From:	Kate D
To:	comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us
Subject:	Cardinal Hickory Creek EIS Comment
Date:	Friday, January 06, 2017 3:55:50 PM
Attachments:	<u>CCI29122016.pdf</u>

Please see attached...Thank you!

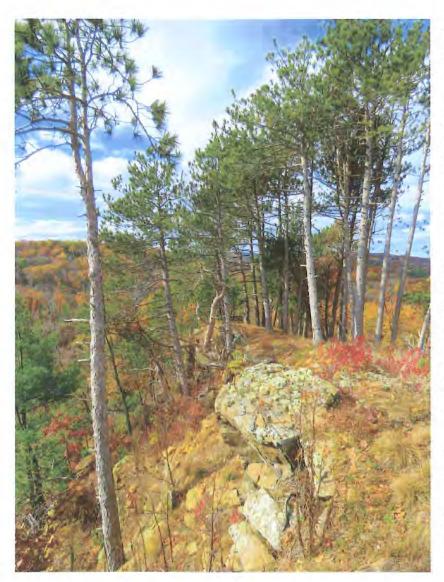


Betsy C. D'Angelo

December 19, 2016

SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

Greetings:



Sincerely,

Batry C. D'Augelo Betsy C. D'Angelo

My property lies on the "northern corridor" for the proposed transmission lines, which would be built on the east side of my house. Here is a photo of a pine relict that grows on the west side of my house. Nearby at Governor Dodge State Park, which is also on the northern corridor, there are more relicts. They are also found on the "southern corridor," the most notable and largest one in my area being the Ridgeway Pine Relict State Natural Area.

Pine relicts go back 12,000 years to the time of the last glacier. Remnants exist today only on "islands" of steep slopes and rocky cliffs in the Driftless Area of Southwestern The plants at Wisconsin. ground level are an unusual mixture of both northern species - from their origins in a colder and wetter climate, - and southern species.

The existence of rare pine relicts is just one of many reasons why transmission lines should not be constructed anywhere in the Driftless Area. There is no energy need that justifies ruining a unique landscape.

SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

### TO MAIL BACK, FOLD HERE AND TAPE BELOW (NO STAPLES PLEASE)

To help us keep our mailing list accurate and up-to-date, please check the boxes below that apply to your wishes. Thank you for your assistance.

Please add my name to the mailing list.

Please withhold my name and/or address from the public record (see disclaimer below). prefer to be updated by email.

SY D'ANGELO Name:

Organization (if any):

Address:		
City/State/Z		
Email addre		

Please note: Before including your address, telephone number, electronic mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, you should be aware that your entire comment (including your personal identifying information) may be made publicly available at any time. Although you can ask us in your comments to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

### Public Scoping Period Comment Card

Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project

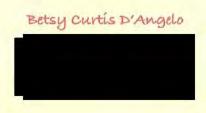
U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service

You are invited to participate in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process by voicing your ideas, suggestions, or concerns related to the proposed Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project. These comments will be considered as the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is developed. Feel free to attach additional sheets as needed. If you prefer, you can submit comments via email to: <u>comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us</u>. The public scoping period ends on January 6, 2017.

**Comments:** 

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I urge the RUS Scoping Team to educate the nftless frea, themselves Hmer ONIC glaci PC Unique escaped which ma ON environmen and geo both non MISSION donvon INP S SS **FISK** 0 deserves be. DI business 12-1-z016



November 2, 2016

Greetings to Rural Utilities Services:

I am with a group named Driftless Defenders. In May myself and four friends in Dodgeville Township set up a meeting to talk about the transmission lines with our neighbors. Expecting perhaps thirty people to come from Pleasant Ridge we were astounded when over 70 people showed up, from all over Dodgeville plus three surrounding towns. Realizing how widespread the opposition was to these lines, we formed Driftless Defenders. Our membership has grown to around 100 people.

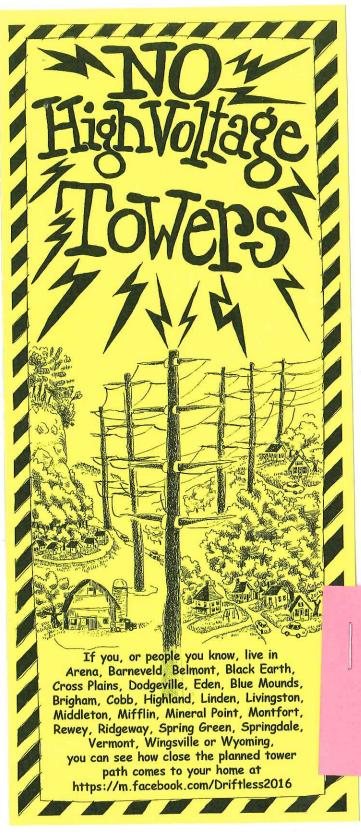
We have been spreading the word and informing the public about the transmission lines by attending parades talking one-on-one with people at various events, distributing our literature, and maintaining a FaceBook page. Attached is our literature which includes our reasons for opposing these lines.

I urge you to consider the many many ways these lines will negatively affect our landscape, ecosystem, businesses, and quality of life. I know of no greater public good that would be derived from these lines that would justify ruining the Driftless Area.

Sincerely,

Betry C. D'Angelo

Betsy D'Angelo



00000000000 Driftless Defenders 10000000000000

We are a coalition of landowners and friends dedicated to protecting the geologically unique Driftless Area.

We oppose the construction of high-voltage electric transmission towers and lines through our rural towns, villages, and beautiful Driftless Area by American Transmission Company, ITC Midwest, and Dairyland Power Cooperative.

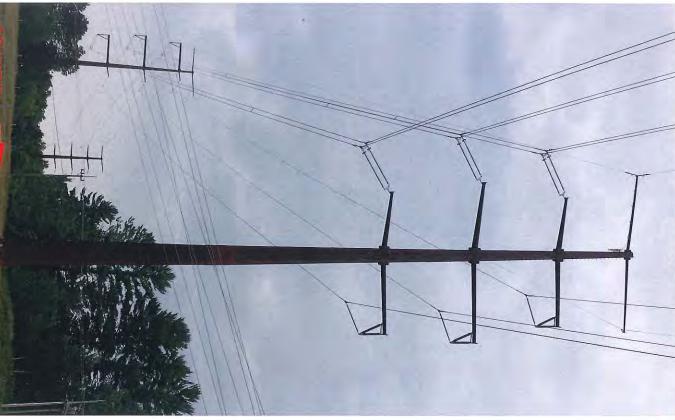
To join us in our opposition and learn more, contact DriftlessDefenders@gmail.com

Visit us on FaceBook https://m.facebook.com/Driftless2016/ and you'll find the map of planned towers.

State your opposition by emailing ATC info@cardinal-hickorycreek.com or with snail mail: Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project 5303 Fen Oak Drive Madison, Wisconsin 53791-8601 Tell your elected officials how this will affect your voting. DriftlessDefenders@gmail.com info@cardinal-hickorycreek.com 000000

NIDOO

Not For The Driftless Area!



**Driftless Defenders** 

We are a coalition of citizens dedicated to stopping the construction of high voltage transmission lines through the unique Driftless Area of Wisconsin.

We oppose ATC's building of 345,000 volt transmission lines for the following reasons:

### UNNECESSARY

The demand for electricity in Wisconsin and adjacent states has been flat or in decline in recent years.

## HUGELY EXPENSIVE

Estimated \$500 - \$700 million for construction alone!

## INCREASED ENERGY COSTS

We, the utility customers, will be forced to pay for this project on our electric bills while ATC investors will receive a 10.2% guaranteed annual rate of return.

## LOSS OF REAL ESTATE VALUE

or near these huge, ugly, and noisy lines Real estate will be devalued and difficult to sell since no one wants to live under

## **NEGATIVE IMPACT ON TOURISM**

Businesses will suffer when the area loses its scenic appeal.

# DESTRUCTION OF OUR ENVIRONMENT

The beauty of our unique landscape and the character of our rural towns will be cut and regularly treated with herbicide steel poles and wires. Corridors 125 miles long and 150 feet wide will be clear radically and permanently altered by the presence of massive, industrial-looking

## Help us defeat ATC's project!

Spread the word

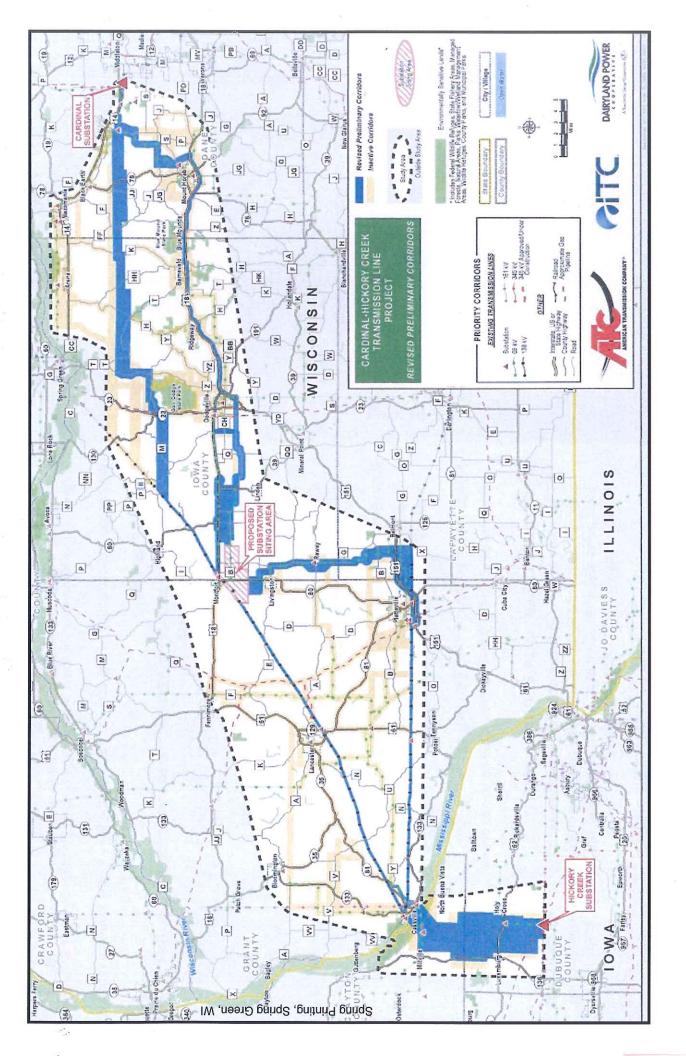
Join our group.

Send a comment to ATC: info@cardinal-hickor Contact your elected officials.

