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Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area & Appalachian National Scenic Trail News Release

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Transmission Line Public Scoping Comment Analysis Report Available for Public Review

BUSHKILL, PA – Superintendent John Donahue and Superintendent Pamela Underhill are making available for review the Public Scoping Comment Analysis Report for the Susquehanna to Roseland Transmission Line Proposal and Right-of-Way Request Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). This report summarizes comments submitted during the January 21 to March 12, 2010 public scoping period and includes a summary of all comments submitted electronically through the National Park Service's Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) website, in person at the February 2010 public meetings, by telephone on the Park Information Telephone Line and by mailing or emailing comments to the National Park Service. The report can be viewed through a link on the PEPC site, <http://parkplanning.nps.gov> (select Appalachian NST or Delaware Water Gap NRA).

An Environmental Impact Statement is being prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), to provide a decision-making framework for analyzing a proposal by PPL Electric Utilities Corporation (PPL) and PSE&G which requires construction and right-of-way (ROW) permits from the NPS in connection with the proposed 500,000 kilovolt (500-kV) Susquehanna to Roseland Transmission Line. As proposed, the transmission line would cross three units of the National Park System in Pennsylvania and New Jersey – the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, Middle Delaware National Scenic and Recreational River, and the Appalachian National Scenic Trail.

Public participation in the NEPA process is specifically required in the preparation of an EIS. Further description of the public scoping process is explained in the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (10 CRF 1500-1508). The EIS will analyze a reasonable range of alternatives to meet project objectives; evaluate potential issues and impacts to the resources and values of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, Middle Delaware National Scenic and Recreational River, and the Appalachian National Scenic Trail park units, and identify mitigation measures to lessen the degree or extent of impacts.

The public will continue to be notified of the project's progress and is encouraged to visit the NPS PEPC website to view information pertaining to this important project.

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