

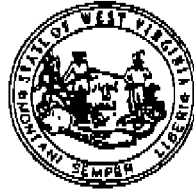
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FROM-HAMPSHIRE CO CLERK

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T-732 P.002/004

F-802



**COUNTY OF HAMPSHIRE  
OFFICE OF COUNTY COMMISSION  
COURT HOUSE BUILDING  
ROMNEY, WEST VIRGINIA 26767  
304-822-5112**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COMMISSION OPPOSING THE  
500-KV POWER LINE PROPOSED BY DOMINION AND ALLEGHENY POWER  
AND THE FEDERAL DESIGNATION REQUESTED FOR THIS LINE**

**WHEREAS, the Hampshire County Commission have been elected to serve the  
collective interest of citizens of Hampshire County, West Virginia; and**

**WHEREAS, Dominion Virginia Power (Dominion) and Allegheny Power  
(Allegheny) have proposed to build a five-hundred kilovolt electric transmission line  
connecting the Mt. Storm power station in West Virginia with the Loudoun County  
substation in Northern Virginia; and**

**WHEREAS, Allegheny has identified a Study Area located in parts of Hampshire  
County, West Virginia for the purpose of studying possible routes for the proposed  
transmission line; and**

**WHEREAS, the U. S. Department of Energy released the 2006 National Electric  
Transmission Congestion Study without consulting West Virginia. Notwithstanding a  
mandate from Congress, within the Energy Policy Act of 2005, that directs the Secretary  
of Energy to conduct a study of electric transmission congestion "in consultation with  
affected States"; and**

**WHEREAS, the 2006 National Electric Transmission Congestion Study calls for  
consultation with local "stakeholders" before a decision is made by the Department of  
Energy on National Interest Transmission Corridor (NIET Corridor) designation; and**

**WHEREAS, no one from the federal government has been in touch with the  
Hampshire County Commission yet, Allegheny Power has asked the Department of  
Energy to declare our region part of a "National Interest" corridor before the end of this  
calendar year; and**

**WHEREAS, this proposal would deface one of the most beautiful, pristine,  
historic and protected landscapes in America; and**

**WHEREAS, State natural and historic protections could be bypassed and  
undermined by this process, including the Open Space Land Act and the Conservation  
Easement Act; and**

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WHEREAS, the power line proposal would do harm to the citizens of Hampshire County who place a high value on agriculture, rural character, scenic view sheds, tourism and environmental, historic and cultural resources; and

WHEREAS, the power line proposal would undo open-space and conservation easements which were entrusted to West Virginia in exchange for federal and state tax benefits; and

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

WHEREAS, The National Environmental Policy Act mandates that an environmental impact statement (EIS) be prepared in advance of undertaking a "major federal action significantly affecting the human environment so that alternatives to the action can be understood and evaluated"; and

WHEREAS, a programmatic EIS is being conducted for transmission corridors proposed for eleven western United States, but no such study has been undertaken or is scheduled for the transmission corridor proposed through West Virginia; and

WHEREAS, this power line has not been proven necessary;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hampshire County Commission call on Dominion, Allegheny and PJM to provide it with immediate information regarding their plans, the way they will proceed with their study, how they determined this line is "necessary" and – most importantly – a full description of all of the alternatives to this line which they have considered; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Hampshire County Commission do hereby oppose the NIET Corridor designation requested by PJM Interconnection and Allegheny Power on March 6, 2006, and any future designation of NIET Corridors without consultation with West Virginia, examination of alternatives and the prior completion of a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement; and,

BE IT RESOLVED FINALLY, that the Hampshire County Commission respectfully requests that Senators Byrd and Rockefeller, Representative Capito and Governor Manchin exercise active leadership in pressing the industry and Department of Energy to consult with the Commonwealth of Virginia, as well as do a full environmental review and consideration of alternatives before proceeding further with NIET Corridor designation.

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COUNTY COMMISSION OF HAMPSHIRE COUNTY,  
WEST VIRGINIA

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
COMMISSIONER

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
COUNTY CLERK

Dated: February 13, 2007

