

Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20585

Faxed to the Department at 202-586-8008 on November 5, 2007

ATTN: Mid-Atlantic National Interest Electric Transmission Corridor
(Docket No. 2007-OE-01)

RE: National Electric Transmission Congestion Report
Agency: Department of Energy.
Action: Order.

Please consider my application for a rehearing of the Order in Docket No. 2007-OE-01.

The reasons that I am requesting a rehearing are as follows:

- 1.) Department of Energy Policy established to comply with the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and the new Federal Power Act was unduly influenced by generation and transmission corporations and Regional Transmission Organizations regulated by FERC. Private corporations have much to gain by exercising eminent domain authority to take private property. Documentation of such influence is found throughout official DOE, FERC, and PJM documents as well as in the testimony of those participating in the NIETC public hearings.
- 2.) Citizens who must resist encroachment by private corporations onto their private lands must now present their cases at both the state and federal levels at their own expense if the state denies a siting application. Corporations according to current FERC rulings are able to recover prudent administrative legal expenses from ratepayers. The requirement to pay our own legal costs and the legal costs of the corporations seeking to obtain property by eminent domain appears to be a violation of the equal protection clause of the U.S. Constitution.
- 3.) It appears to me as though a decision has been made to sacrifice the beauty and grandeur of West Virginia for the "benefit" of the Nation. As a result of this corridor designation, West Virginia Citizens can expect to be exposed to not only more transmission lines but also to expanded mountain top removal to obtain coal, polluted streams, more coal-fired generation plants, more polluted air, and a less diversified economy. I do not believe that the citizens of the Nation are willing to sacrifice West Virginia for the purpose of concentrating electric energy generation from coal. This approach is contrary to diversification of energy production. The PJM Regional Transmission Plans and the Figures in the Congestion Study are consistent with using the coal in West Virginia to generate electricity for the potentially congested areas in the Northeast. The establishment of transmission corridors, in which "backbones" of transmission lines can be established, indicates that the "ribs" and more generation stations at their termini

will follow. It also prejudices for extra-high voltage transmission solutions rather than local generation and lower voltage lines.

- 4.) West Virginia's coal is an inexpensive energy source only because our citizens have not had the political power to resist the environmental degradation that coal mining has brought. For the DOE not to consider environmental consequences "because we don't have to" is shameful. I am requesting that more consideration be given to the total environmental impact of this corridor designation.

Sincerely,



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