

Other Correspondence Received in Response to the May 7, 2007  
Federal Register Notice on the  
Draft National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor  
Designations

**Other Correspondence: Batch 4**

## The Secretary

OE

**From:** John Balasko [jbalasko@wvu.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 26, 2007 5:13 PM  
**To:** Kolevar, Kevin  
**Cc:** The Secretary; Meyer, David; Morton, Mary; Agrawal, Poonum; Governor@WVGov.org; jward@WVGov.org  
**Subject:** Draft NIETC Corridors

2007 JUN 27 A 9:43

June 26, 2007

Director Kevin M. Kolevar  
Office of Electricity Delivery & Energy Reliability U.S. Department of Energy 1000  
Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20585

Dear Dr. Kolevar:

In view of the error in the publication of West Virginia Counties within the draft mid-Atlantic National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor in the Federal Register on May 7 and the subsequent correction on June 7, I am respectfully requesting that the Department of Energy extend the public comment period in regards to the draft mid-Atlantic National Corridor Designation for a period of 60 days. Citizens in Kanawha, Mason, and Putnam Counties, 15% of the states population, have not received clear and timely notice of their inclusion within an NIETC.

We became aware of a correction to the Federal Register after one of the West Virginia citizens questioned the map presented by Dr. David Meyer at the Pittsburgh public hearing on June 13. We were informed that an error had been corrected. An abstract errata notice in the Federal Register is inadequate. To add to the confusion, Boone County, West Virginia is also included in Figure VIII-21 at 72 FR 25908. Is Boone County included within the draft national corridor as well?

I am including the following paragraph from the Federal Register for your reference:

"SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) published notice of two draft National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors (National Corridors) under section 216 of the Federal Power Act in 72 FR 25838 on May 7, 2007. With regard to the draft Mid-Atlantic Area National Corridor (Docket No. 2007-OE-01), DOE is correcting an error in the text of the May 7, 2007 notice. There are six counties that were correctly included in the map of the draft Mid-Atlantic Area National Corridor, displayed in Figure VIII-21 at 72 FR 25908, but that were inadvertently omitted from the narrative description of the draft Corridor at 72 FR 25909. The six counties that should have been included in the list at 72 FR 25908 are: Monroe County, OH; Carbon County, PA; Cumberland County, PA; Kanawha County, WV; Mason County, WV; and Putnam County, WV. Further, DOE will be holding four additional public meetings on the draft National Corridors."

Your urgent consideration of this matter is respectfully requested.

Sincerely,

John A. Balasko  
734 Halleck Road  
Fairmont, WV 26554  
304-296-0121

cc. The Honorable Samuel Bodman, Secretary of Energy  
The Honorable Joe Manchin III, Governor of West Virginia  
Mary Morton, DOE's Office of General Counsel

David Meyer, Office of Electricity Delivery & Energy Reliability  
Poonum Agrawal, DOE's Research and Development Division  
Joseph M. Ward, Deputy General Counsel, West Virginia State Capitol

May 14, 2007

The Honorable Samuel W. Bodman  
Secretary of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20585-0001

Dear Secretary Bodman:

Thank you for providing this opportunity to comment on the designation of draft National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors (NIETC). I have over 30 years experience as a senior professional in the energy industry with particular focus on electric power issues. My professional opinion is that this designation of corridors is premature and that DOE is missing a significant opportunity to enhance the nation's energy infrastructure and develop a coherent approach to meeting the needs identified in your 2006 Congestion Report.

The congestion identified in your report is driven by the desire to serve coastal markets with low-cost coal fired generation at some distance from those markets. As your 2006 report points out, the efforts to utilize these coal plants is occasionally thwarted by transmission bottlenecks, creating congestion costs and some potential overloads. Reducing those bottlenecks with additional transmission will enable major shifts of electricity production to those coal plants. This change in generation will, however, have profound impact on the quantity and location of emissions, the production of greenhouse gases, patterns of fuel usage, physical security and system vulnerability and on pricing signals to markets. No studies have yet properly evaluated these impacts and issues.

