

## **Additional Letters Received as of December 3, 2023 Regarding Proposed Transmission Upgrades in Advance of the December 5, 2023 Transmission Expansion Advisory Committee Meeting**

The following emails and letters were submitted to the Secretary of the PJM Members Committee - David Anders - pursuant to the Board Communications process and are being posted pursuant to that process. A response will be provided to these communications in due course and will be posted on the Board Communications page as well.

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To David Anders and the PJM Board,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposal by PJM Interconnection for a new 500 kV transmission line in western Loudoun County. My family moved out to Waterford to be able to enjoy the scenic landscapes and to not be near large power lines that can not only impact the environment but also my family's health. The proposed line would be only a few miles away from a public school which feels very irresponsible.

I understand that meeting the growing demand for power to data centers in Eastern Loudoun is a real challenge. But, this proposed route is likely to meet much public opposition and is already deemed to be a high constructibility risk - costing the ratepayers (here and in neighboring states) much more in the future. I encourage you to reconsider and choose an option along pre-existing transmission routes that will have lower environmental impact, impact on the children at the local school and will minimize the cost.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Laura Teschner

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Mr. Anders,

Thank you so much for your time reading this letter.

I am a resident of Hamilton, Virginia, in Western Loudoun county and have been following the development of the proposed greenfield 500kV line to be built by NextEra. I purchased a home last year in a community that abuts the proposed pathway for the transmission line. I am strongly opposed to the development of a new right of way for high transmission lines that will not only disrupt the viewshed of our country community, but will also bifurcate the conservation areas around Waterford National Historic Monument, Digges Valley and Catoctin Ridge.

Agritourism, farming and outdoor activities are a hugely important aspect of life in western Loudoun county. This area has unbelievable natural beauty and an amazing collection of historical villages and towns that make it special.

This is the reason we all move here. My home is 20 years old. I had no idea that my property could be so impacted by the installation of massive power lines and that my property value could be so quickly reduced- all after 20 years and with no obvious restrictions on land for the proposed purpose. I checked for easements and right of ways and limitations in the area before purchasing my property. With the age of the property, I felt we were safe to invest. And then I saw the location of these proposed lines.

I understand that you are in a difficult situation. Providing power to the data centers and businesses of the area is necessary. Every land owner will feel it should be routed through someone else's property.

Surely as the county approved energy-consuming data centers they also considered the least impactful way to get power to them. It seems to me that those approvals should have come with an effective plan to provide the required power- without springing economic hardship on communities that have existed for decades prior to this effort.

My request is that the routing of the lines be reconsidered.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lee Darnold

Hamilton, VA.

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Dear David Anders and PJM Board of Managers,

I'm writing to express my deep opposition to your proposal for a new greenfield 500 kV line in western Loudoun County, VA (Proposal 2022-W3-853). This proposal calls for lines to cut through my family's front yard, devastating our family since learning about it this week.

I'm not writing to list the reasons why I fiercely disagree with your work to date. I'm asking everyone that has put pen to paper in the development of these plans to lace up their boots, and walk the proposed paths of the lines. Personally walking through the protected fields and streams, and moreover the front and back yards of family homes, will surely provide you the missing context into why these plans are a detriment to the community - and to put it bluntly, ludicrous.

Please take the time to stand in my family's front yard with children running around, look up and imagine 300 foot transmission lines above you. The same front yard where I learned to ride a bike and got married. The proposed lines would destroy the American dream my parents created for their family - putting their heads down, working hard, contributing to society and investing their life and savings into a home and community. The construction of these lines - and the cowardly use of eminent domain - would destroy the property value, and destroy our family's future. There is no compensation or argument that would change that. Again, please imagine yourself in our situation and I know you will join us in our outcry and disappointment.

I believe in development, but never when it devastatingly hurts farms, small businesses, tourism and most importantly, the community members it inaccurately claims it supports. There are better solutions, and we are here to help find them.

Feel free to reach out with any questions. I hope you will do the right thing.

Sarah Nasir

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Good evening David,

My name is Stephanie Christensen. I live in Waterford, VA. PJM has proposed to put power lines through my backyard to provide power to the growing data center demand. 300 ft power lines through rural landscapes, a historic national landmark of Phillips Farm, is UNACCEPTABLE. The cost on our property for the massive construction footprint and the ruined viewshed would in effect, completely devalue our property, which PJM would be responsible for compensating us for.

As a 20 year resident of Loudoun County, we decided to raise our three children in Waterford for the vistas of rural Virginia. My kids, Gabe 10, Vivienne 7, and Abigail 5, attend Waterford Elementary school, which is within a mile of your proposed lines.

There is a growing body of evidence to support the negative effects of electromagnetic radiation (emitted from your power lines) on the development and health of children. PJM is responsible for providing every resident affected by your power lines evidence that the emissions radiating from your power lines does have negative effects on the development of children and the health of all Waterford residents.

Please be aware, the residents of Waterford and all of Loudoun County will fight the construction of your proposed plan, costing your company and the data center company you are working for, time and money.

Please send me any and all public information on the proposal. Please provide me with ALL available information for any meetings that I can attend regarding PJM's proposal with dates and times.

-Stephanie Christensen

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I am writing to express my opposition to the proposal by PJM Interconnection for a new 500 kV transmission line in western Loudoun County. The proposed route goes through some of our most scenic and historic landscapes, over prime farmland and through important wildlife habitats.

Susan Planck

Purcellville, VA

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David,

I am writing your office in opposition of the proposed plans for transmission lines as drawn through the Waterford National Historic Landmark.

These transmission lines will ruin the natural beauty of the village and the very integrity of the Historic preservation efforts underway for decades by the state and various historical preservation societies who

have fought diligently to maintain the integrity of the village. Massive conservation efforts have saved the village over the years, and this proposed path runs directly through a conservation easement registered with the Virginia Outdoors Foundation.

View of the transmission lines would be unsightly. It would ruin the historic landmark for generations to come. I can speak to the personal devastation transmission lines cause, my grandfather, grandmother, and all my maternal relatives are buried in Amissville, VA- in a once wooded and peaceful setting. Our family gravesite now sits under the humming wires of 300 ft transmission lines that run from Amissville to Leesburg. ROW taking was what ruined my family's plot. My grandfather wished to be buried under childhood trees, not transmission wires.

Now, I have the chance to speak-up about my opposition to the efforts underway by PJM. Again, I strongly oppose the efforts underway to pass these lines through Waterford. There are alternatives, and there is poor future planning in mind of this temporary solution proposed to selfishly serve data centers.

With car and fleet electrification- PJM and Dominion are better to pause on grotesque data center demand, and reflect how serving data centers limits Northern Virginia's ability to electrify fleets and personal vehicles in the next 10-15 years. Perhaps having Dominion discuss capacity limitations with peers such as Southern California Edison or Pacific Gas and Electric would be advised. Broader thought MUST be given to broad electrification needs and NOT just data centers.

I beg PJM to please consider broader future plans, and ensure that our wildlife, historical, and outdoor conservation remains intact in Waterford and in other rural and protected areas of this country. Any protected or designated area should remain intact.

Regards,

Kristin Bennett

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David,

It has sickened and shocked me, my family and my neighbors to learn of this power line proposal that will destroy our properties. Western Loudoun is an agricultural and tourist heaven where people from all over the United States come to enjoy its natural beauty and tranquility: wineries, breweries, wedding venues, bed and breakfasts and many other small businesses and farms who practice natural and organic skills all where people come together to enjoy, celebrate, escape, shop, and relax in one of the most beautiful places in the United States. And this power line nightmare is the kind of respect and care you have for our homes and land? This proposed line would destroy efforts Loudoun County has made to retain the agricultural activities, keep open land with views, and to build the tourism as an economic base. The western Loudoun proposal also would have high costs to you because folks in this area are willing to fight. There are other potential sites mapped. Why choose western Loudoun?

For our family, we own and run a horse (working) farm that will destroy our pastures where horses graze in order to be fed and live. I also own a piano studio in my home and my husband, Dr. Tim Teague, licensed professional counselor, owns Real Relationships LLC, which operates out of the tack room of

our barn. So not only is this our home, it is our livelihood and you are threatening to personally destroy us.

Our farm has beautiful views of sunsets, mountains, deer, bald eagles, hawks, wild turkey, fox and many other species of wildlife. Your lines and towers proposed will destroy our views, our businesses, our hopes for the future of our child and 3 grandchildren and our home.

It is ridiculous that your lack of long term thinking will destroy the businesses and lives of those of us who have worked long and hard in an honest and respectable manner. You expect us to pay with all that we have and own? This is not acceptable.

Finally, VA law states that eminent domain cannot be declared for economic development reasons, that economic development is not a sufficient reason. Your website states power line construction is needed for economic development. This project is not acceptable.

My preference, and I'm sure that of my neighbors in the entire western Loudoun region, is that you select another pathway along existing construction and highways. Why aren't solar panels installed on the multiple acres of data centers and these centers be responsible for their own energy appetites instead of expecting Western Loudoun residents and small business to do it for you? We request all planning sessions affecting this region be transparent and immediate notice be given of any decisions that would affect us.

With concern for our countryside and those who live here,

Beverly Teague  
Waterford VA

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To David Anders and the PJM Board of Managers:

**If you are looking for the path of least resistance, please know that Proposal 2022-W3-853 for a new Greenfield 500 kV line in western Loudoun County, Virginia is not it.**

Our community is filled with people with tremendous resources. Western Loudoun is home to many of the wealthiest, smartest, best connected people in the state and country. We will use everything within our power to fight Proposal 2022-W3-853.

Proposal 2022-W3-853 threatens the core tenets of the National Historic Landmarks program set up by the National Park Service to preserve the heritage of the United States. The village of Waterford recently renewed its status within the program and was compared to Monticello and Mount Vernon in its importance. Your lines on that property and/or in the village's view shed would diminish and devalue our National Historic Landmarks designation and jeopardize the security and value of others across the state and country.

Proposal 2022-W3-853 threatens the core tenets of conservation easements which are offered to preserve wildlife habitat, conserve working farms and forest, ensure clean and plentiful water, address

climate change, continue Virginia's historic legacy, expand recreational opportunities and restore the Chesapeake Bay. Your lines through our conservation easements would diminish and devalue our designations and jeopardize the security and appeal of others across the state and country.

Proposal 2022-W3-853 threatens the lifeblood of our hard-fought viticultural community. Our wineries have successfully toiled for decades to earn the attention and respect of oenophiles, who come in droves from near and far to enjoy our wines and our unsurpassed views. Tourism in Western Loudoun is a major pillar of Loudoun's Comprehensive Plan. Your lines through our grape vines would diminish and devalue the continuity and momentum of our vineyards and jeopardize the security and appeal of others across the state and country.

Proposal 2022-W3-853 can only succeed through the use of eminent domain. Virginia's Constitution recognizes property ownership as a fundamental right which can be taken away for public use, but cannot be taken away for economic growth and development. While private property can be taken away for authorized utility service, the spirit of that limitation is to supply power to local residents. Your reports and web site clearly state that the new Greenfield 500 kV line is needed to support the economic growth and development of the data centers thirty plus miles away. Your lines through our properties and over our homes would diminish and devalue their worth and strip us of our fundamental right — to help big business, not our neighbors. Your lines through our properties and over our homes would jeopardize the rights of property owners across the state and country.

Proposal 2022-W3-853's threats to our historic landmarks, conservation easements, wildlife, tourism and property rights are only matched by the devastating emotional and financial impacts of losing our homes and, for many of us, our livelihoods.

I appreciate that PJM has an onerous burden to determine a path that will satisfy the shortfall of electric power required for the approved and proposed data centers. However, your own report shows that Proposal 2022-W3-853 is not desirable in terms of many factors including constructibility and required land acquisition. I urge you to step back and consider your other options that take advantage of your existing right-of-ways. Redundancy is also not a compelling argument to ravage our homes and countryside. True redundancy would be to stop bringing additional power to the highest concentration of data centers in the world and move the data centers themselves to less populated areas adjacent to highways.

Please know that Proposal 2022-W3-853 is not the answer to your problem. We are confident that we have ample support and ammunition from within and without our community to successfully fight Proposal 2022-W3-853.

Tricia Beisler

Waterford, VA  
(Located directly on Proposal 2022-W3-853's fault line)

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Dear David Anders and PJM Board of Managers,

I was devastated to learn about your proposal for a new greenfield 500 kV line in Western Loudoun County, VA (Proposal 2022-W3-853). These power lines would run through my family's front yard, which sits on a sprawling 32-acres in beautiful Waterford, Virginia. With passion, I utterly oppose your proposal.

The current proposal is problematic everywhere you look. It is insensitive to the hardworking homeowners, small business owners, and farmers who have spent their livelihoods making Waterford a place where tourists flock from all over the country for weddings, wineries, bed & breakfasts, organic food, and many other small business ventures.

I urge you to pursue other options in supplying these data centers with energy. Please do not take the sacred hill (where your proposed line sits) my husband and I got married for the sake of your personal business endeavor.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Respectfully,

Emily Stup

Waterford, Virginia since 2002

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I have lived in Waterford for about 70 years. I am totally opposed to your proposal to wreck Waterford as a historic town by running power lines through the center of our land. We have worked for decades to preserve Waterford and your senseless proposal stands to destroy almost 90 years of the town's work. My wife and I will work with others in the town to ensure that we have the resources and energy to defeat this insane proposal

Bowman Cutter.  
Waterford

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Dear David Anders and PJM

My family lives in Waterford, VA and we categorically oppose the current proposals to build high tension powerlines as part of Proposal 2022-W3-853 through our home, protected historical sites, and communities we've spent decades supporting and developing. I also view this as a blatant land grab that tramples on individual liberty and our rights as property owners. Eminent domain is not license to destroy properties, homes, history, and conservation efforts under the guise of economic development, especially considering that there are 72 other options. Do better, and find another way.

On a macro scale, the current proposal is problematic in just about every way. It doesn't consider the harmful implications--legal or otherwise--of development/construction on historically protected sites (Waterford Village), budding agribusiness ventures (Virginia Wine Country, Horse Ranches, and farmlands), or fragile ecosystems scattered across Western Loudoun. Beyond the tangible destruction of real property and businesses, the manner in which

this proposal has been floated is deplorable. There's been no reasonable engagement, transparency, or communication with the people and stakeholders of our community regarding these plans. In turn, this has bred a sense of betrayal, mistrust, and a lack of good faith underlying these plans.

On a personal level, the current proposal has dangerous high tension power lines bisecting our property mere hundreds of feet away from the home where my wife grew up, and across land that my young kids now regularly explore and play on. Not only will this diminish our property value, but more importantly, it will irreparably harm the sentimental value of our home. This property is more than just land to us, it's our home. It's a place where multiple members of our family have been married. It's a place where we regularly gather four generations of our family for any, and every, occasion imaginable. It's a place where, at the time, my wife and infant daughter moved back to while I was deployed to Syria on a combat mission as a Green Beret. I'm telling you all of this because this proposal isn't just an attack on our homes, it's a threat to our families.

While I recognize there are tangible business interests, tax revenues, and other interests in pursuing this energy project, I'm simply advocating that you explore other options in supplying these data centers with energy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Ahmad Nasir

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**Ahmad I. Nasir**

J.D. Candidate, Class of 2026 | [Stanford](#) Law School

M.B.A. Candidate, Class of 2027 | [Stanford](#) Graduate School of Business

Captain, Special Forces | U.S. Army Reserves

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I'm writing to strongly protest this plan. My family has lived in Waterford for 51 years and worked hard to preserve this historic town for all those years. It is one of the few remaining small towns that provides an opportunity for visitors to experience what 19th century American life was like. By building the planned towers with power lines, your company will destroy a place known throughout the country for its pristine architecture and peaceful setting. The impact will only earn your company much negative publicity and will destroy an American treasure. Please don't play a role in destroying something that is valued by so many. 30,000 people come to Waterford every October to enjoy its rural setting. There will no longer be a reason for their visits with the PJM power lines destroying the landscape.

Abbie Cutter  
Waterford,  
Va 20197

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Mr Walker and Mr Anders,

We are respectfully asking you to reconsider the proposed route for project 853 briefed last night. We are conveying to you on behalf of hundreds of fellow concerned community farmers, business entities and property owners (many of whom have young children under the direct path of this route) that passing this plan on December 5th will almost certainly be met with legal opposition on the order of county conservation easements, negative impacts to humans and wildlife, Loudoun County small business owners and farmers whose land this route would directly traverse. We humbly ask that this plan be revised to route along alternative options such as buried voltage along current easements considered where the impacts have already been nullified and approved. We understand there is a cost/benefit to these plans and that you do not represent the sole decision point and that many different factors are considered when these plans are developed. The community concern is that the negative health and environmental impacts outweigh the positive impacts of a 500kV path through hundreds of western Loudoun County business owners, homeowners and conservation easements.

Very respectfully,

The community of western Loudoun

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Bill and David,

The impact of your proposal in Project 853 is heinous and unethical.

Please choose to avoid the lengthy regulatory process, promised public opposition, construction challenges, environmental destruction you will cause, and constraints of property acquisition that will drive your costs and lengthen your schedule. There is an obvious lower impact and lower risk option available to you, which you should select in order to minimize cost burden on ratepayers and landowners.

You are proposing devastating impacts on American citizens who chose where we live so that we could recover as disabled Veterans, raise a family in a haven for special needs children, operate a productive farm, live the American dream of a rural business, rely on agritourism, and countless other opportunities - all of which are ruined by Project 853. Please read that last sentence carefully... people who have put their lives on the line for this country... moved *here*... to AVOID what Project 853 seeks to bring. Suddenly the freedoms we defended are no longer important? And these decisions are being made by people who don't even live in Virginia? Seems unreal.