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DriftlessDefenders.com

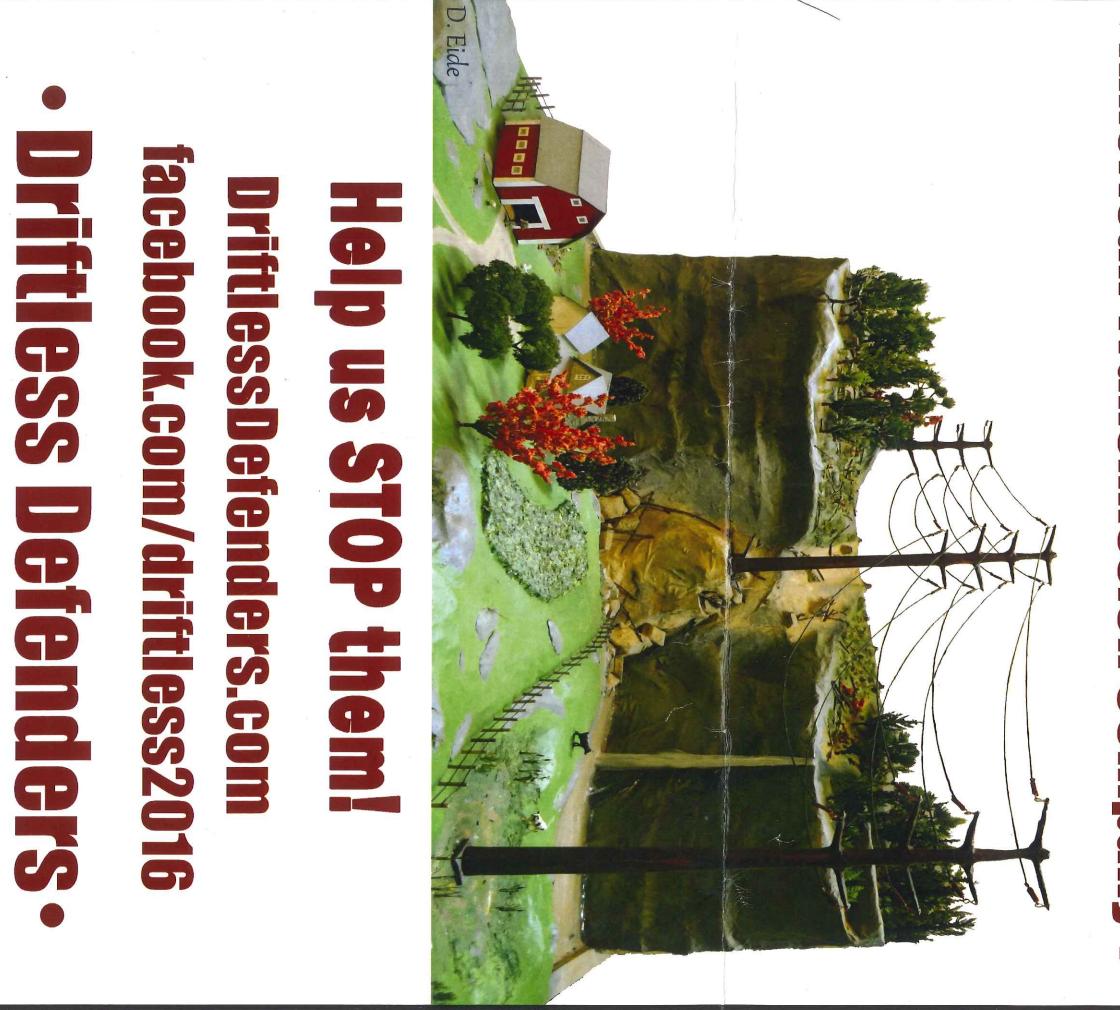
ATC 345,000 volt transmission line, Douglas County, WI



# More information at DriftlessDefenders.com

ATC, ITC, and Dairyland Power want to construct from Dubuque, lowa, to Middleton, Wisconsin. Blue = Proposed routes of high-voltage transmission towers and lines that

10/2016



# nerican Transmission Company? Why should

# Glaciers never stripped this land.



### Dear SWCA Environmental Consultants:

From my house I have the good fortune to look out upon this deep ravine that terminates into a rock bluff from which water seeps and creates a stream below. It provides the perfect example for me to explain my reasons for not building transmission lines here or any other place in the Driftless Area:



### Visual Resources and Environmental Justice

This ravine is a place of beauty, wonder, and awe which becomes even more special when a seasonal waterfall is created by snow melt or heavy rains that cascade over the rock bluff The proposed transmission lines will become the backdrop of this viewscape No longer will it be a place of beauty and wonder that soothes the human spirit Instead it will be a torment, constantly providing an example of how human beings care more about making money than they do about preserving natural places, that they think only of themselves in the moment and do not consider the future and what kind of environment they are leaving to their children and grandchildren

Nothing I read proves to me that the transmission lines are needed to provide my fellow citizens with energy, so how can anyone justify destroying the Driftless Area with unsightly and noisy transmission lines? The topography of the Driftless constantly reveals hidden gems like my ravine This unglaciated land deserves to be revered and protected, and future generations deserve to benefit from having natural places that will give them joy and refresh their spirit

### Visual Resources, Environmental Justice, Noise, and Eminent Domain

I could not possibly live here, driving under transmission lines to get to my house and then looking at them day and night from my house and deck It will make me crazy, seeing the land I love come to this fate after my late husband and I nurtured and enjoyed it for 36 years In addition to the heartbreak of leaving my home and land, my retirement income will be seriously compromised because the sale price will be diminished due to the transmission lines What gives a private company the right to take my land and reduce the value of my property when it is providing nothing for the common good?

### Special Status Species, Vegetation, Wildlife, Geology and Soils

My land shelters important species. The ravine provides the perfect habitat for the Ornate Box Turtle, *Terrapene ornata*, which is an endangered reptile Walking ferns, which are an unusual fern, grow in the ravine Bald eagles sometimes feed just over the horizon in my fields that border County Road ZZ

### Soils, Vegetation, Wildlife, Surface Water and Groundwater, Air Quality, Land Use

The green area between the trees and the horizon was seeded this Spring in Pollinator Friendly Habitat The seed had not even germinated when I received the letter announcing the proposal to build the transmission line on my land Even with the help of cost share from CRP, seeding 21 acres was a major

investment on my part A lot of the money I spent will be wasted because native plants will be killed by the herbicides that will be used to maintain the ROWs I now have a total of 30 acres planted in prairie Among other tools, I use fire to manage them Representatives at the ATC Open House knew nothing about prairie fires or how to manage a prairie under the lines I am doing my best to prevent soil erosion, provide habitat, and improve water and air quality. The transmission lines do not go hand-in-hand with those objectives.

### Safety, Socioeconomics, Environmental Justice

If you look closely at this picture you see trees that are battered and trees with their tops twisted off That's because an EF2 force tornado roared through here on June 29, 2014 and destroyed 80% of the trees in my woods and around my house County Road ZZ, which used to be heavily wooded, is now almost devoid of trees Power poles were down for miles **I am extremely frightened of what would happen to transmission towers and lines during a tornado**. It is also extremely demoralizing for myself and my neighbors, who for over two years have been rebuilding structures and cleaning up tornado debris, to discover the final reward for our hard work and perseverance will be to look at massive steel poles planted on our land and deal with the **decline in our property value** Is there no justice?

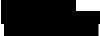
### Visual Resources, Socioeconomics

The transmission lines are proposed to come down County ZZ, which borders Governor Dodge State Park, and runs along the top of a ridge aptly named Pleasant Ridge From the park when you look north toward ZZ the view is of the beautiful, towering rock bluffs that border ZZ Gov Dodge is one of the most popular parks in the state People visiting it will not want nor do they deserve to see transmission lines running across the top of those beautiful bluffs **Tourism will be negatively impacted when the area loses its beauty.** The consequence will be that **businesses and our economy will suffer**. My own **personal finances will suffer** because the property I own along ZZ will significantly decline in value In addition, we are forced to pay for the transmission lines as part of our inflated energy bills while the investors in the lines will be making 10 2% profit Once again, is there no justice?

I thank you for your work in drafting the EIS I ask you to respect my concerns and those of others who care about our precious land and deny funds to Dairyland Power

Sincerely,

Betsy D'Angelo



(owner of property on both County Road Z and ZZ Please add my name to the mailing list. I prefer to be updated by email.



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SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

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I prefer to be updated by email.

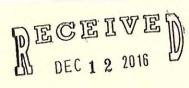
Name: May pene Dawgherey

Address:			

Email address:

City/State/

N. C.M. Chica



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### **Comments:**

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A.J. Dauchting Reritt

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SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

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Name:

A.J. Daughtry Krill

Organization (if any):

Address:	
City/State/Zip	
Email address	

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MILWARKEE WI 530

### Public Scoping Period Comment Card Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service



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### **Comments:**

Our friends live in Vermont Valley Township. In their neigh bor hood several are using so lar wind as their local + alternative power Schevation. Studies show declining energy use in their aven, It also greatly concerns me that in the construction of these transmission towers. an increased rate will show up 16 mg electric bill I am emphatically opposed. A.J. Daughtry Krill

THANGE .





SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

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Name:

Carplyn Daughtry-Krill

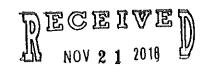
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Address: City/State/Zi

Email address:

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### **Comments:**

Friends of ours - who I have known my entire life nover to Vermont Valley Township, WI years ago. I have VISITED then trequently + Lo are quite familiar with their property + the beautiful Driftless Avec when the informed me of the proposed transmission lines which incul a Sensitive environmental avec - qui Evan/cly 1 con/dit believe what they were felling me I stand with then in being totally apposed the project. Sincerely Carolyn Daughting - Krill

Last Name	Day	First	Name Molly	EIS Scoping Input
[) Individual Stre	[] Family	[] Business	[ ] Frequent Visito	Mail to: Cardinal Hickory Creek SWCA Environmental Consultants Cardinal Hickory Creek EIS Comments D0 Bursca Drive suite 207 ridheville, PA 15017
City				r scan and email to pmments@CardinalHickoryCreekElS.us
				Deadline: January 6, 2017
Years of reside	nce in area:	9 Posit	ions held and/or resp	onsibilities assumed in my community:

1. I have marked impacts of concern regarding the high voltage transmission option:

Loss of Property Value	X	Loss/diminished Environmental Assets		Loss of Tourism Related Business	X
Loss of Business Income	X	Affects on Rare & Endangered Habitats			X
Affects on Personal Health		Affects on Rare & Endangered Animals			1
Affects on Others Health		Affects on Rare & Endangered Plants	1	Compromises on Local Economy	
Affects on my Livestock		Affects on Raptors & Waterfowl		Loss/diminished Cultural Assets	
Affects of Electro- magnetic Fields & Noise	V	Affects on Activities associated with Surface and Ground Water		Impacts on Religious, Personal Values or Cultural Assets	

2. Itemized concerns I have about the high voltage transmission proposal:

Environmental Impacts I am concerned about (water bodies, animals, plants, habitats)	Town lo	ocated in
birds particularly woodpeckers	WYON	ning ouns
	7	own st
Businesses negatively impacted by loss of tourism and arrested residential/business growth.	Town lo	ocated in
Cultural and health impacts of concern (religion, historical assets, age, health conditions)	Town lo	ocated in
3. Energy Investment Priorities	Agree	Disagree
4. As an electric customer, I prefer investments in targeted energy efficiency, load management and distributed generation such as solar-support at substations instead of high voltage transmission and request that the EIS include comprehensive cost-benefit analysis of these non transmission alternatives	X	

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Marky D

10 271

### DECEITED NOV 3 0 2016

Postage Required

SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

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Please add my name to the mailing list.

