



**BUCKS
COUNTY**
Planning Commission

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March 11, 2009

Bucks County Commissioners
55 E. Court Street
Doylestown, PA 18901

RE: Projected Population Growth – PPL Service Area

Dear Commissioners:

In connection with the review of the transmission line proposed by PPL for Upper Bucks County, the County Planning Commission looked at the growth projected for that area. There are 14 municipalities in Bucks County served by PPL. The explanation of the power line upgrade has been the need to serve the growing population in Upper Bucks County.

By installing the new station and transmission lines, PPL proposes to quadruple capacity to meet their estimate of future power demands.

Population forecasts were made by DVRPC more than a year ago. We feel that these projections, made before the current housing crisis and building slow-down, are unrealistically high. Our proposals for new construction have been lower in 2007 and 2008 than in any year since 1970. We know that this severe reduction in new homes will continue to cast a shadow on the projections that DVRPC has published. Nevertheless, we have used these projections as a way of comparing PPL's capacity expansion with future population growth.

The chart on the following page shows projections for the 14 municipalities. Using the most optimistic of projections 30 years ahead, the PPL service area is expected to grow only by 37 percent.

Given the uncertainty about future growth over the next 30 years and the rapidly changing energy technologies, we believe that the unexplained mismatch between population projections and expanded power supplies should be addressed.

Sincerely,



Lynn T. Bush

Population Growth in PPL Service Area, 2005 - 2035

Municipality	2005	2035	increase	% increase
East Rockhill	5,731	7,816	2,085	
Haycock	2,356	2,982	626	
Hilltown	12,925	17,931	5,006	
Milford	9,527	14,657	5,130	
Perkasie	8,736	9,624	888	
Quakertown	8,827	9,054	227	
Richland	12,578	22,744	10,166	
Richlandtown	1,351	1,421	70	
Springfield (part)	2,554	3,848	1,295	
Sellersville	4,506	4,842	336	
Silverdale	976	1,083	107	
Telford	2,185	2,433	248	
Trumbauersville	1,071	1,168	97	
West Rockhill	4,623	7,428	2,805	
	77,946	107,031	29,086	37%

Source: Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, 2007