I respectfully request that you consider the myriad of perfectly viable options available to you. Options that do not involve the utter destruction of the qualities of life we all chose when we moved here.

Noting from shared correspondence that you, Bill, are a Program Management Professional (PMP). Congratulations, and it is worthy of sharing such an achievement in your signature block. As such, I trust you have done your ethical duty, per your certification, and you know that these lines can be buried on already approved easements. Surely as a certified Program Management Professional, you fulfilled your ethical duty and researched the horrifyingly negative impact of Project 853. I'm playing catch-up and still reeling in disbelief that such an idea has gotten this far, and will do my best to ensure conveyed distress from my friends and neighbors.

While I appreciate that the PJM posted it on their selected proposals list for the 2022W3 RTEP competitive window on 26 Oct, and you all (who don't live here) completed your final selections on 31 Oct, I'm not sure you've seen the postings of those of us who live here. Unlike your postings, we will make ours very apparent to you, as we seek to collaborate and work with you to pursue alternative ethical solutions that are free of the ruin that Project 853 proposes.

You might be inclined to ask us to note that PJM does not select transmission routes. I would challenge you to *more deliberately* represent your obligation as a citizen, your PMP certification, and perhaps (?) your role as a family man. Please do not presume to excuse PJM from the obligation to be more precise in selection of transmission routes. "Point to point" may be a convenient colloquialism for PJM in your day-to-day workflow, but in this case, the shortest path is NOT a straight line... it's the \*right\* line, and it's buried in an approved easement. In my home, we have 80+ years of service to this country. We chose Western Loudoun to live, heal, thrive, raise our children, and embrace the freedoms we fought to defend and continue to enjoy in this country. In other homes here in Loudoun, there are generations of farmers, small business owners, service members, and families who will be negatively impacted by a 500kV power line. None of us want you to destroy our community.

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Respectfully,

CAPT Beth Creighton, USN (Ret), PMP

and the Community of Western Loudoun

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Dave, I understand Loudoun County is considering putting up new high power transmission lines along with the huge and invasive structures to support them. I have lived in Western Loudoun County (Lovettsville) for the past 23 years. My family owns a horse farm business. This proposal would put us out of business. I am totally against these power lines, not only because it will destroy our business, but also because of the negative health implications for people and horses, along with the terrible damage it will do to the beauty of western Loudoun County. Please note the beautiful scenes from our farm below.

**DO NOT PUT ANY NEW HIGH TRANSMISSION POWER LINES IN WESTERN LOUDOUN COUNTY!**

Jodi Benedict

Lovettsville, VA

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To David Anders and the PJM Board,

I am writing to unequivocally oppose PJM Interconnection's proposed 500kV transmission line in western Loudoun County. This project threatens to irreparably harm our region's scenic landscapes, historic sites, prime farmland, and vital wildlife habitats.

As a resident of Western Loudoun, I am deeply concerned about the preservation of our area's agricultural integrity and rural charm. The introduction of unsightly, reflective metal structures, accompanied by constant humming noises for our neighbors adjacent to the line, is unacceptable. These structures would be a visual and auditory blight, disrupting the tranquil existence and pristine views that are a hallmark of our community.

Beyond the immediate impact on our landscapes, this proposal underscores a broader issue: the need for a more sustainable and decentralized approach to energy. To mitigate the need for such unsightly and expansive grid projects, there should be a concerted push towards encouraging homes and businesses to adopt renewable energy sources. This shift would not only preserve the aesthetic and environmental integrity of regions like ours but also represents a more forward-thinking and responsible approach to energy consumption.

I urge you to reconsider this proposal and seek alternatives that leverage existing transmission routes, reducing environmental impact and costs. This matter demands an approach that balances practical energy needs with a deep respect for the local heritage, environment, and community values.

Thank you for your prompt and serious attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,  
Tony Zuccaro  
Waterford, VA

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**Subject: Proposal 2022-W-3-853 for the Greenfield 500Kv lines in western Loudoun County**

**To: David Anders and the PMJ Board of Managers**

**Cc: Russet Perry, Geary Higgins, Phyllis Randall, Caleb Kershner, Loudoun County Board of Supervisors**

**From: Timothy J. Teague, Ph.D., Licensed Mental Health Therapist**

**Date: December 2, 2023**

Proposal 2022-W3-853 **deeply disturbs** us to the core of our beings! It has severely upset many environmentalists, agritourism businesses, and Waterford Historic District enthusiasts due to the rape of the environment and landscape, but it is most disturbing to the home and business owners whose properties will be harshly marred and thereby dramatically reduced in value by these lines. (Perhaps,

you cannot understand that no one could possibly offer us an amount of money that would make this proposal acceptable.) The severe disturbance has caused lost sleep, increased blood pressure and enormous harmful stress. This insensitive, at best, and cold-hearted invasion of our properties damages our lives, and perhaps, our longevity for which you would bear a significant part of the responsibility.

To have these lines in our faces every day will cause pain, grief and anger every day, multiple times per day as they steal from us what we bought and sacrificed to create. Your proposal hurts our mental, emotional and physical health! Your proposal places these lines 400 feet from our back door, and even closer to others. How can this invasion of our homes occur in a county of over 520 sq miles! How can this invasion be allowed legally for purely economic gain since that is against Virginia state law!

What are your company values and guiding principles? A timeless guiding principle is the Golden Rule: treat others the way you would want to be treated. I am certain you would not do this to your mother or father, son or daughter, or friend, and hopefully not even your enemy. You, with all certainty, would not want this done to your property!

**I understand that your company has a job to do. Please do it with more care for the persons whose lives will be hurt daily by your plan. Walk the path that you propose and observe the beauty you will destroy for this generation and the generations that follow. Please do not knowingly propose what damages hundreds of lives and hundreds of property values.**

I do understand that your task is to find a path to get power from Point A to Point B. I believe it is also possible for you to conclude there are no good options in Loudoun County to accomplish this task. If so, then the task falls on the local and state governments and Board of Supervisors to conclude: 1. There will be no more Data Centers in Loudoun County since sufficient power does not exist, 2. Data Centers can be built near existing power sources in counties that need additional tax revenue far

more than Loudoun, and 3. Their responsibility is to promote and protect the wellbeing of the citizens which this proposal certainly does not.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Teague, Ph. D., Licensed Professional Counselor

703-587-7230     [doctorteague@gmail.com](mailto:doctorteague@gmail.com)

16159 Hamilton Station Road, Waterford, VA 20197

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Mr Anders-

Western Loudoun residents successfully launched a huge opposition to ATT development on the Short Hill ridgeline and you should believe we are organizing a similar protest to PJM plans in this area.

I ask and encourage PJM opt for a different route that does not cross our beloved scenic historic and tourism-strong western Loudoun and in doing so avoid the guaranteed public outcry against PJM.

Regards,  
Sarah Stinger

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Mr. Anders and the PJM Board,

I am writing to inform you that I am very much against the proposed PJM Interconnection for a new 500 kV transmission line in western Loudoun County. As a retired farmer in this county I have watched the impacts of development on farmland and the rural life we cherish here. I have also been a part of successfully pushing back on some of that development.

I do not believe the project will happen because the outpouring of resistance from Loudoun residents will be solid.

Barbara Lamborne

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We are writing to express our opposition to the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500 KV line in Western Loudoun County VA. Your maps indicate that this line will go through the western Loudoun area, to include our farm (Lovettsville). We cannot think of a more disruptive path. Out of 92 options,

PJM selected 4 and they focused on the plan that is the most disruptive. This will be opposed vigorously at all stages by the residents of western Loudoun.

The option you have proposed can only be accomplished by destroying numerous farms, small agriculture pursuits and large portions of the northern Loudoun wine industry. It appears on the surface that it is much more reasonable and rational for PJM to select existing utility corridors rather than creating a new one to be developed by an out of state cooperation, with no local insight or knowledge.

It also appears that the residents will be funding through user electrical fees, data centers, that will provide them little or no benefit.

For your reference, just in the last week, we have 2 independent local publications discussing this problem. Our resistance to this effort will be made known in every step of the process.

Jim and Mary Gordon

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Dear Mr. Anders & PJM Board of Managers -

I'm certain that you have begun to hear from residents in Waterford, VA and across Western Loudoun County regarding new transmission Line proposals that PJM is considering.

While I understand there are increased power demands in Eastern Loudoun County, driven by the emergence of large data centers, the proposal to create a new transmission route that slices through Western Loudoun is, in a word, absurd.

As a 35 resident of Loudoun County who lives off of Old Wheatland Road and adjacent to Waterford, I wish to personally express my opposition to PJM pursuing the placement of new transmission lines anywhere near the Waterford, VA area. Waterford is a historic village founded in 1733. The Village and the surrounding area are part of a historic landmark conferred by the U.S. Department of the Interior. With all due respect, running new transmission towers through this area would be an egregious violation of the area's historic bearing and rural economy. The impact of your proposed route would have a devastating impact on the environment as well as on residential property values.

The Waterford and Western Loudoun area is loaded with affluent, well educated residents who will easily be compelled to rally against a new PJM transmission project. If PJM elects to proceed, it should anticipate an expensive, protracted and painful fight. People around the Commonwealth of Virginia and the nation will be afforded the opportunity to learn about how PJM is literally violating a historic heritage area and the people who live there.

I encourage you to go back to the drawing board and reconsider the feasibility of utilizing existing right-of-ways rather than traversing new ground, particularly given your own internal risk assessments which note the reality of high constructability and permitting issues.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Paul Siker

Waterford, VA

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Good morning,

I would like to ask you to remove the new line through western Loudoun from consideration in your deliberations on Tuesday, December 5. This route, described as Greenfield/Nextera 642 would run directly through our Waterford family farm of nearly 600 acres thereby disrupting the livelihood of three multi-generational farm families. I'm sure you have also heard that this route also bisects a National Historic Landmark, adjacent to our farm property. It also impacts park land north of us as well as other farm properties between. I sincerely urge you to redirect your search towards boosting existing lines without creating damaging new lines through agricultural land.

Thank you for your consideration,

Amy McIntosh

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David Anders and the PJM Board,

I would like to express my strong opposition to the proposal by PJM Interconnection for a new 500 kV transmission line in western Loudoun County. The proposed route goes through some of the most scenic landscapes, over pristine farmland and through important wildlife ecosystems.

As local, this issue is important to me as well as my friends, family and community (including many local farmers). The agricultural and agritourism sector is strong, but they must have undisturbed farmland and scenic views to continue what they are doing for years to come. This proposed transmission line threatens the entire rural economic sector in Loudoun and will have ripple effects into the local community and region that relies on the food produced.

I know that meeting the growing demand for power to data centers in Eastern Loudoun is a significant challenge. But, this proposed route is likely to meet much public opposition and is already deemed to be a high constructibility risk - costing the ratepayers (here and in neighboring states) much more in the future. Please reconsider and choose an option along pre-existing transmission routes that will have lower environmental impact and will minimize the cost.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lea Howe

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December 2, 2023

Attention: David Anders, PJM Members Committee Secretary  
David.Anders@pjm.com

To the PJM Board of Managers:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500kV line in western Loudoun County Virginia to be built by Florida based NextEra (Proposal 2022-W3-853). Your maps indicate this line would transit historic and conservation areas around Mt. Gilead, Digges Valley, and Waterford National Historic Landmark along the Catoclin Ridge.

There was a multi year fight in the mid 2000's over a new transmission line in this same area that generated huge opposition and ultimately resulted in a compromise that put part of the new line under the existing right-of-way along the WO&D trail, with the rest aligned in a new right of way along an existing transportation corridor, namely the Leesburg Bypass.

In the intervening years, organized efforts to protect rural Loudoun and its farming, historic, equestrian, environmental/conservation, and agritourism interests have only grown stronger.

There is a very mobilized public that will fight even harder over the placement of new transmission lines through undisturbed Loudoun countryside than they did in the mid 2000's.

The interested parties this time are much broader and span multiple counties. Loudoun has worked hard to promote tourism in the western half of the county, which is a major pillar in Loudoun's Comprehensive Plan. The quantity and quality of agritourism businesses in Loudoun outpaces all other jurisdictions in Virginia. Crisscrossing this area with transmission lines to meet energy demand elsewhere would hurt this vital sector of the economy.

We appreciate that PJM has a very difficult task ahead of it making up for anticipated electric power shortfalls, but we think community engagement and a broader range of alternative solutions and transmission technologies need to be considered. Meanwhile, other parts of Virginia are adding data centers and old data centers will be modernizing with new computers that consume even more power, all further complicating PJM's task. The current path we are on is unsustainable and unscalable, and much needs to change in the way the region approves data centers and plans for the expected demand for electric power. We urge PJM to step back and reconsider its approach, with a goal of ensuring your mission deliver power, but not at the cost of destroying the communities and other economic interests that are in your path.

Sincerely,  
Gina Cotto  
Purcellville, VA

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Mark Sutton

Waterford, VA

December 2, 2023

Mr. David Anders, Secretary  
PJM Board of Managers

Dear Mr. Anders,

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed transmission line path in Western Loudoun County, Virginia.

Your proposed path cuts directly through a vibrant and successful agro-tourism corridor and spans multiple protected lands - the work of almost a century of conservation efforts by generations of Virginians.

Most notably, you are proposing a path directly through The Waterford National Historic Landmark which, I'm sure you've learned by now, is protected at both the state and federal level.

As a resident of Waterford Village, my property viewshed looks directly upon Phillips Farm, a plot of land that your 300 foot tall, 50 foot wide clear cut would essentially destroy. Such a change would dramatically impact my family's quality of life as well as have a significant negative effect on our financial well-being. We have lived in our historic home for over 10 years now and are raising our young children here.

Over the last decade, we have continued to invest in our home with the understanding that we are playing an important role in the preservation of a National Historic Landmark. The value of our investment is directly tied to the value of the surrounding homes and land, all of which depend on Waterford maintaining its status as a protected area. Transmission lines on this scale will destroy the character of Waterford, which will lower the value of our homes and render our personal and financial investments moot.

My story is not unique. Every resident of Waterford can make similar claims about investing in historic preservation by investing in their historic homes. Waterford has a storied history of conservation and preservation activism. We are knowledgeable, organized, and highly motivated. We have strong relationships with area business leaders (many of whom would be negatively impacted by these transmission lines) and elected officials (many of whom would also be negatively impacted by these transmission lines). Rest assured that a decision to move

forward with the current path would be met with extensive resistance from a powerful and resourceful coalition of organizations, business interests, and residents.

Your own analysis of this plan, as I understand it, has this path rated as "medium to high risk," largely due to the known issues of getting past various protections and working through local opposition. While I presume you would encounter some level of resistance with any chosen path, I can assure you that the Waterford area residents will work tirelessly to delay and block this initiative at every step. As such, the time and cost to put your plan into action will be increased significantly if you approve this path recommendation.

Please make the informed decision to alter your plans.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Sutton  
Waterford Resident

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PJM Board of Managers

c/o Mr. David Anders, Secretary, PJM Members Committee

December 2, 2023

To the PJM Board of Managers:

We are writing to express our strong opposition to the PJM proposal to construct a new 500kV transmission line in western Loudoun County, Virginia (Proposal 2022-W3-853).

Our family farm consists of property on both the east and west slopes of Short Hill Mountain in Lovettsville, Virginia, totaling over 300 acres. Your maps indicate the proposed new line would cut directly through our farm, passing in front of our residence on the east side of Short Hill, and would proceed to transit numerous other historic, conservation, and agricultural areas in western Loudoun County.

Our land on Short Hill Mountain is already burdened by two rights-of-way transited by Dominion and Allegheny Power transmission lines. The proposed new 500kV line would require both a massive expansion of one of the existing rights-of-way—requiring an enormous amount of further deforestation of Short Hill—and construction of a massive new section of transmission line on our pastureland.

Also devastating to us, the construction of the proposed new transmission line would likely result in the destruction of the historic mountain spring that for generations

has served as a water source for our home—for drinking, bathing, cooking, dishwashing, clothes washing—and for watering animals on our farm.

We know that we are not alone in our opposition to the proposed new 500kV transmission line. We know that many of our neighbors and fellow residents of western Loudoun County plan to join with us in opposing the construction of any new transmission lines in the Loudoun countryside.

But unlike most Loudoun residents who would be harmed by the construction of a massive new 500kV line, our family has experience with successfully opposing—in court—another equally misguided development project that was also at odds with the historic, rural character of its proposed setting.

Should PJM proceed with its proposal to enlarge or construct a transmission line over our farm, we will use all resources at our disposal to oppose it.

We hope that when PJM considers the many terrible impacts of Proposal 2022-W3-853 on our area's environment, agriculture, rural economy, and viewsheds, PJM will heed our community's overwhelming opposition and swiftly abandon the proposal.

Sincerely,

Eugene & Colleen Theroux

Lovettsville, Virginia

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Dear PJM Board,

I would like to express my concerns about the PJM proposal to run new electric transition lines through the heart of western Loudoun County. I don't believe this process has been very transparent to this point and residents need to be informed about these proposals through modern communications methods.

I spent my career in the tech industry in northern Virginia including at AOL which built the very first data center in the county. I understand the need to power and support this industry. The data centers are a great source of tax revenue and jobs but the infrastructure planning and approval process has been lax.

I am strongly opposed to running these lines through the center of western Loudoun county. This will negatively impact the agricultural tourism businesses that has grown to be a major part of Loudoun as well as the quality of life for those residents who moved to the county to get away from the complexities of city living. I believe we need a more comprehensive independent study to figure out a better solution to moving electricity in from the west.

I believe with additional research and study a more creative solution can be found using existing paths, along major highways, and perhaps even underground.

Please put the breaks on this proposal and work in a more transparent way to find alternate solutions.

