

June 08, 2015

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE-20), 1222 Program
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20585

RE: Support for the Plains & Eastern Clean Line under Section 1222 of EAct of 2005

Dear Secretary Moniz,

I am writing to express support for the Plains & Eastern Clean Line and to urge the Department of Energy and Southwestern Power Administration to participate in the proposed project. This transmission project is in the public interest because it will stimulate economic development, create jobs, expand interregional transmission capacity, and improve system reliability. The Plains & Eastern Clean Line will enable billions of dollars in new investments, generate millions of dollars in revenues for counties and local communities annually, and create thousands of jobs.

While the U.S. has some of the best renewable resources in the world, there is a demand for transmission infrastructure to connect the best wind resources, which are located predominantly in remote areas, to distant cities and communities with a demand for low-cost clean energy. Existing transmission infrastructure connecting windy areas to the Mid-South and Southeast is almost completely saturated, and the cost of moving power through the grid as it stands today is rising due to congestion. Direct current technology is the most efficient means of moving large amounts of energy over long distances. Through the use of this technology, the Plains & Eastern Clean Line will modernize the country's transmission infrastructure and facilitate the reliable delivery of low-cost renewable energy across regions.

The Plains & Eastern Clean Line will address the increasing demand for interregional transmission capacity to move power from the wind-rich central United States to the Mid-South and Southeast. It is a much-needed infrastructure project for the public use and benefit.

Sincerely,

Name: Robby Smith
Title: Director of Projects
City: Barboursville State: WV