

June 9, 2014

Clean Line Energy: GBE and P&E  
Mario Hurtado, CL VP

Dear Mario,

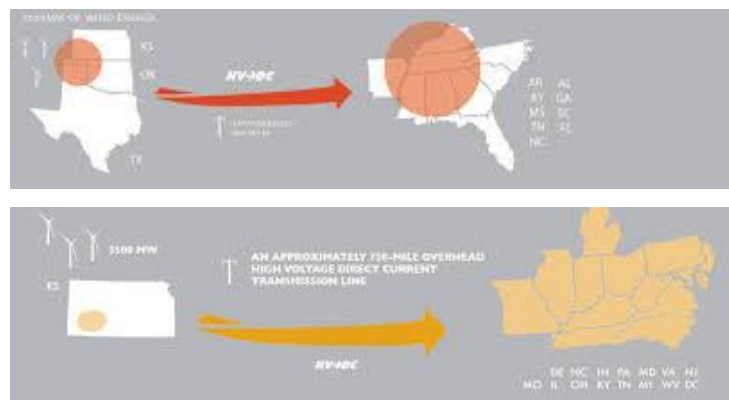
We have been hearing many complaints from people in Missouri and Arkansas on the Clean Line *Easement Acquisition Process*. As one of many community leaders, we are upset with what seems to be highly deceptive business practices.

There is a big gap between what CL says on your website and what CL land agents are doing in Arkansas and Missouri at this time. Here are some of examples for your review.

CL: "The Plains & Eastern Clean Line transmission project **will** connect 3,500 megawatts of clean energy generation from western Oklahoma,..., areas that lack access to low-cost, **renewable** power."

### 1. Dreams and reality

There is a difference between drawing lines on a map and building a transmission line. Saying "Clean Line **will** build a line," implies you have approval, funding, experience, wind farms and customers.



From what we read on the press and your website, all you really have is plans and dreams to make a fortune using other people's land and money, with "renewable energy" as the Clean Line flag. Here are some of the key issues:

- **Life Cycle Cost:** When you take into account the total cost of building and operating the transmission lines, plus the carbon foot print from clearing thousands of acres for the ROW, the life cycle cost of the lines is much *higher* than quoted. Accordingly, the cost of kWh will be higher.
- **On-site alternatives:** Your plans ignore superior on-site solar and small windmill alternatives and the environmental damages created by transmission lines and Wind Farms.
- **Wind is good; remote Wind Farms are not.** It is all about *location, location, location*. Kansas tornadoes and dust storms in Oklahoma are hazards for windmills. Onsite generation trumps every type of remote power; wind is better than coal, but remote Wind Farms and transmission lines are not "clean."
- **Regulatory Changes favor On-site generation:** The NY PSC new energy initiative makes this clear: This initiative will lead to regulatory changes that promote more efficient use of energy, deeper penetration of renewable energy resources such as wind and solar, wider deployment of "distributed" energy resources, such as micro grids, on-site power supplies, and storage. It will also promote greater use of advanced energy management products to enhance demand elasticity and efficiency. These changes, in turn, will *empower* customers by allowing them more choice in how they manage and consume electric energy."

<http://www3.dps.ny.gov/W/PSCWeb.nsf/All/26BE8A93967E604785257CC40066B91A?OpenDocument>

- **Wind Farm environmental pollution:** The visual, ground and noise pollution are ignored by promoters of Wind Farms, never having seen one up close. Larger turbines on higher towers create 24/7 noise and vibration, killing birds of all types. The *Windfall* documentary shows what Wind Farms are all about:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8OZgoERceSU>

## **2. Landowners are not relevant CL stakeholders**

Clean Line's idea of good faith negotiations with landowners, puts *landowner notification* last. Clean Line makes much of meeting with "stakeholders" such as environmental organizations, state agencies, state legislators, members of the governors' teams, and federal congressional delegations.