Thanks,  
Jonathan Bell

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## Paul and Joanne Rastas

40210 Main St, Waterford, Va 20197  
pjrastas8@gmail.com

December 1, 2025

David Anders  
Secretary of the PJM Members Committee

Dear Mr Anders,

It is with great dismay we have just learned that your committee is considering approving the routing of high voltage power lines through the pristine and protected Phelps Farm land that makes up a considerable part of the Historic Landmark village of Waterford, Virginia.

For over 75 years, residents and advocates have fought to preserve and protect this Landmark countryside from disfigurement and exploitation. Construction of large power pylons with the associated high tension lines would do both!

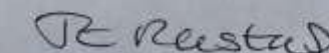
The village and the surrounding land are under constant threat from developmental destruction that would result in the loss of this increasingly unique historic area. This is not the first time irresponsible development has threatened the Landmark. On every previous occasion, residents and passionate supporters have risen in opposition and won! All the available organizations that work to protect it (The Waterford Foundation, the Waterford Citizens Association, the Piedmont Council, etc) are all rallying to oppose this thoughtless application.

This village and surrounding Phelps Farm countryside are the bedrocks that define the Landmark status of Waterford. Unwanted, unnecessary and thoughtless development erodes that status and threatens its very existence!

Please **do not approve** any application that routes power lines through the Landmark Countryside and Village.

Sincerely yours,

  
Paul Rastas

  
Joanne Rastas

Dear Transmission Expansion Advisory Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500 kV line in western Loudoun County, Virginia to be built by Florida-based NextEra (Proposal 2022-W3-853). Your maps indicate this line would transit historic districts and conservation easements around Mt. Gilead, Digges Valley, and Waterford National Historic Landmark along the Catoctin Ridge, AND SPECIFICALLY, MY OWN PROPERTY.

I was, and continue to be, a Board member on Scenic Loudoun Legal Defense (SLLD) who was a Respondent in the multi-year fight in the mid-2000s over a new transmission line in this same area. In that case, the outcome resulted in a compromise that put part of the new line under the existing right-of-way along the W&OD trail, with the rest aligned in a new right-of-way along an existing transportation corridor, namely the Leesburg Bypass, which would have saved Dominion Power three years of delays had they chosen it for their Preferred Route in the first place.

My property is protected by a conservation easement, which the holder of said easement and I will fight, along with my neighbors and others along any proposed route that impacts conservation easements, in a unified, class-action effort, all the way to the State Supreme Court, if you seek to invalidate the sanctity of these legally binding agreements.

My property is also in the 11,000 acre Goose Creek Historic District, which I was the applicant for, along with 1,000 acres of neighbors, when we successfully had our properties added to the existing district in the early 2,000s, not long after my family moved here. Our home and property dates back to the 1750s when Mary Janney purchased 450 acres from Lord Fairfax. Ms. Janney had been the recent widow of Amos Janney who had been a land agent for Lord Fairfax at that time. Amos also helped to found the historic town of Waterford, which this same proposed route also threatens to impact with complete impudence for the history or importance of the historic relevance to this region.

My property contains a barn that was erected in the 1790s and was operated by Israel Janney as a blacksmith shop. There are several anecdotes of famous American partisans and soldiers getting their horses shod there during the American Revolution. The Janneys were Quakers, and therefore pacifists. I, on the other hand, will fight to the bitter end to prevail over this egregious and careless

land grab to fuel the continued over-building of data centers in Loudoun County, Virginia.

I am not alone in this fight, and we have already coalesced other well capitalized, like-minded property owners who seek to protect properties with conservation easements, historic significance, agricultural and tourism value, like the many vineyards in the region, all who appreciate the true fabric of our community. These cultural resources, which in many cases, have existed for hundreds of years before the lust for power-hungry data centers existed, and will continue to be important for hundreds of years after data centers are obsolete and the shells of their concrete bunkers that have no future re-use, along with the transmission lines that were indiscriminately hurried into place due to the lack of vision, long-term planning or were strung together to fuel them are permanent scars on our otherwise beautiful countryside.

As we, and SLLD, implored the SCC to utilize existing rights of way, public roads or other non-invasive to private property means to erect the transmission lines in 2005, which the Hearing Examiner ultimately agreed with and changed what had been Dominion Power's Preferred Route through a very similar proposed path to 2022-W3-853, we respectfully request the same of PJM. However, if in your haste, you ignore this plea and choose to put in question the validity of conservation easements, historic districts and dwindling yet critical natural resources, we will fight you every step of the way.

Sincerely,

John Cunningham  
Hamilton, Virginia

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December 2, 2023

Attention: David Anders, PJM Members Committee Secretary  
[David.Anders@pjm.com](mailto:David.Anders@pjm.com)

To the PJM Board of Managers:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500kV line in western Loudoun County Virginia to be built by Florida based NextEra (Proposal 2022-W3-853). Your maps indicate this line would transit historic and conservation areas around Mt. Gilead, Digges Valley, and Waterford National Historic Landmark along the Catoctin Ridge.

There was a multi year fight in the mid 2000's over a new transmission line in this same area that generated huge opposition and ultimately resulted in a compromise that put part of the new line under the existing right-of-way along the WO&D trail, with the rest aligned in a new right of way along an existing transportation corridor, namely the Leesburg Bypass.

In the intervening years, organized efforts to protect rural Loudoun and its farming, historic, equestrian, environmental/conservation, and agritourism interests have only grown stronger. There is a very mobilized public that will fight even harder over the placement of new transmission lines through undisturbed Loudoun countryside than they did in the mid 2000's.

The interested parties this time are much broader and span multiple counties. Loudoun has worked hard to promote tourism in the western half of the county, which is a major pillar in Loudoun's Comprehensive Plan. The quantity and quality of agritourism businesses in Loudoun outpaces all other jurisdictions in Virginia. Crisscrossing this area with transmission lines to meet energy demand elsewhere would hurt this vital sector of the economy.

We appreciate that PJM has a very difficult task ahead of it making up for anticipated electric power shortfalls, but we think community engagement and a broader range of alternative solutions and transmission technologies need to be considered. Meanwhile, other parts of Virginia are adding data centers and old data centers will be modernizing with new computers that consume even more power, all further complicating PJM's task. The current path we are on is unsustainable and unscalable, and much needs to change in the way the region approves data centers and plans for the expected demand for electric power.

We urge PJM to step back and reconsider its approach, with a goal of ensuring your mission deliver power, but not at the cost of destroying the communities and other economic interests that are in your path.

Sincerely,  
Adair & David Soho

Waterford VA

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Dear Sir,

I am writing to you in opposition to the proposed new power lines to be constructed - proposal W3-853.

The proposed route for this line goes through some of the most scenic areas of Loudoun County. The inferred benefit for this power line will benefit only the eastern areas of the county without any consideration of the negative impact on the western part of the county.

In the twenty years we have lived in western Loudoun we have seen a huge growth in agritourism and agribusiness which hard working people have cultivated not only to make a living but to preserve the natural beauty of this county.

This seems like a rush to judgment and the fact that the energy that will come into LC is coal- produced seems contrary to the efforts toward Green Energy.

I ask you to please not rush this project and to allow citizens to have input about their concerns: health issues regarding high voltage, the impact on high voltage on animals, the option to put the power lines underground.

There is no excuse for you to approve this project without a thoughtful process that involves all citizens, not just data center businesses that stand to benefit from the cheap electricity.

Thank you for considering my concerns,

Debby L. Caulfield

Hillsboro, VA

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Mr. Gordon,

I join you in your opposition and will do all in my power to see this effort fail.

Thank you

Chair Randall

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Mr Anders,

Request PJM deny subject proposed routing based on its impact on residents, the environment, and our rural economy.

I first became aware of subject on 28 Nov 2023 and do not understand the urgency of PJM making a decision on 5 Dec 2023. I find PJM's transparency lacking in that a complete set of publicly available information on subject proposal is not available on the PJM website.

Recommend PJM consider other routings that will use more existing rights of way and minimize the impacts of the NextEra proposal. I also think additional public hearings on alternatives are necessary.

Thank you,

John Caufield

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Dear PJM Board of Managers, copying Loudoun County Board of Supervisors and VA State representatives; separate copy to VA Members of Congress:

My family and I are residents of Loudoun County, VA, adjacent to Morrisonville, VA, within a mile of the NexEra Transmission Line Proposal 2022-W3-853. We strongly urge you to just say no to this ill-conceived proposal, which would be both financially unwise and detrimental to the rural community that I and so many others have chosen to call home.

A new transmission line through western Loudoun has a high constructability risk due to an anticipated lengthy regulatory process, public opposition (which continues to grow even in the very short amount of time since the proposal was made public), construction difficulty, environmental constraints and property acquisition, which will likely impact the cost and schedule for the proposed project. In addition to negative cost consequences, the proposed lines could have devastating impacts on the viewsheds of rural businesses that rely on agritourism in the impacted area, and negatively impact the rural economic environment.

I therefore respectfully request that PJM, in its upcoming Transmission Expansion Advisory Committee meeting on Tuesday, December 5:

1. DENY the proposed routing by NextEra;
2. Commit to giving deeper consideration to preferable alternative proposals, in particular routings through Doubs, that will use more existing rights of way, offer similar performance and scope in terms of length and ratings, and be far less likely to experience risks and delays of the NextEra proposal; and
3. Make publicly available a complete set of information on Proposal 2022-W3-853 and all alternative proposals so that all affected residents and elected officials have the opportunity to review and comment on them before a final decision is made.

Thank you for your attention.

Best,

The Gregory family

Hillsboro, VA

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You've got to be kidding? You're really considering putting power lines through waterford, virginia?

Please don't! Western Loudoun county has changed enough. Leave waterford as you found. it.

Leave waterford's historic heritage alone, please.

Jim Burton

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Dear Mr. Anders, PJM Member Committee Secretary,

My name is Natalie Pien. I am a retired public-school teacher and former public sector environmental scientist. I am a long-time resident of Loudoun County. I am writing to express my fierce opposition to the PJM proposal for a new, greenfield 500 kV transmission line in western Loudoun County, Virginia to be built by Florida based NextEra proposal 2022-W3-853. Your maps indicate that it will traverse historic and conservation areas around Mt. Gilead (I live in view of Mt. Gilead), Digges Valley, and Waterford National Historic Landmark along the Catoclin Ridge.

In the mid-2000s, a similar proposal in this area generated huge opposition and resulted in a compromise alignment. Since then, efforts to protect rural Loudoun's farming, historic, equestrian, environmental/conservation, and agritourism have grown stronger. Loudoun County is defined by its rural western Loudoun heritage and tourism is a foundation in Loudoun's current comprehensive plan. The huge negative visual impact of the proposed transmission line traversing undisturbed countryside will irreversibly mar Loudoun's uniquely beautiful landscape and diminish tourism value. The quality and quantity of agritourism businesses in Loudoun outpaces all other Virginia jurisdictions. It should not be sacrificed for any reason.

Development pressure in western Loudoun has activated residents and as reported in multiple news outlets, this proposal drew an overflowing crowd to the Thursday Nov. 30 PJM transmission line community education event in Round Hill, VA. It is a travesty that this transmission line will not even service the impacted areas, but instead service the huge energy demand generated by the private sector, for profit data center industry. Loudoun residents are highly educated and engaged. We want respect that can be gained by more community involvement, greater consideration of alternatives that have minimal impacts to our economy and way of life. We urge PJM to reconsider business as usual and instead consider proposals that account for: impacted communities' input; minimize visual impacts; take a long view of projected energy demand to meet not only immediate energy needs but future demand that is unavoidable in our digital society.

Please share my comments with the PJM members. I hope my comments will be seriously considered.

Natalie Pien

Leesburg VA

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Dear PJM Board of Managers,

I am writing to express my opposition to your proposal for a 500 kV power line in western Loudoun County, Virginia (Proposal 2022-W3-853).

I appreciate that PJM has a difficult task, and I encourage you reconsider your proposal to disturb historically and economically significant environmental areas. Preliminary maps indicate the proposed line would transit historic and conservation areas around Clarkes Gap, Digges Valley & Harmony Church Roads in Leesburg, Virginia. This community is unified in its intent to

meet the introduction of new (above ground) transmission lines, through this undisturbed Loudoun countryside, with indomitable resistance. I expect that you will be required to bury the lines if you wish them to transit Western Loudoun.

I wish you success in finding a more viable solution.

Best regards, Benjamin Calloway-Jones

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David,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my deep concern and opposition to the proposed major power transmission lines in our beloved Loudoun County. As a resident who cherishes the unique character of our community, I believe that the installation of such infrastructure would have a detrimental impact on the environment and our rural way of life.

Loudoun County is renowned for its commitment to conservation easements and the preservation of its natural beauty. Introducing major power transmission lines not only contradicts these values but also poses a threat to the delicate balance we have sought to maintain. The potential disruption to our scenic landscapes, wildlife habitats, and overall quality of life is a matter of great concern to me and many others in our community.

I understand the importance of progress and the need for reliable power sources for the data centers that help to drive the local economy and greater internet at large. However, I firmly believe that we must carefully weigh the long-term consequences and explore alternative solutions that align with our commitment to conservation. There may be more sustainable options that can meet the demand for data center energy without sacrificing the essence of what makes Loudoun County such a special place to live.

I kindly request that the board considers the broader implications of this proposal and takes into account the sentiments of the residents who call Loudoun County home. I believe that, through open dialogue and collaboration, we can find solutions that are both progressive and respectful of our community's values.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I trust that you will make decisions that prioritize the well-being of our community and preserve the unique charm that makes Loudoun County a place we are proud to call home.

Francesca

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Francesca Ling

[Copywriting | Digital Marketing](#)

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December 2, 2023

Mr. David Anders

Board Secretary

PJM

[David.anders@pjm.com](mailto:David.anders@pjm.com)

Dear Mr. Anders,

I am writing to express vigorous opposition to PJM's proposed transmission path through Waterford, Virginia (est. c. 1733).

While I am sympathetic to your mission to increase the electric capacity to the mid-Atlantic, there must certainly be better routes to follow than through the bucolic countryside of Western Loudoun County – and most especially through a national historic landmark such as **Waterford, Virginia**.

From looking at your maps, it appears one of the proposed routes would run right through Waterford's "Phillips Farm" which is protected by a conservation easement and serves as an educational walking trail for residents and guests alike. (Link: [Phillips Farm Walking Trail | The Village of Waterford, Virginia - A National Historic Landmark \(waterfordvillage.org\)](#) )

If you pursue such a path, I can guarantee there will be relentless opposition from the residents of Waterford, as we are accustomed to heartily defending one of the country's hidden gems.

If you have never been to Waterford, then I encourage you to visit our historic village and surrounding area before making any final decision. Please visit [www.waterfordfoundation.org](http://www.waterfordfoundation.org) for an overview.

In April, 1970, the Secretary of the Interior designated the Waterford Historic District a National Historic Landmark. *This is the highest designation of historic significance possible in the United States of America.*

I strongly encourage you to look at **alternate routes** that run along **already developed corridors** where the impact would be less dramatic. If PJM proceeds with a path through or near Waterford, it will change history forever.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

K. Kay Chewning  
Talbot's Tavern  
40162 Main Street  
Waterford, VA 20197  
[chewingkk@aol.com](mailto:chewingkk@aol.com)

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I am writing to express my opposition to a proposal to put power lines through the Phillipps Farm. This is a historic landmark and something that has been carefully preserved. I would hope and expect that you would oppose this measure for the sake of future generations. This is an issue that I would consider pivotal to my support for you.

Please do the right thing and vote no.

Many thanks for your consideration.

Pat and Rolf Sartorius

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Dear Mr. Andreas,

I am writing to register my deep opposition to the proposal to run new power transmission lines through the Waterford National Historic Landmark. These proposed transmission lines pose a major threat to the integrity of the Waterford National Historic Landmark as

the proposed path of the new transmission lines runs directly through the Landmark, through property under conservation easement with the Virginia Outdoors Foundation.

My family had lived in the Waterford area for three generations. The Waterford National Historic Landmark and Phillips Farm area are the result of generational organizing to safeguard this beautiful town and the open area around it. Families, students, and all sorts of people from near and far come to visit Waterford, be it for the Fair, Halloween, or just a quiet weekend, to learn about the shared history and find peace on the path along the creek.

These proposed transmission towers going through the Phillips Farm will violate easement protections, represent a the high constructability risk, and strong public opposition which will add time and cost to their process as well as impacts to rural Loudoun businesses and wildlife.

London Country had been chopped up, its farming culture destroyed and its communities destroyed for decades. Please leave this beautiful corner, one of the last remaining, alone.

Regards,

Ana Grier Cutter

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I'm a Loudoun County native, born in Leesburg and graduated from Loudoun County High School. My family goes back several generations in Loudoun and we've always been active in the community. I currently live in Waterford in the Rosemont Farm neighborhood. I'm writing in opposition to the idea of running the data center power lines through western Loudoun and particularly through historic Waterford. I lived and practiced law for many years in Virginia Beach and my law firm led the case for homeowners regarding excessive jet noise from Oceana Naval Air Station and we were able to successfully prove that the homeowners in the path of the jets were entitled to significant compensation due to the effects on their property and their enjoyment of their property because of the

noise. It seems that many of the same legal principles apply here if these power lines are run through western Loudoun, Eminent Domain has not been exercised and I believe that these lines represent an unauthorized taking from the affected homeowners which, according to the maps I've seen, includes my neighborhood. I urge your company to reject the routing of lines in western Loudoun, particularly in Waterford.

Lisa Palmer O'Donnell, Esq.

