

Publicity Items

Banners • Yard Signs • Posters

Publicity helps to increase awareness and provide information about the proposed RICL high voltage transmission line project. The use of banners, yard signs, posters and other publicity items across the state is helpful as The Alliance continues important work to stop RICL. Contact The Alliance for more information on how to get these items for your own property or for a community event. Some items are available at no cost – other items can be ordered for pick up or will be delivered to you.

News

News articles, letters to editors, guest articles and ads provide valuable information to landowners and community members.

The Alliance has and will continue to work with editors in local, regional and statewide publications to provide factual information. Personal stories and letters are powerful. Contact us if you would like assistance in submitting a letter or article of your own.

Who We Are

The Preservation of Rural Iowa Alliance is a 501(c)6 nonprofit organization formed to assist landowners, tenants, families, businesses, and community members in stopping the proposed Rock Island Clean Line (RICL) high voltage transmission line in Iowa. The Alliance is opposed to the use of eminent domain by RICL for the proposed line.

The Alliance is governed by a volunteer board of directors meeting nearly every week and donating countless hours for all property owners and concerned citizens in communities across Iowa.

Board of Directors

Carolyn Sheridan, President, Family Member

Steve Licht, Vice President, Tenant

Paul Swanson, Treasurer, Landowner, Family Member

Cindy Kassel, Secretary, Landowner

Diane Darr, Landowner

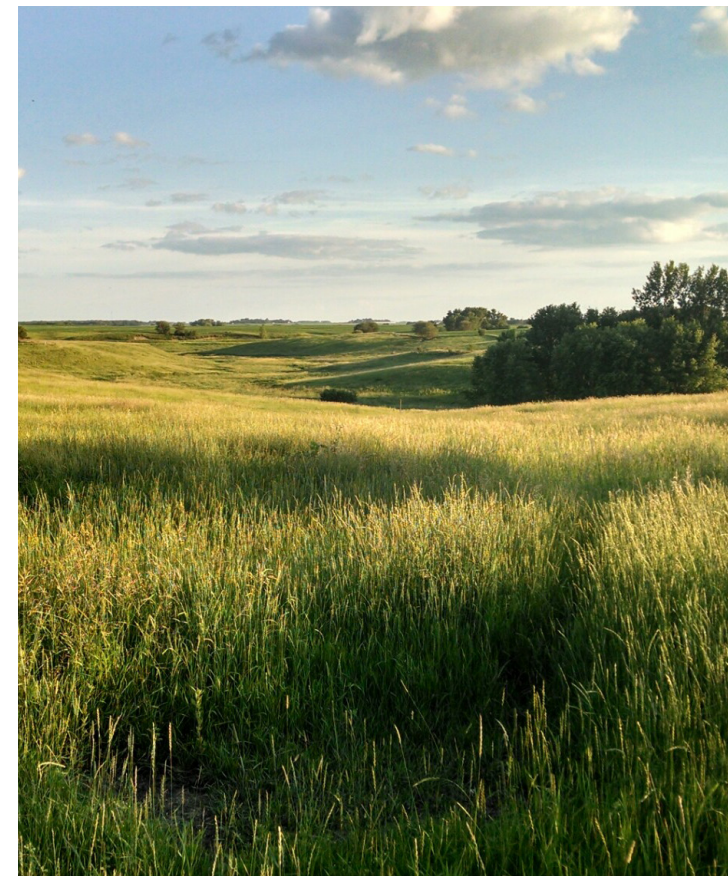
Jerry Crew, Landowner

Kim Junker, Landowner

Cindy Koenig, Family Member

Eric Andersen, Landowner

Dave Weber, Landowner



The Preservation of Rural Iowa Alliance

Established July 25, 2013

"After all is said and done if Rock Island Clean Lines is allowed the use of eminent domain for their project it could likely result in the largest unjustified taking of private property in the history of the state of Iowa."

Ralph Watts
State Representative
Republican
District 19

Contact Us

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Are you a property owner or concerned citizen?

Stop RICL

Help Stop Unnecessary Transmission Lines

State of Iowa Motto

Our liberties we prize and our rights we will maintain

Health Impacts

The Alliance believes the evidence for potential adverse long term health effects is inconclusive and understands the concerns people express. Ongoing research of available information will continue by our organization. Visit our website or call for more information.

Costs to Stop RICL

The financial burden: Since the formation of The Alliance the volunteer board of directors has planned for the financial burden of stopping RICL. Costs are directly related to the length of the fight and the need for legal consultation and expert witnesses at a public hearing. Rock Island Clean Line filed their petition for franchise on November 6, 2014 which begins the IUB process. The financial burden falls squarely on the shoulders of landowners, businesses and other concerned citizens across the state.

Examples of Ongoing Costs

Publicity
Attorney Fees
Expert Witnesses
Website
Mailings

Projected Additional Costs = \$250,000 - 300,000

*All Board of Director time and many supplies are donated

To be successful our strategic plan and critical objectives must include understanding the big picture and operating at a high level in several key areas."

Carolyn Sheridan, Board President

What You Can Do

With an estimated 1540 parcels of land impacted, the average cost per landowner to fight RICL is \$300. To date Alliance members have given that amount and in some cases much more. As we move forward with the expected Iowa Utilities Board process The Alliance will reach out for more support in the form of pledges and contributions. Please consider our requests seriously and do what you can to support this fight.

Eminent Domain • Easements • Property Value • Objections

The Alliance advocates on behalf of landowners, families, businesses and community members and is committed to providing individuals and communities across the state with resources necessary to protect private property rights of land owners.

Eminent Domain

Landowners, tenants, families, businesses and community members are opposed to the use of eminent domain to take private property, including prime agricultural land for economic gain. Ongoing publicity related to this important issue is necessary to assist all Iowans in understanding how this can impact them in the future.

Easements

Low numbers of signed voluntary easements sends a strong message to the Iowa Utilities Board. The Preservation of Rural Iowa Alliance strongly encourages landowners to fully understand easement agreements and to contact their attorney to review the agreement. Several red flags have been identified in the easement agreements including the damage clause, negligence clause, actual easement area, abandonment clause and ability to access other areas of property during construction or maintenance.

Evidence suggests that landowners will receive more compensation if they wait for condemnation and landowners have greater protection under Iowa's eminent domain stature.



Property Value

Ongoing research indicates there is a measurable effect on land values with high voltage transmission lines. That effect ranges from a loss of 10% to 30% of the overall property value which significantly impacts the long term value of all types of property and businesses.

The Electrical Transmission Line Franchise Process includes the use of eminent domain to take private property. RICL intends to use this process for their project.

Objections

Anyone can file a formal objection with the Iowa Utilities Board. The Iowa Utilities Board and RICL closely monitor not only the number of objections but also how many landowners have filed objections. If you are opposed to RICL, consider filing your personal objection. The Alliance can assist with obtaining the needed information.

Our success is directly related to a large group of people with a common goal.



Why The Preservation of Rural Iowa Alliance Work is Important

The Alliance strategy includes representation of all landowners at the Iowa Utilities Board Public Hearing. Ongoing work in several key areas includes but is not limited to:

FERC: Research of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission rulings and their impact on this project.

Legislation: Understanding existing eminent domain laws and working with legislators to advocate for needed change.

Misconceptions: Constant review and response to news media to address misconceptions and inaccuracies.

Cost Allocation: Understanding aspects of cost allocation and how it may become a reality if this project is approved.

Illinois: Communication with Illinois leaders and monitoring the Illinois portion of the RICL project.

State Agricultural Organizations: Ongoing work with various organizations including commodity groups and Farm Bureau.