

GRAIN BELT EXPRESS

CLEAN LINE

Grain Belt Express Clean Line Transmission Project

Notice of Window for New & Updated Transmission Service Requests

On February 8, 2016, Grain Belt Express Clean Line LLC (“Grain Belt”) will begin accepting new and updated transmission service requests in its open solicitation for capacity on the proposed Grain Belt Express Clean Line transmission project (the “Project”).

The Project is a proposed approximately 780-mile, multi-terminal ± 600 kV high-voltage, direct current (HVDC) transmission line and associated facilities. The Project will originate near the Spearville 345-kV substation in Ford County, Kansas, and will terminate near the Sullivan 765-kV substation in Sullivan County, Indiana, where it will be capable of delivering 3,500 MW of power. There is also an intermediate converter station located near the Maywood 345-kV substation in Missouri, where the Project will have the capacity to deliver up to 500 MW of power. The associated facilities will include transmission facilities to connect the converter stations to the existing transmission grid and a collector system comprised of alternating current transmission lines to connect generators to the western terminus of the line. The total cost of the Project is estimated to be approximately \$2.75 billion. Grain Belt expects to commence construction of the Project as early as 2018 and place the Project in service in 2021. Additional information about the Project is available at www.grainbeltexpresscleanline.com, and the original Notice of the Open Solicitation is available at: http://www.grainbeltexpresscleanline.com/sites/grain_belt/media/docs/Grain_Belt_Express_Open_Solicitation_Notice.pdf.

In this window, Grain Belt is accepting requests for service from Kansas to Missouri and Missouri to Indiana, and will offer Missouri-to-Indiana service if customer interest supports doing so. Grain Belt may conduct subsequent windows or additional open solicitation processes for the Project in the future. Grain Belt intends to allocate up to 100% of the Project’s capacity to customers through an open and transparent solicitation and capacity allocation process. This process will be conducted pursuant to the FERC Policy Statement issued on January 17, 2013, *Allocation of Capacity on New Merchant Transmission Projects and New Cost-Based, Participant-Funded Transmission Projects*, 142 FERC ¶ 61,038. On May 8, 2014, FERC issued an order conditionally authorizing Grain Belt negotiated rate authority under this Policy Statement.

New and updated transmission service requests (TSRs) for this window will be due to Capacity@CleanLineEnergy.com by March 4, 2016. Clean Line intends to negotiate commercial agreements with respondents to this window by June 3, 2016. Grain Belt will then evaluate TSR forms according to the criteria described below. Participants may request preliminary meetings to discuss transmission service request considerations.

Interested parties should contact Eleanor Elbert at the contact information set forth below in order to participate in the open solicitation process.

Eleanor Elbert
Capacity@CleanLineEnergy.com
c/o Clean Line Energy Partners LLC
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832.319.6336

Grain Belt will use the following customer selection criteria as initial screening factors in this window in order for participants to be considered for the ranking and negotiation process: (1) first mover status (willingness to transact early in the project's development cycle) and (2) creditworthiness.

Participants that satisfy the selection criteria will then be ranked according to the following ranking criteria for purposes of phasing negotiations: (1) level of creditworthiness; (2) early commitment in the Project's development cycle; (3) Project risk-sharing through phased deposits or similar financial commitments during the Project's development cycle; (4) ability to assist with the Project's development needs; (5) longer term of service; (6) larger capacity reservation; (7) ability to access Project converter stations; (8) completion of generation development milestones or evidence of need for Project capacity (as appropriate); (9) commercial operation date for generation or timing of transmission service commencement date; and (10) material price terms. There will be time-defined, phased negotiation windows, with the first phase commencing in the first quarter of 2016.