From: <u>Steph Stites</u>
To: <u>Plainsandeastern</u>

Subject: PLAINS & EASTERN CLEAN LINE TRANSMISSION LINE

**Date:** Thursday, July 09, 2015 11:43:08 PM

## Dear Secretary Moniz,

Our family is most definitely **against** Plains and Eastern Clean Line running a transmission line through Arkansas.

## Our reasons include:

The current path being proposed runs across greater than one third of our cattle and horse grazing pastures. We would be unable to maintain our herd as it stands. This is a financial liability to our family well beyond some minimal compensation for right of way.

The transmission line would also be so close to our house that it would affect our peace and quiet out in the country. It most likely would affect our satellite tv and cell phones. Due to where we live, we do not have underground cables for tv and phones and the satellite is already sensitive to weather conditions, let alone high electrical currents nearby.

The lights from the 200 foot towers would make it difficult to enjoy the dark night sky and the stars, which we regularly enjoy with our kids. Essentially, this will destroy the property we decided to purchase 16 years ago. This may be trivial to most people who live in the big city, but we are still in American and have freedom to choose where we live.

The roads in our area are very narrow. They are also difficult to maintain just with normal traffic. With constant travel of large trucks and heavy weight, the roads would just be mud and would be unusable at times. We also have sharp curves, hills and overhanging trees. For the big trucks to get in there would need to be much mutilation of our roadsides. There are not many main roads into our area and if they are destroyed or constantly being slowed down by construction, it will affect our ability to get around in a somewhat normal fashion.

In terms of the technical feasibility of the Project, significant questions have been raised by Southwestern Energy ("SWN") about corrosion of well casings and pipelines, as well as interference with electrical equipment, and the general lack of coordinated route development with, and notification of, property owners and gas operators in the Fayetteville Shale. Southwestern Power Resources Association ("SPRA") and SWN have both expressed concerns about potential financial and physical effects to existing infrastructure.

There is not a clear understanding of the health hazards that we might deal with living so close to the high power transmission line. This is not acceptable to run it through a community without knowing these risks.

Our ability to sell this property will be greatly diminished due to this line running over so much of this property. The compensation for this is not able to be measured at this time.

Our conversations with Clean Line have provided no commitment for just compensation. The likelihood of our losses both tangible and intangible being fairly recompensed will be severely hampered by the heavy hand of the Government if the DOE participates in this project and aligns with an out of state business against the citizens of Oklahoma and Arkansas.

We understand that personal property must sometime be sacrificed for the good of the whole, but this is not one of those times! Clean Line Energy Partners has failed to demonstrate the Project is in the public interest, or adequately address its potential adverse impacts. On January 11, 2011, the Arkansas Public Service Commission ("APSC") denied Clean Line's request to become a public utility in the State of Arkansas. The potential benefits of the DOE-proposed Arkansas converter station have not been proven to outweigh the costs to landowners within the state. Also, as stated in the recent Missouri Public Service Commission ("MOPSC") ruling on Clean Line's Grain Belt Express ("GBE"): "In this case the evidence shows that any actual benefits to the general public from the Project are outweighed by the burdens on affected landowners. The Commission concludes that GBE has failed to meet its burden of proof to demonstrate that the Project as described in its application for a certificate of convenience and necessity promotes the public interest."

Please hear us, the land owners, who will be overwhelmingly affected by your decision. Although Clean Line may fit some of the required criteria for Section 1222, they do not meet all of the criteria. On these grounds, the DOE should not participate under Section 1222.

We respectfully request that you **decline** Clean Line Energy Partners request for rights of eminent domain. America is synonymous with freedom and people are literally giving up everything including their lives to come here. The right to own property is liberty! Please protect this right!

Respectfully, Stephanie Stites Van Buren, AR