Please withhold my name and/or address from the public record (see disclaimer below).

I prefer to be updated by email.

Name: MICHAEL DEARING Organization (if any): DRIFTLESS SOLAR LLC Add City Ema

*Please note:* Before including your address, telephone number, electronic mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, you should be aware that your entire comment (including your personal identifying information) may be made publicly available at any time. Although you can ask us in your comments to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

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U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service

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### **Comments:**

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SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

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### **Comments:**

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2 November 2016

Michael dearing

DRIFTLE// solar at electric, hot water and heat

MICHAEL DEARING

**RUS Committee Members:** 

Subject: Scope of the Environmental Impact Statement for the Cardinal-Hickory-Creek Transmission Line

I am concerned about the impact of the transmission line on us, our property, our businesses, and our Driftless region. These are some points of my concern:

- 1. I am not convinced that there is a need for this transmission line.
  - 1. The past 5 years have shown flat and declining demand and the future projects a greater decline.
  - Current actual and planned supply is more than adequate for our needs, and WI's local solar growth doubles yearly.
  - 3. This line does nothing to enhance the security of our grid; it is mere redundancy rather than a step toward a smart grid.
- 2. I do not want to pay for this line, either though my taxes or through electric rates, due to its economic impact on our area.
  - 1. Tourism is a major industry in this area. Any negative impact on tourism makes it even harder on a rural area.
  - 2. Lower property values would deliver the second hit on the area.
  - People move to this area for one reason, the natural beauty of the Driftless area. These newcomers help support our schools and infrastructure through their taxes. This line will deter these people from coming.
- 3. I ask you to consider the full, cumulative scope of environmental impacts of the line on the Driftless Area,
  - 1. harm to vital conservation areas
  - 2. degradation of clean streams
  - 3. degradation of wildlife habitat
  - 4. degradation of other important natural resources
  - 5. disruption of unique and beautiful landscapes
  - 6. impairment of conservation projects and easements

From:	Andrea Bahe
To:	comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us
Subject:	ATC Powerline
Date:	Wednesday, January 04, 2017 7:05:33 PM

Please include this letter in the Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS:

Hello:

My friends Gary and Nancy Cox bought their family's property in rural Vermont Township WI 21 years ago. Their 40 acres - which includes the only upland nesting cover for the wetland below them- lie within the Driftless Area. They have been stewarding it very carefully; establishing native prairie, using organic methods as they garden, doing all they can - as they respect and honor this unique area. Nancy is a visual artist and she has done countless paintings celebrating the beauty there.

Three ice ages have not threatened the Driftless Area. It is ironic that property owners there have this gorgeous and environmentally sensitive land threatened by ATC's proposal of huge ugly electric transmission powerlines.

But many besides property owners are concerned. Bikers use their roads as their routes. Tourism is growing, it's becoming an increasingly important driver of economic growth. Transmission towers and lines that disrupt the scenic landscapes and parks will negatively impact the desirability of this area as a tourist destination.

I am concerned about the impact the construction and maintenance of the power line will have on the cold water fisheries and surrounding wetlands of the proposed route. East Branch of Blue Mounds, Elvers Creek and Vermont Creek and other small tributaries would be affected. Wisconsin DNR has put in a considerable amount of time and taxpayer money improving these streams in recent years which shows the state's valuation of this resource. Native brook trout and planted rainbows and browns depend on these sensitive cold water streams for survival. The surrounding wetlands are extensive and home to a variety of birds like wood ducks, mallards, sandhill cranes, shorebirds, kingfisher, yellow warbler. Mammals like mink, beaver, muskrats, fox and weasels are frequently seen here. Clearing a path for the powerline through the nearby upland woods could easily cause excessive runoff to these streams and be detrimental to the fish that live there and the fish in Black Earth Creek that are fed by these smaller tributaries. Black Earth Creek is a major tourist draw for the area bringing in anglers from the Midwest, Montanta, California, Pennsylvannia and New York.

While fishing these creeks Gary often sees insects like Karner Blue and Regal Fritillary that are an endangered species.

Reptiles like endangered frogs and turtles are likely present here also. The surrounding open meadows host Least Flycatcher, Red-tailed Hawk, turkey, pheasant, and Sharp-shinned Hawks.

Surrounding woods are home to Great Horned Owl, grey owls, pileated woodpecker, grouse Red-headed Woodpecker, Loggerhead Shrike and American Woodcock.

Migrating birds that use this area on their way through: scarlet tanager, cerelean warbler, orioles, grossbeak, Prothonotary Warbler, indigo bunting.

Another area of concern to these fragile ecosystems is the possibility of introduction of invasive species during the construction phase and subsequent maintenance work.

I ask that an analysis be completed to determine whether a combination of non-transmission alternatives- new local wind and solar generation, energy efficiency, storage, demand response- would meet actual electrical demand at a lower cost both economically and environmentally. Please consider less damaging alternatives such as upgrading existing low-voltage transmission lines or routing lines outside the Driftless Area to satisfy any genuine energy demand.

Decreased property value, higher monthly bills for rate payers for years to come, lack of need-supply exceeds demand in the WI electrical power market, proposed routes conflict with WI Siting Standards... I see these lines as nothing but negative and am firmly opposed.

Andrea Debbink



December 28, 2016

SWCA Environmental Consultants Cardinal Hickory Creek EIS Comments 200 Bursca Drive suite 207 Bridheville, PA 15017

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

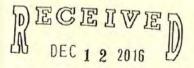
Enclosed are 9 signed EIS Scoping forms that were filled by residents of Wyoming Township, Iowa County, WI. The proposed Northern route for the CHC transmission line runs across this Township. Based on feedback, most Township residents are opposed to this Northern route because this is a rural region that is located in the heart of the unglaciated Driftless region of the Midwest. Its economy is dependent on tourism and recreation. Running 15-18 story transmission towers across this region would ruin its scenic beauty and endanger fragile plant and animal species.

If possible, please send me an email to acknowledge receipt of these RIS forms. You can also contact me if you have any questions.

		First Name <u>kathryn</u> ] Business [] Frequent Visitor		EIS Scoping Input Mail to: Cardinal Hickory Creek SWCA Environmental Consultants Cardinal Hickory Creek EIS Comments 200 Bursca Drive suite 207 Bridheville, PA 15017
				Or scan and email to comments@CardinalHickoryCreekElS.us
		Noary aparte no via email Yes / No	1	Deadline: January 6, 201
Years of residence in area		Positions held and/or responsit		
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. I have marked impacts o		concern regarding the high voltage trar		nission option: Tourism Related Business
. I have marked impacts o Property Value	of c	oncern regarding the high voltage trar Environmental Assets		nission option:
1. I have marked impacts of Property Value Business Income	of c	oncern regarding the high voltage trar Environmental Assets Rare & Endangered Habitats		Tourism Related Business Rising Energy Costs
1. I have marked impacts of Property Value Business Income Personal Health	of c	oncern regarding the high voltage trar Environmental Assets Rare & Endangered Habitats Rare & Endangered Animals		Tourism Related Business Rising Energy Costs Energy Self-Reliance

usinesses negatively impacted by loss of tourism and arrested residential/business growth	. Town lo	ocated in
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ultural and health impacts of concern (religion, historical assets, age, health conditions)	Town lo	ocated in
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Energy Investment Priorities	Agree	Disagree
As an electric customer, I prefer investments in targeted energy efficiency, load management and stributed generation such as solar-support at substations instead of high voltage transmission and reques at the EIS include comprehensive cost-benefit analysis of these non transmission alternatives.	st X	1

Signature A Dr. D. D. Kathyn DE JAK Date 12-3-1 I am aware that my comments, including my address and contact information, are subject to be included in the EIS report.





BREATH CONTROL TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH AND FUNCTION OF BOTH BODY AND MIND, THUS PREPARING THE BODY AND MIND FOR MEDITATION, AND ALLOWING SILENCE AND HEALING FROM EVERYDAY STRESS.

WE VALUE CLEAN, PURE AIR AND SURROUNDINGS UNCLUTTERED BY UNNECESSARY AND UNSUSTAINABLE VESTIGES OF OBSOLETE AND UNSUSTAINABLE TECHNOLOGY.

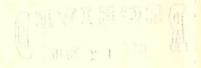
THE PROPOSED AMERICAN TRANSMISSION LINE CALLED CARDINAL HICKORY CREEK APPEARS TO BE COSTLY, UNSUSTAINABLE, UNATTRACTIVE, AND UNNECESSARY.

IT'S APPROPRIATE FOR AT & TO PROVIDE A COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS ON THEIR PROPOSAL, AND TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THEY CAN'T DO BETTER FOR LESS COST TO YOGA PRACTICING RATE PAYERS AND ALL OTHER RATE PAYERS IN THE DRIFTLESS AREA OF SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN.

PLEASE EXPLAIN BELOW WHAT YOU CONSIDER TO BE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT(S) OF THE 125 MILE CARDINAL HICKORY CREEK TRANSMISSION LINE

Was DATE 11/3/16 YOUR NAME De ADDRESS.

Environmental Scoping Session for Cardinal Hickory Creek. November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 4-7:00 Dodgeville Middle School Cafeteria, 951 /Chapel St., Dodgeville, WI 53533



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Last Name Derse	First	Name haurie		EIS Scoping Inpu	
[\[Individual [] Family			Mail to: Cai SWCA Environmenta Cardinal Hickory Cree 200 Bursca Drive suit	ek EIS Comments	ek
Stre			Bridheville, PA 15017	C 207	
City			Or scan and email to comments@Cardinal	HickoryCreekEIS.us	
	// /		com	Deadline: January 6, 20	017
Years of residence in area	: <u>46</u> Posit mingpl	ions held and/or responsi <u>Anning Commission</u>	bilities assumed in i	my community: <u> </u>	.kei
1. I have marked impacts o	of concern rega	rding the high voltage tra	nsmission option:		
Loss of Property Value		shed Environmental Assets		Related Business	
Loss of Business Income		Rare & Endangered Habitats	6 Impacts on Risir		
Affects on Personal Health		Rare & Endangered Animals			
Affects on Others Health	·····	Rare & Endangered Plants	Compromises or		4
Affects on my Livestock Affects of Electro-	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Raptors & Waterfowl Activities associated with	Loss/diminished		4
magnetic Fields & Noise		Ground Water	Values or Cultur	al Assets	2
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Cultural and health impacts of	of concern (relig	ion, historical assets, age, h	ealth conditions)	Town located in	
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3. Energy Investment Priorities				Agree Disagree	e
4. As an electric customer, I prefe distributed generation such as sol that the EIS include comprehensive	r investments in tar ar-support at subst /e cost-benefit ana	rgeted energy efficiency, load ma ations instead of high voltage tra lysis of these non transmission a	nagement and nsmission and request Iternatives.		
$\sim$		lise	Date	1/30/10	

I am aware that my comments, including my address and contact information, are subject to be included in the EIS report.