The proposed corridors are clearly designed to enable those transfers of power to coastal markets. Designation of these corridors will, thus, have a significant impact on environmental factors well beyond those of the individual lines themselves on the lands they cross. A careful evaluation of the potential costs and impacts of the alteration in power flows, security, emissions, and fuel use patterns versus the benefits to consumers and taxpayers seems appropriate and required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and in response to concerns about national security as well.

Further, designation of corridors in and of itself provides a profound advantage to one solution to those congestion issues, ie new transmission, and a disadvantage to all

other potential solutions including demand response programs, local peaking or intermediate generation, conservation and efficiency programs and even technological upgrades to the existing network. Major power industry leaders from the Edison Electric Institute (EEI) and the National Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) among others have been calling for a balanced program of all alternatives as the best way to address growth needs. These leaders have also indicated that various demand response programs should be our initial approach, since they can be implemented very quickly and allow time for technological approaches to develop further so alternative solutions, including transmission, can be implemented more effectively at a less cost to the environment. I agree with this position.

The DOE, working with industry and other partners, should consider following such industry guidance to implement a rapid program of demand side efficiency, and then examine the trade-offs among the various remaining alternatives and develop a coherent program where transmission plays its appropriate role.

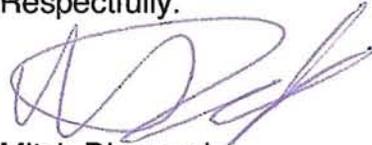
Additionally, I was disappointed to see no provision in your draft designation for protection or avoidance of sensitive and historic lands within the corridors. These sensitive and historic areas have been established via local, state and federal efforts and represent important citizen efforts and significant government and private investments to preserve what is valuable to the nation. The designation of corridors, with the potential for federal eminent domain, has an immediate impact on the value of such protections and on the investment made by both government and citizens to those protected or sensitive properties. Protection of such lands, and evaluation of the impact of corridor designation on those protected or sensitive lands would seem appropriate and good policy and required by NEPA.

In summary, the DOE has the opportunity to develop an effective program of remedies to the issues identified in your 2006 Congestion Study. These programs, ideally would include a variety of supply and demand side solutions, would utilize the best available technologies and would be based on a careful evaluation of impacts on customer costs, system reliability and safety, fuel use patterns, national security, environmental impacts and effects on sensitive and historic lands and waters. The corridors resulting from such an effort, especially if conducted with significant input from a variety of stakeholders would be better accepted and serve the nation's needs better than the current proposal. A program of conservation and demand reduction in critical areas can reduce immediate pressures on the system and would have the additional benefit of increased system efficiency and reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. Within the time created by such a program, appropriate studies can be conducted and a sensible balanced long term program can be implemented.

The designation of corridors without any such study and demand side program is premature and ill advised and, worst of all, misses a great opportunity for responsible and effective government policy.

I would be delighted to meet with you to discuss any of these issues further.

Respectfully,



Mitch Diamond  
Retired Lead Vice President  
Booz Allen & Hamilton  
World-Wide Energy Practice

cc: Senator John Warner  
Senator James Webb  
Congressman Frank Wolf  
Governor Tim Kaine  
Assistant Secretary Kevin Kolevar

## Concerned Citizens of Prince William County, Virginia

P.O. Box 382  
Haymarket, VA 20168

May 21, 2007

The Honorable Samuel W. Bodman  
Secretary of Energy  
United States Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Ave., S.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20585

Re: Neglect of Responsibility / NIETC Draft

Dear Secretary Bodman:

In prematurely announcing the draft designation of the NIETC corridors, the DOE has failed the citizens of this country, by disregarding the DOE's "mission" responsibilities declared on its website and not performing its due diligence.

