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CLEAN LINE ENERGY SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH MANUFACTURER IN ILLINOIS
POWER LINE PROJECT WILL BOOST CONSTRUCTION AND MANUFACTURING JOBS IN ILLINOIS

FLORA, IL (January 19, 2015) – Clean Line Energy Partners LLC (Clean Line) announced an agreement today between its subsidiary Grain Belt Express Clean Line LLC and Southwire Company LLC (Southwire) to source components for the power line project from Southwire’s facility in Flora, IL. The agreement designates Southwire as the preferred supplier for the wire that will be used as the dedicated metallic return for the Grain Belt Express Clean Line, a 750-mile direct current transmission line that will deliver power from western Kansas to Illinois and surrounding states.

In addition to signing the agreement with Southwire, Clean Line this week is holding meetings in business hubs along the project’s central Illinois study area – in Jacksonville, Carlinville, Taylorville, and Effingham – to gather information from local businesses that could support the construction and maintenance of the Grain Belt Express Clean Line. Local businesses in the project area have been invited to attend to learn about the project and provide information about their business capabilities.

Clean Line President Michael Skelly said, “We are committed to sourcing as many of the needed materials and services as possible from local companies in the Grain Belt Express Clean Line project area and are excited to announce this agreement with Southwire.” He added, “This project will bring a new source of cost-competitive renewable energy, reducing wholesale electricity prices, creating construction and manufacturing jobs, and providing revenue to local communities in Illinois.”

Southwire’s Flora, Illinois plant has more than 40 years of experience in the design and manufacturing of overhead transmission conductor. Today, the plant leverages that expertise to support large-scale transmission projects like Grain Belt Express. The Grain Belt Express project could require as much as \$35 million in Southwire materials, depending on commodity prices and other variables.

“Southwire is pleased to be chosen by Clean Line Energy as a strategic partner on the Grain Belt Express, a project proposed to connect renewable energy resources to communities throughout the Midwest,” said Charlie Murrah, President of Southwire’s Energy Division. “As the demand for renewable energy increases, Southwire has responded with wire and cable products that support the efficient collection and transmission of that power.”

“The Illinois Chamber of Commerce applauds Clean Line Energy and Southwire Company for coming together to support manufacturing jobs in Illinois,” said Todd Maisch, President and CEO of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce. “Through this agreement, the Grain Belt Express Clean Line will create vital

work orders for a local company. Clean Line's commitment to hiring locally whenever possible will ensure that the Grain Belt Express will be an economic boon to the state."

"Clean Line's Local Business Opportunity Meetings demonstrate that they're committed to using qualified local vendors to construct the Grain Belt Express project," said Ronald Hancock, President of Hancock Carriers, a transportation company based in Olney, IL. "The Grain Belt Express Clean Line will create hundreds of jobs in Illinois and Hancock Carriers looks forward to having an opportunity like this in our state. I hope other companies will show their support for this project, so we can get it approved and on to construction."

The Grain Belt Express Clean Line is currently under development and based on current estimates, is expected to begin construction as early as 2017. For more information about the Grain Belt Express Clean Line and the local business opportunity meetings, please visit www.grainbeltexpresscleanline.com.

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.

About Southwire Company: A leader in technology and innovation, Southwire Company, LLC is one of North America's largest wire and cable producers. Southwire and its subsidiaries manufacture underground and overhead Utility products, Renewable Energy products, building wire and cable (including ROMEX® brand NMB cable, SIMpull THHN® cable and SIMpull Solutions®, products and services), metal-clad (MC) cable (including MCAP and HCF MCAP brand circuit size cables), portable and electronic cord products (including SIGNAL®, sound, security, communication cables, Royal® rubber cords and Seoprene® TPE cord products). Southwire also provides OEM wire products (including Copperfield® and Road Power® brands), engineered products (including SCR® copper and aluminum rod, continuous casting technology, and products made by Technology Research, LLC and Watteredge, LLC, both subsidiaries of Southwire Company. In addition, Southwire supplies assembled products, contractor equipment, and hand tools (including Designers Edge® lighting, Polar Solar® cord sets, Maxis® contractor equipment, and products distributed by Woods Industries (Canada), LLC and Moonrays.com, LLC). To learn more about Southwire's products, community involvement, and its vision for a sustainable Southwire, please visit Southwire on the web at www.southwire.com.