From:	Duane Deutmeyer
То:	comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us
Subject:	Our comments regarding the proposed Cardinal Hickory Creek transmission line
Date:	Thursday, January 05, 2017 10:56:14 PM

n 6 acres of property at . Both the City of fall within or near the

proposed corridors for the Cardinal Hickory Creek CHC transmission line. Please record our concerns contained in this email and also record the three supporting documents attached to this email.

1. The electric utility companies, including Midcontinent Independent System Operator, Inc., American Transmission Company, ITC Midwest LLC and Dairyland Power Cooperative, referred to here as the "Utilities", should not be the parties which determine the need for future electric transmission capacity and additional transmission lines in this area. That determination should be made by an independent private or governmental entity with input from all parties impacted by such a determination. 2. The Utilities should not be guaranteed a profit on the construction and implementation of transmission lines. We know of no companies in this area that ever get any guarantee of profitability, much less a very generous rate such as the 10% ROI that is being granted on the CHC project. 3. We do not believe that the Utilities are being honest about the projected need for electricity and transmission capacity in this area. Information from other sources states that demand for electricity in this area has been flat or declining in recent years and that the declining trend is expected to continue. Again, the determination of need should be made by an independent entity. 4. We need to explore other better, more cost-effective alternatives to electricity being brought in from other areas via high voltage transmission lines. 5. We need to invest in the production of electricity locally via wind or solar power as an alternative to energy brought in via high voltage transmission lines. 6. The consumers of electricity in our local area should not have to pay for the construction of the proposed transmission line since we are not the people/companies that will directly use or benefit from that electric power. 7. The transmission line routes proposed by the Utilities conflict with Wisconsin Citing Standards. 8. Construction of transmission lines within the routes proposed by the Utilities will certainly cause environmental, cultural, and esthetic damage to the local area known as the "Driftless Area". 9. The unsightly appearance of massive transmission poles or towers and their supporting easements and maintenance roads will have a negative effect on the visual appeal of this area. That negative impact will include loss of revenues to both private and public entities in this area. The cumulative negative effects of the proposed 10. transmission line will result in decreased property values in areas surrounding the transmission lines

The expected amount that landowners will be 11. compensated for the destruction of their land, the restricted use of their lands subjected to easements, the negative effects to their livelihoods, and the negative effects to family history and heritage is ridiculously low. The easement process is nothing more than legalized theft.

Two neighbors immediately adjacent to our Miess Road 12. property have had their water wells collapse in very recent years due to the geology in this area. We need assurances that construction of transmission lines in this area will not cause further damage.

13. The Driftless Area, and our Miess Road property as well, supports broad areas of 100+ year old oak trees. The value of those oaks (and other old forest stands) goes far beyond the mere value of the trees for lumber or firewood. We feel that the construction of the proposed transmission line should NOT be allowed to destroy old stands of forest.

14. Our Miess Road property (a mere 6 acres) is part of a subdivision dating back to the 1980's. That subdivision is made up of 12 separate properties ranging in size from 2.5 to 19.4 acres. The construction of a transmission line through any of these small properties would virtually destroy the monetary and esthetic value of any given

property. Please record 

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the proposed corridor) there is a dwelling constructed as a Bed and Breakfast. That property looks out over an astonishing panorama that typifies the Driftless Area. The hills and valleys can be seen for as much as 15 miles. The construction of a transmission line next to that property would, again, virtually destroy the monetary and esthetic value, and income potential of that property.

White Nose Syndrome which generally destroys bat 16. populations has been discovered in this area in the past two years. As such, local bat populations are on a rapid decline. One species of bat, the Eastern Pipistrelle, is of specific concern for population decline. In recent years, an outhouse on our Miess Road property has been the summer roosting place for a small group of Eastern Pipistrelle bats. An article was written about "our" bats in the January 2016 issue of the Wisconsin DNR Bat Program publication entitled "ECHOLOCATOR". Please record the attached two documents entitled "WI DNR Bat Program ECHOLOCATOR Jan 2016 - Cover" and "WI DNR Bat Program ECHOLOCATOR Jan 2016 - Article".

We are all very fond of Governor Dodge State Park 17. which is located about 3 miles north of Dodgeville. The proposed northern corridor for the transmission lines runs along the northern border of the park along Iowa County Road ZZ. That northern edge of the park is characterized by massive rock cliffs. Those beautiful rock formations are a favorite for park visitors. Approximately 500,000 people visit the park each year. The sight of a string of transmission towers behind those rock cliffs would ruin the raw beauty of that area and negatively impact the many visitors to the park!

In conclusion, we believe that the proposed transmission line is not needed and, even if it were, that other more earthfriendly, more cost-effective alternatives should be explored and given priority. The beauty of the Driftless Area should not be scarred by the construction of the proposed Cardinal Hickory Creek CHC transmission line. You can never "undestroy" such natural beauty as is seen in this area!

Thank you for including our comments in the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement.

Sincerely,

Duane Deutmeyer Jennifer Nugent Henry Schickel Ian (Jack) Schickel

Last Name Dohovt / First Name Jim	EIS Scoping Input Mail to: Cardinal Hickory Creek SWCA Environmental Consultants Cardinal Hickory Creek EIS Comments 00 Bursca Drive suite 207	
not that I B drive that The increase I Tree work Vision		
Stree	ridheville, PA 15017 Ir scan and email to	
City	omments@CardinalHickoryCreekElS.us	
	Deadline: January 6, 2017	
Years of residence in area: 15 Positions held and/or responsibility	ties assumed in my community: <u>Planuing Commission</u>	
Wyoming Taunship	Planning Commission	

1. I have marked impacts of concern regarding the high voltage transmission option:

Affects of Electro- magnetic Fields & Noise	Affects on Activities associated with Surface and Ground Water	X	Impacts on Religious, Personal Values or Cultural Assets	
Affects on my Livestock	Affects on Raptors & Waterfowl		Loss/diminished Cultural Assets	Д
Affects on Others Health		1	Compromises on Local Economy	$\downarrow$
Affects on Personal Health	Affects on Rare & Endangered Animals			X
Loss of Business Income	Affects on Rare & Endangered Habitats			J
Loss of Property Value	Loss/diminished Environmental Assets			

2. Itemized concerns I have about the high voltage transmission proposal:

Environmental Impacts I am concerned about (water bodies, animals, plants, habitats)	Town located in
Y.e.s, concerned about all potential	Fowa Courty, W
environmental impacts and need to see	
a dhovough EIS before I can get	
specific Also warried about aesthetic	
Impart. We already time enough	
Businesses negatively impacted by loss of tourism and arrested residential Abusiness growth.	Town located in
transmission lines and towers. The	
beabour of this land scape is increasingly diminished by UgIX	
increasingly diminished by Uglx	
structures.	
Cultural and health impacts of concern (religion, historical assets, age, health conditions)	Town located in
Again, need to see an EIS analysis.	I owa (outy, wi
ALSO: Why is proposed HVT even needed	
al all? Are there no viable options?	
3. Energy Investment Priorities	Agree Disagree
A As an electric customer. I prefer investments in targeted energy efficiency, load management and	$ \times $
distributed generation such as solar-support at substations instead of high voltage transmission and request that the EIS include comprehensive cost-benefit analysis of these non transmission alternatives.	<b>`</b>
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Signature Date I am aware that my comments, including my address and contact information, are subject to be included	$\frac{12}{8}/2016}$ in the EIS report.
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From:	Michael Dolan
To:	comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us
Subject:	Comment on ATC transmission line
Date:	Wednesday, January 04, 2017 8:25:27 PM

#### Hello,

My name is Michael Dolan and I operate Seven Seeds Farm on county rd Z in Spring Green by the pleasant ridge store. I believe the landscape and local community would be devastated by the Cardinal-Hickory Creek transmission line for various reasons. First, there is no denying that it will devalue the land as well as decrease tourism of the amazing driftless area. Second, this transmission line create soil erosion and contaminate our water, the weeds will most likely be managed with herbicides around the transmission lines and with our hilly terrain that will lead to soil runoff and the atrazine and glyphosate used to control weeds will contaminate our group water. Lastly, although there may not be much research I can't help to think that the transmission lines will affect the productivity of our farm. I have great concern with this project and am strongly opposed to it.

Thanks, Michael

Postage Required

SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

#### TO MAIL BACK, FOLD HERE AND TAPE BELOW (NO STAPLES PLEASE)

To help us keep our mailing list accurate and up-to-date, please check the boxes below that apply to your wishes. Thank you for your assistance.

Please add my name to the mailing list.

Please withhold my name and/or address from the public record (see disclaimer below).

I prefer to be updated by email.

Name: Lea Dolan Strancer Organization (if any): Seven Seed Farm Name: Address: City/State/ Email addı Please note: Before including your address, telephone number, electronic mail address, or other personal identifying information in your

comments, you should be aware that your entire comments to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

## **Public Scoping Period Comment Card**

## Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project

U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service

You are invited to participate in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process by voicing your ideas, suggestions, or concerns related to the proposed Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project. These comments will be considered as the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is developed. Feel free to attach additional sheets as needed. If you prefer, you can submit comments via email to: <u>comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us</u>. The public scoping.period ends on January 6, 2017.

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SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

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Please add my name to the mailing list

Please withhold my name and/or address from the public record (see disclaimer below).

I prefer to be updated by email.

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*Please note:* Before including your address, telephone number, electronic mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, you should be aware that your entire comment (including your personal identifying information) may be made publicly available at any time. Although you can ask us in your comments to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

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#### **Comments:**

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From:	
To:	comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us
Subject:	Comments on proposed line
Date:	Wednesday, January 04, 2017 9:43:16 AM

As residents of Dane County's Town of Vermont, Wisconsin, my wife Anne and I would like to register our opposition to the proposed American Transmission Company (ATC) power-line route that would run through a portion of our township. We oppose the lines in general - in our view, ATC and the power industry as a whole have failed to establish the need for the massive lines being built across the upper Midwest - but if a line ultimately is built in this region, we feel it should be built in an area already scarred by a massive infrastructure undertaking, i.e., the Highway 18-151 corridor. The power industry has exhibited an unwillingness to think outside the box to create a power grid that is LESS centralized and as such less vulnerable to seismic and climatic events, not to mention terrorism. The figure we have seen is that these lines are designed to last roughly 40 years: Who knows what technological advances will occur with respect to power consumption and distribution over the next four decades? Will homes have their own battery and generation systems? Almost assuredly. Just think of what has happened to technology in general over the past four decades. In 1977, computers barely existed: now we carry computers around in our pockets that are a million times more powerful than those first desktop models. It appears to us that the power industry in building these lines is essentially locking us all into technology that could very soon be obsolete, all in the name of shareholder profits. In so doing, it will essentially stifle innovation, which is already in short supply thanks to a profit-driven power industry. In our opinion, this money would be much better spent on creating solar and wind systems and other alternative technologies that would supplement conventional power generation, as well as improving our current distribution system. I'm going to be 63 soon, and when I was a kid, there were no eagles

I m going to be 63 soon, and when I was a kid, there were no eagles flying in south-central Wisconsin. When DDT was banned, however, they began to repopulate in the northern part of the state, and in the 1970s, they began migrating south to roost along the Wisconsin River near Prairie du Sac. They discovered there was a hydroelectric dam there that kept the water open when the rest of the river was iced over, providing a winter food source. Virtually all of those first pioneers continued to nest upstate, however.

