

## Publicity Items

### Banners • Yard Signs • Posters

Publicity helps to increase awareness and provide information about the proposed RICL high voltage transmission line project. The use of banners, yard signs, posters and other publicity items across the state is helpful as The Alliance continues important work to stop RICL. Contact The Alliance for more information on how to get these items for your own property or for a community event. Some items are available at no cost – other items can be ordered for pick up or will be delivered to you.

## News

News articles, letters to editors, guest articles and ads provide valuable information to landowners and community members.

Rock Island Clean Line continues to use paid radio, TV, and newsprint advertising to convey their message. The Alliance has and will continue to work primarily with editors in local, regional and statewide publications to provide factual information. Personal stories and letters are powerful. Contact us if you would like assistance in submitting a letter or article of your own.



*“After all is said and done if Rock Island Clean Lines is allowed the use of eminent domain for their project it could likely result in the largest unjustified taking of private property in the history of the state of Iowa.”*

**Ralph Watts**  
State Representative  
Republican  
District 19

## Who We Are

The Preservation of Rural Iowa Alliance is a 501 (c)6 nonprofit organization formed to assist landowners, tenants, families, businesses, and community members in stopping the proposed Rock Island Clean Line (RICL) high voltage transmission line in Iowa. The Alliance is opposed to the use of eminent domain by RICL for the proposed line.

The Alliance is governed by a volunteer board of directors meeting nearly every week and donating countless hours for all property owners and concerned citizens in communities across Iowa.

## Board of Directors

**Carolyn Sheridan**, President, Family Member  
**Steve Licht**, Vice President, Tenant  
**Paul Swanson**, Treasurer, Landowner, Family Member  
**Cindy Kassel**, Secretary, Landowner  
**Diane Darr**, Landowner  
**Jerry Crew**, Landowner  
**Kim Junker**, Landowner  
**Cindy Koenig**, Landowner  
**Eric Andersen**, Landowner  
**Dave Weber**, Landowner



## The Preservation of Rural Iowa Alliance

Established July 25, 2013

**Are you a property owner or concerned citizen?**

### Stop RICL

Help Stop Unnecessary Transmission Lines

### State of Iowa Motto

Our liberties we prize and our rights we will maintain

## Contact Us

712.262.5229

[www.iowastoprcl.com](http://www.iowastoprcl.com)

[iowastoprcl@gmail.com](mailto:iowastoprcl@gmail.com)

PO BOX 303

Ayrshire, Iowa 50515

## Health Impacts

The Alliance believes the evidence for potential adverse long term health effects is inconclusive and understands the concerns people express. Ongoing research of available information will continue by our organization. Visit our website or call for more information.

## Costs to Stop RICL

**The financial burden:** Since the formation of The Alliance the volunteer board of directors has planned for the financial burden of stopping RICL. Costs are directly related to the length of the fight and the need for legal consultation and expert witnesses at a public hearing. The strategy includes watchful waiting for RICL to file their petition for franchise with the Iowa Utilities Board. Once the petition has been filed this financial burden will fall squarely on the shoulders of landowners, businesses and other concerned citizens across the state.

### Examples of Ongoing Costs

Publicity  
Attorney Fees  
Expert Witnesses  
Website  
Mailings

**Projected Additional Costs = \$250,000 - 300,000**

\*All Board of Director time and many supplies are donated

*To be successful our strategic plan and critical objectives must include understanding the big picture and operating at a high level in several key areas."*

**Carolyn Sheridan, Board President**

## What You Can Do

With an estimated 1248 parcels of land the average cost per landowner to fight RICL is \$300. To date Alliance members have given that amount and in some cases much more. As of August 15, 2014 nearly \$100,500 has been raised. As we move forward with the expected Iowa Utilities Board process The Alliance will reach out for more support in the form of pledges and contributions. Please consider our requests seriously and do what you can to support this fight.

## Eminent Domain • Easements • Property Value • Objections

*The Alliance advocates on behalf of landowners, families, businesses and community members and is committed to providing individuals and communities across the state with resources necessary to protect private property rights of land owners.*

### Eminent Domain

Landowners, tenants, families, businesses and community members are opposed to the use of eminent domain to take private property, including prime agricultural land for economic gain. Ongoing publicity related to this important issue is necessary to assist all Iowans in understanding how this can impact them in the future.

### Easements

Low numbers of signed voluntary easements sends a strong message to the Iowa Utilities Board and directly impacts the viability of the proposed RICL project. The Preservation of Rural Iowa Alliance strongly encourages landowners to fully understand easement agreements and to contact their attorney to review the agreement. Several red flags have been identified in the easement agreements including the damage clause, negligence clause, actual easement area, abandonment clause and ability to access other areas of property during construction or maintenance.

Evidence suggests that landowners will receive more compensation if they wait for condemnation and landowners have greater protection under Iowa's eminent domain statute.



### Property Value

Ongoing research indicates there is a measurable effect on land values with high voltage transmission lines. That effect ranges from a loss of 10% to 30% of the overall property value which significantly impacts the long term value of all types of property and businesses.

The Electrical Transmission Line Franchise Process includes the use of eminent domain to take private property. RICL intends to use this process for their project.

### Objections

**Anyone** can file a formal objection with the Iowa Utilities Board. The Iowa Utilities Board and RICL closely monitor not only the number of objections but also how many landowners have filed objections. If you are opposed to RICL, consider filing your personal objection. The Alliance can assist with obtaining the needed information.

**Our success is directly related to a large group of people with a common goal.**



## Why The Preservation of Rural Iowa Alliance Work is Important

The Alliance strategy includes representation of all landowners at the Iowa Utilities Board Public Hearing. Ongoing work in several key areas includes but is not limited to:

**FERC:** Research of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission rulings and their impact on this project.

**Legislation:** Understanding existing eminent domain laws and working with legislators to advocate for needed change.

**Misconceptions:** Constant review and response to news media to address misconceptions and inaccuracies.

**Cost Allocation:** Understanding aspects of cost allocation and how it may become a reality if this project is approved.

**Illinois:** Communication with Illinois leaders and monitoring the Illinois Commerce Commission proceedings.

**State Agricultural Organizations:** Ongoing work with various organizations including commodity groups and Farm Bureau.