City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201



Agenda Item Number: R 191-14

Department Source: Water & Light

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: October 6, 2014

Re: Letter of Mutual Interest with Grain Belt Express

Documents Included With This Agenda Item

Council memo, Resolution/Ordinance

Supporting documentation includes: Summary of Board/Commission Reports, Presentation

Material

Executive Summary

Clean Line Energy Partners made a presentation to the Water & Light Advisory Board requesting support for the Grain Belt Express Transmission Line project. As a result of their presentation and request for support the Water & Light Advisory Board voted 4-1 to recommend to City Council to Support this project.

Discussion

The Grain Belt Express project is a 750-mile DC transmission line. This transmission project is intended to connect the renewable wind energy generated in western Kansas with customer in states to the east. The line is proposed to run across Missouri in Counties north of Boone. Included with this is the material presented to the Water & Light Advisory Board and Clean Line Energy's proposed Letter of Mutual Interest.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: NA Long-Term Impact: NA

Vision, Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Vision Impact: Environment

Strategic Plan Impact: Health, Safety and Wellbeing

Comprehensive Plan Impact: Environmental Management

Suggested Council Action

Discussion and consideration of a Letter of Mutual Interest with Clean Line Energy

City of Columbia 701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201



Legislativ	e History
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Sept 2, 2014 Water & Light Advisory Board Recommendation

Department Approved

A RESOLUTION

expressing support for economically feasible renewable energy options to serve City of Columbia customers.

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia Water and Light Department's (hereinafter "City Water and Light") mission is to deliver reliable, safe and cost effective water and electric service to meet its citizen owners' needs while providing exceptional customer service and environmental stewardship; and

WHEREAS, City Water and Light serves more than 48,000 customers in and around the City of Columbia, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia voters passed a Renewable Energy Standard that mandates that the City shall cost-effectively generate or purchase electricity from renewable energy sources, including wind energy, at the following levels: 15% by 2017; 25% by 2022; and 30% by 2028; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, renewable energy comprised 6.97% of City Water and Light's electric portfolio; and

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia's Renewable Energy Standard presents a need for economically feasible renewable energy and City Water and Light is seeking viable options for new renewable energy sources to serve its customers; and

WHEREAS, Grain Belt Express Clean Line is constructing a project which has the potential to provide Missouri consumers with a direct current link to low-cost renewable energy in western Kansas (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Project resource area is characterized by high wind speeds and may offer some of the lowest cost wind energy in the United States; and

WHEREAS, greater access to low-cost renewable energy such as that anticipated to be delivered by the Project serves the public interest and may help the City of Columbia fulfill its Renewable Energy Standard; and

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia Water and Light Advisory Board has reviewed the Project and submitted its recommendation and request to the City Council to express support for consideration of low cost wind energy produced by the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council of the City of Columbia, Missouri hereby expresses its support of economically feasible renewable energy options to serve City customers, and will consider wind power accessed by the Project as an option for new affordable renewable energy to meet the City of Columbia's Renewable Energy Standard.

ADOPTED this day of	, 2014.
ATTEST:	
City Clerk	Mayor and Presiding Officer
APPROVED AS TO FORM:	
City Counselor	

City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201



SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS INCLUDED WITH THIS AGENDA ITEM ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Summary of Board/Commission Reports, Presentation Material

DRAFT

Water and Light Advisory Board September 2, 2014

A meeting of the Water and Light Advisory Board was held Tuesday, September 2, 2014 at 8:05 a.m. in the 4th Floor Conference Room of the City Building. The meeting was attended by:

John Conway, Chair
Tom O'Connor, Member
Hank Ottinger, Member
Dick Parker, Vice Chair
Jack Clark, Member
Tad Johnsen, Water and Light Director
Ryan Williams, Assistant Water and Light Director
Christian Johanningmeier, Power Production Superintendent
Jim Windsor, Utility Financial Manager
Tina Worley, Utility Services Manager
Connie Kacprowicz, Communications & Marketing Supervisor
Rose Wibbenmeyer, Assistant City Counselor
Mark Lawlor, Clean Line Energy
Katie Link, KOMU
Tracy Frevert, Senior Administrative Support Assistant