I guess it got crowded up there, because more and more, eagles are nesting in our area. We now see them year-round in the Black Earth and Vermont valleys. I wonder what an endless column of ridiculously large power lines would mean to these birds, or to the elegant sandhill cranes that have also rebounded here in recent years. These are just examples; countless other species are re-establishing to join our existing flora and fauna in western Dane County and along the protected riverway. This area relies to a great extent on tourism, and a line of massive power towers will do nothing to enhance its natural beauty.

We ask that alternatives be thoroughly explored. If this thing goes through, especially through an area that currently is rural and essentially pristine, the entire region will face declining property values and a damaged tourism industry, not to mention higher monthly bills for ratepayers for decades to come. All this would be despite the fact that supply currently exceeds demand in Wisconsin, thanks to improved efficiency and individual generation systems. It makes no sense, and appears to benefit only those who want to build it.

John Donaldson

From:	john duffey
To:	comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us
Subject:	Local Impact
Date:	Wednesday, January 04, 2017 11:30:07 AM

The CHC project, and others like it, jeopardize energy security by narrowing power supply to fewer and fewer "players". Likewise consumer choice and diversity is restricted. There is no tangible benefit to residents along the line, and indeed, we will probably bear much of the cost for CHC. And worse still is the environmental destruction of our unique region and the deflated property values that will accompany.

Thanks, John Duffey

From:	BERNARD C EASTERDAY
То:	comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us
Subject:	Public Scoping Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project
Date:	Friday, January 06, 2017 12:00:52 PM
Attachments:	Cardinal-Hickory Creek Scoping.pdf

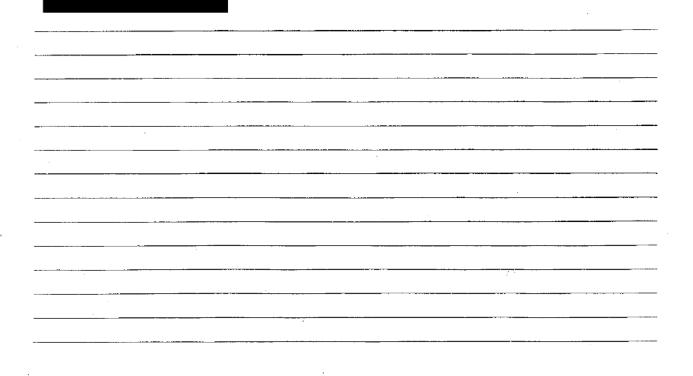
#### Public Scoping Period Comment Card Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service

You are invited to participate in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process by voicing your ideas, suggestions, or concerns related to the proposed Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project. These comments will be considered as the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is developed. Feel free to attach additional sheets as needed. If you prefer, you can submit comments via email to: <u>comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us</u>. The public scoping period ends on January 6, 2017.

#### **Comments:**

During the 1950's and 1960's a significant amount of research was done in the Wisconsin, Iowa County, Town of Arena concerning the understanding of the impact of environment on diseases of humans and animals and the role of insects in transmitting diseases. It was there that basic understanding of the role of mosquitos in the perpetuation of the La Crosse virus (the cause of encephalitis in humans and animals) was determined. It is clear that the natural habitat of that region provided the "laboratory" for the significant studies that lead to the understanding of the mechanisms for the maintenance and spread of the La Crosse virus. While similar studies have not been done in that area in recent years, it remains that it has the potential for helping to understand the mechanisms for the maintenance and spread of emerging diseases such as those that are caused by Zika and West Nile viruses. The University of Wisconsin Madison, School of Veterinary Medicine and other university units have ongoing research on those and similar viruses and the diseases that they cause. It seems likely that the proposed Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project would have a negative impact on the environment of the area for the potential for future studies on how do environmental factors affect the host-virus relationship and the resulting human and animal diseases.

B.C. Easterday DVM, PhD



 From:
 comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us

 To:
 comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us

 Subject:
 Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS

 Date:
 Tuesday, January 03, 2017 9:45:56 PM

 Attachments:
 EIS.pdf

January 2, 2017 SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

To Whom It May Concern:

We are contacting you concerning the proposed Cardinal-Hickory Creek transmission line.

We are Madison residents who own 3 acres of land 5 miles northwest of Dodgeville [of 9] ). As long-time admirers of the Driftless area, we had hoped to buy a place of our own some day, a retreat for our family and a place for our two growing sons to be in nature, climb a tree, shoot a bow and arrow, walk the dogs. Seven years ago, after an extensive search, we found a spot: 3 acres on a ridge, with a cabin, rock outcroppings and a sweet view across bucolic fields. Perfect for us. We are people of moderate means who scrimped and saved toward this goal; buying this modest place was a stretch for us, but a long-time dream for our family, so we did it. Finally, as of this past summer, we own it outright--just as we hear the news of the transmission line.

Our rural retreat is literally fully contained in the blue line of the proposed northern route. That is not an exaggeration. If the transmission line is built, the 150-foot swath of easement would likely cut through our 3 acres that is a long north-south property. 15-story high 345-kilovolt lines would tower over our property and/or that of our neighbors. Imagine that. We have many small acreage neighbors on this ridge, along with a few farmers who have more land that they depend upon for their livelihood. That's more than 10 families in about a quarter square mile that would be negatively impacted. There would be nowhere to hide from the line, plus the visual sight and electric field that emanates from it in all directions. Our retreat and lifelong dream, as well as our investment, would quite literally disappear.

We ask that you investigate whether another high-voltage power line is necessary. Has ATC/ITC proven the need? Our understanding is that energy use in Wisconsin is flat. This power line would cut a 125 mile path through an area that won't be serviced directly, yet the people living in the shadows of these towers are the ones paying for them through increased electrical rates over the next thirty years. And this is the eighth rate-raising transmission line project in Wisconsin in a decade. High voltage transmission lines are about moving energy along great distances, more to the benefit of commercial utilities than to the citizens who live beneath the imposing interstate infrastructure. Our vote is for the other energy infrastructure model: local distributed energy, which is safer, less imposing, more democratic, and potentially more responsive to environmental concerns.

Here is a list of assets in our own, immediate local environment that would be negatively impacted by a high voltage transmission line:

- Otter Creek, a renowned trout stream
- Meiss Road is a popular bike route
- The Dairyland Dare benefits 1,200 cyclists and the local economy
- Dairy farms
- Meiss Organic Meat farm
- Governor Dodge State Park
- Bethel Horizons
- Blackhawk Lake
- Innumerable native historical sites the whereabouts of which are already shrouded to protect them. Please contact the DNR and UW-Extension.
- Amazing visuals: rock outcroppings, glens, hollows, coulees, hawks and eagles, rolling hills, prairie, woods
- The bucolic view from our 3 acre plot over the pastures of our dairy farm neighbor

This line will upend the view, obscure the sounds with buzzing, and alter the peace of the unique, ancient beauty of the Driftless area. It's in everyone's interest to see that this natural place endures.

We oppose the Cardinal-Hickory Creek transmission line.

Sincerely,

Amy Edge and Jack Sayre

January 2, 2017

SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

To Whom It May Concern:

We are contacting you concerning the proposed Cardinal-Hickory Creek transmission line.

We are Madison residents who own 3 acres of land 5 miles northwest of Dodgeville [of 9]). As long-time admirers of the Driftless area, we had hoped to buy a place of our own some day, a retreat for our family and a place for our two growing sons to be in nature, climb a tree, shoot a bow and arrow, walk the dogs. Seven years ago, after an extensive search, we found a spot: 3 acres on a ridge, with a cabin, rock outcroppings and a sweet view across bucolic fields. Perfect for us. We are people of moderate means who scrimped and saved toward this goal; buying this modest place was a stretch for us, but a long-time dream for our family, so we did it. Finally, as of this past summer, we own it outright--just as we hear the news of the transmission line.

Our rural retreat is literally fully contained in the blue line of the proposed northern route. That is not an exaggeration. If the transmission line is built, the 150-foot swath of easement would likely cut through our 3 acres that is a long north-south property. 15-story high 345-kilovolt lines would tower over our property and/or that of our neighbors. Imagine that. We have many small acreage neighbors on this ridge, along with a few farmers who have more land that they depend upon for their livelihood. That's more than 10 families in about a quarter square mile that would be negatively impacted. There would be nowhere to hide from the line, plus the visual sight and electric field that emanates from it in all directions. Our retreat and lifelong dream, as well as our investment, would quite literally disappear.

We ask that you investigate whether another high-voltage power line is necessary. Has ATC/ITC proven the need? Our understanding is that energy use in Wisconsin is flat. This power line would cut a 125 mile path through an area that won't be serviced directly, yet the people living in the shadows of these towers are the ones paying for

them through increased electrical rates over the next thirty years. And this is the eighth rate-raising transmission line project in Wisconsin in a decade.

HIgh voltage transmission lines are about moving energy along great distances, more to the benefit of commercial utilities than to the citizens who live beneath the imposing interstate infrastructure. Our vote is for the other energy infrastructure model: local distributed energy, which is safer, less imposing, more democratic, and potentially more responsive to environmental concerns.

Here is a list of assets in our own, immediate local environment that would be negatively impacted by a high voltage transmission line:

- Otter Creek, a renowned trout stream
- Meiss Road is a popular bike route
- The Dairyland Dare benefits 1,200 cyclists and the local economy
- Dairy farms
- Meiss Organic Meat farm
- Governor Dodge State Park
- Bethel Horizons
- Blackhawk Lake
- Innumerable native historical sites the whereabouts of which are already shrouded to protect them. Please contact the DNR and UW-Extension.
- Amazing visuals: rock outcroppings, glens, hollows, coulees, hawks and eagles, rolling hills, prairie, woods
- The bucolic view from our 3 acre plot over the pastures of our dairy farm neighbor

This line will upend the view, obscure the sounds with buzzing, and alter the peace of the unique, ancient beauty of the Driftless area. It's in everyone's interest to see that this natural place endures.

We oppose the Cardinal-Hickory Creek transmission line.

Sincerely,

Amy Edge and Jack Sayre

Last Name Eide First Name Debra	EIS Scoping Input Cardinal Hickory Creek	
X Individual [] Family [] Business [] Frequent Visitor	PSCW Docket 05CE146	
Stre	formation supplied for USDA/ RUS	

formation supplied for USDA/ RUS vironmental and Economic Impact Statement Scoping Input.