The DOE has failed the citizens of this country and is demonstrating its irresponsibility:

1. By **not** observing and complying with the regulatory programs authorized by the Clean Air Act as amended and implementation of clean energy technologies.
2. By **not** preserving this country's cultural and natural resources for which the DOE claims it recognizes its stewardship.
3. By **not** first committing to energy conservation and the implementation of energy efficient policies and technologies such as those recognized by FERQ to be significant.
4. By **not** pursuing the obvious need for an Environmental Impact Statement in advance of its NIETC decision that will have a very clear impact on the environment.
5. By **not** respecting environmental policies in compliance with the legal authority of this country – the Supreme Court.
6. By **not** first exhausting all possible alternatives to allow a windfall to private companies in permitting the seizure of private property of thousands of private citizens and putting others under a cloud.

Although it is true that the DOE's responsibility is to provide for reliable energy, this should **only** occur after observance of such responsibilities and certainly not at their expense. Regrettably the DOE has failed to seriously consider these responsibilities in its hurry to satisfy the economic appetite of special interest groups and private industry, especially insofar as the facts are related to applications concerning Dominion Virginia Power.

Moreover, DOE's mandate under the Energy Policy Act of 2005, is to approve transmission lines within designated corridors **only** if there is deemed **sufficient need**. To determine if there is sufficient need, not only should DOE exhaust all alternative avenues, it should **first** require, (no demand), that the generator and transmission companies like Dominion Virginia Power first maximize conservation and efficiency alternatives, especially alternatives like demand response. Only then there should be a determination of sufficient need.

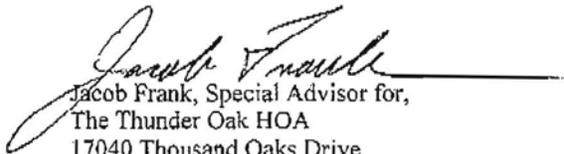
Clearly, FERQ has unequivocally stated that demand response is an important alternative. Yet Dominion Power has not implemented this alternative conservation resource, and has, in reality, ignored this

alternative to the detriment of the citizens of Virginia and surrounding states. What special privilege does Dominion Virginia Power have, for failing to use this critical resource, which the DOE has determined to reward them with special Eminent Domain Powers?

The right of enjoyment to private property is a fundamental right of the citizens of this country. The arbitrary grant of this right by the DOE to private companies without first addressing the responsibilities listed above is tantamount to Eminent Domain abuse and should be avoided by the DOE.

I urge the DOE to reconsider its position and withdraw its draft proposal to set up the NIETC corridors until it has first met its responsibilities under its charter.

Respectfully submitted,



Jacob Frank, Special Advisor for,  
The Thunder Oak HOA  
17040 Thousand Oaks Drive  
Haymarket, VA 20169

cc: The Honorable Timothy Kaine, Governor, Commonwealth of Virginia  
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker, US House of Representatives  
The Honorable Dirk Kempthorne, Secretary Designate, Department of the Interior  
The Honorable John Warner, Senior Senator, Commonwealth of Virginia, US Senate  
The Honorable James Webb, Junior Senator, Commonwealth of Virginia, US Senate  
The Honorable Jeff Bingaman, Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, US Senate  
The Honorable Barbara Boxer, Chairwoman, Committee on Environment and Public Works, US Senate  
The Honorable Pete Domenici, Ranking Minority Member, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, US Senate  
The Honorable James M. Inhofe, Ranking Minority Member, Committee on Environment and Public Works, US Senate  
The Honorable Lamar Alexander, Member, Committee on Environment and Public Works, US Senate  
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, Member, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, US Senate  
The Honorable Thomas M. Davis, III, Representative, 11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, Commonwealth of Virginia, US House of Representatives  
The Honorable Frank R. Wolfe, Representative, 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, Commonwealth of Virginia, US House of Representatives  
The Honorable James P. Moran, Representative, 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, Commonwealth of Virginia, US House of Representatives  
The Honorable John Dingell, Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce, US House of Representatives  
The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Minority Member, Committee on Energy and Commerce, US House of Representatives  
The Honorable Nick J. Rahall, II, Chairman, Committee on Resources, US House of Representatives  
The Honorable Don Young, Ranking Minority Member, Committee on Resources, US House of Representatives  
The Honorable Stephen L. Johnson, Administrator, US Environmental Protection Agency  
The Honorable Charles J. Colgan, Senator, 29<sup>th</sup> District, Virginia State Senate  
The Honorable Robert G. Marshall, Delegate, 13<sup>th</sup> District, Virginia House of Delegates

