

October 8, 2008

The Honorable Joe Manchin, III
State Capitol
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, WV 25305
E: PATH Transmission Lines-Tucker County

Dear Governor Manchin:

We are writing this letter to express our opposition to the proposed PATH Transmission Line which is going to have an adverse impact on a large portion of Tucker County and its residents. We have received numerous phone calls in opposition of the project.

We understand that the Public Service Commission has not made a decision on this project yet. Therefore, we are requesting you to petition the PSC not to permit the PATH project in Tucker County. As a matter of fact, it would only be feasible to bypass West Virginia since it is not going to benefit our State. If the line has to be run through Tucker County, why not run it through government property which is over half of Tucker County.

We are enclosing a resolution we passed in our recent meeting. We appreciate your consideration of this request and your concern for the citizens of Tucker County.

Sincerely,

THE TUCKER COUNTY COMMISSION
DAVID C. LEARY, COM
Enclosure
cc: Public Service Commission

WHEREAS, the members of the Tucker County Commission have been elected to serve and protect the collective interest of citizens of Tucker County, West Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Allegheny Energy (Allegheny) and American Electric Power (AEP) have proposed to build a 765-kV transmission line (PATH) with several proposed routes through our communities, agriculture, forests and open space land affecting the greater part of Tucker County; and

WHEREAS, Allegheny and AEP have identified several proposed links to be routed through portions of Tucker County; and

WHEREAS, the PATH project is intended to deliver electricity to the Northeastern Corridor of the United States, not including West Virginia; and

WHEREAS, this proposal would do harm to the citizens of Tucker County, who reside here because they highly value agriculture, rural character, scenic view sheds, tourism, and environmental, historic, and cultural resources; and

WHEREAS, this proposal would adversely effect as many as 400 homeowners and tenants; and

WHEREAS, this proposal would inflict economic damage through adverse impact on the value of their properties in **many** rural areas; and

WHEREAS, this proposal would pose an immediate economic harm some historical houses in Tucker County; and %

WHEREAS, this proposal would jeopardize the economic welfare of all residents of Tucker County through its sizeable impact on property tax revenues and dec base; and

WHEREAS, this proposal would impose water quality degradation for residents throughout the County from herbicides used to maintain the easements for the links, because of high sensitivity of ground water aquifers, and springs; and

WHEREAS, residents would suffer noise and disturbance during construction; and

WHEREAS, private roads would suffer wear and damage beyond that caused by residents in affected areas; and

WHEREAS, this proposal is an inefficient use of resources with a significant mount of the electricity transmitted over this line will be lost before reaching the Northeastern Corridor; and, the **presence of a high-power transmission line may pose health risks** to residents in neighborhoods affected by the proposed links because of the electromagnetic fields generated as electricity leaches from the lines; and

WHEREAS, this proposal would threaten the use and value of parks and recreation areas along the proposed links, and decrease revenues from tourism; and

WHEREAS, this proposal would reduce wildlife habitat and pose a threat to biodiversity; and

WHEREAS, this proposal will result in increased emissions of greenhouse gases for the life of the line; and

WHEREAS, this proposal will result in increased electricity costs to Tucker County residents, who will pay a portion of the construction and operation costs despite receiving no direct benefit; and

WHEREAS, increased air pollution will exacerbate the potential for Tucker County to fail to meet air quality health standards, jeopardizing economic development in the

County, restricting access to federal highway h d s , and imposing additional sanctions for vehicular or local smmes of air pollution; (and **WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced its designation of the Mid-Atlantic National Interest Electric Transmission (NIET) corridor, to include Tucker County, excusing Allegheny and AEP from preparing an environmental impact statement that would provide their own assessment of the impact of PATH on rare and endangered plant and animal species (under the Endangered Species Act) or damage to historic properties and landscapes (under the National Historic Preservation Act) in this historically rich region of the United States; and

WHEREAS, sensible national energy policy must foster an optimal mix of deliverable power from diverse sources, the Tucker County Commission does not believe this line will enhance electric reliability or security; and

WHEREAS, this proposal **does not demonstrate the need to originate in West Virginia;**

We hereby oppose the construction of PATH anywhere inside the boundaries of Tucker County; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tucker County Commission does This reesolution i n full effect upon its adoption this 8* day of October 2008.