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**BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Application of Transource Pennsylvania, LLC

Filed Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code Chapter 57, Supchapter G

For Approval of the Siting and Construction of the 230 KV Transmission Line

Associated with the Independence Energy Connection-West Project in Portions of Franklin County

Docket No. A-2017-2640200

PROTEST

Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code Sections 5.51, et seq. and 66 Pa. C.S. Sections 1101, et. Seq., Aaron L. and Melinda D. Kauffman files this Protest to the Independence Energy Connection-West.

In support of this Protest, Aaron L. and Melinda D. Kauffman avers as follows:

1. The name and contact information of the Protestant is as follows:

Aaron L. and Melinda D. Kauffman

4220 Olde Scotland Road

Chambersburg, PA 17202

2. Partnered with father Leonard H. Kauffman on farming operation directly affected by proposed power line. Resident of farm owned by Leonard H. Kauffman.
3. My wife and I will be the next generation to take over farm property and farming operation that is directly affected; and we hope to pass it down to our children after us. The proposed route will intersect two parts of our farm- fields to our west will be cut in half and fields to our south will be intersected- the line will proceed past our heifer sheds, and then cut into more crop fields. The intended route was altered to bypass neighboring farm letting us with entire footprint of the proposed power line; by having entire footprint placed on our family farm we will lose a large portion of crop ground through the construction process and any maintenance of the power line thereafter. The damage and loss of crops during those processes will surely have a negative impact on the profits of the farm in an already difficult economy. Any poles that are placed in fields will be an obstacle to farm around and more damage may be caused to crops while doing our due diligence to care for those crops. For example, spraying for weed/pest control will be hindered and more rows run down with equipment when trying to complete these accepted farming practices, hence lowering production in those fields. In addition, farm machinery has gotten larger to allow fewer passes to save time and money and cause less compaction in the soil; trying to farm around those poles in our already small fields will be impossible with the size of equipment that the average farmer uses today, making those fields useless to us. The use of heavy machinery during construction and maintaining of power lines will destroy soil profiles through compaction and digging of right of way making ground less productive for years after construction. This will cause grain reductions resulting in economic losses to our business.

Another challenge we will face as production farmers will be health and reproduction of heifers that we sell as dairy replacement animals. The first negative effect we will see with our heifers would be during the construction of the lines; the loud equipment and numerous people in their sight will disrupt their daily routines and cause them stress. When dairy animals that are stressed and upset are less likely to breed and will not reach their full potential as they normally would if not disrupted, thus not bringing in as much money when they are sold. Secondary effect would be the long-term exposure to the power lines; the effects of this type of line will have adverse effects on the well-being of our production animals. Once we get through all the money loss from the building and maintaining of the proposed power line, then we have to come to the realization that this will reduce property value- the proposed route will intersect some of the best farm soils in local area, making them less marketable should a time come when we would need to sell. These power lines will also intersect highly populated areas such as shopping centers and housing developments, which are all critical to local government tax base- so we as farmers are not the only ones who will be adversely affected-anyone who pays taxes will be affected.

4. Personally, my family is being put in harm's way to provide an efficiency project to populated areas south of us-this is not a necessity project for people without power. We are expecting our first child in a few months, and instead of enjoying all the firsts that it entails, we are instead worrying about all the harm that may come to him and any other future children we may have. This unnecessary power line is causing unneeded worry and stress during such a happy time in our lives. We also worry with all of the negative impacts we will endure, we will not be able to pass the farm down to the next generation. If there is less profits, and with the negative effects on our property value, we will have a less likelihood to borrow money and grow as a business, which is necessary in these trying times in the agriculture industry. The smaller farms such as ours, are already struggling to stay in business and compete with larger farms, hindering our profitability with this eyesore will most definitely ensure our demise. Our farm has been in the family for over 100 years and this could cause the end of that era-our future descendants deserve the opportunities that those before have had with this farm-to carry on a tradition, but with such potential profit losses, how can one expect to keep a farm going?

WHEREFORE, Aaron L. and Melinda D. Kauffman respectfully requests that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission to investigate the cost benefit of the project and long term effect on local utility rates. We also ask that hearings be held in Franklin County and Administrative Law Judges visit directly affected properties to speak with families. Our final relief is that Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission does not approve proposed power line.

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron L. Kauffman
Melinda D. Kauffman

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February 10, 2018

VERIFICATION

We, Aaron L. and Melinda D. Kauffman, hereby state that the facts above set forth are true and correct (or are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief) and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of Pa. C.S 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

February 10, 2018

Melinda D. Kauffman
Aaron L. Kauffman
(Signature)

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Re: Application of Transource Pennsylvania, LLC Filed Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code Chapter 57 Subchapter G, for Approval of the Siting and Construction of the 230kv Transmission Line Associated with the Independence Energy Connection-West Project in Portions of Franklin County, Pennsylvania Docket No. A-2017-2640200

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the foregoing Petition to Intervene upon parties of record in this proceeding in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code 1.54(relating to service by a participant), in the manner and upon the persons listed below:

February 10, 2018

SERVICE BY E-MAIL AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

The Honorable Elizabeth H. Barnes
The Honorable Andrew M. Calvelli
Administrative Law Judges
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Melinda D. Kruffman
Daron L. Kruffman
[Signature of Protestant]

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Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

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