May 23, 2007

Secretary Samuel Bodman  
United States Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20585  
FAX (202) 586-4403

Re: Proposed NIETC Designation for New York State

Dear Secretary Bodman:

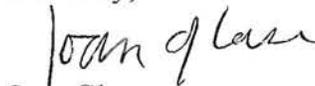
As a resident of New York, I am outraged to learn that the United States Department of Energy has proposed to designate almost the entire state of New York as a "National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor." As I understand it, under EPACT 2005, this designation would permit special treatment to investors and companies that seek to build transmission facilities within the corridor.

I firmly believe that this designation would be a grave error on the part of the Department of Energy. First, the designated corridor covers virtually the entire state. Since a NIETC designation is supposed to signify those specific areas most subject to electric transmission congestion costs, it does not appear that the DOE has really examined which exact area of New York State, if any, should be designated a corridor. Second, in making this proposal, the DOE has ignored stated goals of conservation, promotion of environmentally sound energy alternatives, and implementation of other demand side measures. The DOE's proposed designation, if approved, will only ensure more outdated, inefficient and environmentally damaging energy sources. Finally, a NIETC designation threatens to override the full and fair opportunity that transmission companies – and the citizens of New York – already have before New York State sitting agencies.

Case in point; the NYRI running power lines through Upstate NY's Delaware, Sullivan and Orange Counties. The NYRI's aim is not to bring electricity to New York City. The NYRI's goal is to make as much money as possible by using their rights to the railroad tracks that run along the scenic Delaware River. The power lines just happen to be a mode in which we they choose to do that. If their aim was solely to get power to NYC, then they would do that in the most efficient way with the least amount of impact, and they would find another route. But as I said, that is not their main objective. If they are permitted to run their lines along either route that they have proposed, they will remove thousands of people from their homes. They will scar the beautiful upstate landscape with their towering eyesores. They will erect those towers in towns along the Delaware River that rely on the river for their economy. The Delaware River, in its majestic beauty is a destination for naturalists, boaters, swimmers, fisherman and tourists. Without it, many towns would fail to exist. Running gigantic power lines along its pristine shores will be the kiss of death to this area.

I hope that you will stand by the DOE's statement that the "Federal government is *not* dictating *how* the States, regions, transmission providers or electric utilities should meet their energy challenges." The citizens of New York will hold you to your promise.

Sincerely,



Joan Glase

76 Cross Road, Cochection, NY 12726

May 11, 2007

Mr. Bodman,

Quoted from the Utica Observer Dispatch:

Democracy is about the right of the people to be heard, to question the actions of a government whose role is to serve the public, NOT special interests. The U.S. Energy Department has created the perception it is serving only the deep-pocketed backers of the NYRI plan. What it really needs to do is develop the courage to face the people.

Schedule the hearing in the Utica, Norwich, Oneonta and Delaware River Valley area, that is if you actually have the courage.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas Jenkins', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Thomas Jenkins  
126 Seward Ave  
Utica, NY 13502

May 4, 2007

Secretary Samuel Bodman  
United States Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20585  
FAX (202) 586-4403

Re: Proposed NIETC Designation for New York State

Dear Secretary Bodman:

As a resident of New York, I was dismayed to learn that the United States Department of Energy has proposed to designate almost the entire state of New York as a "National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor." As I understand it, under EPACT 2005, this designation would permit special treatment to investors and companies that seek to build transmission facilities within the corridor.