Years of residence in area: <u>23</u> Positions held and/or responsibilities assumed in my community: <u>Member of Driftbass Defenders</u>, <u>Art Teacher WannakeeSch. Dist.</u> Building Rep. Wannakee Teachers Union, <u>Negotiation Team Wannakee</u>. Teachers 1. I have marked Impacts of concern regarding the high voltage transmission option: Union, Dept. Chairs

Loss of Property Value	X	Loss/diminished Environmental Assets	ΙX	Loss of Tourism Related Business	X
Loss of Business Income		Affects on Rare & Endangered Habitats	X	Impacts on Rising Energy Costs	X
Affects on Personal Health	Х	Affects on Rare & Endangered Animals	x	Impacts on Energy Self-Reliance	Ń
				Compromises on Local Economy	ΪX
Affects on my Livestock		Affects on Raptors & Waterfowl	V	Loss/diminished Cultural Assets	X
Affects of Electro- magnetic Fields & Noise		Affects on Activities associated with Surface and Ground Water	V	Impacts on Religious, Personal Values or Cultural Assets	X
	r •		Y `	values of cultural Assets	V Y

Itemized concerns I have about the high voltage transmission proposal:

Environmental Impacts I am concerned about (water bodies, animals, plants, habitats)		ocated in
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Businesses negatively impacted by loss of tourism and arrested residential/ business growth.	Town Io	cated in
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Cultural and health impacts of concern (religion, historical assets, age, health conditions)	Town Io	cated in
3. Energy Investment Priorities	Agree	Disagree
I am concerned about rising energy costs. I prefer investment in local, end-user improvements like energy efficiency over investments that increase dependency on utilities and create long term debt.	X	

Dobra Eide ≩gnature

City

16 Date

I am Debra Eide. I grew up in Oregon, Illinois in northern Illinois, at the very southern tip of the driftess region, on a very large wooded acreage for which my father was forester. Nature has ALWAYS been a large part of my life, ALWAYS. I was a public school art teacher for 37 years, the last 19 in Wisconsin where I became more involved in Environmental Education, representing my teachers through teachers' union positions and our negotiation team. You see I also have a strong belief in FAIRNESS.

My husband and I have been driving an hour each way to our jobs just so we can live where we do, on the lip of the beautiful and vast Wyoming Valley. When we bought our home with a few acres, we purchased it WITHOUT huge towers and high voltage transmission lines. We moved here to escape that type of crowded, cluttered environment in the city. We moved to a unique and quite land, abundant with wildlife, forests, bluffs and prairies. We very much want our area to remain as it is. For the 23 years we have lived here we have cared for our forest habitat and the lives it supports. For 20 years we have been working on our prairie restoration, and most recently we have created a hopping wetlands habitat. With many many species of frogs, pickerel included. This summer a nest of hawks were hatched right at the edge of our woods. A fledgling landed on our deck rail.

You can see that we have a strong relationship with our land. Our property is long and narrow along County Road Z on the proposed northern ATC route. We are on the blue line. If a transmission line went through our land, it is so narrow that there would barely be anything left of the forest or prairie. And our home would be unhealthily close to the line. But it's not just our own property we are concerned for, this pristine driftless area has already been ravaged and stripped by drought, and then storms and tornadoes. It should not suffer further for the sake of private exploitation through the transmission line project. Is the need that great? Is there really a need at all?

I oppose the ATC, ITC and Dairyland Power, Cardinal-Hickory Creek 345 kilovolt transmission hine project because:

- Alternatives to this line have not been adequately explored.
- Is it needed, except for making excessive and unfair profit?
- The environmental impact is enormous. Wildlife already struggling to hold on to the habitat will loose even more at the hands of man. But man can prevent this.
- It certainly is not aesthetically appealing.
- It will harm our tourism industry which is largely based on the beauty of this area.
- The history of this area doesn't include giant electric towers.
- Property values will suffer more than they already have.
- These lines are unhealthy. Who would want to live near one?
- Our people owning land and homes here will have to pay more in rate hikes and receive no advantage from this line, just a nasty scar on the land.

This transmission line is not the right thing to do.

Thank you, eb Eido

Deb Eide Active member of Driftless Defenders

From:DD EideTo:comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.usSubject:Proposed Power LineDate:Monday, January 02, 2017 4:33:10 PMAttachments:Powerline.odt

Please find my attached letter opposing the proposed Cardinal-Hickory Creek power line.

Thank you, Duane Eide To Rural Utility Service,

I had the great fortune to grow up in the drift-less in Northeast Iowa. As an adult in 1993 I returned to the drift-less area in Southwest Wisconsin just North of Governor Dodge State Park with my wife and two children. Besides the fact the last glacier did not scour the area, the drift-less area is a spiritual experience for me on a very personal level.

I am opposed to the proposed 345 KV Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project for the following reasons:

- (1) No evidence has been produced to show the transmission line is needed to meet increased demand. Statistics show supply is out-pacing demand.
- (2) Through a program with Alliant Energy, we pay a surcharge to receive half of our electricity from alternate sources. More emphasis in pursuing alternative sources of energy generation should be a priority.
- (3) The residents in the drift-less area in Southwest Wisconsin will be paying increased utility rates for a commodity from which we will receive no benefit.
- (4) The Southwest Wisconsin drift-less is a beautiful area that attracts enormous traffic volume for bicyclists, motor cyclists, auto road rallies, campers, vacationers and the annual Art Tour generating additional income to the area. People come to this area because of its beauty, variety for adventure and not to be reminded what has happened to the land where urban centers now reside.
- (5) Property values for the families that need to sacrifice land for the proposed routes will see a significant decrease in property valuations.
- (6) The environmental impact required to clear the land for the rite of way for the proposed route will scar the earth, displace fowl and animal habitats, damage streams and waterways.
- (7) I am concerned about the impact that electromagnetic forces have on living organisms electric balance. More research is necessary to better understand the affect and make better social decisions.

Sincerely,

Duane Eide

From:	
To:	comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us
Subject:	Reasons for opposing the proposed CHC transmission line
Date:	Friday, January 06, 2017 4:16:43 PM

I am a resident of lowa county in the driftless region of SW Wisconsin. Although my property is not directly on either of the proposed routes for this transmission line, I am concerned about the multitude of negative impacts that introducing high tension power lines throughout this area would have - the negative economic impact on the many area businesses that rely on visitors and tourism, the negative environment impacts on this unique geological area and its diverse species of plants and animals, not to mention the blight on the landscape that these towers will represent, and finally the property values of the farms and other residents of the area.

These consequences in themselves should be enough to disqualify this effort, but I could possibly come to terms with these disruptions, if it were not for the case that there does not appear to be any legitimate economic rationale for the project in the first place. As citizens, we are supposed to be prepared to sacrifice personal interests for the betterment of all. But in this case, there is no evidence that this project would bring any positive value to the people of Wisconsin or the surrounding areas. All data suggests that electricity usage has been flat for several years and projected to remain that way into the future. The project boasts of its use of alternative energy sources, but when pressed it becomes clear that there is no guarantee of any but minimal use of solar or wind resources and that under any circumstances the vast majority of electricity will come from coal. We don't need more power, and we certainly don't need to encourage more depletion of fossil fuels. On top of that, the people of WI will foot the bill for this project in the form of increased energy rates. As far as I have been able to determine, the only people who stand to profit from this project are the stakeholders and investors in the power companies themselves.

Please add my voice to the many others who are writing to urge the rejection of this project and to encourage the funding of projects aimed directly at improving the quality of life of all not the profit of a few.

Thank you for your attention and consideration,

David Elderbrock

Last Name E	-llar:	First Pirst P	ame	Scot	$\mathcal{L}$	EIS Scoping Input Cardinal Hickory Creek
[] Individual	Family	[] Business	[]Fre	quent Visitor	r	PSCW Docket 05CE146
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Years of residence in area: 4.5 Positions held and/or responsibilities assumed in my community:

1. I have marked impacts of concern regarding the high voltage transmission option:

Property Value	Koss Matinished Environmental Assets	2056 of Tourism Related Business
Business Income	Rare & Endangered Habitats	Loads on Rising Energy Costs
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2. Itemized concerns I have about the high voltage transmission proposal:

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had hoped to market home sites	
in the Future.	
Cultural and health impacts of concern (religion, historical assets, age, health conditions)	Town located in
We use the land to relax - hunt &	Asena
share with others including about	
3. Energy Investment Priorities	Agree Disagree
I am concerned about rising energy costs. I prefer investment in local, end-user improvements like energy efficiency over investments that increase dependency on utilities and create long term debt.	L
ignature All allun Date //-	1-16

From:	
То:	comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us
Subject:	Ellarson, 7725 Sweeney Road, Barneveld WI 53507, Jean C. Ellarson Trust, Blackberry Hollow, LLC and Top Field, LLC
Date:	Wednesday, January 04, 2017 10:51:24 AM
Attachments:	Cardinal-Hickory Creek letter[14342][14565] final.docx

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

December 15, 2016

Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project

Comments Regarding Preliminary Corridors

To Whom It May Concern,

We live at and we're very concerned about the possibility of having a powerline placed on our 250 acre family property.

Our family has owned the property since 1964 and it is the central homestead for two families and our decedents. My father was Aldo Leopold's last PHD graduate student and a Professor of Wildlife Ecology at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. When he purchased the property in 1964, his vision was to turn a run-down over grazed and eroded dairy farm back into a vibrant productive ecosystem. That vision has succeeded immensely. Before Dad passed in 1993, he taught our family and so many others how important it is to nurture land back to its predevelopment state so future generations can experience nature. He was extremely proud of its natural biodiverse condition just as we are. Over the years, our family has worked many thousands of hours to maintain the health and biodiversity of our property.

We manage the property for timber production under the forest crop program and for biodiversity. The property was awarded the **Tree Farmer of the Year** award by the **Iowa County Land Conservation Committee** in 2002. The property includes two restored prairies on our ridge tops that we burn on an annual basis to maintain them. The area located between the timber and prairie is managed for oak opening and Red-headed Woodpecker habitat. We have been very successful in attracting and re-establishing a resident Red-headed Woodpecker population. We are very concerned with the thought of a 150' wide swath of mowed vegetation going through our property that we have managed for timber, prairie propagation, and oak savanna restoration along with successful Red-headed Woodpecker habitat restoration.

Our property has been featured on many photos published by the Aldo Leopold Foundation in their phenology calendar and in *The Leopold Outlook* magazine. The property hasn't had cattle on it for over 50 years and is a valuable contributor to area ground water and biodiversity.

The DNR has identified our property as home to the Blanding's Turtle, Blanchard's Cricket Frog, Ornate Box Turtle, Bull snakes and endangered Purple Milkweed.

We have four young men in the family that have all gone to UW Stevens Point majoring in the natural sciences and two of them are currently employed by the DNR in Dane and Iowa Counties. They are also

very concerned about the environmental impact of the mowing and de-vegetating for a powerline in a known habitat for endanger or threatened species.

We strongly endorse the idea holding off on the line and if it must be placed doing so in existing utility corridors.