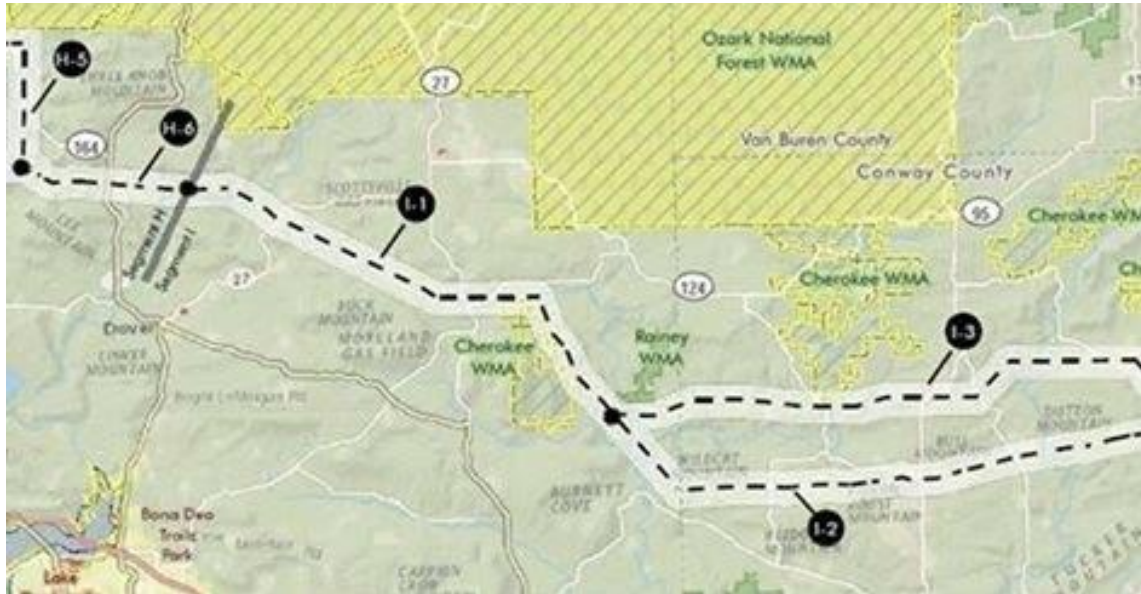
But only after all these groups, who are not personally affected and will not have to live with a 500,000 Volt transmission line in their backyard, Clean Line consults with landowners. *Landowners are not considered "relevant stakeholders" by Clean Line.*

## **3. Deceptive, high pressure CL selling**

Inviting landowners to "participate" and asking them to attend "Office Hour" meetings, with route maps strongly suggesting the CL has approval to traverse selected properties, is deceptive high pressure sales. On one side of the table you have expert CL land agents, on the other you have one landowner concerned with losing his land, invited by CL to give them an easement.

A newspaper story quotes you saying "Office Hour Meetings are really great for having one-on-one conversations, so people can really get the time and attention to impress the thing they really want to talk about and get the facts about the project." Mario, in the Ozarks and rural areas, people start working at sunrise and

work long hours 7 days a week. Attending a meeting in "office hours" was a common complaint.



Do you really believe people are looking forward to "participate" in the Clean Line project, and sign an easement agreement for a slice of their land?

#### **4. Inadequate compensation: our land is not for sale!**

- Why would anyone want to meet with CL, one on one, believing the line will traverse their property, and dreading their land will be taken by eminent domain?
- How is 20% up front non-refundable payment for a perpetual, assignable easement, with unlimited access and whatever other terms are in your easement agreement a good deal for landowners?
- Why would landowners consider losing their privacy, security, and at least 40% the value of their property? Their neighbors will get nothing from CL; they will lose value on their property. No one wants to live in line-of-sight of a 150-foot

tall transmission line. In addition, county property taxes will go down at least 40% for the traversed properties and those near the transmission line.

