

## Plainsandean

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**From:** Simon Mahan <simon@cleanenergy.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2015 9:31 AM  
**To:** Plainsandean  
**Subject:** Plains & Eastern Clean Line Transmission Line 1222 comment  
**Attachments:** SWEA letter of support P&E.pdf

Please see attached.

-Simon

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Simon Mahan | Director  
Southern Wind Energy Association  
Lafayette, Louisiana 70507  
[simon@cleanenergy.org](mailto:simon@cleanenergy.org) | (c) 337.303.3723  
Twitter: @SimonMahan  
[www.southernwind.org](http://www.southernwind.org)



## Southern Wind Energy Association

P.O. Box 1842, Knoxville, TN 37901

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July 13, 2015

The Honorable Ernest Moniz  
Secretary of Energy  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20585

RE: Support for the Plains & Eastern Clean Line

Dear Secretary Moniz,

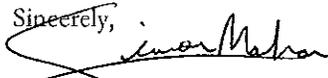
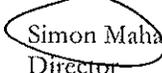
The Southern Wind Energy Association (SWEA) is an industry-led initiative that promotes responsible use and development of wind energy in the South. Our vision is for wind energy to become a leading source of energy in the South and our mission is to promote responsible use and development of wind energy in the South.

SWEA supports the Plains & Eastern Clean Line and to urges 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,

Simon Mahan  
Director  
Southern Wind Energy Association

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