We have decreased our energy consumption by using high efficiency electrical appliances including LED lighting, heating with wood, and have added insulation to our home to improve its efficiency.

Below is a partial list of trees, shrubs, vines, ferns, prairie wildflowers and woodland wildflower species found on our property.

Sincerely,

Scott Ellarson and Bruce Ellarson Co-Trustees of the Jean C Ellarson Trust; member/owners of Blackberry Hollow, LLC and Top Field, LLC located at:

Additional contact information:

**Trees:** Red oak, White oak, Black oak, Burr oak, American elm, Red elm, Black cherry, Choke cherry, Black walnut, Butternut, Shagbark hickory, Cottonwood, Trembling aspen, Large-toothed aspen, Balsam poplar, Silver maple, Box elder, Mulberry, White pine, Red pine, White spruce, Junipers, Green ash, Apple trees, Wild plum, Juneberry, White birch, Sycamore, Tamarack, Red maple, Basswood, Willow and Honey locust.

**Shrubs & Vines:** American hazel, Prickly ash, Grey dogwood, Silky dogwood, Elderberry, Buckthorn, New Jersey tea, Willow, Blackberry, Black raspberry, Red raspberry, Smooth sumac, Nannyberry, Witch hazel, Wild grape and Virginia creeper.

**Ferns:** Interrupted fern, Virginia grape fern, Cut leaf fern, Leather leafed grape fern, Maidenhair fern, Polypody fern, Florists fern and Lady fern.

**Prairie Wildflowers and Grasses:** Blazing star, Rough blazing star, Hoary puccoon, Smooth vervain, Oldfield thistle, 5 varieties of Aster, Prairie bush clover, , Bluebonnets, Pink Prairie phlox, Cup plant, Compass plant, Rosinweed, Prairie dock, Ironweed, Purple prairie clover, White prairie clover, Showy and stiff goldenrods, Dwyers weed, Rattlesnake master, Indian Paintbrush, Purple milkweed, Birdsfoot violet, Seneca snakeroot, Turks cap lily and Large white flowered false indigo. Little bluestem grass, Big bluestem grass, Prairie drop seed, Switchgrass, Indian grass, Cord grass and Pennsylvania sedge.

**Woodland Wildflowers:** Jacob's ladder, Rue anemone, Jack-in-the-pulpit, Common blue violet, Yellow violet, May apple, Red baneberry, White baneberry, Wild leek, Wild geranium, Bellwort, Trilliums (6 species), Spring beauty, Bloodroot, Hepatica, Indian pipe, Trout lily, Wild phlox, Large yellow lady slipper, Rattlesnake plantain, Adam and Eve orchid, and Showy orchis.

Postage Required

SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

#### TO MAIL BACK, FOLD HERE AND TAPE BELOW (NO STAPLES PLEASE)

To help us keep our mailing list accurate and up-to-date, please check the boxes below that apply to your wishes. Thank you for your assistance.

Please add my name to the mailing list.
Please withhold my name and/or address from the public record (see disclaimer below).
$\Box$ I prefer to be updated by email.
Name: Louise a. Expendiach
Organization (if any) Secon Seed Farm
Address:
/ City/State
Email address:

Please note: Before including your address, telephone number, electronic mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, you should be aware that your entire comment (including your personal identifying information) may be made publicly available at any time. Although you can ask us in your comments to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

## **Public Scoping Period Comment Card**

Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project

U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service

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Comments: am. 69 and

Last Name	First Name	EIS Scoping Input
[] Individual [] Family	[] Business [] Frequent Visitor	Mail to: Cardinal Hickory Creek SWCA Environmental Consultants Cardinal Hickory Creek EIS Comments 200 Bursca Drive suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017
		Or scan and email to comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us
0	Notify/update me via email Yes / No	
Years of residence in area:	25 Positions held and/or respons	sibilities assumed in my community:
1. I have marked impacts	that concern me regarding the high vol	tage transmission option:
Loss of Property Value	Loss of Environmental Assets	Loss of Tourism Related Business
Loss of Business Income	X Effects on Rare/Endangered Habitats	
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Effects on Others Health	Effects on Rare/Endangered Plants	Geompromises on Local Economy
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A. I am concerned about rising energy costs. I prefer investment in end-user improvements like energy efficiency over investments that increase dependency on utilities and create long-term debt.

B. I oppose all high voltage transmission options as they would inherently detract from the natural environment and local economies. Should any electrical need be determined, I support a blend of minimal impact alternatives such as targeted energy efficiency, modern load management and distributed generation including solar-support at existing substations.

C. I request that the Environmental Impact Statement for this proposal include comprehensive, cost-benefit analysis of the lowest impact alternatives. The dollar amount applied to non-transmission investment options, studied alone and in combination, should equal the total cost of the high voltage transmission option assumed by all electric customers over 40 years including construction, financing, operation, maintanance and depreciation.

a

Signature

Date /- 2 -

I am aware that my comments, including my address and contact information, are subject to be included in the EIS report.

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SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

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To help us keep our mailing list accurate and up-to-date, please check the boxes below that apply to your wishes. Thank you for your assistance.

Please add my name to the mailing list.

Please withhold my name and/or address from the public record (see disclaimer below).

I prefer to be updated by email.

Name:

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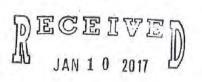
# Public Scoping Period Comment Card

## Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service

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SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

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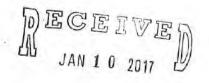
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## Public Scoping Period Comment Card Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service

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SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

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## Public Scoping Period Comment Card Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service

You are invited to participate in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process by voicing your ideas, suggestions, or concerns related to the proposed Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project. These comments will be considered as the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is developed. Feel free to attach additional sheets as needed. If you prefer, you can submit comments via email to: <u>comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us</u>. The public scoping period ends on January 6, 2017.

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SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

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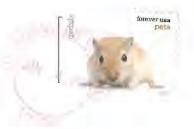
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U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service 11.

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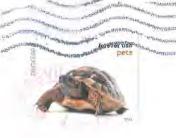
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U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service

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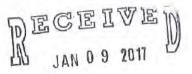
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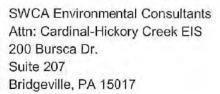
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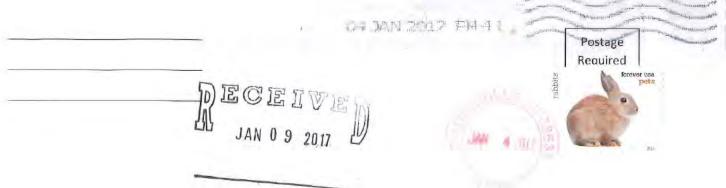
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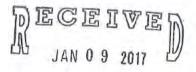
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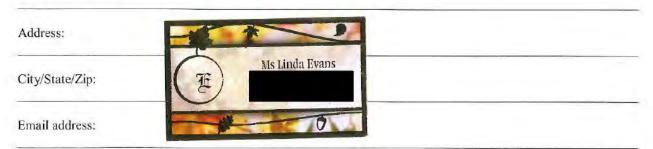
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# Public Scoping Period Comment Card Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service

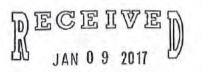
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### **Comments:**

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SWCA Environmental Consultants Attn: Cardinal-Hickory Creek EIS 200 Bursca Dr. Suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017

15017-145357

## TO MAIL BACK, FOLD HERE AND TAPE BELOW (NO STAPLES PLEASE)

To help us keep our mailing list accurate and up=to-date, please check the boxes below that apply to your wishes. Thank you for your assistance.

Please add my name to the mailing list.

Please withhold my name and/or address from the public record (see disclaimer below).

I prefer to be updated by email.

Name:

Address: Ms Lin	da Evans
City/State/Zip:	
Email address:	

*Please note*: Before including your address, telephone number, electronic mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, you should be aware that your entire comment (including your personal identifying information) may be made publicly available at any time. Although you can ask us in your comments to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

## **Public Scoping Period Comment Card** Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service

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**Comments:** one ho t ويتبدؤه والمراجع والمتحج والمحج والمحاجي Doison  $(\mathbf{u})$ ground 0 NΩ

Last Name	First Name	EIS Scoping Input Mail to: Cardinal Hickory Creet SWCA Environmental Consultants Cardinal Hickory Creek EIS Comments 200 Bursca Drive suite 207 Bridgeville, PA 15017	
[] Individual [¥Family	[] Business [] Frequent Visitor		
d		Or scan and email to comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us	
0	Notify/update me via email Yes / No	Deadline: January 6, 2	2017
Years of residence in area:	25 Positions held and/or responsib	oilities assumed in my community:	
1. I have marked impacts I	that concern me regarding the high volta	age transmission option:	
Loss of Property Value	Loss of Environmental Assets	Loss of Tourism Related Business	17
Loss of Business Income	Theffects on Rare/Endangered Habitats	X Impacts on Rising Energy Costs	X
Effects on My Personal Health	Seffects on Rare/Endangered Animals	Conflicts with My Energy Goals	×
Effects on Others Health	Effects on Rare/Endangered Plants	X Compromises on Local Economy	×
Effects on My Livestock	+ Effects on Raptors & Waterfowl	A Loss/diminished Cultural Assets	X
Effects of Electromagnetic Fields & Noise	+ Effects on Surface & Ground Water	Kimpacts on Religious, Personal Values or Cultural Assets	X
Businesses negatively impacte	ed by loss of tourism and arrested residentia	al/business growth. Location by Municipa	ality
Tourism Value of t	farming Crops C	attle	
Cultural and health impacts o	of concern (religion, historical assets, age, h	nealth conditions) Location by Municipa	ality
Cancertun bealth issi	nors, leukomia, mic re for animals to	arviage O	
3. Energy Investment Priorities	5		

A. I am concerned about rising energy costs. I prefer investment in end-user improvements like energy efficiency over investments that increase dependency on utilities and create long-term debt.

B. I oppose all high voltage transmission options as they would inherently detract from the natural environment and local economies. Should any electrical need be determined, I support a blend of minimal impact alternatives such as targeted energy efficiency, modern load management and distributed generation including solar-support at existing substations.

C. I request that the Environmental Impact Statement for this proposal include comprehensive, cost-benefit analysis of the lowest impact alternatives. The dollar amount applied to non-transmission investment options, studied alone and in combination, should equal the total cost of the high voltage transmission option assumed by all electric customers over 40 years including construction, financing, operation, maintanance and depreciation.

nas

Signature

Date

I am aware that my comments, including my address and contact information, are subject to be included in the EIS report.

DECEIVED

December 20,2014 EIS Scoping Input Please accept the enclosed seven (7) scoping input sheats. Apersonally observed and am acquainted with each of the signatories, also please note the " onergy investment priorities " the signers corcled at the bottom of the page leanbeyou,

Last Name Fernucchi First Name William	EIS Scoping Input Mail to: Cardinal Hickory Creek
[]Individual []Family []Business []Frequent Visitor	SWCA Environmental Consultants Cardinal Hickory Creek ElS Comments 200 Bursca Drive suite 207
St	Bridgeville, PA 15017
Ci	Or scan and email to comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us
	Deadline: January 6, 2017
Years of residence in area: $3/$ Positions held and/or responsib	nilities assumed in my community.

