

AR Sierra Club Members: Help Bring Clean Wind Energy to The Natural State!

From: Sierra Club - Arkansas Chapter
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Arkansas Sierrans and Friends:

For years, your Sierra Club has been working to end our dependence on dirty fossil fuels and usher in a future powered by clean, renewable energy. You've probably read news stories about how solar and wind power are setting installation records month after month across the country. It's a truly exciting time: while we are announcing the retirement of dirty coal plants, we are also bringing thousands of megawatts of clean energy online.

Today, I'm happy to announce Arkansas Sierra Club's support for a game-changing wind energy project, and I'd like to ask for your help in making it happen. Will you join us at an upcoming public hearing in Arkansas to support clean wind power?

Clean Line Energy is working to move 4000 megawatts of clean wind energy from the sparsely-populated plains of Oklahoma to where it is needed in the east. The project is a large direct voltage transmission line carrying wind energy across Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, and into Tennessee where it can hook into the TVA system. To give you an idea of how important 4000 megawatts of wind energy is: that is more than 6 times the power produced by an average-sized dirty coal-fired power plant. Even better--Clean Line wants to provide 500 megawatts of wind power for Arkansas.

Creating this much wind energy and getting it to the right places will absolutely mean that more dirty coal-fired power plants will retire. I view this as the kind of large-scale clean energy project that is essential to moving our country off of fossil fuels. For years, we've been saying that closing coal-fired power plants would create the market for clean energy to thrive--now that prediction is coming true.

In February, the US Department of Energy is holding six meetings across Arkansas to take public comments on the project's environmental impact. Will you attend one of these meetings to voice your support for clean wind power? Here are the dates and locations:

Monday, February 9
Arkansas State University-Newport
Student Community Center
7648 Victory Boulevard
Newport, AR 72112

Tuesday, February 10
Carmichael Community Center
801 S. Elm
Searcy, AR 72143

Wednesday, February 11
Arkansas State University-- Marked Tree
Student Center
33500 Highway 63 E
Marked Tree, AR 72365

Tuesday, February 17
Lake Point Conference Center --Event Center
61 Lake Point Lane
Russellville, AR 72802

Wednesday, February 18
Fort Smith Convention Center, Exhibit Hall A
55 7th St
Fort Smith, AR 72901

Thursday, February 19
University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton
Fine Arts Building Auditorium
1537 University Blvd.
Morrilton, AR 72110

If you can join us, or would like more details, please contact me at glen.hooks@sierraclub.org. You can also learn more about the Clean Line project at <http://www.plainsandeasterncleanline.com>

I hope to see you at the hearings--thank you for your membership and your support!