

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3802
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August 28, 2009

COMMITTEES:
JUDICIARY
APPROPRIATIONS
ENVIRONMENT AND
PUBLIC WORKS
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AGING

The Honorable James H. Cawley
Chairman, Public Utility Commission
400 North Street
Keystone Bldg.
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Mr. Cawley:

On August 26, I visited the Saw Creek Estates, and I am greatly concerned by the possible impacts on the residents' quality of life by the Susquehanna-Roseland transmission line.

In light of the effect these towers may have on the community, I am requesting answers to the following questions with the aim to fully explore the process and the alternatives to establishing the proposed transmission line:

- In approving a transmission project, to what extent do you consider the impacts on residents' quality of life – including small communities – versus cost, and what criteria do you use to evaluate these impacts?
- What is your current understanding of the impact the proposed Susquehanna-Roseland transmission line would have on the Saw Creek Estates community?
- Would you likely approve the cost burying of a 500kv line to avoid building towers through and adjacent to the Saw Creek Estates?
- Would you likely approve the cost of obtaining easements on private land to detour the land around the Saw Creek Estates?
- What would be the consequences if you did not approve the proposed transmission line project?
- What is your understanding of the effects of EMF on human health?

I am also enclosing a copy of a letter that I am sending to Terry Boston, President and CEO of PJM Interconnection, with the request that you review the issues raised in that letter with a view to determining whether the Susquehanna-Roseland transmission line is necessary in its current form in light of the objective reduced electricity requirements.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I look forward to working with you to make sure that this issue and the concerns of our constituents receive full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,



Arlen Specter

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Terry Boston
President and Chief Executive Office
PJM Interconnection
1 Liberty Boulevard
Malvern, PA 19355

Dear Mr. Boston:

On August 26, I visited the Saw Creek Estates, and I am greatly concerned by the possible impacts on the residents' quality of life by the Susquehanna-Roseland transmission line. I am writing to inquire whether, in making the energy demand projection that resulted in your requirement for a new Susquehanna to Roseland transmission line, you considered the following factors:

- the effect of the current recession and lower projected economic growth on projected energy demand;
- the projected effects on energy demand of the energy efficiency provisions and funding in the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 on reducing energy demand;
- the projected effects on energy demand of the energy efficiency and renewable energy funding in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009;
- the projected effects on energy demand of the energy efficiency, demand reduction, and renewable energy provisions of H.R. 2454, the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009, should it or similar legislation become law;
- the projected effects on energy demand of energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reduction legislation adopted by the States of New York and New Jersey, and any city, county, or municipal regulations on energy efficiency or greenhouse gas reduction adopted in those States.

If these factors were not included in the demand projection referenced above, I request that you carry out another demand projection including them, working with the DOE, EIA, FERC, and the EPA if necessary.

I would also like to know what, under current projections, the alternatives are to adding transmission capacity Susquehanna-Roseland line, and what the consequences might be of failing to add such capacity. Thank you for attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Arlen Specter