APPROVAL OF THE MEETING MINUTES

The July 30, 2014 meeting minutes were approved by voice vote on a motion by Dick Parker and a second by Jack Clark.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Water and Electric Utility combined operations reflect an operating loss of \$285,200 for the ten months ended July 31, 2014; compared to an operating loss of \$1,582,283 for the same period last year. This is a reduction of \$1,297,083 of operating loss.

Net loss from Water and Electric Utility combined operation is \$5,617,499, compared to net loss of \$6,636,359 for the same period last year.

The Water Utility has an operating income of \$3,186,460 for the ten months ended July 31, 2014; compared to an operating income of \$3,635,804 for the same period last year. This is a decrease of \$449,344 of operating income.

Net income for Water Utility is \$1,072,854, compared to net loss of \$1,770,939 for the same period last year.

The Electric Utility has an operating loss of \$3,471,660 for the ten months ended July 31, 2014; compared to an operating loss of \$5,218,087 for the same period last year. This is a reduction of \$1,746,427 of operating loss.

Net loss for Electric Utility is \$6,690,353, compared to net loss of \$8,407,298 for the same period last year.

Operating revenues of the Electric Utility are up \$3,443,624 compared to the same period last year.

Operating expenses before Payment-In-Lieu-Of-Tax and Depreciation are up \$1,201,564 compared to the same period last year. Fuel and Purchased power costs have increased \$23,156 compared to the same period last year.

Dick Parker asked why Administrative and General Operating Expenses are lower than projected. Staff will research and bring answer to the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Clean Line Energy, Grain Belt Express – Tad Johnsen introduced Mark Lawlor, Director of Development for Clean Line Energy Partners. Mr. Lawlor explained that the Grain Belt Express Clean Line will provide Missouri consumers a direct current link to low-cost renewable energy in western Kansas. The resource area is characterized by high wind speeds and offers some of the lowest cost wind energy in the United States. Their development of new transmission infrastructure will also create jobs and other economic development opportunities for many Missouri communities. Proposed is a 750-mile overhead direct current transmission line which can provide 500 MW delivery to MISO system in Missouri. The Grain Belt Express Clean Line is a \$2 billion project that will enable \$7 billion of new wind energy investments. Mr. Lawlor said that Clean Line delivered product is competitive with other sources of new generation, including natural gas. Proposed pricing for delivered energy is \$36 per MWh with a 2% escalator for 25 years. Fixed pricing will provide certainty in light of fuel volatility and new environmental regulations.

Tom O'Connor does not recommend endorsing the project without knowing all the pros and cons. He also does not like the need for construction of more transmission lines. Jack Clark made a motion, seconded by Dick Parker, to recommend the Council endorse the Grain Belt Express Clean Line project. Voting yes were John Conway, Dick Parker, Hank Ottinger and Jack Clark. Voting no was Tom O'Connor. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- a) July 7th Storm Report Tad Johnsen reviewed the actions taken by the utility to restore power to 14,000 customers following the July 7th storm. The information, including the cost to restore power, will go to Council in a report. John Conway suggested noting in the report that no safety issues occurred. Dick Parker recommended including how much of the personnel cost was not overtime, and would have been incurred even without the storm.
- b) Community Broadband Tad Johnsen reported that Broadband Planning Study went to Council. Council asked Staff to develop a Broadband Business Plan.

c) MPUA Annual Conference - October 8-10 – All Board members are encouraged to attend, and should let Tracy Frevert know if you plan on attending.

Tad Johnsen noted that included in the packet of information mailed to the Board was a copy of the Power Point presentation presented to Council on the electric rate structure. The presentation includes a residential rate comparison with Austin (Texas) Energy.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

No Chairman's report.

