

Fax

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Pages: 2, including cover sheet

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Urgent For Review Please Comment Please Reply

• Comments:

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November 5, 2007

Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
OE-20
US Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue
Washington, DC 20585

To whom it may concern:

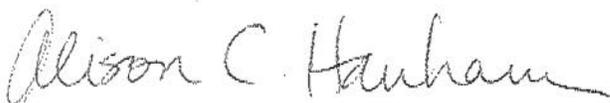
I request a rehearing of the proposed Mid-Atlantic NRETC Docket No. 2007-OE-01.

I am extremely concerned that the Department of Energy was only going through the motions and did not take seriously the testimony of hundreds of people who went on the record as opposing the proposed Mid-Atlantic Area National Corridor.

I believe the Department of Energy's proposal is premature, inadequate, and short-sighted. The impact this proposal will have on our communities and the people who live in them will be extremely negative. As I mentioned in my earlier testimony, this proposal is completely biased in that it focuses almost entirely on the expansion of transmission capacity from large coal-fired power plants in West Virginia, Ohio, and western Pennsylvania, miles away from the critical congestion areas on the east coast. It seems clear that the DOE was in too much of a rush as the corridor proposal lacks energy policy that would mandate energy solutions which promote equity, sustainability, and environmental responsibility.

The proposed corridors will promote projects such as Allegheny Energy's TrAIL Project to construct a high voltage, 500 kV transmission line from western Pennsylvania to Virginia. While extremely profitable for the for-profit utility industry, such projects will have many, significant negative impacts on the communities and residents in the path of these transmission lines. While the utility corporations are raking in the profits the communities and the people in them will be dealing with increased illness from exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMFs) and toxic, carcinogenic herbicides; reduced tax base due to plummeting property values; loss of air quality due to the construction of additional coal-fired power plants; loss of wetlands and agricultural land; the permanent scarring of some of the most beautiful, pristine, historic and protected landscapes in the nation; and the threat to future economic development. The burden of these negative impacts will be disproportionately distributed on the communities and property owners along the path of these transmission lines so that others may gain. This is not equitable, nor does it promote sustainability.

For these reasons and many more, we need a rehearing and more public discussion on actual energy demand and how to meet it.



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