plains and Eastern request. By doing this you will not be stopping or closing down this project. You will be forcing the Plains and Eastern company to return back to the states and its private landowners to determine the projects best possible route. Your second choice would be to grant the Plains and Eastern company eminent domain across Arkansas lands. The ad campaigns will end, the promises made will be forgotten, and the construction equipment will begin slicing up what once were family owned farms. I apologize for the length of this letter I just feel that is important to convey the Arkansas small landowner perspective to this very important decision. In closing I will say when you meet in committee I am sure that the Plains and Eastern company will have representatives there to tell their side of the story. They will talk about economic development, increase tax revenue for local areas as a result of this project , and how they plan on dealing fairly with all the private landowners along the project's route. Then ask yourself this if everything Plains and Eastern says is true why do they find themselves seeking permission from individuals far away from the individuals most affected by this project.

Rick Beck
State Representative District 65