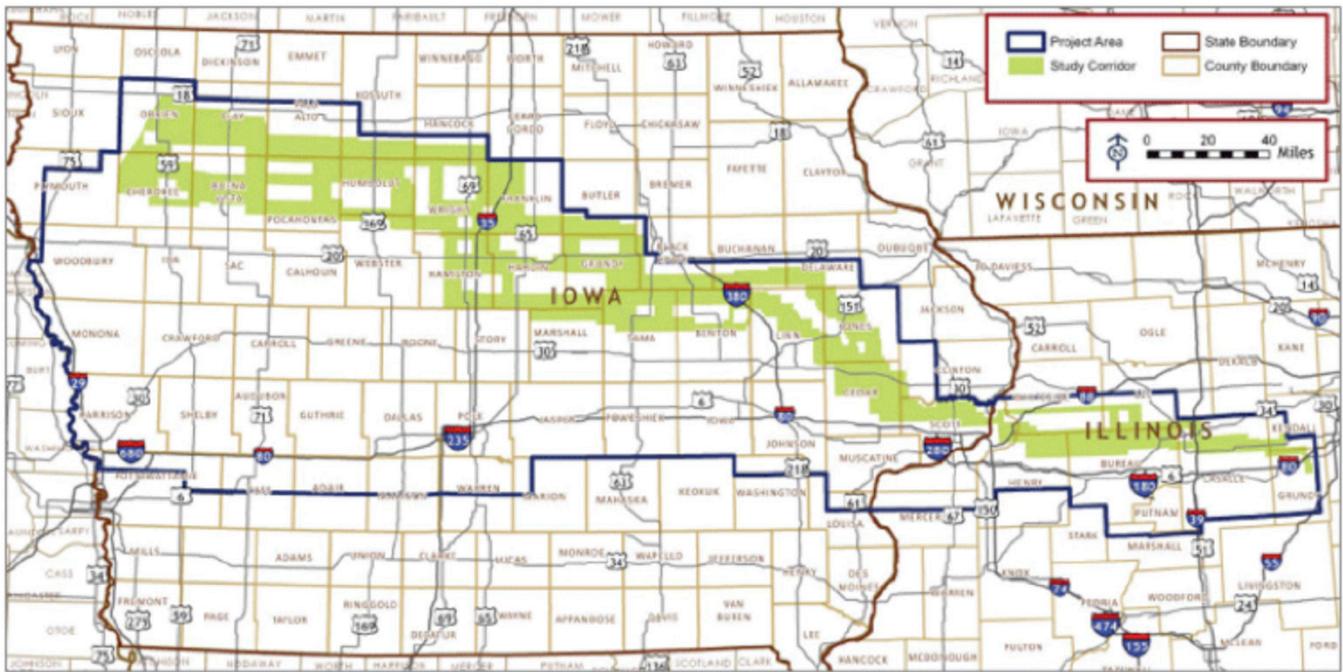




ENERGY FACT SHEET:

ROCK ISLAND CLEAN LINE TRANSMISSION PROJECT



QUICK FACTS

DEVELOPERS	Clean Line Energy Partners
LINE CAPACITY	3,500 MW
ROUTE	Approximately 500 miles, from O'Brien county, IA to Grundy county, IL

CLEAN ENERGY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL

- Projected estimated to make more than 4,000 megawatts of new renewable development possible.
- New wind energy development from the project could total \$7 billion, much of it in Iowa.
- Developers in South Dakota cite the line as a major factor for a 1 gigawatt, 500 turbine wind farm in the state.
- About 1,400 construction jobs will be created in Illinois for the project.
- The project is also estimated to create 1,000 construction jobs in Iowa, and 600 permanent jobs.

STATED PURPOSE

- Help transport wind energy from Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, and South Dakota to Illinois.
- Unique in that it is paid for by investors and renewable energy developers.
- High-voltage direct current line, making it more efficient than the typical alternating current lines.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION AND DETAILS

- Line will run from O'Brien county in northwest Iowa, to Grundy county in north central Illinois.
- The line will be about 500 miles long, and will be 200 feet at its widest.
- Targeted in-service date of 2017

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

- By 2012, Clean Line had held 600 one-on-one meetings with stakeholders, and held 33 open house meetings with over 40,000 landowners invited to attend.
- Opposition to the line revolves around agricultural and environmental impact, as well as Clean Line obtaining public utility status, providing them with the power of eminent domain.
- In an effort to address some of these concerns, Clean Line signed an Agricultural Mitigation agreement with the Illinois Department of Agriculture.
 - In the agreement, Clean Line states it will attempt to avoid interfering with central-pivot irrigation, keep to the



boundary of fields with siting, and allow landowners to farm as much of the easement as possible after it has been acquired.

— An Iowa economic development group has voiced support, noting that the project is needed to enhance the infrastructure that supports wind energy development in the state. Counties along the line in Iowa will receive about \$7,000 per mile for the project, and the developers are trying to reach a similar agreement in Illinois.

— Clean Line has agreed to offer different easement payment models to landowners when possible, offering annual payments instead of one-time lump sums.

- Clean Line has also mentioned that they will offer an escalator on annual payments, incrementally increasing the amount paid to landowners over the life of the line.

REGULATORY PROCESS

— Determine study area, then identify study corridors, before providing a preferred and alternate route to state regulators.

— Must have franchise permit from the Iowa Utilities Board, and public utility status and Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity from the Illinois Commerce Commission.

— During each step in the process, Clean Line and state regulators hold public hearings to incorporate public feedback into the process.

— Current estimates have construction beginning some time between 2014 and 2016.

DOCKET FILING

— The Illinois filing can be found here: <http://www.icc.illinois.gov/docket/casedetails.aspx?no=12-0560>

— While individual Iowa county filings from Rock Island Clean Line LLC can be found here: <https://efs.iowa.gov/efs/ShowDocketSearch.do>

GET INVOLVED!

TRANSMISSION IS ESSENTIAL FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AND FUTURE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY IN RURAL AREAS.

DOING IT THE RIGHT WAY REQUIRES YOUR HELP. TO LEARN MORE OR GET INVOLVED, VISIT OUR CLEAN ENERGY TRANSMISSION DATABASE AT CFRA.ORG/CLEAN-ENERGY.



CENTER *for* RURAL AFFAIRS

145 MAIN STREET, PO BOX 136 | LYONS, NE 68038 | 402.687.2100 | CFRA.ORG