



MEDIA CONTACTS

Sarah Bray
832.319.6340 office
832.226.2116 cell
sbray@cleanlineenergy.com

Mark Prentice
202-292-6972 office
425-999-5977 cell
mprentice@gpgdc.com

KANSAS LEADS THE WAY TO BUILDING AMERICA'S ENERGY FUTURE

GRAIN BELT EXPRESS CLEAN LINE TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT WILL POWER OVER 1.4 MILLION HOMES IN THE MIDWEST AND EASTERN STATES

HOUSTON (December 7, 2011) – Clean Line Energy, a company that develops high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission line projects to move renewable energy to communities and cities, is pleased to announce that one of its affiliates, Grain Belt Express Clean Line LLC (Grain Belt Express Clean Line) received unanimous approval from the Kansas Corporation Commission today to conduct business as a public utility. The Grain Belt Express Clean Line is a 700-mile overhead, high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission line that will move low-cost clean power from Kansas to western Missouri and PJM, serving Eastern states. The development of the Grain Belt Express Clean Line is an important step in solving one of the most challenging problems curtailing the growth of wind energy—the lack of available transmission.

The Grain Belt Express Clean Line transmission line project will make possible approximately \$7 billion in new clean energy projects that will create thousands of jobs, increase state and local tax revenues, and deliver enough clean energy to power up to 1.4 million homes. “The Grain Belt Express Clean Line will provide a vital boost in Kansas’ efforts to lead the nation in renewable energy production,” said Kansas Governor Sam Brownback. “This project will bring well-paying jobs, generate revenue for landowners and local communities, and open Kansas’ abundant wind resource to new markets. Transmission projects like this are key in our mission to establish Kansas as not only the Wheat State but also the Wind State.”

Clean Line Energy is also actively developing three other transmission line projects. The Plains & Eastern Clean Line will connect 7,000 megawatts of low-cost clean power from western Oklahoma, southwest Kansas, and the Texas Panhandle to Arkansas, Tennessee and other southeastern states. The Rock Island Clean Line will move 3,500 megawatts of renewable power from Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and Minnesota to Chicago and other Eastern points. The Centennial West Clean Line will transport 3,500 megawatts of new renewable energy generation from eastern New Mexico and deliver directly to the southwestern United States.

This is the second public utility approval Clean Line Energy has received for its projects in the last two months. In October, the Oklahoma Corporation Commission approved Plains and Eastern Clean Line Oklahoma LLC (Plains & Eastern Clean Line)'s request for public utility status in Oklahoma. "Clean Line's project is another great example of Oklahoma's strong legacy as an energy leader," said Oklahoma Governor Mary Fallin. "Energy projects like the Plains & Eastern Clean Line are opportunities to develop Oklahoma's resources, create jobs, and spur energy innovation. Enhanced electric transmission is a key ingredient of energy policy, and I am proud of Oklahoma's leadership in pushing that forward."

"Bold energy infrastructure projects like the Grain Belt Express Clean Line and the Plains & Eastern Clean Line are what our nation needs to secure a new, clean energy future. Innovative ideas are crucial to diversifying America's energy supply mix with low-cost clean power resulting in the creation of new jobs," said Michael Skelly, Clean Line President. "The approvals from regulatory bodies in Kansas and Oklahoma illustrate the importance of HVDC projects that will move large amounts of low-cost renewable power to communities and cities that need the energy."

In November, 2011, Rock Island Clean Line LLC filed an application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) seeking negotiated rate authority. The Rock Island Clean Line also seeks a preference for renewable energy generation, such that when evaluating potential customers, one criterion that will be considered is whether the energy the customer plans to ship on the line is derived from renewable energy resources.



“We are excited about the momentum we are building at the national level and in the states in which our projects traverse. This signals that the country is ready to think on a large scale and support long-term solutions to solving our nation’s energy issues,” said Skelly.

Clean Line is fully committed to developing its projects in an environmentally responsible and transparent manner. Clean Line’s projects are expected to take several years to fully permit and could begin commercial operations as early as 2017.

About Clean Line Energy Partners: Clean Line’s mission is to connect abundant, renewable energy resources to areas that have a high demand for clean, reliable energy. Clean Line is developing a series of high voltage direct current transmission projects to move renewable energy to market. For more information please visit www.CleanLineEnergy.com.