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December 2, 2023

TO: Mr. David Anders, Director, Stakeholder Affairs, PJM

FROM: Rev. Dr. Jean Wright, President, Friends Acting for Climate Today (FACT); and, Co-founder, Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions (FACS); FACS Loudoun County Lead

RE: Plans for transmission Lines through western Loudoun County, Virginia

Dear Mr. Anders:

I am a resident of Loudoun County, Ashburn, Virginia; a near neighbor to "Data Center Alley." Like many others, I am deeply concerned about the ongoing buildup of transmission lines and substations through eastern Loudoun County, with a new line being considered.

We have learned that in a matter of days PJM Interconnection will be making a decision about its final recommendation for how to meet the growing need for power in Northern Virginia (NOVA) due to the rapid data center growth. Included in the lists of finalists is a proposal of 500 kV lines that cuts diagonally across western Loudoun from West Virginia. We understand that PJM's Transmission Expansion Advisory Committee will make its final recommendation to the organization's board Dec. 5.

My concerns about this recommendation and looming decision are the following:

- The legacy we are leaving our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren by the continuing use of fossil fuels and their overheating our earth home's atmosphere.
- Alarming, Dominion Energy has shared with the VA State Corporation Commission (SCC) that given the voracious energy needs of the data centers they will not be able to meet the state's Clean Energy Act requirements by 2045. They will need to continue using fossil fuels. This is doubly alarming due to the release of GHGs into the atmosphere and continuing increases in global warming/climate change.

- Who is going to pay the billions of dollars required to meet the data center energy needs? It should not be the Virginia ratepayers. Rather, the data centers need to cover the costs of their energy needs and to use green, sustainable energy in doing so.
- An in depth study by a neutral third party needs to be done immediately. A study that considers the data center energy needs (one data center can power a community of 15,000 homes), the land use needs, the impacts on water, flora and fauna, must be undertaken.
- I am concerned that our beautiful state of Virginia, our agricultural land, local and national parks, may be covered, not by a canopy of green trees, but rather by a canopy of power lines stretching against the sky accompanied by disturbed wide swaths of treeless ground.
- There are public health issues as well as noise issues related to the use of diesel generators when/if the data centers need to turn them on. There may well be public health issues related to the transmission lines.
- Lastly, PJM has said that the data centers energy use, along with the required infrastructure to provide it, is unprecedented. Please listen to your own words. It is. Unprecedented.

Mr. Anders, I am not against the data centers. I am for thoughtful, planned growth and hope PJM is as well.

Without a responsible study that addresses the concerns above, how can PJM make responsible decisions?

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Jean Wright

Ashburn, VA

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*"We do not wait for the future to come, we plan it in advance and make it happen today through our actions." George Hatzimarkos, Governor of South Aegean Islands, and Tilos, the world's first zero-waste island.*

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Hello David,

I am writing to you regarding the power line proposal that would run high voltage lines through Western Loudon County Virginia. (Proposal 2022-W3-853). Your maps indicate that this proposal would impact me and my family personally as we are on Axline Rd in Lovettsville facing open land that is under a conservation easement with a beautiful view across that to the Short Hill Mountain. We have lived here since 1999. We own our property because of its location, as do most people who live here and have invested in this region. Your maps suggest these lines would run directly in front of our property and cut through farmland,



residential land, wetlands, and that's just here in a few miles stretching through our neighborhood. We are also very concerned with the wider trajectory of this proposal as it crosses a newly designated State Park, The Waterford National Historic Landmark and other critical parks and preserved lands key to our county.

There is a winery, horse boarding farm, as well as other small farms just along the mile where we live in the impacted area. This is a typical example of life in Western Loudoun as agritourism is a critical pillar that the county has worked long and hard to develop over the decades and it is threaded within our communities. The quantity and quality of agritourism businesses in Loudoun outpaces all other jurisdictions in Virginia.

**Western Loudoun would be devastated by the negative impact of power lines towering and crisscrossing over our rural communities and businesses. We are mobilized and motivated to defend our region from this outcome.**

*We urge PJM to consider alternatives which would stick to existing power line right of ways, underground routing and avoid green field routes across Western Loudoun County Virginia. There will be strong opposition if this route is recommended. We understand that your task is difficult. But we implore you not to select a route or strategy that includes these high voltage above ground power lines in our rural economy and beautiful region.*

Thank you,  
Linda Guyton

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Good evening Mr. Anders.

We are a small farmette that resides on Picnic Woods Rd and would literally have several of your power lines running just behind our back property. We are begging you to reconsider where you plan on placing these lines! The impact on the health of my family and animals is foremost concerning but it is also going to damage the property value of our home/land along with ruin the appeal of our rural neighborhood!! We 100% oppose the plan to run those lines anywhere near North West Loudoun and especially anywhere near Lovettsville.

To construct these power lines in our neighborhood would be detrimental to our property value, family and animal health along with destroying our site lines for most farms that rely on the beauty of this area for business which is crucial to our economy and way of life here.

Please hear our voices and plea to find a better route. It is a hard no from the residents on Picnic Woods Rd and surrounding neighbors!!

Respectfully,  
Michelle Ventres

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December 2, 2023

TO: Mr. David Anders, Director, Stakeholder Affairs, PJM

FROM: Ms. Billie Kay Snodgrass, Member Friends Acting for Climate Today (FACT)

RE: Plans for transmission Lines through western Loudoun County, Virginia

Dear Mr. Anders:

I live in Loudoun County, Ashburn, Virginia, in Ashby Ponds Retirement Community close to a number of data centers. As a resident I am greatly concerned about the increasing development of data centers and their need for more and more transmission lines and substations in eastern Loudoun County, with a new line being considered.

It seems PJM Interconnection will be making a decision about its final recommendation for how to meet the growing need for power in Northern Virginia (NOVA) due to the rapid data center growth. I'm especially uneasy about a proposal of 500 kV lines that cut diagonally across western Loudoun from West Virginia. These concerns are addressed to PJM's Transmission Expansion Advisory Committee.

My concerns about this recommendation and looming decision are the following:

- Future generations will pay a harsh price by the continuing use of fossil fuels and their overheating the atmosphere.
- Dominion Energy has already told the Virginia State Corporation Commission (SCC) that because of the data centers they will not be able to meet the state's Clean Energy Act requirements by 2045. They will need to continue using fossil fuels. This is doubly alarming due to the release of GHGs into the atmosphere and continuing increases in global warming/climate change.
- Virginia ratepayers should not be paying for the energy needed to run the data centers. The data centers need to cover the costs of their energy needs and to use sustainable energy.
- We must have an in-depth study by a neutral third party immediately. It should study the data center energy needs (one data center can power a community of 15,000 homes), the land-use needs, the impacts on water, plants and animals.
- Virginia's agricultural land, local and national parks may be spoiled by a canopy of power lines accompanied by ugly treeless ground.

- There are public health issues as well as noise issues related to the use of diesel generators when/if the data centers need to turn them on. There may well be public health issues related to the transmission lines.
- We are in completely new territory in trying to meet the voracious energy needs of ever-increasing data centers. Please take a cautious and responsible approach to the energy demands that have such high economic, environmental, aesthetic, and health costs.

PJM must conduct a thorough and conscientious study before giving the green light to such a vast expansion of energy resources for the benefit of one industry alone.

Sincerely,

Billie Kay Snodgrass



Ashburn, VA [redacted]

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Dear Mr. Anders,

I am a home owner in Waterfield Hamlet. Some of my neighbors have already written letters to you in opposition of the proposed power lines running through our community.

On 19 June, 2003 a deed of open space easement was created between entities including Waterfield Commons Association, the original owners of the property that encompasses Waterfield Hamlet, the Board of Supervisors of Loudoun County Virginia and the Farm Credits of Virginia ACA. This Deed of Easement was created to “preserve the environment of the property and to maintain permanently the natural and cultural values and the dominant scenic and agricultural character of the property”. This perpetual deed limits how even us, the home owners, can use the property (in order to preserve its natural and cultural values) so it is perplexing to think that a plan to build electric towers or anything not related to agriculture through it would even be considered.

Building power lines on the property would be a breach of the terms of the deed which would require the restoration of the area to its prior condition, “monetary damages would not be an adequate remedy”

You can visit the following site to see an interactive map of properties that have an open space easement deed on them. I implore you to keep the power lines away from these properties:  
<https://www.loudoun.gov/2816/Conservation-Easements-in-Loudoun-County>

Regards,  
Faith Myseros

---

Absolutely NO power line project in Northern Virginia!! To even think of the route possibly going through the new park, Sweet Run State Park, and Waterford is unimaginable!!

This plan has got to be stopped!!

Gail Schaefer

Land owner

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I am furious. This has to not happen. This would greatly impact the beautiful area of Waterford. It has historic value that must be preserved.

Wallace Schaefer

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I am new to Northern Virginia. I came here to enjoy the beautiful countryside . Be around people who make a living in agricultural. That is where real life happens. It is where every little town began. It is the only peace we have left.

I beg you not to take this away from us.

Sue Ballard

---

Northern Virginia establishes the value of this state. The scenic value is fabulous and would be ruined by the existence of power lines running through it. Not to mention the harm it would have on the environment.

There has got to be another way to achieve the goal. Certainly not with a company from Florida. Not through Northern Virginia. If it must happen, have it run directly through cities where the beauty of the land has already been removed.

Thank you,

Emily Nichols

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Mr. Anders,

As your board considers routing power lines through property under conservation easement and owned by a non-profit the company legacy.

Will PJM be a destructive force, ending near 200 years of preservation or will PJM work to protect a unique and historic living village?

My home, facing the proposed path of the transmission lines, was the home of the Dutton family. John Dutton was arrested by the Confederates and sent into exile in Point of Rocks, MD. While in exile, his daughters and their neighbor Sara Steere, wrote a newspaper detailing the difficulties faced by Unionist towns in Northern, VA. In May of 1863, the girls endorsed President Lincoln's re-election and smuggle the paper through the blockade lines. This paper was ultimately picked up and printed out of Baltimore with a copy being found among President Lincoln's effects in 1954.

I can step out on to my porch overlooking Second St and Phillips Farm and revel in the immensity of those young women committing sedition against the Confederacy, smuggling slaves, and ultimately putting their lives on the line for what was right. Anyone standing on my porch gets to see the same world that these amazing women saw with minimal modern interruption.

Please, be a partner in protecting this special town.

Sincerely,

Jose A Gomez

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The scenic value of Western/Northern Virginia is far too great to imposed on by power lines.

Please, do not do this to us.

Brandy B

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Good morning,

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed power lines in Western Loudoun and Waterford. Historic Landmarks, such as Waterford & Harpers Ferry, and our beautiful farmland need to be preserved. It is imperative! I am shocked it is even being considered. There are endless reasons why they should NOT be placed. To aid in the production of data centers is absurd. We do not need more data centers, especially in a place where residents bought property to raise their children and farm the land away from such modern additions. We do not need such structures near our children, schools, and livestock.

There are alternatives to these high powered lines... Let's consider those and save our Historic Landmarks and the last of the preserved farms in Loudoun County. Once they are placed there is no turning back.

Sincerely,

Senta Keegan

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To David Anders and the PJM Board,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposal by PJM Interconnection for a new 500 kV transmission line in western Loudoun County. The proposed route goes through some of our most scenic and historic landscapes, over prime farmland and through important wildlife habitats.

As a resident and farmer of Western Loudoun, this issue is very important to me as well as my neighbors. The agricultural and agritourism sector is strong, but we must have undisturbed farmland and scenic views to continue what we are doing into the future. This proposed transmission line is a threat to the very core of what Loudoun County is known for.

I understand that meeting the growing demand for power to data centers in Eastern Loudoun is a real challenge. But, this proposed route is likely to meet much public opposition and is already deemed to be a high constructibility risk - costing the ratepayers (here and in neighboring states) much more in the future. I encourage you to reconsider and choose an option along pre-existing transmission routes that will have lower environmental impact and will minimize the cost.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Moira and J. Graham Guenther

Dapple Farm

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Good morning,

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed power lines in Western Loudoun and Waterford. Historic Landmarks, such as Waterford & Harpers Ferry, and our beautiful farmland need to be preserved. It is imperative! I am shocked it is even being considered. There are endless reasons why they should NOT be placed. To aid in the production of data centers is absurd. We do not need more data centers, especially in a place where residents bought property to raise their children and farm the land away from such modern additions. We do not need such structures near our children, schools, and livestock.

There are alternatives to these high powered lines... Let's consider those and save our Historic Landmarks and the last of the preserved farms in Loudoun County. Once they are placed there is no turning back.

Sincerely,

William Keegan

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PJM Board Managers:

This letter is in opposition to the proposal by PJM Interconnection for a new 500 kV transmission line in western Loudoun County.

This construction of the transmission line would interrupt native wildlife, specifically, the snapper turtles and deer which we have tracked migration paths for over 39 years just south of Lovettsville.

Furthermore, this transmission line would decimate the bi-annual Art Studio Tours and severely impact our ceramic and painting studio business.

In the spirit of responsible stewardship and sustainable development, I strongly advocate for the exploration of existing rights-of-way and alternative solutions that do not involve the desecration of swaths of western Loudoun County. The cost of this project should not be measured solely in dollars, but in the legacy we leave for future generations.

David S. Ward

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Dear Mr. Anders,

As the Executive Director for the Coalition to Protect Prince William County, created in 2014 to address a transmission line in Haymarket, VA for the sole need of an AWS data center campus, our community knows full well the impacts of this industrial industry.

Indeed, as one of the respondents for the Haymarket Transmission line case, we were able to ensure the facts were laid bare to all. But for the need of this one customer, our community would not have to bear the impacts to our homes, our property, our natural resources, and most importantly to our to our pockets.

This PJM Data Center Initiative is simply that Haymarket case, only the magnitude of cost and impacts has grown. Instead of one customers need, it is an entire data center alley. When does this stop? The foisting of this one industry power needs on private citizens who do not personally benefit from the industry profit portfolio? When do the rights of citizens become paramount? How did our public utilities become the private utility companies for this industry?

In the Haymarket case the Coalition's position was that the line should be buried through residential areas, sensitive cultural resources, and avoid environmental assets. We also put forth a novel approach to cost structure, by applying the Line Extension Policy to transmission infrastructure, because but for the magnitude of this ONE industry's power need, this transmission infrastructure was simply an

oversized distribution line. While we did not succeed in the cost structure, we did succeed in at least convincing the SCC legal staff to agree with us, which was shocking. They even went so far as to suggest this kind of bulk load customer needed to be required to “put some skin in the game” or else the community would continue to bear the burden of their power demands.

In what became a five year long battle, with NO resolution because the community would not give up, Dominion Energy offered the Coalition a settlement on the partially buried route we had wanted from the very beginning. Although we did not prevail on the cost shift to the customer, that argument is still solid.

In a nutshell, this line, and every line after is simply an abuse of the public utility structure. WE, the citizens, are not going to stand by in silence while our quality of lives are sliced and diced by these transmission proposals for the wealthiest corporations in the world.

There is no path above ground that will not meet intense opposition.

Warmly,

Elena Schlossberg

Haymarket VA

[www.protectPWC.org](http://www.protectPWC.org)

[Dominion Haymarket Transmission Line and Substation Project – The Coalition to Protect Prince William County \(\[protectpwc.org\]\(http://protectpwc.org\)\)](#)



SCC Legal  
brief post  
hearing

09/10/2024

the issuance of the CPCN in other ways, to ameliorate the impact on the general public of such projects that are necessitated only by an individual customer's new or additional projected loads.

The record developed herein reveals that the Company has already constructed at least two transmission projects to extend service to new data center loads, similar to that requested by the Customer in this application, which have not developed as expected or at all.<sup>38</sup> Thus, in viewing these "line extensions" to large contingent loads, the Commission may wish to require the customer requiring such project to put some of its own skin into the game. Otherwise, the general public, already burdened by the environmental and aesthetic impacts of otherwise unneeded transmission projects, is not also burdened with 100% of the otherwise unnecessary costs.

#### Line Extension Policy

One way to ensure that prospective developers of large block loads who request service that can only be provided through development and construction of new transmission products bear the costs of such construction would be the application of DVP's Line Extension policy, although as the policy is currently worded, any strict application of the policy to the Project would not seem to result in a reasonably fair outcome. As reflected in the record, if the Commission were to determine that the I-66 Overhead should be built, then the Customer would acquire no additional cost responsibility for the Project, while garnering almost the entirety of its benefits. Alternatively, should the Commission issue a certificate for the I-66 Hybrid project, then the Customer could be responsible for paying the considerable incremental costs of the underground part of the Project, while garnering very little of the environmental and esthetic benefits of such construction, which would flow almost entirely to the general public in the area.

<sup>38</sup> Etc. 23 C.

Dear Mr. Anders and PJM Board of Managers

As long time residents of Loudoun County - one of us was born and reared in Loudoun County and whose family have been here for generations while the other of us was born and reared in Clarke County, VA and has lived in Loudoun County for over 45 years - we are writing to express our strong opposition to the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500 kV line in western Loudoun County, Virginia to be built by Florida-based NextEra (Proposal 2022- W3-853). Your maps indicate this line would transit historic and conservation areas around Mt. Gilead, Digges Valley, and Waterford National Historic Landmark along the Catoctin Ridge. There was a multi-year fight in the mid-2000s over a new transmission line in this same area that generated huge opposition and ultimately resulted in a compromise that put part of the new line under the existing right-of-way along the W&OD trail, with the rest aligned in a new right-of-way along an existing transportation corridor, namely the Leesburg Bypass.

In the intervening years, organized efforts to protect rural Loudoun and its farming, historic, equestrian, environmental/conservation, and agritourism interests have only grown stronger. There is a very mobilized

public that will fight even harder over the placement of new transmission lines through undisturbed Loudoun countryside than they did in the mid-2000s.