Dick Parker had several questions concerning:

- the biomass test burn no fuel has been delivered yet
- the community solar project the Board will receive information at the next Board meeting
- the ash pond an outside engineer has determined there are no problems with the ash pond.

Mr. Parker requested the breakdown for FY2013 and FY2014 of demand megawatts by the basic billing categories, and the megawatt hours for those categories (coincidental and non-coincidental peak information). Jim Windsor will provide available information.

VISITOR COMMENTS

No visitor comments.

The next regularly scheduled meeting date is Wednesday, October 1, 2014 in the 4th Floor Conference Room of the City Building

Jack Clark made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dick Parker. Motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 9:42 a.m.





National Grid is a key investor in Clean Line Energy

nationalgrid CLEAN LINE ENERGY PARTNERS



- National Grid brings extensive experience in building, owning, and operating large transmission projects in the United States and overseas
- National Grid owns and operates more than 8,600 miles of transmission in the United States
- National Grid joins Clean Line's existing investors that include private equity firm ZBI Ventures

CLEAN LINE ENERGY PARTNERS

Direct current transmission is the most efficient way to move large amounts of power over long distances

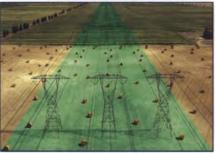
Smaller footprint – Uses a narrower right of way than comparable AC lines

More efficient – Transfers power with less infrastructure and lower line losses than AC lines moving a comparable amount of power over long distances

Lower cost – Requires less infrastructure and has lower line losses, resulting in lower costs and lower prices for clean energy

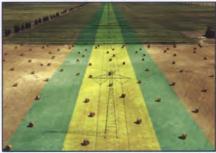
Improved reliability – Provides the operator control of power flow and facilitates the integration of wind energy from different resource areas

Alternating Current



CLEAN LINE ENERGY PARTNERS

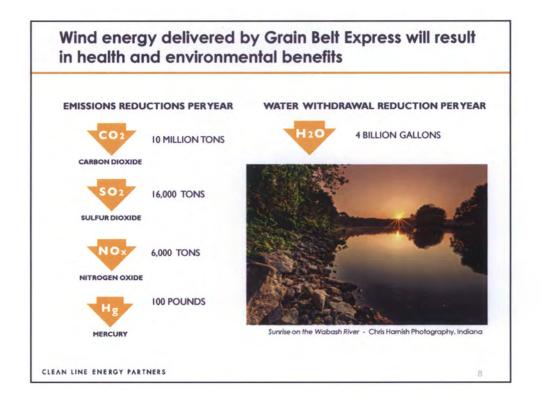
Direct Current



Grain Belt Express will deliver low-cost wind energy from Kansas to Missouri and other states that need it AN APPROXIMATELY 750-MILE OVERHEAD HIGH YOLTACE DIRECT CURRENT TRANSMISSION LINE PHY-POC DE NC IN PA MD VA NJ MO IL OH KY IN MI WY DC 750-mile overhead, direct current (DC) transmission line \$2 billion transmission project that will enable \$7 billion of new wind energy investments 1.4 million American homes powered per year CLEAN LINE ENERGY PARTNERS







Clean Line is working one state at a time to develop the Grain Belt Express project GRAIN BELT EXPRESS CLEAN LINE Des Moines A Springfeld First Hause

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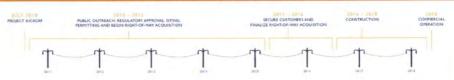
CLEAN LINE ENERGY PARTNERS

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Missouri Proposed Route Grundy ILLINOIS DeKalb St. Joseph Kingston New London Chariton Randolph Huntsville Plattsburg Paris* Keytesville Ray Carrollton Lafayette *Line thickness is not to scale. Map Date: 3/26/2014 - Proposed Route* Actual easement will be narrower. "The Nature Conservancy commends Clean Line for its open, proactive approach in integrating conservation and natural resource issues in planning utility infrastructure routing and development to meet the nation's energy needs. - Doug Ladd, Director of Conservation at the Missouri Chapter of The Nature Conservancy CLEAN LINE ENERGY PARTNERS