I firmly believe that this designation would be a grave error on the part of the Department of Energy. First, the designated corridor covers virtually the entire state. Since a NIETC designation is supposed to signify those specific areas most subject to electric transmission congestion costs, it does not appear that the DOE has really examined which exact area of New York State, if any, should be designated a corridor. Second, in making this proposal, the DOE has ignored stated goals of conservation, promotion of environmentally sound energy alternatives, and implementation of other demand side measures. The DOE's proposed designation, if approved, will only ensure more outdated, inefficient and environmentally damaging energy sources. Finally, a NIETC designation threatens to override the full and fair opportunity that transmission companies – and the citizens of New York – already have before New York State sitting agencies.

We hope that you will stand by the DOE's statement that the "Federal government is *not* dictating *how* the States, regions, transmission providers or electric utilities should meet their energy challenges." The citizens of New York will hold you to your promise.

In closing, I am including a press release from the Sierra Club that amplifies and expands on my concerns regarding the use of NIETC designations and suggest that we conserve and fix the presently occurring inefficiencies in our current production facilities. More power lines attached to poorly performing, ecological damaging existing facilities are not a solution to the problem, and it only exacerbates the problem and creates future problems.

Sincerely,



Leon Lemmons  
223 County Route 61  
Westbrookville, NY 12785-0122  
845-754-7839

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 3 May 2007  
Contact: Josh Dorner, 202.675.2384

Sierra Club Joins Bipartisan Group of Congressmen In  
Opposing  
Transmission Line Corridors Bipartisan Legislation  
Introduced to  
Repeal

Section 1221 of EPACT 2005

Today Sierra Club Executive Director Carl Pope appeared with Reps. Maurice Hinchey (D-NY), Frank Wolf (R-VA), Mike Arcuri (D-NY), John Hall (D-NY), and Chris Carney (D-PA), the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and numerous other environmental and historic preservation groups to speak out against the transmission line corridors designated last week by the Department of Energy (DOE) under the auspices of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. Reps. Wolf and Hinchey have introduced bipartisan bills to repeal section 1221 of the law, which grants DOE and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) nearly limitless powers of eminent domain and exempts them from key environmental laws in designating so-called "National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors."

Statement of Carl Pope

"There were many, many reasons why the Sierra Club opposed the Energy Policy Act of 2005, but the sweeping powers granted to the DOE and FERC to designate "National Interest Electric Transmissions Corridors" were near the top of the list. Last week the DOE showed just how dangerous this nearly limitless authority is when, under intense pressure from the energy industry, it proposed the first two such corridors. They make a mockery of the word "corridor," as they include the entirety of the states of Delaware, Maryland, and New Jersey, along with substantial portions of Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, Nevada, Arizona, and southern California. At this rate, the entire country could soon be deemed an essential electric transmission corridor.

"This provision usurps the right of state and local governments to deny access to certain lands and areas based on local interests and values.

In addition, it runs roughshod over laws meant to protect environmentally and historically sensitive areas such as Civil War battlefields from development. It also trumps the rights of property owners in the corridors, allowing for their lands to be seized via eminent domain and transferred to private corporations. Above

all, backers of this provision believe that energy companies should be allowed to construct power lines and pipelines anywhere they see fit in order to increase their own profits, regardless of what's in the public interest.

"In the Northeast, new transmission lines would be used to ship power into the region produced from dirty, outdated coal-fired power plants in Appalachia and elsewhere. This undermines the important efforts of

the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, which is spurring new and innovative developments in the Northeast to increase clean energy supplies and combat global warming. It would also subject communities outside the region to the pollution, including toxic mercury, from power plants that would be supplying power to cities hundreds of miles away.

"Instead of forcing new transmission lines on communities across the country, we can eliminate the need for them by increasing the energy efficiency of our schools, homes, factories, offices, and the appliances and electronics we use each day. And by modernizing our badly outdated electrical grid, we can make that sure more of the energy we already produce actually makes it to those homes, offices and factories.

I am pleased that a bipartisan group in the House has introduced legislation to repeal this authority. This provision--never debated on the floor--tramples on our public lands, historically sensitive areas, private property rights, and the constitutional authority of states. We look forward to working with the Congress to right this wrong as quickly as possible."

