



Pat Quinn, Governor
Robert F. Flider, Director

Bureau of Farmland Protection

State Fairgrounds • P.O. Box 19281 • Springfield, IL 62794-9281 • 217/782-6297-4233 • Voice/TDD 217/524-6858 • Fax 217/557-0993

June 7, 2013

Dear Landowner:

As the owner of land across which **Rock Island Clean Line LLC** (hereafter referred to as "**Clean Line**") is planning to construct the **Rock Island Clean Line ±600kV HVDC transmission line**, the Illinois Department of Agriculture would like to inform you of the following matter.

Effective May 29, 2013, **Clean Line** and the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) entered into an Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement (copy enclosed) establishing standards and policies that Clean Line will follow as it constructs the high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission line across agricultural land. The Agreement will provide a high level of protection to such land, but it may not address specific concerns that you may have. Such concerns must be addressed individually in your own easement contract to accomplish your specific goals.

As you review the enclosed Agreement, you may find procedures that you would like to change. Your right to negotiate changes is preserved by Paragraph A on page one of the Agreement. It states, "**All mitigative actions are subject to modification through negotiation by Landowners and a representative of Clean Line. Certain policies require Clean Line to consult with the Landowner or Tenant of a property. Clean Line will engage in good faith efforts to secure the agreement of the Landowner in such cases.**" You can discuss the changes you desire with the right-of-way agent that is assigned to you. It may also be advisable to work with your own attorney to make sure your interests are protected.

As you consider your personal interests, you may want to include the owner indemnification clause in your individual easement agreement to protect yourself, your family and future heirs against future claims or expenses arising from the HVDC transmission line construction, repairs and maintenance. This item is covered in Section 17 of the Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement. We feel it is best that such issues are left to landowners to address in their individual easement contracts if specific items are of concern.

Please note that although the IDOA has entered into the Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement with Clean Line, it does not constitute our endorsement of the project. The Agreement's only purpose is to provide a high level of protection to agricultural land that will be impacted by the construction of the HVDC transmission line, if the project is approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission.

If you have questions, feel free to contact Terry Savko of my staff at 217-785-4458, at the address listed above or at terry.savko@illinois.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steven D. Chard".

Steven D. Chard, Acting Chief
Bureau of Land and Water Resources

Enclosure

SDC:TS