A methodical and transparent development process is underway

GRAIN BELT EXPRESS CLEAN LINE SCHEDULE



Project Milestones

- · Obtained public utility status from Kansas and Indiana public utility commissions
- Obtained certificate to construct 370-mile Kansas route selected with input from 2,300 Kansans
- Filed with Missouri PSC for certificate to construct along 206-mile proposed route selected with input from more than 1,300 landowners and Missouri residents
- · Completed grid reliability studies with Southwest Power Pool
- Studying interconnections to deliver 500 MW to MISO and 3,500 MW to PJM
- · Received over 500 expressions of support in Missouri

CLEAN LINE ENERGY PARTNERS

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Clean Line is committed to engaging landowners and other stakeholders in decision-making process

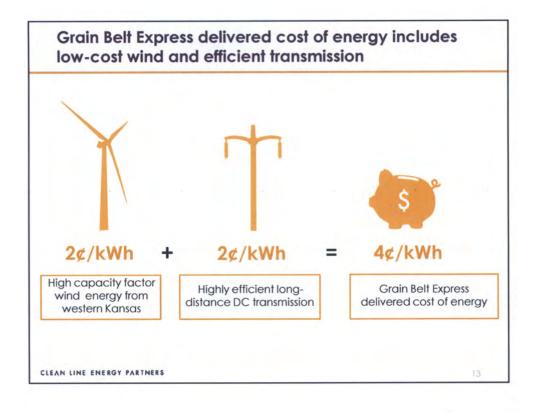
- 250 local stakeholders provided input at Community Roundtables in Missouri
- More than 1,300 landowners gave feedback on potential routes at 13 Missouri Public
 Open Houses, online and over the phone
- We continue to work with landowners to minimize impacts to their land and compensate fairly for a transmission line easement

