

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

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Application of Transource Pennsylvania, LLC

Filed Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code Chapter 57, Subchapter 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, Pennsylvania

**DOCKET Number: A-2017-2640200**

**PROTEST**

Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code Sections 5.51, et seq. and 66 Pa. C.S. Sections 1101, et seq., Jan and Georgiana Horst file this Protest to the Independence Energy Connection-West.

In support of this Protest, Jan and Georgiana Horst avers as Follows:

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

Jan and Georgiana Horst

826 New Franklin Road, Chambersburg, Pa. 17202

2. The proposed high voltage power lines affect us in more ways than one. We are utility ratepayers, taxpayers, landowners, and business owners.

3. We are concerned about several issues with this power line going through our neighborhood and Franklin County. Farming is big business in Franklin County and the IEC is proposed to dissect productive fields and lower their productivity in perpetuity. Farmland is not "undeveloped" as IEC asserts, but fully developed to its highest and best purpose- feeding America! While no one would propose running a new electric transmission line through the middle of a productive industrial factory that is exactly what has been proposed for our farm factories. A new transmission right-of-way will lower our property values, unnecessarily burden our farms and small business and those around its path, blight the bucolic landscape that supports local tourism, and intrude on preserved land. Our farms and many in Franklin

County are multi-generational farms that have been owned by the same family for decades. Most of our wealth and other farmers also are tied up in our land the same way others may have wealth tied up in a retirement plan. Adding new impediments to that land which will affect its future usefulness and marketability it is the same as raiding our 401(k) account. How much must we Franklin County farmers sacrifice to reduce the electric bill of a Washington, D.C. resident by just a few cents? Why do we need to sacrifice increasing our utility rates and taxes to help lower Washington D.C.'S?

4. The transmission lines will affects us personally in these several ways. First as Utility ratepayers our rates will increase as the construction of this power line passes on to us as rate payers as our electric bills will increase. Second as taxpayers it will reduce the tax base for our township, town, and school district in turn increasing out taxes. The Construction will damage our roads, and repair costs will be passed down to us as local residents for lines that are of no benefit to Franklin County. It will devalue our properties due to the fact that no one is going to want to live or build near this high voltage power lines. Businesses will not be permitted to construct buildings anywhere close to them. We will not be compensated under the law for our loss of property value and no amount of funds could ever replace the value of our farms and businesses history. It will take our future retirement from us too. It will let our next generations with not being able to carry on our family history, and no livelihood from our land. Thirdly as landowners of property at 826 New Franklin road Chambersburg pas is on one of the originally proposed routes. The powerline will take away our ground we farm for our business Horst Seeds at 819 New Franklin Road we raise hybrid seed corn which can be very delicate and affected by the climate alone. This powerline along with the chemicals they will use to keep its path clear will kill our crops along with the heat from the stray high voltage. We along with our workers will be at risk of serious injury when working our field's detassling our hybrid seed corn. Walking the fields with metal knives detassling around stray high voltage is an accident waiting to happen in itself. Along with when using equipment near these lines with the stray voltage. It would also put all of our health at risk of many different types of diseases. Transource has not proven that it is safe to live anywhere near these lines that will be within 300 ft. of many houses. These power lines in Franklin County would put our business and livelihood in danger. The crops we grow we sell to the farmers many who are local farmers. They plant these seed to grow crops on their farms for their animals. With all the land being taken and put at risk of crop damage and danger our sales will diminish along with our customers. There goes our livelihood! Lastly we are fourth generation farmers of our farm and third generation owners of Horst Seeds. Horst Seeds has been in business for 73 years selling hybrid seed corn and other seeds too. We rely on pollinators to help pollinate our hybrid seed corn. They are already stressed by the mites. We do not need them being harmed by the EMF radiation put off by this high voltage power line or by the noise from the stray high voltage. It

could potentially scare them away leaving our corn unpolinated and a waste. This would put a major damper on our business as a whole and leave us with no business or income. Our property at 819 New Franklin Road Chambersburg pa is right across the road from our farm at 826 new Franklin road. This farm is part of History as a Centennial farm and could now be a bicentennial farm. During the war of 1863 the rebels came into our house and held our ancestor Micheal Hege hostage at gun point and robbed their family. He documented what happened in German and it was translated into English by Harvey S. Rieff. We have ground that could potentially still have artifacts from the war. The Historical Society gives bus tours of this house, barn and business. People will not come here if they have to look at this over powering monstrous powerline instead of the beautiful vista that we have today. This power line will distract from our view shed and scenic view. They could also be at risk of health issues from being around the EMF's omitted from these power lines. Transource has not proven them to be safe to be around and much of what you read they are very damaging to your health with many disease coming from the EMF's.

WHEREFORE Jan and Georgiana Horst respectfully request you to carefully investigate Transource Independent Energy Connection and deny any application to construct a double – circuit 230KV electric transmission line on new right-of ways in Franklin County. The IEC puts the financial goals of the wealthy and politically connected ahead of the livelihood of politically disadvantaged Pennsylvanians and we ask that you stand up for our interests and deny this project. We would like to personally invite all the judges to come for a site visit to our farms and locations and to have them hold hearings in Franklin County.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Horst



Georgiana Horst



Date: 2/13/2018

**VERIFICATION**

We, Jan and Georgiana Horst, hereby state that the facts above set forth are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief and that we 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 18 Pa. C.S. 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

Date: 2/13/2018

*Jan Horst*

(Signature)

*Georgiana Horst*

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

RECEIVED

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SECRETARY'S BUREAU

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. Codes 1.54 ( relating to service by a participant), in the manner and upon the persons listed below:

Dated: 2/13/2018

Service BY E-MAIL and FIRST CLASS MAIL

The Honorable Elizabeth H. Barnes

Amanda Riggs Conner, Esq.

The Honorable Andrew M. Calvelli

Hector Garcia, Esq.

Administrative Law Judges

American Electric Power Service

P.O. Box 3265

1 Riverside Plaza, 29<sup>th</sup> Floor

Harrisburg, Pa 17105-3265

Columbus, OH 43215

David B. MacGregor, Esq.

Antonio Smyth

Christopher T. Wright, Esq.

Transource Pennsylvania LLC.

Anthony D. Kanagy, ESq

1 Riverside Plaza, 29<sup>th</sup> Floor

Post & Schell PC

Columbus, OH 43215

17 North Second Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor

Harrisburg, Pa 17101-1601

*Jon Horst*

*Georgiana Horst*

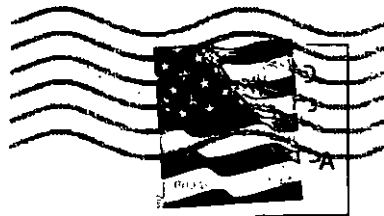
**HORST SEEDS**

819 New Franklin Road  
Chambersburg, PA 17202

Return Service Requested

HARRISBURG PA 171

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Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary  
PA Public Utility Commission  
Commonwealth Keystone Bldg.  
400 North Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

17120-007999