The interested parties this time are much broader and span multiple counties. Loudoun has worked hard to promote tourism in the western half of the county, which is a major pillar in Loudoun's Comprehensive Plan. The quantity and quality of agritourism businesses in Loudoun outpaces all other jurisdictions in Virginia. Crisscrossing this area with transmission lines to meet energy demand elsewhere would hurt this vital sector of the economy.

We appreciate that PJM has a very difficult task ahead of it making up for anticipated electric power shortfalls, but we think community engagement and a broader range of alternative solutions and transmission technologies need to be considered. Meanwhile, other parts of Virginia are adding data centers, and old data centers will be modernizing with new computers that consume even more power, all further complicating PJM's task. The current path we are on is unsustainable and unscalable, and much needs to change in the way the region approves data centers and plans for the expected demand for electric power. We urge PJM to step back and reconsider its approach, with a goal of ensuring your mission to deliver power, but not at the cost of destroying the communities and other economic interests that are in your path.

Thank you for you time,

Melissa and Jim York

Long time Loudoun County residents

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Dear PJM Board of Managers,

My family and I are residents of Loudoun County, VA, adjacent to Morrisonville, VA, within a mile of the NexEra Transmission Line Proposal 2022-W3-853. We strongly urge you to just say no to this proposal as it would certainly be devastating to the rural land, agribusiness and community lifestyle that I and so many others have chosen to call home. Western Loudoun County is the gorgeous gem of Loudoun County and this proposed line would dissect the heart of it.

A new transmission line through western Loudoun has a high constructability risk due to the lengthy regulatory process, huge public opposition, which I guarantee will grow exponentially. now that more of the public is aware of it. construction difficulty, environmental constraints and enormous cost of property acquisition, which will likely impact the speculated cost and schedule for the proposed project. In addition to negative cost consequences, the proposed lines could have devastating impacts on the viewsheds of rural businesses that rely on agritourism in the impacted area, the environment, and negatively impact the rural economic environment.

I therefore respectfully request that PJM, in its upcoming Transmission Expansion Advisory Committee meeting on Tuesday, December 5:

1. DENY the proposed routing by NextEra;

2. Commit to giving deeper consideration to preferable alternative proposals, in particular routings through Doubs, that will use more existing rights of way, offer similar performance and scope in terms of length and ratings, and be far less likely to experience risks and delays of the NextEra proposal; and

3. Make publicly available a complete set of information on Proposal 2022-W3-853 and all alternative proposals so that all affected residents and elected officials have the opportunity to review and comment on them before a final decision is made.

Thank you for your attention.

All the best,

The Geremiia Family

Purcellville, VA

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To David Anders and the PJM Board,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposal by PJM Interconnection for a new 500 kV transmission line in western Loudoun County. The proposed route goes through some of our most scenic and historic landscapes, over prime farmland, and through important wildlife habitats.

As a resident of Western Loudoun, this issue is very important to me as well as my family, friends, neighbors, and those local business owners I support. Further, as an owner and caretaker of historic property in the National Historic Landmark of Waterford, VA, I am dismayed at the prospect of power lines running through the historically and ecologically significant Phillips Farm. In this area of Loudoun county the agricultural and agritourism sector is strong but depends on undisturbed farmland and scenic views. This proposed transmission line is a threat to our entire rural economic sector and the integrity of Waterford's history and mission.

I understand that meeting the growing demand for power to data centers in Eastern Loudoun is a real challenge. But, this proposed route is likely to meet much public opposition and is already deemed to be a high constructibility risk - costing the ratepayers (here and in neighboring states) much more in the future. I encourage you to reconsider and choose an option along pre-existing transmission routes that will have lower environmental impact and will minimize the cost.

Thanks,

Isaac Johnson

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Please consider putting any new lines as well as existing lines underground. The residents of Western Loudoun deserve this. Overhead power lines are vestiges from the 1880's. The power companies involved with providing increased power to the data centers should be required to immediately begin underground installations for all new and upgraded lines. The data center owners can certainly afford the costs. Lack of power requirement projections leading to this rushed, "get it done yesterday" situation is not, nor should be a problem Western Loudoun County residents should have to deal with. This planning should have been done months, if not years ago.

How about a moratorium on any new lines or upgrades until accurate projections over a 2-3 year period are studied, verified and understood? If this isn't done, we'll all be having this conversation again very shortly.

Please consider all I've said in this note at your December 5th meeting.

Thank you,

Greg Keefer

Purcellville Virginia

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To David Anders and the PJM Board,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposal by PJM Interconnection for a new 500 kV transmission line in western Loudoun County. The proposed route goes through some of our most scenic and historic landscapes, over prime farmland and through important wildlife habitats.

As a resident and farmer of Western Loudoun, this issue is very important to me as well as my neighbors, customers and colleagues. The agricultural and agritourism sector is strong, but we must have undisturbed farmland and scenic views to continue what we are doing into the future. This proposed transmission line is a threat to our entire rural economic sector.

I understand that meeting the growing demand for power to data centers in Eastern Loudoun is a real challenge. But, this proposed route is likely to meet much public opposition and is already deemed to be a high constructibility risk - costing the ratepayers (here and in neighboring states) much more in the future. I encourage you to reconsider and choose an option along pre-existing transmission routes that will have lower environmental impact and will minimize the cost.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

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**GRAHAM GUENTHER**

[www.dapple.farm](http://www.dapple.farm)

Lovettsville, VA

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Dear Mr. Anders,

My wife and I are writing to voice our strong opposition to the proposed new greenfield 500 kV line in western Loudoun County. 5 years ago my wife and I bought a lot and built a house west of the historic town of Waterford. Our house has unobstructed views of the beautiful countryside leading to the Catoclin Mountains in the background. The proposed lines would have devastating impacts on our viewshed as well as the viewsheds of rural businesses that rely on Agri tourism and on the viewsheds of the residents of the historic town of Waterford.

We urge PJM to step back and reconsider its approach, with a goal of ensuring your mission to deliver power, but not at the costs of damaging our home values and other economic interests in your path. PJM should consider sticking to existing rights-of-way or else consider alternative methods such as the 250 kV line along the Leesburg bypass and under the W&OD trail.

Sincerely,

John and Gayle Novak

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Gentlemen:

I am writing to express my vehement opposition to your project 853, which will result in the grotesque and unnecessary defilement of Western Loudon County. I recognize that you are not the final approval authority for this project, ***but you make the recommendations upon which the final approval authority, the State of Virginia Corporation Commission, will act.*** And the fact that you could make the recommendation you have planned, (above-ground, 510 Kilovolt high-power transmission lines, meandering across privately owned pristine countryside), shows a negligence on your part that can only be financially motivated.

If your primary mission statement is, as your website states, "...to ensure the safety, reliability, and security of the bulk electric power system," then your recommendation for project 853 fails miserably at all three tasks. This is particularly the case when you have the extremely viable alternative of underground transmission routes, ***to which the easements already exist.***

Placing these transmission lines above ground eliminates any chance of hardening them, and subjects the grid to all sorts of issues, from geomagnetic disruptions due to solar events, man-made electromagnetic interference from our nation's enemies, natural electromagnetic interference from violent electrical storms, and even deliberate acts of sabotage. (I will leave it for others to address the adverse impacts it will have on the agricultural use of the land, potential health issues, and the aesthetics of one of the mid-Atlantic Region's truly beautiful land areas).

All of these could be avoided by placing the transmission lines underground. It provides both a lasting, and environmentally sustainable solution, particularly so, given that the easements in which to place said underground lines already exist. I would think that such a solution would be particularly attractive to you, if you are true to your Vision of being "...the electric industry

leader -today and tomorrow- in reliable operations, efficient wholesale markets, and infrastructure planning.”

Instead, your project 853 recommendations seem to fly in the face of, and be diametrically opposed to, your Vision and Mission Statement. The only reason I can surmise for this travesty of a recommendation is that you must think it will be cheaper for you to build the lines on a zig-zag path above ground. Let me assure you that it will not.

There are a great deal of educated, wealthy residents in Loudon County. These people have chosen to invest their hard-earned dollars and put down roots here *precisely because* they do not wish to live in an environmentally despoiled area, such as it would definitely become if your proposed transmission lines were installed above ground. I would remind you that the parents of Loudon County have recently made national news in their defense of their rights against regional School Boards, and have fired their Superintendent of Public Schools. They also recently voted their soft-on-crime regional State’s Attorney out of office. They do not suffer fools, nor foolish plans, lightly. A plan to bisect the western Loudon agricultural zone and wine district, as well as devaluing many historic homes, on a zig-zag path to the data center, particularly when other less intrusive paths are available, is a foolish plan. Project 853 would have a major deleterious impact on both the agricultural and tourism industries in Loudon County.

Can you imagine the uphill legal battle you would face, if this recommendation goes forward as is? It would quickly drive your costs beyond any savings that would accrue, and even if you prevail, it would accomplish none of the goals so eloquently stated in your Vision or Mission Statement. Already, I can assure you, that the good people of this area are gearing up, for a protracted legal battle against your recommendation for project 853. In fact, I’m fairly certain you have received several missives stating same.

Why don’t you give the good people of Loudon County, your Company’s bottom line, and the efficacy of the end goal of your project 853, (which is the transmission of safe, reliable, and secure electric power to the data center and other locales) a higher probability of reasonable co-existence by proposing to place your power transmission lines underground, where they belong, and where the easements to place them already exist?

Thank you for your time, and careful consideration.

Sincerely,

David M. Sullivan

CC:

Honorable Glen Youngkin, Governor of Virginia (sent separately);

Honorable Jason Miyares, Attorney General of the State of Virginia (sent separately);

Loudon County Board of Supervisors;

Virginia State Corporation Commission

Piedmont Environmental Council

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To David Anders and the PJM Board,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposal by PJM Interconnection for a new 500 kV transmission line in western Loudoun County, including the

Village of Waterford Virginia.

This village is a National Historic Landmark and should be treated as such. The residents are proud of the community and treat the community with great respect for the history of this village. In their [The Village of Waterford, Virginia - A National Historic Landmark \(waterfordvillage.org\)](http://waterfordvillage.org) website, they tout the following: Today, when you visit Waterford, you will experience many of the same views as residents in the 19th century. That does not include the presence of a new interconnection for a 500 kV transmission line in western Loudoun County.

We encourage you to reconsider and choose an option along pre-existing transmission routes that will have lower environmental impact and will minimize the cost.

Respectfully submitted,

*David Johnson*

*La Mese Johnson*

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Mr. Mark Takahashi, Chair PJM Board of Directors Mr. Manu Asthana, PJM President, and CEO PJM INTERCONNECTION, L.L.C.  
2750 Monroe Boulevard  
Audubon, PA 19403

To the PJM Board of Managers:

We are writing to express our strong opposition to the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500 kV line in western Loudoun County, Virginia (Proposal 2022-W3-853). It cuts diagonally through western Loudoun County destroying 200 year old farms, rural roads, forests, streams, and wetlands. It even crosses Waterford, a National Historic Landmark and Route 15 which is so steeped in Civil War history that it has been designated "The Journey Through Hallowed Ground".

It will also destroy the economic engine of western Loudoun — event venues, wineries, breweries, equine establishments, historic villages, farms, and agritourism businesses. Loudoun has worked hard to promote tourism in the western half of the county, which is a major pillar in Loudoun's Comprehensive

Plan. The quantity and quality of agritourism businesses in Loudoun outpaces all other jurisdictions in Virginia. Crisscrossing this area with transmission lines to meet energy demand elsewhere would hurt this vital sector of the economy. Western Loudoun is where people come to escape the ugliness of data centers and relax and recharge among the beautiful vistas of farm and mountain. Your proposal will destroy our landscape to benefit these same data centers.

The people in western Loudoun have been fighting for years to preserve this beautiful place we call home. We stopped Disney from building a huge theme park near Haymarket many years ago. We know how to organize and resist. Therefore, we urge you to use an existing right of way. In the end it will save you time and money and be the right thing to do.

Carol and Robert Miller  
Hamilton, VA

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Dear David Anders and the PJM Board,

I am writing to convey my strong opposition to the proposed new transmission lines in western Loudoun county. I recently moved my family to Lovettsville (off Bronco Lane, just behind proposed lines) from Omaha, NE. A main reason for moving to northern Virginia was its beauty, which this project would severely ruin. In Nebraska we used to drive from Omaha to Springfield, along the drive there were tons of new data centers and power lines as Google, Amazon and Facebook acquired the land. It was a complete eyesore and ruined the landscape. If Loudoun County wants to remain true to its belief that it's horse and hunt country, this project must be stopped. Data centers are an eyesore, but they should be strategically placed so not to ruin the very reason why people move to Loudoun county.

Please deny this project.

Eric Hines  
Lovettsville, VA

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Mr. Anders and PJM Committee Members,

We are writing to express our concern regarding the proposed path of the power transmission line through Historic Waterford and the Lovettsville landscape.

As new residents of Lovettsville, our home is in view of the proposed path. We are concerned about the health ramifications of living so close to these lines, the decreased property value of our home and the destruction of the beautiful sight lines that we've come to enjoy these past few years.

There are also working farms and wineries, who are our neighbors, and who would be impacted financially by the these lines. The beauty of the area would be destroyed and the landscape permanently scarred.

Please reconsider the path line and construction of the lines in residential communities and through the beautiful landscape of Waterford and Lovettsville.



Respectfully,  
Geoffrey and Heidi Giffuni

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PJM Board of Managers,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed transmission upgrades, in particular the plan for a new 500 kV transmission line in western Loudoun County. While I have personal reasons for opposing PJM's plan (the power lines and accompanying transmission towers are planned to run directly through our community), I am also concerned for western Loudoun County as a whole.

On a personal level, my wife and I were raised in a mountainous region of New England. When we first moved to Virginia, we resided in Ashburn but found it to be too urban for our tastes. We then sought out a more rural setting to meet our idea of a perfect setting. We found this in our current location of Lovettsville where we enjoy unmarred views of mountains, farms, wide open spaces, and rural settings. PJM's current plan would destroy what we have worked for and our community's way of life.

On another level, a primary economic foundation of western Loudoun County is agribusiness, which is one of the pillars of the county's economic plan. These businesses have spent years, and in some cases centuries, growing and developing. A key to the success of these businesses is western Loudoun County's pristine setting. The area draws visitors from more urban areas who wish to escape to the congestion of their own areas. The potential impact on this tourism to our area is currently beyond measure but would be significant (who would like to travel for hours to visit a winery only to sit under a 500kv transmission line). But the impact goes beyond just those businesses directly impacted, although they would likely see the loss of income and resulting reduction in their workforces leading to lost tax income to the county. Consideration also needs to be given to the secondary businesses that could be impacted. These may be local gas stations or small businesses such as restaurants that benefit from visitors as well as the suppliers to these businesses. I have concerns as to whether PJM has also factored into their decision the direct and indirect impacts to the businesses in the areas and the people who live and enjoy western Loudoun County.

While the electricity needs of the data centers needs to be addressed by PJM, these needs should not be met at the expense of western Loudoun County citizens' livelihoods or ability to enjoy what so many have worked hard to preserve. From the comments I have read on your website and discussions with others that may be impacted, it appears the opposition to this plan is strong. I urge PJM to seek alternative plans to meet the growing electricity needs in a manner that does not destroy the environmental and aesthetic beauty of western Loudoun County that so many have worked so hard to develop and maintain simply for expediency. While the current plan would benefit some, it would come at a very high cost to others.

Please consider these comments along with those of the others who have written when making your decision.

Sincerely,

Barry Carroll

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To the PJM Board of Managers:

We are writing to express our strong opposition to the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500kV line in western Loudoun County, Virginia to be built by Florida-based NextEra (Proposal 2022-W3-853). Your maps indicate this line would transit historic and conservation areas around Mt. Gilead, Digges Valley, and Waterford National Historic Landmark along the Catoctin Ridge. There was a multi-year fight in the mid-2000s over a new transmission line in this same area that generated huge opposition and ultimately resulted in a compromise that put part of the new line under the existing right-of-way along the W&OD trail, with the rest aligned in a new right-of-way along an existing transportation corridor, namely the Leesburg Bypass.

In the intervening years, organized efforts to protect rural Loudoun and its farming, historic, equestrian, environmental/conservation, and agritourism interests have only grown stronger. There is a very mobilized public that will fight even harder over the placement of new transmission lines through

undisturbed Loudoun countryside than they did in the mid-2000s.

The interested parties this time are much broader and span multiple counties. Loudoun has worked hard to promote tourism in the western half of the county, which is a major pillar in Loudoun's Comprehensive Plan. The quantity and quality of agritourism businesses in Loudoun outpaces all other jurisdictions in Virginia. Crisscrossing this area with transmission lines to meet energy demand elsewhere would hurt this vital sector of the economy.

We appreciate that PJM has a very difficult task ahead of it making up for anticipated electric power shortfalls, but we think community engagement and a broader range of alternative solutions and transmission technologies need to be considered. Meanwhile, other parts of Virginia are adding data centers, and old data centers will be modernizing with new computers that consume even more power, all further complicating PJM's task. The current path we are on is unsustainable and unscalable, and much needs to change in the way the region approves data centers and plans for the expected demand for electric power. We urge PJM to step back and reconsider its approach, with a goal of ensuring your mission to deliver power, but not at the cost of destroying the communities and other economic

interests that are in your path.

***Jim and Jackie*** Gosses

***Waterford, VA***

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Mr. Mark Takahashi, Chair PJM Board of Directors  
Mr. Manu Asthana, PJM President, and CEO  
PJM INTERCONNECTION, L.L.C.  
2750 Monroe Boulevard  
Audubon, PA 19403

To the PJM Board of Managers:

With CC to our recently elected representatives to the Virginia General Assembly and the State Corporation Commission Commissioners

We are writing to express our strong opposition to the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500 kV line in western Loudoun County, Virginia to be built by Florida-based NextEra (Proposal 2022-W3-853). Your maps indicate this line would transit historic and conservation areas around Mt. Gilead, Digges Valley, and Waterford National Historic Landmark along the Catoctin Ridge. There was a multi-year fight in the mid-2000s over a new transmission line in this same area that generated huge opposition and ultimately resulted in a compromise that put part of the new line under the existing right-of-way along the W&OD trail, with the rest aligned in a new right-of-way along an existing transportation corridor, namely the Leesburg Bypass.