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Loss of Property Value	Loss of Environmental Assets	Loss of Tourism Related Business
Loss of Business Income	Effects on Rare/Endangered Habitats	Impacts on Rising Energy Costs
Effects on My Personal Health	Effects on Rare/Endangered Animals	Conflicts with My Energy Goals
Effects on Others Health	Effects on Rare/Endangered Plants	Compromíses en Local Economy
Effects on My Livestock	Effects on Raptors & Waterfowl	Loss/diminished Cultural Assets
Effects of Electromagnetic	Effects on Surface & Ground Water	Impacts on Religious, Personal
Fields & Noise		Values or Cultural Assets

Use the reverse side

2. Itemized concerns I have about the high voltage transmission proposal:	or additional pages as needed.
Environmental Impacts I am concerned about (water bodies, animals, plants, habitats)	Location by Municipality
Businesses negatively impacted by loss of tourism and arrested residential/business growth.	Location by Municipality
Cultural and health impacts of concern (religion, historical assets, age, health conditions)	Location by Municipality
3. Energy Investment Priorities	

 $\hat{A}$ , an concerned about rising energy costs. I prefer investment in end-user improvements like energy efficiency over Investments that increase dependency on utilities and create long-term debt.

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Date 12/3/16 Tam aware that my comments, including my address and contact information, are subject to be included in the EIS report. Signature

From:	Matt Ford
To:	comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us
Subject:	Fwd: Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project
Date:	Friday, January 06, 2017 4:42:25 PM
Attachments:	ATC Letter.docx

Also, please DO NOT include personal info--home address, phone number or parcel address anywhere in public comments. Was meant only as a way to identify specific area affected.

Thank you,

Matt Ford

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Matt Ford** Date: Fri, Jan 6, 2017 at 3:34 PM Subject: Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project To: <u>comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us</u>

Hello ~

As landowners in the Town of Vermont between Mt. Horeb and Black Earth, WI, I, along with my brothers Jonathan and Timothy Ford, are the owners of 147 acres of beautiful rolling hills in what is called the Driftless Area of Wisconsin, so named because the landscape was untouched by glaciers in the most recent Ice Age. We are third generation owners having inherited the land following the death of our mother in 2006 and have taken great care to preserve the land in its most natural state.

Located at **a series of the se** 

Surrounded by majestic bluffs to the south and east, our property is situated in the Black Earth Creek Watershed. Underground springs bubble to the surface, marking the beginning of one of the many small streams that eventually flow to the Black Earth Creek, a revered, class 1 cold-

water trout-fishing stream enjoyed by fisherman of all ages. Intensive effort has been made by various groups throughout the watershed area to improve habitat, limit storm water and limit farm field runoff that might otherwise have negative impact.

Our township has tried to carefully balance the desires of private landowners with a desire to protect and preserve the natural scenic beauty of this special place. The township codes prohibit ridge top building--structures that might be seen for miles both night and day--and has height and color restrictions for homes and buildings that *are* approved so they will blend with the landscape as much as possible. Though our acreage remains undeveloped, it includes rights for up to five residential building sites. While plans for our property don't currently include subdividing for purposes of residential building, this project would make it nearly impossible to develop in the future, drastically reducing the property value in the process.

I feel that the Cardinal Hickory Creek Transmission Project would have a devastating and irreversible effect on our property and much of the surrounding area if it were approved. With the potential to bisect our property, any reimbursement for easement will not offset the remarkable loss in property value and the negative impact on natural beauty of the area. Careful planning of dozens of groups as well as individuals spanning generations to limit manmade visual pollution and preserve the biodiversity of the area would be gone forever. The history here is deep, multi-layered, and dynamic.

If you have never been to Brigham County Park near Blue Mounds, WI, I strongly suggest you do so. It is a relatively small park—about 250 acres—but it feels much, much larger. There are a couple of shelters with picnic tables, playground equipment including swings and slides for kids, campsites and paths for hiking. In many ways, it is a very average county park, but the view it there is breathtaking. Located atop a bluff, the area to the north of Brigham Park provides a beautiful, sweeping panoramic view that encompasses nearly the entire northernmost route of the proposed Cardinal Hickory Creek Transmission Project. Instead of rolling countryside intermixed with farm fields and wooded hilltops for as far as the eye can see, the most prominent feature would be towering steel power poles and transmission lines across the entire horizon if this project is approved.

The park is a hidden gem and the view has been enjoyed by generations of Wisconsinites dating back to the first European settlers of WI nearly 200 years ago. In fact, ancestors of the first white settler of Dane Co., Ebenezer Brigham, donated the land to the county in his honor to be enjoyed for generations to come. Putting power lines across the township will forever spoil the very nature of the area, destroying a natural beauty that future generations may never know.

I'm reminded of something another notable Wisconsin resident, Aldo Leopold, said in his famous essay, "The Land Ethic," the finale to <u>A Sand County Almanac.</u> Leopold was a

professor of Wildlife Ecology at the Univ. of Wisconsin and is instrumental in seeing land not as commodity to be used solely for the purposes of man, but as a community of many things, of which, man plays a role, intertwined, out of which a moral code of conduct grows of these interconnected, caring relationships.

"A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise."

This project does not meet that standard--on our property or the property of others in the surrounding area. In meeting with other residents and landowners in this area, I was struck by how so many valued the uniqueness of the landscape and their concerns that this project would forever have a negative impact on an area they cared deeply about. It's certainly valid to discuss the negative impact this project would have financially for landowners, whether there is a need for more electrical power, alternate sources of energy—including wind and solar or on the negative impact on global climate change, but most often, the first issue raised was how this project would have a negative visual impact on an area so many care about. And there was deep concern about our voices not being heard because as landowners of rural property, the impact is spread across larger tracts of land rather than smaller, residential lots. But I can assure you we are passionate in our opposition to this project and the negative impact it will have forever on this area. Please do not approve the project in any way that involves our property, the Town of Vermont or its landowners.

Thank you,

Matthew Ford



P.S. I mailed an earlier version of these comments as "insurance" against any email I sent being displaced or not received. If both versions are received, please enter this version into official record. Also, if possible please send me notification that they were received and please forward or include my comments anywhere else they may be relevant. Thank you.

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 comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us

 To:
 comments@cardinalhickorycreekeis.us

 Subject:
 Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project

 Date:
 Friday, January 06, 2017 4:34:18 PM

 Attachments:
 ATC Letter.docx

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Located at **Second Property** is in the Town of Vermont, our property is made up of beautiful rolling hills filled with hundreds of oak, walnut, ash, elm and aspen trees. A multitude of wild animals and plants, including whitetail deer, wild turkey, ruffed grouse and a whole chorus of songbirds make their home here. A favorite activity each spring is hunting wild morel mushrooms and the hardwoods provide beautiful colors to the treetops each fall. Through great effort, we have cleared 40 acres of the land for farming, which provides a small income to help pay the taxes and other projects we undertake each year. We have also spent many seasons hunting wild game, enjoying time spent outdoors with friends & family and meals of venison and turkey throughout the year. Large, undeveloped tracts of land like this are becoming increasingly rare.

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# TO MAIL BACK, FOLD HERE AND TAPE BELOW (NO STAPLES PLEASE)

To help us keep our mailing list accurate and up-to-date, please check the boxes below that apply to your wishes. Thank you for your assistance.

Please add my name to the mailing list.

Please withhold my name and/or address from the public record (see disclaimer below).

I prefer to be updated by email.

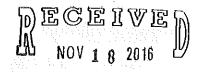
Name:

Organization (if any):

Address:			
City/State/Z			
Email addre			
	/		

Please note: Before including your address, telephone number, electronic mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, you should be aware that your entire comment (including your personal identifying information) may be made publicly available at any time. Although you can ask us in your comments to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

# Public Scoping Period Comment Card Cardinal-Hickory Creek Transmission Line Project



U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service

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### **Comments:**

We are very concerned about stray voltage. We have a dairy farm in projected area, And Also have a 12 yr old dayghter, who we feel will be harmed by the high Voltage. We also have an air port landing strip on Owr farm for oge use to check crops And feel this may interfer. 
 From:
 comments@CardinalHickorycreekEIS.us

 To:
 comments@CardinalHickorycreekEIS.us

 Subject:
 comment

 Date:
 Thursday, December 29, 2016 8:06:18 PM

We are opposed to the electric line going in Iowa County Wi. We have a working dairy farm in the area and an airport we use for agriculture use and feel the line will disturb both along with our health and our animals health. How will our airport affect your towers? And how will the towers affect my airport? Will the power lines affect cell phone service? We live in a beautiful valley and feel the line could go in a better place. Has ATC proven there is a need for another transmission line in this area? Our airport coordinates are latitude located in Section 10

T7N,R4E Town of Arena Iowa County Wi. The name of the Airport is Forseth Field. Sincerely David Forseth and Family

Last Name Friedman First Name Albert	EIS Scoping Input Mail to: Cardinal Hickory Creek
[] Individual [] Family [] Business [] Frequent Visitor Stre City	Mail to: Cardinal Hickory Creek SWCA Environmental Consultants Cardinal Hickory Creek EIS Comments 200 Bursca Drive suite 207 Bridheville, PA 15017 Or scan and email to comments@CardinalHickoryCreekEIS.us Deadline: January 6, 2017

Years of residence in area: \_\_\_\_\_ Positions held and/or responsibilities assumed in my community:

1. I have marked impacts of concern regarding the high voltage transmission option:

Property Value	X	Loss/diministed Environmental Assets	X	Loss of Tourism Related Business	X
Business Income		Affacts on Rare & Endangered Habitats		Impacts on Rising Energy Costs	X
Affection Personal Health		Affords of Rare & Endangered Animals		Impacts on Energy Self-Reliance	X
Affects on Others Health		Alfacts of Rare & Endangered Plants		Compromises on Local Economy	X
Alforda my Livestock		Allecto An Raptors & Waterfowl		Loss/diminished Cultural Assets	X
Miscus of Electro- magnetic Fields & Noise		Surface and Ground Water	X	Values or Cultural Assets	

2. Itemized concerns I have about the high voltage transmission proposal:

Environmental Impacts I am concerned about (water bodies, animals, plants, habitats)	Town located in
Creation and long term maintenance of	Wyaming
New And extensive Rights of WAYS	/ /
Businesses negatively impacted by loss of tourism and arrested residential/business growth.	Town located in
-	-
*	
Cultural and health impacts of concern (religion, historical assets, age, health conditions)	Town located in
DAMAGE to unique driftlass landscape	Wyoming
<ul> <li>3. Energy Investment Priorities</li> <li>4. As an electric customer, I prefer investments in targeted energy efficiency, load management and distributed generation such as solar-support at substations instead of high voltage transmission and request</li> </ul>	Agree Disagree
that the EIS include comprehensive cost benefit analysis of these non transmission alternatives.	11.

Signature

