

## Objection Process and Timelines

It is important to understand your right to file an objection and the importance of having as many objections as possible filed within the appropriate timeframe. The Preservation of Rural Iowa Alliance has hired two attorneys to present a "large group objection" on behalf of landowners, tenants, families and others impacted in Iowa. It is critical that you also file a personal objection. Information is available on our website on how to file this objection including the objection form and a sample objection form. You may file your objection at any time after receiving your certified letter with the Informational Meeting notice (#1 below) but you MUST file after the publication of the public hearing notice (see #10 below).

Contact The Preservation of Iowa Alliance for more information, help in filing your objection and information on how to join The Preservation of Rural Iowa Alliance.

1. **Informational Meeting notices are mailed to *potentially* affected landowners.** This has been done for all counties including Obrien County which will have a 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting for the revised route)
2. **Informational Meeting notice is published in a newspaper.** This has been done for all 16 counties
3. **Informational Meeting is held.** These will be completed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of December with the final meeting in eastern Iowa in Scott County on December 5<sup>th</sup> and a repeat Informational meeting in Obrien County on December 13<sup>th</sup> since the route has changed.

**Items 4-11 below will occur after the Informational meetings are completed.**

4. **After all Informational meetings have been held there is a minimum 30 day waiting period, this waiting period could be up to two years}**
5. **After the 30 day waiting period a Petition is filed by Rock Island Clean Line to Iowa Utilities Board for franchise status.**
6. **The Petition is reviewed by Iowa Utilities Board staff.**
7. **Revisions/corrections to the petition are filed and the review process is repeated until the petition is sufficiently in order. This process can continue for an unspecified time frame while the petitioner (RICL) seeks to obtain voluntary easements. Objections can also be filed during this time frame.**
8. **A public hearing date is set and a notice is prepared (by the Iowa Utilities Board).**
9. **The notice is published (by the petitioner – *Rock Island Clean Line*) in a newspaper for two consecutive weeks.**
10. **Objections by landowners/tenants/community members must be filed within 20 days after the date of last publication of *this* notice. (i.e. not the informational meeting notice in #2 above)**
11. **If there are Objections to the petition by the landowners/tenants, community members a public hearing must be held. At the public hearing the Iowa Utilities Board will review motions from all parties and will hear testimony from all parties including RICL and those opposing the Rock Island Clean Line project.**