

In the Matter of:

Dominion Power Open House

Comments

July 15, 2015



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Videography
Videoconferencing**

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Comments

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7/15/2015

DOMINION POWER

OPEN HOUSE

JULY 15, 2015

HELD AT

BATTLEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

HAYMARKET, VIRGINIA

4 PM - 9 PM

C O M M E N T S

MICHAEL SAYLOR: We moved to the town of Haymarket, not to the city of Gainesville or Fairfax, because we want a small town environment. We have fought hard because the town does not gain tax revenue from either Dominion Valley, Piedmont or the villages of Piedmont or similar communities because they're so small.

In the meantime, our community worked with the county to get the area in front of and surrounding the villages of Piedmont rezoned to have a conservation easement and natural trails so we could continue to enjoy the nature and the beauty.

Unfortunately, now Dominion is saying because of a customer, they are going to not ask us but they are going to just pick this location and we have no say as to what the route will be for the lines or whether they're going to be overhead right through our conservation easement or if they're going to choose our route at all.

That is not something that we fought

for. That is not something that we supported. Nothing we can do to help our community is there for a tax base. The only thing we were able to do and thought we were successful was to provide something that could be enjoyed by both our town citizens and the rest of the county.

So please, I'd prefer no lines whatsoever; but if possible, the only one that would be acceptable would be 66 and the hybrid of being buried.

Thank you.

CAROL MIMS: My name is Carol Mims and I'm at **Redacted for Relevance** in Haymarket, Virginia. My comment is, is that of course nobody wants, you know, these utilities in their neighborhood for obvious reasons.

My suggestion or my opinion would be, why can't they use the railroad. The railroad is already being used for an industrial purpose and so to me, it would make logical sense to have, you know, this proposed plan for power to be -- to take the

railroad alternative because, you know, it's already industrial. It's already used for that purpose, you know, and it just seems logical to me.

That's my comment.

JIM O'BRIEN: The fundamental question of this power line is a question of morality and ethics. Does Dominion Power believe it moral to disturb the livelihoods of employees who live in this area by running high tension line lines over their homes? How ethical is that when there are other options available? That's the fundamental issue.

Unfortunately, economics has overwritten morality and ethics; and that's a sad state of affairs in corporate America. You folks really need to focus on what's right for your clients. I happen to be one. Fortunately, I'm in Heritage Hunt which I understand is off the table, at least for the time being.

But you folks need to understand, there's a morality issue involved. You're

going to take the great majority of people's homes and derogate them in value -- that isn't nice, that isn't right, that isn't ethical -- because of one corporation that wants to build something out this way. There's got to be a better way, and you supposedly have the brain power to be able to solve it.

So get with it. Solve the problem and stop the nonsense.

ALI DARAB: So the main question is, who's going to benefit and who's going to pay the costs of this project? It's clear that the community, the homeowners, the property owners are going to pay the major cost of this project and they're going to get, you know, an eyesore in their community, they're going to get lower property values, with lower property values comes less taxes for schools. Obviously, the children of the community are going to be impacted. The entire community is going to be impacted negatively.

On the other hand, you have the

people receiving the benefits of this project, Amazon and whoever the other folks are in the data center who are going to be using this power, using the resources of the community.

So the question is, who's going to pay? Who's going to pay for this? If there's a route with the least impact to the community, obviously there's potential for there to be higher costs. Who's going to pay that cost? Is it going to be 100 percent one-sided, the community paying the cost or is Amazon and the data center going to step up and pay the extra cost?

There has to be some sort of equitable solution. So far, the only thing I see is win, win for Amazon and the data center and lose, lose for the community. Hopefully a fair solution will be decided upon. Hopefully there will be a fair solution if Amazon pays their share.

DAVE PETERSON: The first thing I want to do is express our support for the

power line along I66 and to register nonsupport for the other alternative.

The question I have is, I would like to see Dominion Power explain to the community here what we can do to support this hybrid route in terms of when it goes up to the FCC later this year.

Thank you.

CARYL DAWN: I'm a real estate agent and I am working with people who are potentially under the railroad line. In this community, many of the people are selling at a tremendous loss all along the routes that go over ground.

I see people who put their hard earned money into buying their homes for their future. With the overhead lines, they're going to lose more money. A lot of our sacred sites are going to be defiled and it just is in the name of profit or lower cost to run the line. I don't think sacrificing the people of our county is worth it. If we had no alternative, that's one thing; but we do have the underground

alternative and I think that's the one that should be chosen so that the future can continue to move forward with our industries and businesses.

Please remember the people who live here and what they are sacrificing right now. Okay.

DAVID MANNING: Hi. I feel the only viable option that will cause the least impact to residents and the environment is the Interstate 66 hybrid option where the line goes underground. It clearly will have the least disruption to the environment here and won't run the risk of impacting too many neighborhoods.

Sorry. That's all I got. Thank you.

HOLLY CROCKER: Our country's warriors have served and sacrificed greatly for this country. Many of them have been seriously wounded and injured and have been in a hospital, hospital stays and out-patient stay treatments, some for 300 days, three years, three years plus and their morale is very low. They're separated from their

families.

The Bull Run Warrior Retreat was created for them. It took over two years to complete, over 100 contractors, hundreds of volunteers, thousands of volunteer hours just for them to come and then stay with their families and begin to rebuild their lives and heal. And one of the beauties of the retreat is the serenity of it, the views from the front deck which overlook Waterfall Road, and putting a high power transmission line through there would absolutely devastate that view.

We believe that our soldiers deserve to have that for their service and their sacrifice. So please do not chose this route for the high power transmission lines.

Thank you for your consideration.

JIM POPE: My wife, we both are the hybrid plan in Somerset. Looking at the maps, what the most people in the community are concerned about is the view. Most of us moved out there because Somerset has the views of the mountains and stuff. If we have

the power lines, it's going to ruin the view, plus the prices of homes and stuff like that and that is the biggest reason.

We understand that Amazon wants to develop out here. We understand that there's going to be jobs for the community. We understand all that. But the view means a lot because when you come up here, it's so peaceful when you get out of your jobs in DC and whatnot and come back and just look westward. I can't count the amount of people that just sit on their back porch and just sit and watch the sunset. So that's the main reason.

I noticed on this map, the hybrid program, there's a substation passed the 66 interchange. If you went even from that substation through the -- you're going to go through a swamp, which we gave an easement to Somerset, to the next power station back by Walmart, from point A to point B, just that portion build underground because that's where the population is.

Anyway, if they just went from those

points on the ground, I think most people would be at least somewhat happy. I know they say it's twice of the cost, it's half the life to put it underground; but I remember from my history books, the 1880's, 1900's, something like that, they put cables across the Atlantic and that's salt water. This is not salt water. We have plastics and rubber and things now, a much better way to do it.

The say the maintenance is higher. I'm sorry. I can't believe that. Most people can't believe that. I mean things have changed since the 18-, 1900's. Just that part, and most people would be happy.

What else? That's it.

* * * * *

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, Sharon D. Akers, the Court Reporter who was duly sworn to well and truly report the foregoing proceedings, do hereby certify that they are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and ability; and that I have no interest in said proceedings, financial or otherwise, nor through relationship with any of the parties in interest.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 15th day of July, 2015.



Sharon D. Akers

My commission expires May 31, 2016

Registration No. 268253

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