2007 MAR 1 3:24

Mr. Kevin Kolevar, Director  
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20585  
Via Facsimile 202-586-4403

May 2, 2007

Dear Mr. Kolevar:

I am writing with regard to the Department of Energy's (DOE) draft National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor (NIETC) designation announcement on April 26.

My county is within DOE's proposed Mid-Atlantic Area National Corridor, where, as you know, New York Regional Interconnection (NYRI), a private company, is hoping to build a 190-mile high-voltage direct-current electric transmission line from Oneida County, NY, to Orange County, NY.

Given that NYRI's project has been unanimously opposed by citizens' groups; local, county and state officials; businesses; agricultural, and environmental, historic and cultural organizations in Upstate New York, I am particularly alarmed at the prospect that under the proposed NIETC designation, New York State's authority to review and permit NYRI's proposal could be preempted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission after one year of this designation or in the event that New York State denies the applicant a permit.

I understand that as part of the 60-day public comment period, DOE will hold three public meetings (New York City, NY; Arlington, VA; and San Diego, CA) to examine each draft corridor designation. I find it disingenuous that DOE would select only the abovementioned sites for public meetings. Restricting the public meeting to New York City will require members of my community to travel up to five hours to voice our concerns, which will make it impossible for many of us to participate, particularly during the middle of the week.

Even more troubling is the fact that all three public meetings are to be held in cities that will merely receive the added power these projects will bring. They are not the places in which the projects will be built, the places that will be devastated by them and in which opposition is unanimous. Obviously, your choice of locations will serve to heavily favor one side of this very critical public debate.

**I respectfully request that DOE hold at least one additional public meeting on the proposed NIETCs within the 60-day public comment period and that that meeting be held in the place the power lines will be built--upstate New York.**

I am a stakeholder in this process and deserve to be given fair opportunity to convey my opinions in this matter.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this request.

Sincerely,

*Samanthi Martinez*  
Samanthi Martinez  
20 West Kendrick Ave  
Hamilton, NY 13346

Mr. Kolevar -  
we are not living in an  
electricity mine - this is our  
home, our family's home, and we  
must be respected enough to merit  
a hearing in our area! How could  
anyone in VA or CA care about what  
happens to us? Please reconsider!

To: Honorable  
SAMUEL BODMAN  
Secretary of US Dept of Energy  
1000 Independence Ave S.W.  
Washington, DC 20585

Date: 5/3/07

Name MARTHA MCCARTY  
Address 830 HALLECK RD  
MORGANTOWN, WV 26508  
Phone 304 291-2945

Sir: For your information -

I protest the Trans-Allegheny Interstate line that is before WV PSC (Case No. 07-058-E-CN) because of several different detrimental problems that it will bring to West Virginia. I have sent this protest to Ms. Squire and a copy to our Consumer Advocate, Billy Jack Gregg. I request your assistance to stop this unpopular expansion through a state that has the rustic beauty and population that has made this a home for retirement. Some of our farms and homes are more than 100 years old and future generations will have a quiet safe haven to raise their families.

First of all West Virginia has been the site for rape of the region for outside interest too long, herbicides used to clear the right of way may affect gardens and under ground water supplies, the health of our families may be compromised, elderly people who live on farms that have been in families for years may have to move, property values will deteriorate, electric bills will increase with no benefit to us which outweigh Allegheny Energy's desire to satisfy the need for energy in other parts of the country. We like our quiet rural lifestyle and do not want the noisy transmission line in our neighborhood. The wild life, forest and other environmental problems will follow the course of this line being established in West Virginia.

Signed: Martha McCarty

Cc: List attached N/A

Legally Owned Tender Land, WV

IN GOD WE TRUST

All debts paid,  
Public and Private.