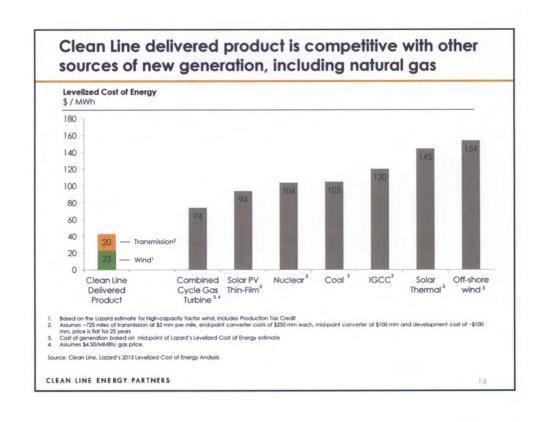


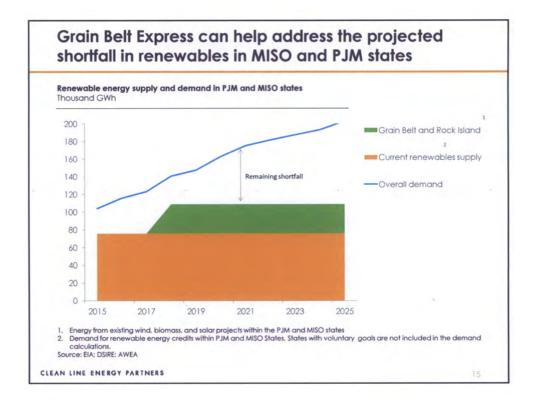


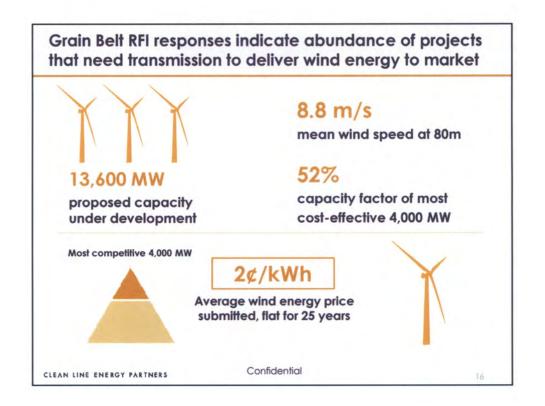
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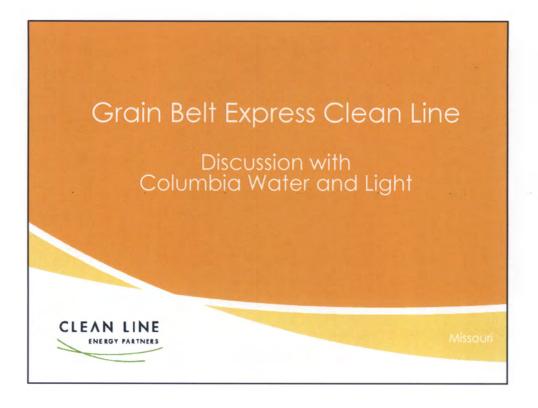


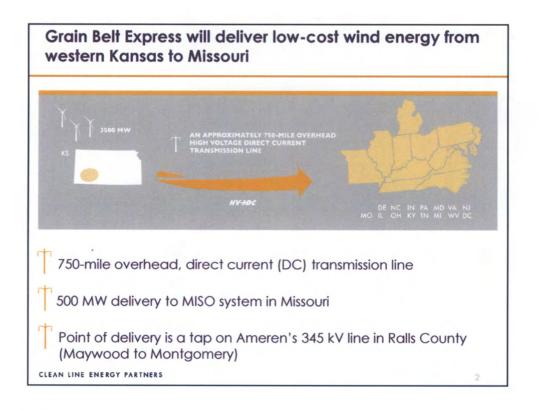






GRAIN BELT EXPRESS CLEAN LINE www.grainbeltexpresscleanline.com Follow Clean Line on Twitter @cleanlineenergy



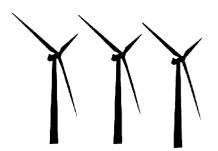


Purchasing wind energy delivered by Grain Belt offers Columbia Water and Light several benefits

- 1 Low-cost energy
- 2 Low or no cost local RPS compliance
- 3 Long-term price certainty
- 4 Minimal transmission congestion risk
- 5 Capacity value from superior wind resource

CLEAN LINE ENERGY PARTNERS

Grain Belt RFI responses indicate projects in western Kansas looking for customers in Missouri



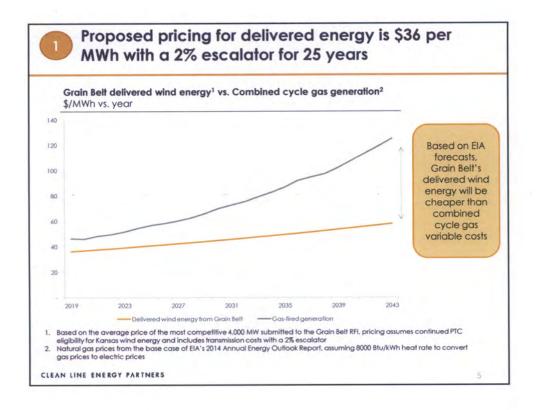
13,600 MW proposed capacity under development

