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DEC 1 2011

12/01/11

PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

679 State Route 147
Dalmatia, Pa. 17017

Preliminary objections for PUC hearings filed by Elijah and Faye Lahr

A-2011-2267446

- 1. PPL proposed New 69 KV line is un-necessary to up-grade existing service.**
 - a. PPL *lack of maintenance* on existing power lines is one of the main causes of outages. Trees as large as 6" in diameter directly under power lines, is proof of years of negligence by PPL.
 - b. At the initial PPL meetings held at the Hickory Corners Firehall, numerous people had mentioned the *lack of maintenance* on power lines in the area and there was little to no response from any representatives.
 - c. Numerous parties had requested informational reports on the nature of the outages in our area, but had never received anything from PPL.
 - d. PPL representatives have admitted to parties at later meetings that the majority of outages on the existing lines were from *lack of maintenance* not transmission line deficiencies.
 - e. In 2011 PPL subcontractors started doing a massive tree/brush clean-up of all power lines in our area. This was probably the first in 10 years that this was done.
 - f. PPL stated that our area was one of the worst performing areas. How has this changed in our area since the massive clean-up?
 - g. Granting PPL permission to install a new 69KV power line is just one more line to have neglected maintenance of under brush/trees by PPL.

- 2. This new PPL 69 KV line will create a new river crossing causing concerns of:**
 - a. Different types of both pleasure and emergency aircraft use the river for visual guidance creating another obstacle across the river.
 - b. The waters at the proposed crossing are frequently sprayed for mosquitoes and black flies to control them.
 - c. This area is a highly used flyway for both migratory birds and also pairs of Bald Eagles which also nest in this area.
 - d. There is an existing 12 KV line crossing the river less than 2 miles north of the proposed line in Dalmatia and also a 69 KV line crossing less than 8 miles south of the proposed line in Millersburg. This would be 3 power line crossings less than 10 miles apart on this stretch of the river.

- 3. The proposed line crosses more open farm/pasture land and prime developable land than any of the other proposed routes degrading the value of land owners property.**
 - a. There is a tree farm that the proposed line will run thru ruining acres of trees.
 - b. Nothing has been mentioned about placement of poles and where access roads will be constructed to install/maintain this line which will be needed.

- c. Of the 3 proposed routes there was definitely one route (B) that would have had less impact of the environment and been less cost wise.
4. **The existing 12 KV line crossing near Dalmatia was questioned as to why it couldn't be upgraded to a 69 KV line saving millions of dollars and be less destructive of more property.**
 - a. *Upgrading the existing line would be the least impact on the environment as there is already an established route.*
 - b. PPL already has a right of way through those properties.
 - c. If this proposed line is accepted, what are the plans for the existing 12 KV line, we have No clear answer on that.
 5. **PPL did not respect the rights of land owners who didn't want them to trespass on their land by defiantly trespassing.**
 6. **There needs to be a Independent party assigned to do a study of the need for and routes chosen by PPL to verify the need for and assure that the best route was chosen with the least amount of environmental impact at the least cost. And also to verify PPL's records of the power outages on the existing lines as they claim.**
 7. **The proposed passage thru the property of Elijah and Faye Lahr are unacceptable.**

Verification

I,

Elijah Lahr

, 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 18 Pa. C.S.& 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

Date: 12-1-2011

Signature: 

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the foregoing document upon the parties, listed below, in accordance with the requirements of & 1.54 (relating to service by a party)

All served via first class mail.

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Dated this 1 day of December, 2011

Elijah Lahr

Signature

