

Ms. Sandra Squire, Executive Secretary  
WV Public Service Commission  
201 Brooks Street  
P.O. Box 812  
Charleston, WV 25323

RECEIVED

2006 FEB 22 AM 8:53

WVA PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION  
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

Date: 2/20/2006  
Re: #:05-1740, Liberty Gap Wind Force

Dear Ms. Squire,

I currently live and work near Washington DC but spent most of my childhood growing up in West Virginia. I really enjoy going back to visit whenever I can.

A few years ago I purchased a small farm in Pendleton County West Virginia. The breathtaking view of the mountains was the major factor in my family's decision on this property. Since then, I have been spending most of my extra weekends, vacation, and holidays at the farm enjoying the beauty and serenity of the mountains and working on the many home improvement projects at the old farm house. I hope to retire there someday. My daughter and her family are also talking about moving up to the farm in the near future.

I've been hearing a lot about the proposed wind turbine project on Jack Mountain but never really got into the details to understand the impact and, to be honest, never thought it would get this far. Some of my neighbors called me and asked if I had been contacted by the developer, Liberty Gap, about right-of-way on my property for the transmission lines. They were surprised to hear that I hadn't been contacted since the developer has been negotiating with a number of the landowners around me. I took my regular trip to the farm this weekend and, to my dismay, I see markings on the road in front of my house indicating the possible path of the transmission lines! It looks like they plan to take these transmission lines across my front yard and possibly my house! One of the larger landowners in the area also owns a small hay field between me and the next house. I'm afraid they have negotiated a right-of-way lease with the developer but I don't think there's enough space there for a high voltage transmission line. Even if there is, it would be a really ugly thing to do to me and the surrounding neighbors. Since I haven't heard from the developer or the Public Services Commission, I am concerned there may be an underhanded plan to take my property through eminent domain.

In general I'm opposed with the plan to put these mammoth structures on several of the beautiful mountains of West Virginia. There are many other methods of cultivating renewable energy that would benefit our communities and not just a few big developers, power giants, and politicians. Isn't it this industry big-energy control that got us in the mess we're in now?

If there are no stopping these industrial wind farm projects, does this mean these developers can also destroy people's homes in the name of the shortest/cheapest route for their transmission lines? Pendleton County is one of the most sparsely populated counties in the state and yet, they plan to take these transmission lines right beside/over our homes? And, possibly condemn some of them in the process?

I would appreciate it if the Public Services Commission would take a more in-depth look at Liberty Gap's planned path for this high voltage transmission line. I believe they stated that they had right-of-way agreements with all the landowners in the path. I never made such an agreement. In fact, they have never spoken to me. This concerns me that Liberty Gap and the local government officials may still be discussing plans to use eminent domain which was also publicly denied.

Sincerely,  
Barbara S. Brown

2178 Monaghan Drive  
Herndon, VA 20170