In the intervening years, organized efforts to protect rural Loudoun and its farming, historic, equestrian, environmental/conservation, and agritourism interests have only grown stronger. There is a very mobilized public that will fight even harder over the placement of new transmission lines through undisturbed Loudoun countryside than they did in the mid-2000s.

The interested parties this time are much broader and span multiple counties. Loudoun has worked hard to promote tourism in the western half of the county, which is a major pillar in Loudoun's Comprehensive Plan. The quantity and quality of agritourism businesses in Loudoun outpaces all other jurisdictions in Virginia. Crisscrossing this area with transmission lines to meet energy demand elsewhere would hurt this vital sector of the economy.

We appreciate that PJM has a very difficult task ahead of it making up for anticipated electric power shortfalls, but we think community engagement and a broader range of alternative solutions and transmission technologies need to be considered. Meanwhile, other parts of Virginia are adding data centers, and old data centers will be modernizing with new computers that consume even more power, all further complicating PJM's task. The current path we are on is unsustainable and unscalable, and much needs to change in the way the region approves data centers and plans for the expected demand for electric power. We urge PJM to step back and reconsider its approach, with a goal of ensuring your mission to deliver power, but not at the cost of destroying the communities and other economic interests that are in your path.

With regards,

Dennis Bours

Lovettsville, VA

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To David Anders and the PJM Board,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposal by PJM Interconnection for a new 500 kV transmission line in western Loudoun County. The proposed route goes through some of our most scenic and historic landscapes, over prime farmland and through important wildlife habitats.

As a resident and landowner of Western Loudoun, this issue is very important to me as well as my neighbors and friends. The agricultural and agritourism sector is strong, but we must have undisturbed farmland and scenic views to continue what we are doing into the future. This proposed transmission line is a threat to our entire rural economic sector and will ruin the scenic views from our local breweries and wineries that bring many visitors to the area.

I understand that meeting the growing demand for power to data centers in Eastern Loudoun is a real challenge, however, this proposed route is likely to meet much public opposition and is already deemed to be a high constructability risk - costing the ratepayers (here and in neighboring states) much more in the future. I encourage you to reconsider and choose an option along pre-existing transmission routes that will have lower environmental impact and will minimize the cost.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Bonnie J. Gillen

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To David Anders and the PJM Board,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposal by PJM Interconnection for a new 500 kV transmission line in western Loudoun County. The proposed route goes through some of our most scenic and historic landscapes, over prime farmland and through important wildlife habitats.

As a resident and landowner of Western Loudoun, this issue is very important to me as well as my neighbors and friends. The agricultural and agritourism sector is strong, but we must have undisturbed farmland and scenic views to continue what we are doing into the future. This proposed transmission line is a threat to our entire rural economic sector and will ruin the scenic views from our local breweries and wineries that bring many visitors to the area.

I understand that meeting the growing demand for power to data centers in Eastern Loudoun is a real challenge, however, this proposed route is likely to meet much public opposition and is already deemed to be a high constructability risk - costing the ratepayers (here and in neighboring states) much more in the future. I encourage you to reconsider and choose an option along pre-existing transmission routes that will have lower environmental impact and will minimize the cost.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Gillen  
Creek Lane PK, LLC

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December 3, 2023

Mr David Anders, Secretary PJM Board of Managers:

We are writing to express our **opposition** to the proposal by PJM Interconnection for a new 500 kV transmission line in western Loudoun County. The proposed route goes through some of our most scenic and historic landscapes, over prime farmland and through important wildlife habitats.

As a resident of Western Loudoun and Waterford (a National Historic Landmark which the U.S. Department of Interior puts on par with Monticello and Mount Vernon), this issue is very important to us and my neighbors.

We moved to Waterford 17 years ago for the rural surroundings, the farmland, the gravel roads, the historical significance, a slower pace, the beautiful viewsheds and wildlife habitats. We love our home and neighborhood and intend to live out the rest of our lives in our current home. The neighborhood we live in is Rosemont at Trevor Hill on Old Wheatland Road just outside the village of Waterford which includes 120 acres of protected Loudoun County deeded conservation land which was a major factor in why we moved to the area.

We are also longtime members of the Waterford Foundation.

The installation of a 500kv transmission line is inconsistent with the rural and agricultural nature of the area and would destroy many of the attributes of why we moved to Waterford, and significantly negatively impact the quality of life and area property values.

We respectfully request that you disapprove the proposed new PJM Interconnection 500 kV transmission line through in western Loudoun County and choose an alternative route along existing transmission routes that will have lower environmental impact and minimize overall costs (financial and quality of life) over the long-term.

Please don't destroy western Loudoun County's rural environment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Nickolas and Sharon Kozar

Waterford, Virginia

CC:

Loudoun County Board of Supervisors

PJM Board of Managers

Russert Perry

Caleb Kershner

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Dear Mr. Anders and Mr. Kershner,

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the proposed route of the enormous power line coming through rural Lovettsville properties to feed the Data Centers. This route will go through numerous operational farms, tank property values, destroy rural viewsheds, and ruin the esthetic nature of Northern Loudoun County.

There are other sources of power generation and transmission routes that can be tapped. We will fight this tooth and nail. Please investigate alternatives to avoid this disastrous situation.

Eleanore Meredith

Lovettsville VA

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Hello Mr. Souder,

As a citizen and small business (agritourism) owner in Fauquier County, I am highly concerned about all the potential enlargements and new lines coming through our historically beautiful and rural county. This electricity is not for our purposes. It is all to do with the overbuild of data centers in Prince William and Loudoun counties. They need to build more power creation sites in their own counties as they are getting a kajillion dollars of tax revenue....let them provide their own power.

Also as we all know the size of technology quickly decreases. Before too long these buildings are going to become redundant. Unfortunately, the ugly power lines will still be lacing through our beautiful county when that much power is no longer needed. Power demands for everything but data centers is decreasing as we go more green.

Please slow down this process. All these data centers in the other two counties are also a security risk.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Best,

Deborah Skahill

Catlett, Virginia

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Marshall, VA  

December 1, 2023

Mr. David Souder,  
Chairman, Transmission Expansion Advisory Committee  
PJM Interconnection  
2750 Monroe Blvd  
Audubon, PA 19403

Dear Mr. Souder:

I am writing as a member, and on behalf, of a group of contiguous neighbors spanning the 17-mile route (identified as 2022 Window 3 proposals – PSEG – 325 in PJM's Sept. 5 Reliability Analysis Update, enclosed) of PJM's proposed new transmission line easement in Fauquier County. This group of neighbors and landowners, many with generational roots, call Fauquier County home. We have quickly mobilized to oppose any future new transmission easements in Fauquier County, specifically the central Fauquier County corridor. Within a three-week period we have collected over 120 signatures representing a significant portion of the landownership within the corridor. We intend to continue gathering support. Attachments A and B are maps from the Piedmont Environmental Council's website illustrating the routes considered in October 2023. Attachment B shows an enlargement of the PJM PSEG-325 route. Attachment C overlays the route over the Fauquier County tax parcel data with the properties of the co-signers of this letter highlighted in green.

While we understand from reports of your October 31 meeting that PJM will not be pursuing this new route at this time, we are deeply concerned that the route was even considered in the first place. Fauquier County communities have been steadfast bulwarks against the sprawl of Northern Virginia and zealous advocates for preserving the quality of the Piedmont landscape, welding, among other things, a fifty-acre minimum subdivision zoning ordinance. Many owners have taken further steps to place conservation easements on their land.

The value of this land is multifold. Fundamentally, it is our home, but in many cases it also represents our livelihoods. For many, but certainly not all, their land is their largest single investment. We have all seen the visual blight of transmission line growth over existing easements and the dramatic loss in value to the affected properties, not to mention the environment. This profoundly affects large and small landowners alike. The proposed new route over, along and through our properties would be devastating, and we are committed to fight any change that would affect our homes, livelihoods, environment and culture.

PJM has stated that the newly proposed transmission easement routes through Fauquier County are to serve the growing energy demands in Loudoun and Prince William Counties, but at what cost? We implore PJM to consider the unintended consequences of its decisions and the adverse impacts those decisions will have on our historic communities. We seek to restrict transmission lines to existing easement corridors and prevent new transmission line easements. Delivering power to a few high energy consuming private interests at the expense of many citizens and the environment (aesthetically, if not more) is a flawed policy and bad public relations. We will continue to work with our local and state officials to protect our environment, our homes, our farms, our history, and our investments. We welcome you to join us in finding a solution that achieves PJM's legitimate business needs without forever degrading the land and livelihoods of an entire community and defacing an historically significant region of Virginia.

Sincerely yours,



Richard Arentz

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Mr. Anders,

Out of respect for your time I will immediately get to the point of our email. In our opinion, the proposal for a new greenfield 500 kV line is deceitful and clandestine in



the manner in which it is subversively being imposed despite the outpouring of community concern and negative, if not catastrophic, impact on many western Loudoun businesses and families.

The contrast between eastern and western Loudoun are well known, respected, and appreciated. In the spirit of this collective harmonious community, western Loudoun cannot be expected to sacrifice its fragile creeks and streams, forests and grasslands, agro-business, tourism sectors, equestrian services, farms, property values, etc. in order to compensate for power shortfalls in eastern Loudoun.

This proposal is narrow-minded and reactive without due consideration and respect for the individuals, businesses, and ecology that will be most impacted.

Consequently, we request that PJM, in its upcoming Transmission Expansion Advisory Committee meeting on Tuesday December 5, deny the proposed routing by NextEra.

Please revisit the community concerns that have been expressed and give deeper consideration to other proposals that will utilize more existing rights of way.

Many thanks for your time & consideration.

Vance & Michelle Hacecky

Purcellville, VA

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December 2, 2023

Dear Mr. Anders and the PJM Board of Managers,

I am writing to you today to ask that you reconsider and not approve any proposed plans for new transmission line projects in Loudoun County. Specifically, we live near Waterford and I am referring to Proposal 2022 W3-853 and any other plan that would create a new pathway for power lines in the county.

I served 31 years in the US Foreign Service, with the majority of my family's overseas postings in developing countries. While rewarding in so many ways, the unhealthy environments we lived in were a constant challenge and reminder of how blessed we are here in the United States. We now have a small horse boarding and sheep producing farm and a new transmission line path will have a devastating impact on our rural economic environment and will significantly, permanently and negatively affect the quality of life in our county.

Our actual neighborhood in Jakarta (we lived in  
Menteng)

Our neighborhood in Loudoun

I recognize the irony that this email most likely will transit through one of the “data centers” in our area and appreciate the important work you do and the vital role power companies play in our country. However, if sufficient power is not available here for new data centers, they should be built where it is. A lower impact, lower risk option needs to be found.

In PJM’s “West Cluster Constructability Matrix”, Constructability Risks for 853 were rated as Medium-High due in part to “significant risk of public opposition to the proposed route...”. Please consider this the beginning of my “public opposition.

I was unable to find definitions for the Matrix’s risk categories. However, from what I have seen and heard from my neighbors and our community; when it comes to public opposition, I recommend that you ratchet that Constructability Risk level up to High.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jim Schnaible

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Dear Mr. Anders and PJM,

*Are you people out of your minds?* Sorry to be so blunt, but your preferred option of building a huge new set of powerlines traversing northern Loudoun county will cause a firestorm of protest if it goes forward.

The erection of huge new pylons on both existing and greenfield corridors through our county's wine country will devastate the rural tourism industry, Loudoun's second largest, because guess what? people don't want to look at power lines and substations when they visit the countryside for a wine tour or a wedding reception or a stay overnight at a B&B.

Also, declaring eminent domain on conservation easements is by all accounts illegal under Virginia law, and the utility in question would be tied up in lawsuits for years.

Worst of all, cutting through Waterford's historic district would amount to a blatant violation of Loudoun's rich heritage. For good reason, the U.S. Department of Interior, in renewing Waterford's charter as a National Historic *Landmark*, compared the village to Washington's Mount Vernon and Jefferson's Monticello. Does PJM really want to be associated with that?

Not too many local issues excite mass popular interest in our county, but literally hundreds of people are already showing up at public meetings to protest against the proliferation of the huge new power lines being built to support the data center industry.

I happen to chair the Loudoun County Heritage Commission, which so far has monitored but not taken an official position on data centers and power lines. For that reason, this letter only represents my personal views. That said, PJM's recommendation if approved will certainly fall within our Commission's purview, and we would most likely advise the Board of Supervisors accordingly.

Everyone recognizes that your mandate is to supply power where it is needed, and I do not mean to impugn the professional integrity of PJM staff. In this instance, however, I believe PJM has overlooked critical factors in the local landscape, and I urge you to postpone your vote and send representatives to Loudoun to carefully review the situation on the ground.

Regards,

Robert A. Pollard

Hillsboro, Virginia

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To PJM,

I own a significant piece of property in Western Loudoun County, and I with my surrounding neighbors are outraged about this current proposal for huge towers through our area. This will destroy the real beauty of our area, which we work hard to maintain as well as pay enormous taxes. It is a structural hazard to livestock and those of us who make agricultural use of the land. We will resist this in every way possible, and will let our representatives at every level know!

Sincerely,  
Virginia Pinnell  
Hamilton, VA.

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I am writing to express my opposition to the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500 KV line in western Loudoun County VA.

I was just recently told about your proposal by a neighbor. I was surprised to find out that this discussion has been in the works since Feb of this year and that one of the proposals is to go right through our farm...a farm that has been in our family since 1964. Yes I have a personal interest in this project because it affects me and my family, but I also cannot believe that your project is proposing to go through some of the prettiest parts of our county.

Most of us have tried to keep the Lovettsville area rural. A lot of us gave up our subdividing rights when the county changed many of the farms from A-3 to A-20. Most of us don't have high speed internet, we have unpaved roads, we require very little county/state services and there are no big city lights that cause light pollution. We are rural, yes, that is why people come from all over the county to buy our Christmas trees, visit the wineries, board their horses and buy our farm products. Why do you want to ruin that? Of all the proposals that you have before you, which includes an existing utility corridor, you want to take a pristine area and make it unsightly with lines and metal towers. It just doesn't make sense.

I looked over our open fields yesterday and thought about the years we have managed this farm, mending fences, raising cows, bush hogging the fields in the hot heat, cutting out autumn olive and cedar trees in the winter, constantly managing every aspect of this land and then wondered, we did all of that work to have an electric company step in and put in power lines/towers over our house and fields; an electrical line that has no benefit to any of us out in this area.

Your proposal is disappointing news to all of us in this rural area and to have so many of us spend this holiday season, writing letters, attending meetings, worrying and fighting for something we worked hard for is unforgivable.

Mary Gordon

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Hello David. I see from Linked-In that you and I are fellow early to mid 1980s grads of Penn's Moore School of Engineering. That was a great time to live in Philly! Regardless, I am writing regarding the highly controversial plans that seem to be in the works to bring more electrical power to eastern Loudoun County's ever-increasing number of data centers via a route that cuts directly across some exceptionally beautiful countryside filled with rolling hills, organic farms, productive wineries and breweries, and one of only three National Historic Landmark Districts in the US. I am one of many who are opposed to these plans if they entail power line towers that are hundreds of feet high.

There is already an existing right of way to bring power across the northern section of Loudoun County and across the Potomac River to the Doubs substation near Point of Rocks, MD, from which power line rights of way carry power past the Dickerson power plant substation and into Loudoun County near the Wegman's on Route 7. Why can't these existing rights of way be upgraded rather than seeking a new

route that destroys a portion of central-western Loudoun County that is critical to bringing in lots of visitors willing to spend serious money?

I appreciate your consideration of the alternate routing proposed above.

Best regards,

Roger Zanes

Round Hill, VA

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December 3, 2023

To the PJM Board of Managers-

I am writing this letter to express my opposition to the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500 kV line in western Loudoun County, Virginia to be built by Florida-based NextEra (Proposal 2022-W3-853).

My name is Abigail Zurfluh. I am the historic preservation director for the Waterford Foundation- the nonprofit dedicated to preserving the National Historic Landmark of Waterford, Virginia- and lifelong resident of Loudoun County. The maps that you have shared of the proposal indicate this line would transit historic and conservation areas around Mt. Gilead, Digges Valley, and Waterford National Historic Landmark along the Catoctin Ridge.

When in Western Loudoun, one can marvel at the rolling hills and beautiful landscape in which sit important open spaces and agricultural land; lands and communities that have existed here for generations. Along with that is the still thriving agricultural and tourism industries that exist in Western Loudoun. This region is a major pillar of Virginia Wine Country and the tourism industry that Loudoun has been building for years. All of which can be found in Waterford. The village and surrounding open spaces were deemed a National Historic Landmark in 1970, and were just reaffirmed this past year. This is the same distinction that Mount Vernon and Monticello have. Our Landmark Status is due to the determination of the importance of telling the story of this unique industrial village; as well as the impressive community preservation that has taken place to keep the historic village and setting intact. The proposed path of the new transmission lines would run directly through the Landmark, through property under conservation easement with the Virginia Outdoors Foundation. These easements are in place perpetually to be able to protect open space that is important to the Catoctin Creek valley and the wildlife that relies on it for a home.

