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Rock Island "Clean" Line Not Necessary

An association called Block RICL is trying to stop an overhead 500-mile-long high voltage direct current power line from being built in Illinois and Iowa. The purported purpose of the line, as suggested by Clean Line Energy Partners, is to transport power from wind-energy-rich states in the midwest to the greater Chicago area in Illinois. Block RICL says the line isn't necessary because there is a surplus of electricity in the Chicago area, and power costs would have to increase substantially for the project to be profitable (Wikipedia). There is also concern that the project would deter further growth to the development of wind energy in Illinois. Opponents to the proposed line are also concerned about the line's impact on agriculture including interference with the use of large farm machinery, aerial spraying and circle pivot irrigation; and soil compaction and crop damage incurred by tower and line maintenance activities (Bureau County Republican). Block RICL is in the process of developing a website. The association can be contacted at SaveOurFarmland@hotmail.com or call 815-315-8506.