

Nov. 03, 2014

Honorable James Allison, Chairman  
Honorable Herbert Hilliard, Vice Chairman  
Honorable Kenneth Hill  
Honorable David Jones  
Honorable Robin Bennett

Tennessee Regulatory Authority  
502 Deaderick St., 4th Floor  
Nashville, TN 37243

***IN RE: PETITION OF PLAINS AND EASTERN CLEAN LINE LLC FOR A CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY APPROVING A PLAN TO CONSTRUCT A TRANSMISSION LINE AND TO OPERATE AS AN ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION PUBLIC UTILITY***

Dear Directors,

In the early seventies, my parents bought a piece of pristine property in the foothills of the Ozark Mountains adjoining land that had been owned and worked by the family for generations. Since that time, not only our land, but the family land has been chopped up and crisscrossed with multiple energy and roadway easements (our land alone has four: an large electric distribution line, a HVAC power line, a natural gas line and a substantial roadway easement). These not only limit what we, the landowners, can do on our property, but reduce our land values and those of any neighbors within sight of the power lines. Now we have an oil pipeline coming through the property (under eminent domain) and Clean Line wants to shove their HVDC line through. We have already given our share for the "public good". Before you say to yourself "they should have had a better lawyer," keep in mind that the law is set up so you can't fight eminent domain, only try to get the best deal possible. Which is why eminent domain should only be granted as a last resort effort for municipal projects, and is particularly heinous when applied to a private company to be used only for private gain. This is the case with Clean Line. They are NOT bringing power to those who have none. They could tie into the grid in Oklahoma close to the point of generation, but Clean Line P&E is a TRANSMISSION line so the farther they transmit the power, the more they get paid. They are not beholden or accountable to you or the fine people of Tennessee, but to their out of state and foreign investors. Please don't trade your landowners' rights for the ability for someone else to line their pockets.

Let's talk about the electricity. Wind power is perceived as green (it has its pros and cons, as do all forms of power generation), but it is intermittent. If the wind is not blowing, the juice is not flowing. This is a problem not only for Clean Line, but for any end user customers (of which they have none). These gaps in transmitted power will have to be filled by other generation sites which would be coal and natural gas fired power plants. These power plants cannot be simply switched on and off, but would have to be running 24/7/365 ready to transmit when needed, negating any claims of CO2 reduction. Furthermore, Clean Line cannot specify that the electricity transported on the P&E line be generated by wind farms or any other renewable source. The power could be from any form of generation, no matter how dirty. Don't be fooled by Clean Line's literature or ads with lots of windmills. The transmission line would hardly be considered "clean".

As to reliability of power, who builds an above ground direct current line through tornado alley?

Regarding cost of the electricity, the subsidies that brought the prices down to competitive levels have expired. While it's true that they may be brought back, it is also true that inevitably, no matter which party is in power, someone will sacrifice those subsidies in the name of a balanced budget or cutting government waste or getting rid of big government. Whoever agreed to purchase power from Clean Line would then be in for a fiscal shock.

To recap: Clean Line Plains and Eastern is *not* electrifying areas that have no power, the power they provide is *not* guaranteed to be clean. It is *not* guaranteed to be reliable. It is *not* guaranteed to be cheap. They have told people that everyone in Arkansas is on board with their project and happy to have them there. As you can tell by the number of opposition groups in Arkansas and letters you have received, that statement is *not* true.

I ask you to please keep these points in mind when you decide if you are going to grant Clean Line P&E public utility status, and to remember that your decision will have far greater impact than just a few parcels in your own state. If you grant them public utility status, it might just help shape national energy policy through the Department of Energy's possible partnership with Clean Line. If that happens, Clean Line will get federal power of eminent domain and even the public service commissions of the states covered by the SWPA, who have the same powers and responsibilities to the residents of their respective states as the TRA does in the great state of Tennessee will be powerless to stop them from doing whatever they want, taking whoever's properties they want. That's not neighborly behavior, and once the precedent has been set, what is to stop Tennessee and the TRA from being on the receiving end next time?

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Gordon Millsaps

3224 Walnut Valley Road

Dover, AR 72837