Implementing this proposal will have lasting negative impacts to the community, businesses, and wildlife that calls Western Loudoun home. Lasting negative impacts that we can't even predict or understand the ferocity of now. This type of construction is not one that this region has seen or experienced, and would cause more problems to related parts of Loudoun and Northern Virginia than the benefits received. I appreciate that you all have a difficult and taxing job ahead of you in figuring out how to make up for anticipated power shortfalls of data centers. But even having this job shows the unprecedented and unsustainable growth of data centers in Loudoun. I also appreciate the task in front of myself and my community in advocating for the continued conservation of Western Loudoun open spaces and communities. I, and others, urge you to take a step back and reconsider your approach in completing your mission but in a way that is sustainable and mindful for the needs of all. I also invite you to come enjoy the wonders of Western Loudoun to see what it is myself, the Waterford Foundation, and other organizations are fighting so hard for.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Abigail Zurfluh

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Dear Transmission Expansion Advisory Committee,

12-3-2023

It is with great dismay and disgust to learn that PJM would even consider building a 500 kV transmission line through the historic corridors of Western Loudoun County, specifically NextEra proposed 2022-W3-853.

My husband's family settled here and has owned and farmed 1200 acres since 1792. We have placed conservation easements on all our land to protect it from development, protect prime soils for farming and protect natural resources. We are in the Goose Creek Historic District. Many of our neighbors have also placed conservation easements on their land, protecting thousands of contiguous acres.

This area of Western Loudoun County is an oasis of beauty that we will fight to protect. The farmland and open spaces here are home to a vibrant rural economy consisting of equestrian, livestock, crops, wineries, locally grown fresh produce and tourism. The area abounds with wildlife.

I strongly oppose PJM's proposal, NextEra 2022-W3-853.

If more transmission lines are required, they should be located along major roads or placed underground.

Sincerely,

Donna T. Rogers (Mrs. Joseph M.)  
Hillbrook Farm  
Hamilton, Virginia

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#### **To the PJM Board of Managers:**

We oppose PJM's proposed path (2022-W3-853) for a new right-of-way (ROW) that cuts through private property in Loudoun County, Va., for a 500 kV overhead transmission line—***especially when a previous case by the Virginia SCC established precedent for the required use of existing ROW for a transmission line before considering private land.***

***The existing ROW proved adequate in SCC Case No. PUE-2005-00018 for the Pleasant View - Hamilton 230 kV transmission line in Loudoun County,*** with portions required to be built underground. The recently proposed 500 kV line that's single circuit (only three wires) should parallel the current Pleasant View - Hamilton 230 kV transmission line on already-designated ROW. To cut through scenic countryside with massive transmission towers and to claim private property through eminent domain when adequate ROW exists would be economically and environmentally irresponsible.

Perhaps PJM proposed the western Loudoun County route for the greenfield portion of the 500 kV line without knowing it matches ***paths already rejected by the Virginia SCC*** for the Pleasant View - Hamilton 230 kV line. Precedents, testimonies, and evidence that reject the taking of private and historic property in scenic Loudoun are documented in the Virginia SCC case (PUE-2005-00018).

***The PJM-proposed path for the 500 kV line bisects several open-space easements held by Loudoun County,*** which exist "to preserve the environment of the Property and to maintain permanently the natural and cultural values of the Property and the dominant scenic and agricultural character of the Property," as stated by easement. The proposed line goes against the very purpose of these conservation easements, which give balance to Loudoun's economy and protect its unique natural beauty, which enhances tourism. Many properties throughout Western Loudoun are held in other land conservation programs.

Further, the proposed 500 kV line will serve Dominion Energy's commercial customers (data centers) in Eastern Loudoun. Why should a small number of residential land owners in Western Loudoun bear the burden for it? In addition to destroying the scenic and environmental qualities of Western Loudoun, the

proposed 500 kV line devalues private properties and family investments. It is our opinion that the data centers should have to pay for the provision of the electrical infrastructure needed to support their for-profit businesses. That burden should not be forced upon a minority who purposefully purchased properties within the scenic and open spaces of Western Loudoun.

***PJM should keep like infrastructure together to maintain the quality, scenic beauty, and integrity of Western Loudoun.*** The infrastructure and ROW for the 500 kV line already exist along the Pleasant View - Hamilton 230 kV line. Portions that impact residential areas along the existing ROW should be placed underground, same as required in the previous Virginia SCC case (PUE-2005-00018).

As demonstrated in the previous SCC case, ***rest assured the residents of Western Loudoun will vigorously defend their rights*** and insist the Virginia SCC enforce existing laws related to transmission line placement.

Sincerely,  
David and Jane Sarver  
Leesburg, VA

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Dear Mr. Anders,  
I have only recently learned of a proposal that places 300 foot transmission lines directly through Waterford Virginia and Phillips Farm, a National Historic Landmark. This would completely destroy the countryside of Waterford and the Catoctin region of Virginia. Tourists, naturalists, cyclists, wineries, artists, and residents (of which I am one), come to this area to enjoy the beautiful rolling hillsides, historic beauty, winding roads, and most importantly the preservation of the natural countryside.

Waterford is home to the oldest Country Fair in the Nation. It is wrong and shortsighted to consider this an appropriate location for this project. Please support us in our effort to preserve this countryside for future generations.

Thank you,  
Melinda Croft

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To: David Anders and David Sauder of PJM

From: Kelly Tejada

Lovettsville VA 20180



I am writing to express my strong opposition to the recent regional transmission expansion plan which contains a proposal for a new 500 kV line in western Loudoun County, Virginia. We have lived in our home for 23 years and have raised three children. Our home and the land around it feel sacred. I will never forget the first time I was shown the property, I was in awe of the ancient cypress tree, the rolling fields and grand historic bank barn. Our home is also historic, built in the 1730's; many generations have farmed and raised their children here. We purchased the property from the Johnsons who had lived and farmed here for nearly 60 years. From time to time, we receive visits from the Johnson's family members and friends. Over the last 23 years, we have lovingly restored our/their home, we feel as if we are caretakers of the home and the land around it. We placed our 20-acre property, in conservation easement. We have encouraged the land to become more of a natural environment for all animals; butterflies, milk weed, salamanders, we have numerous wetlands, wild turkeys, red tail hawks, fox, cranes, and mallard ducks.

When I envision or contemplate a 500 kV tower running through the natural landscape of western Loudoun County, Northern Virginia and West Virginia I am filled with disbelief, shock, and resolute anger. What you're proposing is the destruction of hundreds of miles of Earth and natural habitat leaving a scarred landscape. It does not make sense from an environmental perspective to continue to invest billions of dollars in fossil fuel infrastructure. We cannot ignore climate change for the benefit of data centers and their corporate profits.

We are deeply connected to and committed to preserving the legacy of our land and the land and natural habitat of our neighbors, locally and in other jurisdictions. We will do this through all means necessary, legal, and financial. We will fight the construction of your proposed fossil fueled emitting, nature destroying, detrimentally culturally and historically scarring PATH of power lines.

We will protect our sacred land and Earth. We ask you to be more forward looking in coming up with energy solutions, not just 5- to 10 year plan that quickly meets the energy demand needs but to contemplate how your decisions are to impact our Earth and community for decades and centuries to come.

Kelly Tejada

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Hello to the PJM Board of Managers,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed PJM new greenfield 500kV line in western Loudoun County, VA (Florida based NextEra) proposal 2022-W3-853.

If approved this project would put many of my neighbors either off their land or out of business. As a member and supporter of this community and the small businesses within I want you all to know that I am opposed to this. Even more importantly my family runs the risk of being forced from our home if this proceeds. If the lines went through our small acreage we would be forced to move and/or be unable to tend to our small livestock operation. We have worked very hard to get our dream farm and it angers and terrifies me that we could be forced to leave it. The route in proposal 2022-W3-853 would be an overuse of eminent domain taking private agricultural lands as well as homes. It would also destroy

conservation easements and national historic landmark setting an unhealthy precedent that these reserved statuses hold no value and are up for grabs any time a company wants to further its interests. My neighbors and I do hold these things dear and take their legal preservation status very seriously. Additionally should these transmission lines go through the amount of maintenance would be bad for the environment including clearing habitat and the use of pesticides which I also oppose for my childrens' sake. This route is bad for families, the environment, and local businesses and should be reconsidered.

I ask that PJM use an alternate route for these transmission lines that uses a more appropriate or existing right of way which would benefit PJM by having less public opposition, environmental constraints, and property acquisition to hold up the project. I understand that PJM has an obligation to provide power but my family and our community have invested a great deal in our area and are prepared to organize and fight to protect it.

Thank you for your time,

Stephanie Manney

Waterford Resident

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Dear Mr. Anders, I am writing to you today to urge you to reconsider and stop the proposal to the power lines in the Catoctin District.

We moved out to Western Loudoun to enjoy the beauty of the land and the wide open spaces. We have lived here for 15 years. We feel that these power lines would negatively affect our living conditions in several ways.

It has been shown that living in close proximity to these power lines will adversely affect physical health, not to mention the risk of fire and electrocution. With all of the health issues in the world now, we do not need another.

These power lines will impact the beauty of our landscape and the quality of life for us and the many families who have chosen to live here.

The proposal will also have a negative effect on the value of our homes. In this economy, this is not something we need to be concerned about.

Put yourself in our shoes (and homes), would you do this in your neighborhood?

Sincerely,

Kim Davis

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Dear Mr, Anders,

I understand that your firm has proposed new transmission lines in northern Virginia. The proposal shows major transmission lines passing directly through the Waterford National Historic Landmark on the Phillips Farm. The proposal places 300 foot transmission lines directly across the protected Phillips Farm, which would effectively destroy the integrity of the Waterford National Historic Landmark.

The village of Waterford is a Loudoun County Historic and Cultural Conservation Site, on the Virginia Historic Landmarks Register, on the National Register of Historic Places, and in 1970, the entire village, with the farmland surrounding it, was designated a National Historic Landmark District, one of only three such landmarks in the entire United States.

For more than 75 years ,The Waterford Foundation and hundreds of volunteers have preserved the historic buildings and open spaces of the National Historic Landmark, and, through education, increased the public's knowledge of life and work in an early American rural community.

We cannot stand by and see all of that work to protect a national treasure only to see it devastated by these transmission lines.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Ellers

Aldie, VA

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Good afternoon,

Like other residents of the Village of Waterford, I am writing to oppose the proposed power lines through Waterford, a protected Historic National Landmark, to include Milltown Road and Phillips Farm, which is under Conservation easement.

This project would be hugely disruptive to this protected historic area, the nature and wildlife that finds refuge here, and the viewshed from the village that we have worked hard to preserve as close to its 18th century state as possible.

People choose to visit and live in Waterford because it's one of the few remaining areas where the modern world has not intruded. It would be tragic to see that ruined. Waterford is very special to everyone, and this would be devastating to an historic area that has managed to survive relatively untouched since 1733.

I join the others in respectfully requesting that you identify an alternate route for the proposed path of the power lines, away from the Waterford historical area.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Wilcher

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To whom it may concern:

I'm vehemently opposed to your proposed buildout of a massive new power project literally in our backyard. In your final solution recommendations, you chose [NextEra proposal 853](#) to build 500kV transmission towers to bring electricity from as far away as Ohio to meet the future needs of the current and proposed data centers in Northern Virginia. The use of legacy coal and gas generation capacity in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Ohio is not a sustainable solution. It's a step backwards from our state's commitment to sustainable power for two reasons. First, this imported power has to be transmitted over hundreds of miles, resulting in 6-10% of it being wasted before it is even delivered to its consumers. This is tremendously inefficient and has net result of increased fossil fuel consumption despite a significant buildout of wind farms. Second, the tremendous loss of beautiful countryside while increasing greenhouse gas emissions and pollution is a terrible disservice to the environment.

NextEra proposes building transmission lines that will carry 13.3 gigawatts of power at half a million volts through the scenic countryside of West Virginia, Virginia, and Maryland. This transmission project will require hundreds of towers to be built, roughly one every quarter mile. Much of this is "Greenfield" construction, requiring new towers and the clear cutting of 200 feet of trees and vegetation, permanently scarring the countryside on their long journey to Ashburn, Virginia. Clear cutting the countryside, building huge transmission towers, and wasting gigawatts of fossil fuel generated power is not a green solution. It's a nightmare that can't be undone once it's built out. Ten years ago, our neighbors in West Virginia fought and stopped the buildout of the PATH project (<http://stoppathwv.com/index.html>). I applaud their efforts to stop that and document the environmental cost of all this. Now, it's our turn. We are raising the awareness of our neighbors, local and urban, that this is a terrible solution. It destroys the places our urban neighbors utilize to take a day trip to for a quick escape from the city. We all lose the scenic and historic places where we can hike, bike, and drink local wine.

There is also a significant national security problem here. A quick perusal of the map of power transmission corridors shows that a loss of even one of the main transmission corridors will cause a significant loss of power to large swaths of the eastern seaboard. This corridor, when built, will become one of the biggest, making it a prime target for an enemy who wants to disable power delivery to DC. Reliance on this huge amount of imported power, in essence, is a threat to our National Security given the number of strategically important assets in the Washington DC area.

You've stirred up a hornet's nest. The opposition to this is growing exponentially and will include many of the 400,000 citizens of Loudoun County as well as many of the 7 million people in the Washington DC area. We have put our Federal, State, and Local politicians on notice. We have alerted our federal politicians of the national security issues of this. Several of them have shown up at our town hall meetings. If you choose this, we will fight you every step of the way. You can expect local zoning problems limiting your ability to build towers. You can expect lawsuits against any attempt to utilize eminent domain. You can expect protests at every one of your meetings, including the one on December 5. You can expect a tidal wave of resistance during

the approvals process with the State Corporation Commission. To be frank, we will make this very hard and very expensive for you.

It's difficult to understand why you chose a solution proposed by a non-local utility provider. Dominion Electric knows better than to even propose this in their distribution area. Were they considered for any solutions to this? My hope is that you didn't fully understand the environmental impacts of a greenfield expansion into Western Loudoun county and that you will choose another solution with a provider that understands the local area impacts.

We are not unreasonable. Many of us are willing to work with you find more palatable solutions in both the short term and long term. I personally believe the solution to this problem is multi-faceted. Perhaps, we can we assess the feasibility of restoring local generation capacity. Where renewables such as wind and solar are feasible, we can lobby our federal, state, and local governments to incentivize building them. Renewables are only part of the solution, though. They have proven to be unable to supply the baseload power needed in our electrical grid. We need to be open to building new or expanding existing nuclear plants if we are to achieve fossil fuel independence locally. Our local nuclear facilities, Calvert Cliffs and Lake Anna Power stations, have both been denied expansion requests. We need to reassess the closed down powerplant sites that are still zoned for industrial use and build new, cleaner, power plants. In the short term, this may require us to consider natural gas plants on these sites until renewable alternatives become available. While not ideal, it is greener than wasting 10% of fossil fuel generated power imported from afar. Finally, we need to ask ourselves the really hard question of whether we incur the cost of building out local power infrastructure versus limiting development, both residential and commercial.

Daniel R. Tejada

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To the PJM Board of Managers,

My family and I would like to express our strong opposition to the PJM Proposal 2022-

W3-853 to construct a new 500 kV line in western Loudoun County, Virginia. We understand the intended purpose of this line but want to make sure that the PJM Board and Staff understand the numerous risks and impacts of the project such as:

- The route is proposed through an area with limited right-of-way and will require extensive eminent domain and taking of personal land to complete. The proposed route goes through numerous small farms and residential communities. Our neighbors and organizations are united in our opposition to this line. The project, if selected by the Board, and the associated eminent domain, will be fought vigorously by our community and our legal teams through the entire process.
- Personally, the proposed project, pending final location, may limit our ability to remain at our house as the easement may destroy the use of our limited property for our family. Additionally, the project will raise concerns with the health of our young children

due to the construction and maintenance and chemicals/spraying of the right-of-way that comes along with these types of lines.

- Similar to our personal objections, the route will unduly damage the ability for multiple small farms and agricultural tourism businesses that have become a cornerstone of the western Loudoun County economy to operate. The damage done by these lines cannot be undone once installed and will result in loss of extensive areas of Prime Farmland that is being protected by the citizens of Loudoun.
- The route is planned to pass through multiple agricultural districts. These districts are intended to protect farmland and open space to conserve the production of agriculture and protect local ecological resources. The construction of the transmission lines and associated right-of-way through these districts will assuredly further limit the ability of farms in these districts to raise livestock, plant crops, and protect the ecology.
- The route is proposed to extend into and adjacent to National Historic Landmarks such as the Town of Waterford which will result in extreme opposition and challenges from historic groups and the Waterford Foundation as has happened when past projects were proposed in the area.
- The route will fragment and damage sensitive ecological areas throughout western Loudoun County. Our community appreciates and values our region and ecology and will fight to accurately map, document, and protect these areas.
- The route is planned to traverse multiple farms in perpetual conservation easements. These conservation easements are intended to preserve their character for generations to come. The use of this land to erect transmission towers via eminent domain will damage these properties and may limit future conservation throughout the region.

PJM's own risk matrix indicates that the proposed 853 route is complex and highly risky due to construction costs and the need to forcibly attain land through a well-preserved region. We understand that the PJM staff and Board have to complete their work to make up for anticipated electric power shortfalls. However, we want to make sure that the PJM Board and Staff understand that the community is in strong opposition and is prepared to resist the project.

My family and I, and our community, ask PJM to reject and not rubber-stamp a highly risky greenfield alignment and consider alternative approaches that have less impact to our communities and utilize proper corridors.

Regards,

Ronald Manney

Waterford, VA Resident

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I am writing to you to oppose the recommendation for new transmission lines to be built near our 22 acre farmstead in Hamilton, Virginia, and near the Hamilton Station Road pathway as described in PJM's 2022 Window 3 project.

