

REPORT FROM THE LAWYERS  
GAME ON!

November 12, 2014

Rock Island Clean Line has just finished filing its 16 Iowa petitions for review by Iowa Utilities Board staff. So now it is “Game On!” The game clock has officially started. What happens now?

Now we enter the First Quarter. IUB Engineers will review each of the 16 initial petitions with a fine-tooth comb for deficiencies. There are lots of details; 16 sets of them in fact. Rock Island must demonstrate, for example, that it has properly notified every other utility whose line, pipe, or cable its proposed line might impact. It must demonstrate that all of its plans will meet the applicable codes. These reviews will more than likely result in deficiency letters written by the IUB Engineers, which will in turn generate revised petitions from Rock Island Clean Line. In major transmission line cases, this process takes months. If past actions are an example, we might expect this to take four months or even longer.

What do we need to do? Build our strongest arguments. Identify and engage the best expert witnesses to present those arguments, committing them to written testimony and supporting documentation. This will take money and time; these expert witnesses do not come cheaply. So please make a new financial commitment to the Alliance. And if you are one of the affected landowners, DO NOT SIGN A VOLUNTARY EASEMENT!! In the final analysis, the sheer size and force of our collective opposition will probably be our strongest argument of all.

**STAY STRONG and HOLD OUT!**

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