

Loudoun County Board of Supervisors  
1 Harrison Street SE, 5th Floor  
Leesburg, VA 20175

Dear Honorable Members of the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors,

We are writing to express our opposition to the proposed power line transmission corridor and any actions by the Board that would support or approve such a project. As concerned citizens and landowners in County of Loudoun and the Rivers Edge Community Association, I believe it is essential to protect private property rights and preserve the integrity of our community.

Any support for this transmission line corridor, as documented in the public record and filed in the county land records office, will be viewed as an action against private property and vested land rights. I urge the Board to prioritize the interests of local residents and landowners, rather than those of external entities seeking to impose their will on our community and land owners across Loudoun County.

I request that the Board take the following actions:

1. Reject any proposals for the power line transmission corridor that would compromise private property rights.
2. Ensure that any decisions regarding this project are made with the utmost consideration for the well-being and concerns of local residents.
3. Maintain transparency and accountability in all deliberations and actions related to this project.
4. Propose, approve (if applicable) and support new power plants in Virginia to support the power to current data centers.
5. No new data centers in Loudoun County.

In November of 2024, we wrote to PJM Interconnection, L.L.C., (PJM) to express our strong opposition to the proposed power line easement, 2024-W1-262, that would traverse our private property located at Rivers Edge Lane, Lovettsville. As concerned landowners, we are deeply troubled by the potential impacts of this proposed easement on our home, vested land rights, and the environment, along with the impacts to our neighbors and community. This email lists some of our concerns but is not limited to the following:

#### Impact on Home and Land Rights

The proposed easement would significantly devalue our property, affect its aesthetic appeal and potentially reducing its market value. The presence of high-voltage power lines would also compromise the quality of life for the families living in the community. Furthermore, the easement would infringe upon our vest land rights (as established the original land patent, warrant and survey), restricting our ability to use and enjoy our land as we see fit.

## Environmental Concerns

The proposed power line easement would also have devastating environmental consequences. The construction process would result in habitat destruction, soil erosion, and increased risk of wildfires. Moreover, the electromagnetic fields (EMFs) emitted by the power lines pose potential health risks to humans, wildlife, and the ecosystem as a whole.

## Alternative Solutions

Consider alternative solutions that would minimize the impact on our property and the environment. This could include re-routing the power line or utilizing underground transmission lines. Another solution would be to route the transmission line from Winchester, Virginia east along Route 7 into Loudoun County to its destination. I believe that a more thoughtful and collaborative approach can be taken to address the energy needs of our community to include building new power plants in Virginia and vacating or exempting the building of said new power plants from any legislative or regulatory burden.

As residents of the Rivers Edge Community, we are writing to express, in the strongest terms possible, our opposition to the creation of a high voltage transmission corridor through our Community. As you may know, we already have a 500 kV line and a 138 kV line across our land. Additional lines across our land would be very detrimental. Additionally, we want to express our concern for favorability or biased support for one Loudoun County Community over another.

For example, the Waterford Community was protected from the NexEra's proposed 500kV Line because it obstructed the view-shed. Also, concerning the Aspen matter, the Board hired, at taxpayer expense, a land appraiser to testify on the economic effect of the Dominion line on the property owners in the view-shed. Also, an engineer was hired by the Board to testify on the issue of undergrounding of the kV line. Taxpayer funds were used to protect the interest of private individuals. The bias is very evident.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to seeing the Board prioritize the rights and interests of Loudoun County residents and stop their support for this Corridor, any new data centers and start working for the people of Loudoun County.

Sincerely,

Stew and Elisa Merritts