NO OBLIGATION

NON-NEGOTIABLE

The Flanagan Farm, WV



Priceless

Priceless



Priceless

Priceless



Mr. Kevin Kolevar, Director  
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20585  
Via Facsimile 202-586-4403

May 2, 2007

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Given that NYRI's project has been unanimously opposed by citizens' groups; local, county and state officials; businesses; agricultural, and environmental, historic and cultural organizations in Upstate New York, I am particularly alarmed at the prospect that under the proposed NIETC designation, New York State's authority to review and permit NYRI's proposal could be preempted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission after one year of this designation or in the event that New York State denies the applicant a permit.

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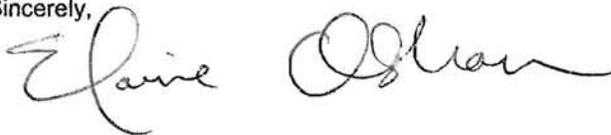
Even more troubling is the fact that all three public meetings are to be held in cities that will merely receive the added power these projects will bring. They are not the places in which the projects will be built, the places that will be devastated by them and in which opposition is unanimous. Obviously, your choice of locations will serve to heavily favor one side of this very critical public debate.

**I respectfully request that DOE hold at least one additional public meeting on the proposed NIETCs within the 60-day public comment period and that that meeting be held in the place the power lines will be built--upstate New York.**

I am a stakeholder in this process and deserve to be given fair opportunity to convey my opinions in this matter.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this request.

Sincerely,



Elaine Olshan  
PO Box 222  
6 East Starlight Drive  
Smallwood, NY 12778

Please! - Save our scenic recreation  
area from these unsightly  
towers! (50 year resident)

SayNo2NYRI  
P O Box 661  
Otisville, NY 10963

May 30, 2007

Samuel Bodman, Secretary  
United States Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, S. W.  
Washington, DC 20585

Re: Proposed NIETC Designation for New York State

Dear Secretary Bodman,

Enclosed are letters addressed to you as Secretary of the Department of Energy

The United States Department of Energy has proposed to designate almost the entire state of New York as a "National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor." Under EPACT 2005, this designation would permit special treatment to investors and companies that seek to build transmission facilities within the corridor.

We believe the Energy Policy Act of 2005 is seriously flawed. Establishing corridors encourages the building of long transmission lines and discourages the building of local generating facilities. The Act is not a solution to congestion problems. If more long transmission lines were built, the problem may actually worsen and reliability may diminish.

In New York, the Public Service Commission has been reviewing an application by a group of foreign investors calling themselves New York Regional Interconnect. NYRI wants to build a 190-mile transmission line with an NIETC designation. NYRI's proposed route is **entirely within** New York, yet NYRI has applied to FERC to build this line under the EPACT 2005. Because EPACT 2005 specifies **interstate** proposals, building this transmission line would violate the U. S. Constitution by usurping the State's power to handle such matters.

Yours truly,



Lee Runnalls, volunteer  
SayNo2NYRI

OE

## The Secretary

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**From:** doe.webmaster@hq.doe.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 03, 2007 5:39 PM  
**To:** The Secretary  
**Subject:** Feedback from www.energy.gov Web Site

2007 JUL -5 A 9:50

Topic: Energy Sources

Affiliation: General Public

Subject: New York Regional Interconnect (NYRI)

Do you want a reply? yes

If yes, how should we respond? email

E-mail address: enziories@aol.com

Mailing address, line 1:

Mailing address, line 2:

Mailing address, line 3:

Fax number:

Message: PLEASE, do not issue permission for NYRI to install major power lines through local upstate New York communities without thorough investigation of how these power lines would affect the urban and rural communities they shall pass through.

This power source is designed to help with downstate New York power issues. I am not against helping our neighbors, however, I think other options should be investigated before permission is given to NYRI. I have been told a less expensive, and as efficient, method is available via an underground system. It has also been suggested that an above ground line follow the NY State Thruway. These are options that need to be studied before any decision is made.

It is my hope that you will not succumb to a plan by a Canadian company without fully considering the needs of the residents of New York State first...wherever they may live.

Thank you for your consideration. This is an extremely important issue.

Sincerely,  
Evelyn Tierno