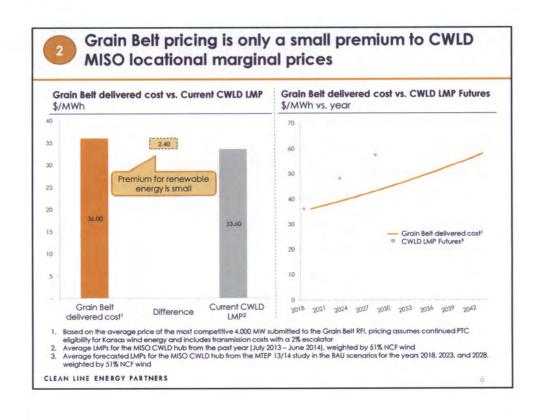
9.1 m/s mean wind speed at 80m

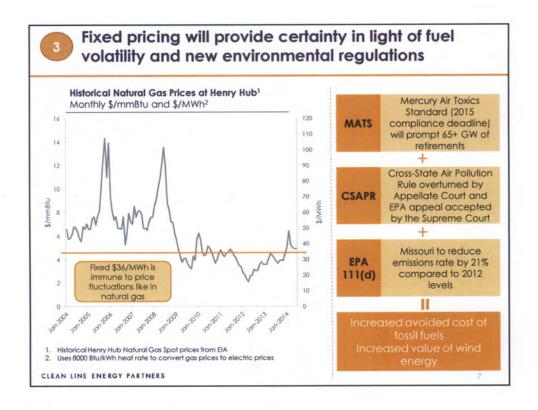
52% capacity factor of most cost-effective 4,000 MW

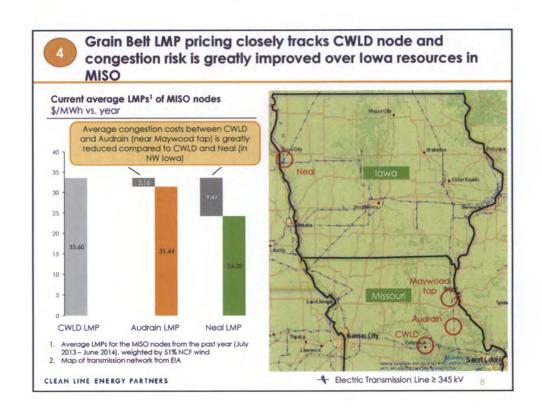
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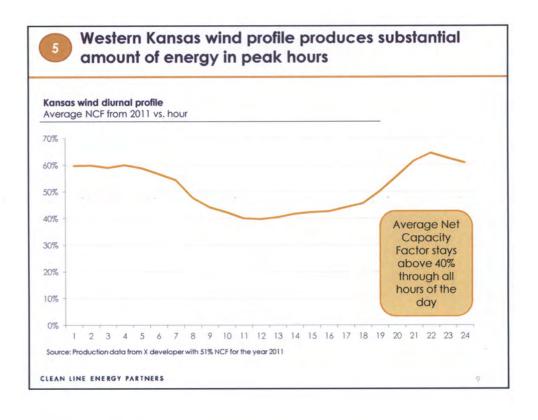
Confidential

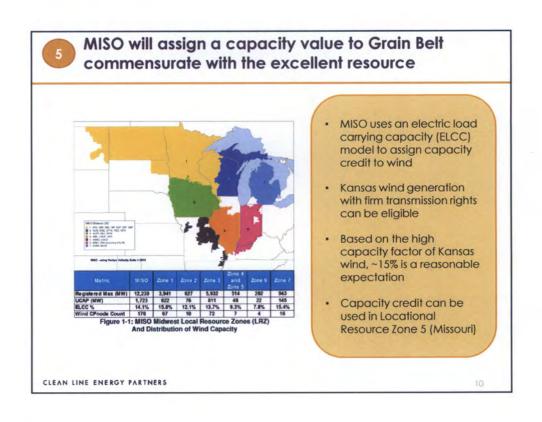












Discussions with Missouri load serving entities going forward

- Review Grain Belt schedule and project timing
- Discuss potential opportunities such as purchasing capacity on the line
- Feedback on proposal and decision on next steps

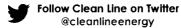


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www. grain belt express clean line. com



March 2014