

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
QUAPAW AREA COUNCIL, INC. A program of Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting and Venturing.

March 10th, 2015

To: U.S. Department of Energy

This letter comes in statement of the position of the Quapaw Area Council, Inc., Boy Scouts of America on the Department of Energy's draft Environmental Impact Statement regarding Clean Line Energy's proposed construction of a 700 mile, high voltage, DC electrical transmission line across Oklahoma, Arkansas and Tennessee.

After attending numerous Town Hall meetings, Legislature briefings, Community meetings and researching all materials available from Clean Line and those opposed to the project, the Quapaw Area Council would like to formally go on record as being opposed to this project.

We have reviewed the DOE's EIS statement and feel that our interest, and that of our Scouting membership and partner organizations would best be served by opposition to such an encroachment as this project proposes. The Ozark Mountains are a peaceful, serene environment which serves as an outdoor classroom and laboratory for our campers attending the Gus Blass Scout Reservation. We feel that the cleared corridor and the 200' foot tall transmission towers would not only be an unsightly blemish on the natural setting of our camp but that the detriments far outweigh any benefit. The EIS states that thirty-one species of federally protected species could be damaged by this project and that critical woodland habitat would be lost forever. Clean Line has filed for a mitigation plan but no details have been available to date. Included in the EIS draft is a statement concerning health issues. Based upon the studies available, no conclusion about the health risk can be drawn. This is an unacceptable risk.

In closing, the DOE is considering partnering with this private, for Profit Corporation in use of eminent domain. The Quapaw Area Council Inc. stands with our neighbors, members and this state in requesting your opposition to this practice.

The Quapaw Area Council Inc. has been given a significant responsibility to be good stewards of the land and environment and we would ask the same from you.

Respectfully,

David Berry

David Berry
Council President

John M. Carman

John M. Carman
Scout Executive

Cc: J. French Hill



A United Way Agency