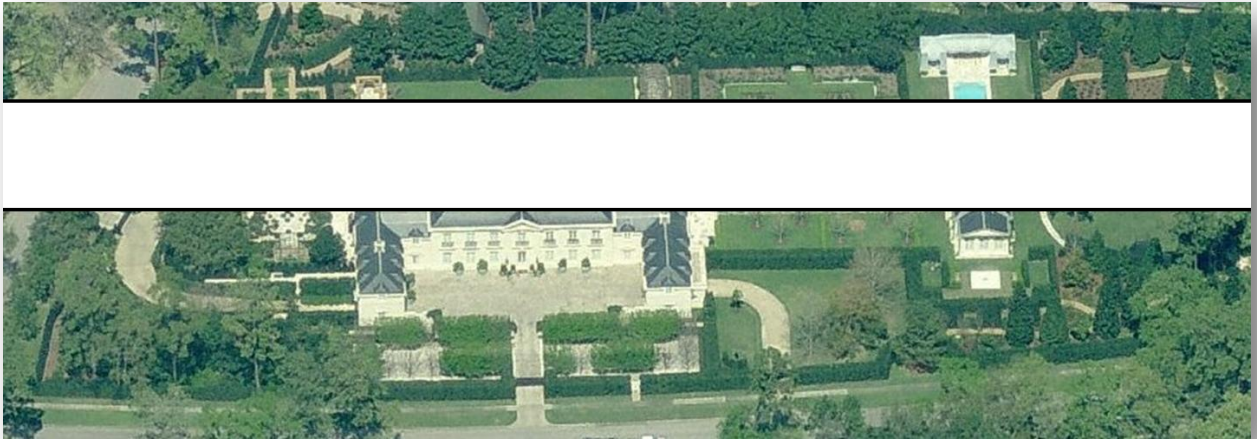
## **5. Acquisition process**

Having a *code of conduct* for land agents may impress some people, but most companies that post it on their website do the opposite.

## **6. Clean Line?**

The promise of "renewable" energy, a key selling CL point is *not* the whole truth. Coal electrons are indistinguishable from wind electrons. Having AC lines front and back, how is the Clean Line extension cord going to tell them apart? Is it a 100% clean line "wind by wire", or just another dirty "coal by wire" line?

Mario, we welcome honest companies creating value, investing their money, creating high paying local permanent jobs, and in return, making a profit for taking a financial risk and dedicating their resources. What would you say if **we** draw a map with a 150-wide easement going through the house below?



Would the owner be willing to *participate* in our project? Would the homeowner take 20% up front for the slice of his property? How is this property different from ours?

We are friendly, hard working people. We love our land and our way of life, we want to keep it the way it is:

- Our environment, public health and welfare are not for sale
- We are a strong community with many smart resourceful people and great public representatives. We stand together and we help our community
- We have strong links between Arkansas and Missouri

I look forward to your response.

Respectfully,

Dr. Luis Contreras

Attachment:

**1. Clean Line Code of Conduct for Land Agents**

References:

**1. Landowners Looking for Answers about 700-mile Transmission Line**

June 4, 2014

<http://www.arkansasmatters.com/story/d/story/landowners-looking-for-answers-about-700-mile-tran/24740/IBaEF LloEabmGHua0lSlg>

**2. Clean Line Energy Partners will hold "office hour" meetings in Ozark and Mulberry today and Thursday to answer questions about the proposed Plains & Eastern Clean Line.**

May 28, 2014

<http://swtimes.com/business/clean-line-holds-ozark-mulberry-meetings-today-thursday#sthash.P8YeNHvb.dpuf>

Clean Line Energy, said about 100 people visited the offices last week in Sallisaw, Alma and Van Buren for extended personal talks to landowners with questions on the proposed line.

- Today from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Clean Line representatives will be at Arkansas Tech University-Ozark, 1700 Helberg Lane.
- On Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., representatives will be at Mulberry Senior Center, 406 Highway 64 East, Mulberry.
- Next week, Clean Line representatives will visit Clarksville, Russellville and Morrilton.
- Office hours for Clarksville are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday at the University of the Ozarks, 415 N. College Ave.