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New Jersey Highlands Coalition **Action Alert**

The Comment Period Begins Today!

Urge the National Park Service to Select the "No Action" Alternative to the Susquehanna-Roseland Transmission Line Expansion!

The Delaware Water Gap and Appalachian Trail are at risk! These federal park lands are a sanctuary for wildlife and provide an abundance of ecosystem services and recreational opportunities to thousands of visitors each year. The proposed expansion of the Susquehanna-Roseland transmission line is threatening these precious lands.

We need your help to put a stop to it!

PSE&G and PPL have proposed the Susquehanna-Roseland project, which would replace existing 80-foot towers with 195-foot monstrosities. The companies claim these lines are needed for grid reliability but the real answer is energy efficiency and conservation, demand response programs, and renewable energy projects. Instead these companies are using outdated technology that will ruin the scenic vistas and historical character of the area and will allow the production and transportation of more dirty coal energy, degrading air quality throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania. **Urge NPS to choose the "No Action" alternative and study alternatives to this project besides re-routing the line!** These lines should not be places in **anyone's** backyard!

Comments will be accepted via email, snail mail, or in person at 3 meetings hosted by NPS. The open house portion will offer information and NPS staff will be on hand to answer questions, followed by a more formal public hearing portion.

Tuesday, August 17

**Fernwood Hotel and Resort
US 209 North
Bushkill, PA**

**Open House: 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Public Hearing: 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday, August 18, 2010
Stroudsmoor Country Inn - Terraview
Rd #4 Stroudsmoor Road
Stroudsburg, PA**

**Open House: 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Public Hearing: 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

**Thursday, August 19, 2010
Farmstead Golf and Country Club
88 Lawrence Road
Lafayette, NJ**

**Open House: 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Public Hearing: 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

Please come to these meetings and voice your support for the "No Build Alternative" and ask NPS to examine other alternatives including local renewable energy generation, demand response programs, energy conservation, and energy efficiency.

If you are unable to attend the hearings, comments can be submitted online [here](#). NPS will accept comments on these alternatives August 9- September 7.

The proposed alternative routes can be viewed [here](#). Click on the "Preliminary Alternatives Newsletter" for details and mapping of the 6 proposed routes.

Some talking points to include in comments:

- The only acceptable alternative is "NO ACTION", Alternative 1. Any "build" alternative that allows these lines to go through our public lands would have serious, irreversible impacts on the region's water quality, open space, endangered species, scenic vistas, forests, and the visitor experience within the parks.
- Protection of the functions and values provided by upland forests and wetlands in combating flooding, providing habitat to threatened and endangered species, and allowing for groundwater recharge on public land provide a greater public benefit than the Susquehanna-Roseland project therefore "NO ACTION" is the best alternative
- The scope of alternatives must be expanded to include options besides re-routing! Demand response programs, energy efficiency, energy conservation, renewable and local energy generation, and new transmission technologies can obviate the need for this line, and do not require the use of ratepayer money to construct obsolete

infrastructure projects. Energy demand in New Jersey has dropped over the past three years in part due to such programs and this project has not been updated to reflect that change in energy use.

- Expanding the transmission lines would flood NJ's energy market with cheap coal energy, discouraging energy conservation and efficiency programs and the development of renewable resources throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania, the real solutions to transmission reliability and energy security issues.

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