

To: Iowa Utilities Board:  
From: Jerry Goldsmith. Owner Goldsmith Farms

Cedar County Docket E-22137

Goldsmith Farms is a fourth generation family farm. The proposed RICL power line will cross almost one and a half miles of our property and will be less than ½ mile from our residence and will be the primary feature as we watch the sunrise from our kitchen table. I would like to divide my objection into two parts.

Part I. Affect on personal property and business:

As stated in the introduction the power line will be the prominent feature as we look to the east out of our family room/kitchen dining room. Maybe this doesn't seem like a big deal but we should note that this is forever and we should ask for whose benefit is my family being asked to sacrifice. In addition to the landscape pollution this power line will also have an economic impact. We currently use aircraft to apply fungicides, fertilizer, and seeds for cover crops. The easement being requested for our property will be somewhere around 30-35 acres. A rough estimate might suggest a reduction in production from those acres to be in a range of 10% – 25%. Also, a reminder that this easement is forever and who knows what future use of this property will be limited because of this power line. This power line will be A blight on this property forever and **who will benefit.**

Part II. Affect on Iowan:

I acknowledge that there are a lot of power lines in Iowa and many property owners have been asked to sign easements. With out exception the easements for these power lines benefit fellow Iowans. The RICL project is unique in that it will only benefit a handful Iowans who have an interest in wind energy. Every other Iowan will be negatively impacted because the unintended consequence of this project will result in higher energy cost for both homeowners and businesses. The expression used is that, “We export corn out of Iowa now it is time to export our wind energy. We all know that exporting corn raises the price of corn. So isn't it logical that exporting electricity will raise the price of electricity. The size of the proposed power line is 3500 MW the equivalent of the production from 5 “Duane Arnold” nuclear power plants. There isn't now, and given the fact that only 30% of the capacity of wind energy is ever available, there will never be enough wind energy to fill this power line. Where does the remaining electricity to fill this power line come from? It will come from the grid forcing local utilities to pay more to supply their customers. This will raise the price to every customer, every business, and raise the probability of brown outs as we struggle to keep enough electricity home during peak demand periods. **Landscape pollution is real.** Can you imagine an Iowa landscape when we finally reach our wind potential and the iron monsters begin to rust.

**Given the over all negative impact of this project to Iowa and Iowans,** I would strongly request that the IUB not grant RICL the power to streamline the schedule for their benefit.

**Given the over all negative impact of this project to Iowa and Iowans,** I would strongly request the denial of their request for a franchise.

**Given the over all negative impact of this project to Iowa and Iowans,** I would strongly request the IUB deny any request that seeks the use of eminent domain for this purpose. **Property rights matter.**

Thank You: