

Laurie Nicholl

189 Hoge Summit Road
Eighty Four, PA 15330
(724) 225-3202 phone

FAX

To: Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, OE-20 **Fax:** (202) 586-8008

From: Laurie Nicholl **Date:** November 5, 2007

Re: Docket No. 2007-OE-01 **Pages:** 5 including cover

CC:

Urgent For Review Please Comment Please Reply Please Recycle

Message:

Please see the following Application for Rehearing of the Department of Energy's designation of the Mid-Atlantic Area National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor.

Thank you,
Laurie Nicholl

Laurie Nicholl189 Hoge Summit Road
Eighty Four, PA 15330
(724) 225-3202 phone

November 5, 2007

Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, OE-20
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20585

Attn: Docket No. 2007-OE-01

Dear Sir:

The announcement by the Department of Energy (DOE) that the draft Mid-Atlantic Area National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor and the Southwest Area National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor were no longer draft corridors, but approved, was stunning to say the least. **The numerous residents, elected officials and public servants who voiced their concerns during public hearings were completely ignored.** The huge Mid-Atlantic Corridor remained the same, and the DOE's maps make it clear that rural Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Virginia are being sacrificed for the benefit of for-profit power companies and the East Coast.

I am applying for rehearing of the DOE's designation of the Mid-Atlantic Area National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor. I am a party to the proceeding in this docket, as I filed comments marked "Attn: Docket 2007-OE-01" electronically at <http://nietc.anl.gov> on or before July 6, 2007. Please consider the following information in addition to my initial comments, which are attached.

In the DOE's press release, it states: "The boundaries of the National Corridors extend beyond the immediate areas experiencing electric transmission congestion and also **include areas of the country with a wide range of potential sources of electricity generation.**" **In rural Pennsylvania and West Virginia, there is only one source of electricity generation—cheap, dirty, polluting coal.** I am disappointed that publicly, federal government officials say that they're serious about addressing climate change and global warming, only to allow a corridor that will undoubtedly ramp up additional coal-fired power plants in Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

Residents of Washington and Greene counties, Pennsylvania, (as well as residents in West Virginia and Virginia) have already seen to what lengths greed has driven our for-profit power companies. **We are already experiencing the empowerment they feel with the federal**

Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, OE-20
November 5, 2007
Page 2

government's backstop authority. I beg you to read the testimony provided to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission during the past two months, when Public Input Hearings were held in our communities. You will read of repeated violations of residents' privacy and security by Allegheny Energy/Allegheny Power/TrAILCo. One psychologist explained how residents are exhibiting the same emotions, stress and behaviors as people who are taken hostage.

Allegheny Energy/Allegheny Power/TrAILCo has invaded our communities, going where they want, when they want. When you make it clear that they are not welcome and are trespassing, they simply sneak back on your land when you are not home. They have been caught in lie upon lie, bullying people to sign agreements and threatening people when they won't. I cannot believe that this behavior is tolerated in the United States in 2007. It seems as though no one has the ability to stop this company from their unimaginable attacks.

While I realize the NIETCs don't rubber-stamp electric transmission projects, many residents, elected officials and public servants in Pennsylvania believe that the federal government has gone too far in taking rights away from residents, and local and state governments with these designations. Please grant a rehearing to help protect the citizens of Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Virginia. Residents' lives, livelihoods and property are depending on it.

Sincerely,

Laurie Nicholl

Laurie Nicholl

Sullivan, Robert G.

From: NIETCwebmaster@anl.gov
Sent: Thursday, July 05, 2007 8:33 PM
To: NIETCwebmaster@anl.gov
Subject: Receipt: NIETC and Congestion Study Comment 81096

Thank you for your comment, Laurie Nicholl.

Your comment has been successfully received and entered into the comment tracking system. Please note that there is no need to send a duplicate set of comments via mail or other means.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is 81096. Once the comment document has been published, please refer to the comment tracking number to locate the response.

Comment Date: July 5, 2007 08:33:02PM CDT

NIETC and Congestion Study
Comment: 81096

First Name: Laurie
Last Name: Nicholl
Address: 189 Hoge Summit Road
City: Eighty Four
State: PA
Zip: 15330
Country: USA
Email: laurie@nichollbrandt.com
Corridor(s) for Comment: Mid-Atlantic Area National Corridor

Comment Submitted:

My previous experience with governmental entities has been that projects develop at a snail's pace. But the NIETC designations are coming at citizens like a freight train, rolling over local and state checks and balances that usually make a democracy work.

State lawmakers enacted legislation asking federal lawmakers to repeal the portion of the Energy Act that gave this unprecedented power to the federal government—and ultimately to for-profit power companies. But the freight train keeps moving forward.

Experts have asked why alternatives haven't been fully explored, like conservation, energy efficiency and demand-side management. But the freight train keeps moving forward.

States without congestion problems are being sacrificed for the benefit of other states, in order for cheap coal energy to be carried in, rather than having the cities and states with need generate the power near where it is needed. But the freight train keeps moving forward.

Mainstream scientists agree that carbon emissions are a chief culprit in spewing greenhouse gases into the air, worsening global warming. But the freight train keeps moving forward.

Historical, cultural and environmental treasures are standing in the path of the lines. But other than federal interests, these treasures are in jeopardy, to be lost forever. But the freight train keeps moving forward.

Children's health is being sacrificed with a wave of the hand and a quick "Those studies aren't conclusive." And even if our children don't develop childhood leukemia, the world we are leaving them is heading closer and closer to ruin, with global warming threatening their very existence. But the freight train keeps moving forward.

Let's put the brakes on these destructive designations until every alternative has been explored. Otherwise, I fear we are sending our country screaming off the tracks.

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at:
NIETCwebmaster@anl.gov or call the NIETC and Congestion Study Webmaster at (630)252-6182.