Like many others who have written to you, we oppose this pathway because it will marr many of the dwindling number of scenic landscapes and historic properties in Loudoun County.

I have read the prior submissions of mh neighbors, and agree with the vast majority of points they make. Rather than reiterate them, I will simply assert that residents in and around the area are likely to organize strong opposition to this proposal which will delay and, we hope, ultimately cause the cancellation of this project.

I understand that alternatives exist, including other satisfactory pathways along existing routes which are feasible but that you have rejected heretofore.

We urge you to reconsider these alternatives as ones which in the long run will encounter less intense, widespread, or effective local opposition and therefore be more expeditious in meeting future demand for power in a timely fashion.

Thank you in advance for your consideration,

Richard Rasmus  
Elizabeth Thomas

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Richard Rasmus

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To the PJM Board of Managers:

I am writing to express my vehement opposition to the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500 kV line in western Loudoun County, Virginia to be built by NextEra (Proposal 2022-W3-853). Your maps indicate this line would transit historic and conservation areas around Mt. Gilead, Digges Valley, and Waterford along the Catoctin Ridge. There was a multi-year fight in the mid-2000s over a new transmission line in this same area that generated huge opposition and ultimately resulted in a compromise with part of the new line being buried under the existing right-of-way along the W&OD trail, with the rest aligned in a new right-of-way along the Leesburg Bypass, an existing transportation corridor.

Since then, organized efforts to protect rural Loudoun and its farming, historic, environmental/conservation, and agritourism interests have only grown stronger. There is a very mobilized public that will fight even harder over the placement of new transmission lines through undisturbed Loudoun countryside than they did in the mid-2000s.

The interested parties this time are much broader and span multiple counties. Loudoun has worked hard to promote tourism in the western half of the county, which is a major pillar in Loudoun's Comprehensive Plan. The quantity and quality of agritourism businesses in Loudoun outpaces all other jurisdictions in Virginia. Crisscrossing this area with transmission lines to meet energy demand elsewhere would irreparably damage this vital sector of the economy. Once this land is gone, it cannot be taken back.

We appreciate that PJM has a very difficult task ahead of it making up for anticipated electric power shortfalls, but we believe community engagement and a broader range of alternative solutions need to be considered. The current path we are on is unsustainable and unscalable, and much needs to change in the way the region approves data centers and plans for the expected demand for electric power.

Thank you for your time,

Dancer Burns

Wesley Burns

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To the PJM Board of managers

We are writing to voice our concern about and opposition to the PJM proposal for the new greenfield 500 kV line in Western Loudoun County, VA, to be built by FL based NextEra (Proposal 2022-W3-853) Your maps indicate the line would transit historic and conservation areas around Mt Gilead, Digges Valley, and Water National Historic Landmark along the Catoctin Ridge. We have already fought this fight and won with another group. There was a compromise and they used existing right of ways.

We stand by the agricultural and historical values of Western Loudoun. We value the economic boom brought to our area via equestrian business, agritourism, and conservation. And we honestly don't give a crap about the data centers that don't employ anyone from our county and pay scant taxes to support our infrastructure. We all hope no more are built in our area and are also working towards that goal.

We encourage PJM to work with the community and with current right of ways and not to be a bully using eminent domain to force yourselves on our community. We will fight back. So please consider finding ways that will ensure if power is needed, it is provided in a responsible way.

Sallie Hyman

John Huckabee

Tristan Huckabee

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Dear PJM Board Members,

The data center energy crisis would be better solved by generating more power from power plants in Virginia rather than transmission from neighboring states. I am writing to voice opposition specifically to the 853 Project transmission lines.

The projected Greenline route in Western Loudoun runs through one of the most idyllic locations in the country. Most residents of Loudoun County have chosen to live here because it offers an upscale



lifestyle and beautiful scenery, while still allowing one to commute into Washington, DC. Many individuals who live outside of Loudoun County support the county's agritourism by escaping the city life on the weekends. After enjoying our towns, folks head home with trunks full of local produce, meat, and wine. Not only are we concerned about our homes being impacted by the route, we are concerned about our businesses and economy.

The novelty of Western Loudoun comes from the pastoral landscape and picturesque views that would be ruined by transmission lines. Although I do not agree that transmission is the solution to the data center energy crisis, I ask that if transmission is chosen as the solution that it comes from Buried High-Voltage Direct Current Transmission on existing right-of-ways. I urge you to reject Project 853. Send it back to the Transmission Expansion Advisory Committee to select another project that will not have such opposition.

Thank you for your consideration.

Gratefully,

Ashley

Ashley Cash, Owner

Flora and Fauna Farmstead, LLC

Lovettsville, VA

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December 2, 2023

Attention: David Anders, PJM Members Committee Secretary  
David.Anders@pjm.com

To the PJM Board of Managers:  
I am writing to express my strong opposition to the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500kV line in western Loudoun County Virginia to be built by Florida based NextEra (Proposal 2022-W3-853). Your maps indicate this line would transit historic and conservation areas around Mt. Gilead, Digges Valley, and Waterford National Historic Landmark along the Catoctin Ridge. There was a multi year fight in the mid 2000's over a new transmission line in this same area that generated huge opposition and ultimately resulted in a compromise that put part of the new line under the existing right-of-way along the WO&D trail, with the rest aligned in a new right of way along an existing transportation corridor, namely the Leesburg Bypass. In the intervening years, organized efforts to protect rural Loudoun and its farming, historic, equestrian, environmental/conservation, and agritourism interests have only grown stronger. There is a very mobilized public that will fight even harder over the placement of new transmission lines through undisturbed Loudoun countryside than they did in the mid 2000's. The interested parties this time are much broader and span multiple counties. Loudoun has worked hard to promote tourism in the western half of the county, which is a major pillar in Loudoun's Comprehensive Plan. The quantity and quality of agritourism businesses in Loudoun outpaces all other jurisdictions in Virginia. Crisscrossing this area with transmission lines to meet energy demand elsewhere would hurt this vital sector of the economy. We appreciate that PJM has a very difficult task ahead of it making up for anticipated electric power shortfalls, but we think community engagement and a broader range of alternative solutions and transmission technologies need to be considered. Meanwhile, other parts of Virginia are adding data centers and old data centers will be modernizing with new computers that consume even more power, all further complicating PJM's task. The current path we are on is unsustainable and unscalable, and much needs to change in the way the region approves data centers and plans for the expected demand for electric power. We urge PJM to step back and reconsider its approach, with a goal of ensuring your mission deliver power, but not at the cost of destroying the communities and other economic interests that are in your path.

Sincerely,



Rosa A. Silverman  
20011 Pleasant Meadow Lane  
Purcellville, VA 20132

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To the PJM Board of Managers:

I am writing to express my vehement opposition to the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500 kV line in western Loudoun County, Virginia to be built by NextEra (Proposal 2022-W3-853). Your maps indicate this line would transit historic and conservation areas around Mt. Gilead, Digges Valley, and Waterford along the Catoctin Ridge. There was a multi-year fight in the mid-2000s over a new transmission line in this same area that generated huge opposition and ultimately

resulted in a compromise with part of the new line being buried under the existing right-of-way along the W&OD trail, with the rest aligned in a new right-of-way along the Leesburg Bypass, an existing transportation corridor.

Since then, organized efforts to protect rural Loudoun and its farming, historic, environmental/conservation, and agritourism interests have only grown stronger. There is a very mobilized public that will fight even harder over the placement of new transmission lines through undisturbed Loudoun countryside than they did in the mid-2000s.

The interested parties this time are much broader and span multiple counties. Loudoun has worked hard to promote tourism in the western half of the county, which is a major pillar in Loudoun's Comprehensive Plan. The quantity and quality of agritourism businesses in Loudoun outpaces all other jurisdictions in Virginia. Crisscrossing this area with transmission lines to meet energy demand elsewhere would irreparably damage this vital sector of the economy. Once this land is gone, it cannot be taken back.

We appreciate that PJM has a very difficult task ahead of it making up for anticipated electric power shortfalls, but we believe community engagement and a broader range of alternative solutions need to be considered. The current path we are on is unsustainable and unscalable, and much needs to change in the way the region approves data centers and plans for the expected demand for electric power.

Thank you.

Daniel Burns

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To the PJM Board of Managers,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500 kV line in western Loudoun County, Virginia to be built by Florida-based NextEra (Proposal 2022-W3-853). Your maps indicate this line would transit historic and conservation areas around Mt. Gilead, Digges Valley, and Waterford National Historic Landmark along the Catoctin Ridge. There was a multi-year fight in the mid-2000s over a new transmission line in this same area that generated opposition and ultimately resulted in a compromise that put part of the new line under the existing right-of-way along the W&OD trail, with the rest aligned in a new right-of-way along an existing transportation corridor, namely the Leesburg Bypass.

I live in the village of Waterford. As you may know, the village has NHL status that is granted partly because it has protected the viewshed as it was established in the 19th century. This village is a critical piece of American history especially as in regards to

village life for the past three hundred years—through colonial times, the Civil War and the African American freedom struggle to name a few pivotal historic moments that have shaped the village. Waterford’s mission is to educate the public especially school children about our country’s history. Losing our viewshed because of these power lines would profoundly alter the experience we offer as well as despoil our historic village.

I appreciate that PJM has a very difficult task ahead of it making up for anticipated electric power shortfalls, but we think community engagement and a broader range of alternative solutions and transmission technologies need to be considered. Meanwhile, other parts of Virginia are adding data centers, and old data centers will be modernizing with new computers that consume even more power, all further complicating PJM’s task. The current path we are on is unsustainable and unscalable, and much needs to change in the way the region approves data centers and plans for the expected demand for electric power. I urge PJM to step back and reconsider its approach, with a goal of ensuring your mission to deliver power, but not at the cost of destroying the communities and other economic interests that are in your path.

Jane Williams  
Waterford, VA

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Dear PJM Principals:

With a heavy heart i write to ask your assistance in rerouting the proposed power line. I'm a 30 year Loudoun resident living in a 200 year old pre civil war home on Digges Valley.

Any line thru our Valley is an attack on our way of life, our peace, harmony and quality of quietude that we enjoy. We came for the peace which is threatened by the need for power.

The attack on our lifestyle causes anxiety. Threatens us, bullies us. Please if you can share my concerns, do. I enjoy gardening, equestrian activities, hiking and my sweet dog Winnie. I love our valley community for its trees, wildlife, and views... All threatened by the lines.

A more sensible option exists. Please explore before implementing a ruin to Digges Valley.

God bless you. Sincerely,

Janet Maday  
Hamilton VA

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Dear Secretary Anders and PJM Board of Managers:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the PJM proposal for a high voltage transmission line in western Loudoun County, Virginia, to be built by Florida-based NextEra (Proposal 2022-W3-853). I understand this line would transit historic and conservation areas around Mt. Gilead, Digges Valley, and Waterford National Historic Landmark along the Catoctin Ridge. A multi-year fight in the mid 2000’s over a new transmission line in this same area

generated huge opposition and ultimately resulted in a compromise that put part of the new line under the existing right-of-way along the WO&D trail, with the rest aligned in a new right of way along an existing transportation corridor, namely the Leesburg Bypass.

In the intervening years, organized efforts to protect rural Loudoun and its farming, historic, equestrian, environmental/conservation, and agritourism interests have only grown stronger. Many of us in the area are now just learning of this new proposal and its negative effects on our properties and communities, and we will fight even harder over the placement of new transmission lines through undisturbed Loudoun countryside than they did in the mid 2000's.

The interested parties this time are much broader and span multiple counties. Loudoun has worked hard to promote tourism in the western half of the county, which is a major pillar in Loudoun's Comprehensive Plan. The quantity and quality of agritourism businesses in Loudoun outpaces all other jurisdictions in Virginia. Crisscrossing this area with transmission lines to meet energy demand elsewhere would hurt this vital sector of the economy.

We appreciate that PJM has a difficult task ahead of it making up for anticipated electric power shortfalls, but community engagement and a broader range of alternative solutions and transmission technologies must be considered. The current path is unacceptable, and much needs to change in the way the region approves data centers and plans for the expected demand for electric power. We urge PJM to step back and reconsider its approach, with a goal of ensuring your mission to deliver power, but not at the cost of destroying the communities and other economic interests in your path.

Sincerely,  
Akemi Tinder  
Purcellville, VA

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Mr. Anders,

Judy and I moved to Waterford over 30 years ago. We saw Waterford as a wonderful historic community with a beautiful, undisturbed view as far as one could see. We have contributed to the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Waterford Foundation. The Waterford Foundation is a nationally recognized nonprofit for leadership to preserve the historic buildings and open spaces of the National Historic Landmark District of Waterford, Virginia for over 75 years.

While we could give you many personal reasons why the high-power lines should not be built across the historic district, we will instead address the factors you we believe you should focus on in making the decision as to whether the high-power lines should be built across the Phillips Farm and Waterford National Historic District.

In April, 1970, the Secretary of the Interior determined that the Waterford Historic District possessed national significance and he designated the Waterford Historic District a National Historic Landmark. This is the highest designation of historic significance possible in the United States of America. The boundaries of the historic district were determined by the furthest distance one could see from any point in Waterford, reflecting not only the importance of the historic buildings, but of the viewshed as it was when the historic structures were built. As a small, isolated national historic district, Waterford is recognized as one of the best examples in the country. Placing the high-power lines across this national historic district is not inappropriate just for the residents of the community, but would damage a national treasure viewed by tens of thousands each year.

The map provided by the Piedmont Environmental Council shows the high-power lines crossing the Phillips farm in the National Historic District and within view of most of the houses in Waterford. The Virginia Outdoors Foundation holds a conservation easement on the Phillips Farm, ensuring that it will be preserved much as you see it today in perpetuity. Its significance to the Waterford National Historic Landmark District is such that any change to its use or appearance could threaten this national heritage designation. The National Historic District designation and the easements on the Phillips Farm and other properties reflect the importance of the Waterford National District not just to the residents of Waterford, but to Loudoun County, the state of Virginia, and the nation. Does it make sense to damage the viewshed of this landmark?

As the population of the county grew in the last few decades, it became apparent to the residents and Board of Supervisors of Loudoun County of the importance of preserving the open land and natural resources in the western half of the county for current and future generations. Just as the Board of Supervisors would not approve data centers in the western part of the county, and particularly the Waterford National Historic District, likewise, I believe the residents and Board of Supervisors of Loudoun County would find running high power lines suspended by 300-foot towers across western Loudoun and the Waterford National Historic District equally inappropriate. In many respects, the power lines are more damaging than the data centers.

Thank you for your consideration of the above factors. Hopefully, you will make a decision that respects one of our national treasures and place the high-power lines in a more appropriate location.

Robert and Judy Jackson

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Dear PJM,

I write to you today not only as a steward of our cherished landscapes and communities but as a concerned citizen deeply invested in the legacy we leave for future generations. As you are aware, the proposed construction of new high-voltage power lines is not just a matter of infrastructural expansion; it is a matter that touches the heart of our community's well being. Beyond the immediate environmental and aesthetic disruptions, there lies a more insidious issue: the long-term financial burden on our fellow citizens.

The line in question, already flagged as a high constructibility risk, carries with it a slew of challenges – from regulatory hurdles to public opposition, construction complexities, environmental limitations, and the significant toll of property acquisition. These challenges are not mere inconveniences but predictors of the tangible strain they will place on the ratepayers – our friends, families, and neighbors.

The anticipated increase in rates is not trivial. A projected 100% rate hike by 2035 is a burden that will be shouldered by many, extending beyond the borders of our Commonwealth to our Maryland and West Virginia neighbors. It is a financial imposition that will be felt in the warmth of homes that will grow colder as heating costs rise, in the kitchens where the light will dim as electric bills soar, and in the stories we will tell our children of the times when the community's voice was overshadowed by the weight of industrial demand.

Let us pause and consider the weight of our actions. The decisions we make today will echo through the halls of time. They will be our legacy. I urge you to reconsider the path we are on, to seek alternatives that do not mortgage our environmental sanctity and financial stability for the sake of expediency.

We must find a balance that respects the needs of our technological evolution without compromising the integrity of our lands and the economic stability of our communities. This is our home, a tapestry of life interwoven with nature's beauty and human endeavor. It deserves our thoughtful consideration and protection.

Please, let us come together to find a solution that upholds the values we cherish, respects the land we love, and safeguards the community we are privileged to call our own.

With heartfelt sincerity and hope for a sustainable future,

RF

(Ricardo Florentino)

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Greetings,

We hope this letter finds you well. We are writing to express our deep concern and opposition regarding the proposed installation of a transmission line cutting through western Loudoun.

As portrayed in the PJM map, the line runs right through our property. We understand the importance of energy infrastructure, but the potential negative consequences to us and the surrounding community are significant. The proposed transmission line will have an adverse economic impact on western Loudoun's agri-business/agri-tourism and poses environmental and health concerns. It means destroying the rural west for data centers in the east. It also means we could lose our home or the value of our home.

We kindly request that you consider alternative locations such as keeping new transmission lines within existing rights-of-way or along existing major roads/highways.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Joe and Cynthia Cooper

Leesburg, Virginia

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*Promoting and protecting the natural resources, rural economy,  
history, and beauty of the Virginia Piedmont*

December 3, 2023

Mr. David Anders, Secretary  
PJM Board of Managers

Mr. Anders,

The Piedmont Environmental Council (PEC) is a non-profit organization established in 1972 to protect and restore the lands and waters of the Virginia Piedmont, while building stronger, more sustainable communities. Our work is focused primarily on a nine-county region stretching from Clarke and Loudoun counties in the north down to Albemarle County and Charlottesville in the south. We have been following the PJM TEAC committee and have expressed our concern during those meetings about the lack of clarity around public engagement and how concerned parties can submit comments on the regional transmission corridors proposed. In addition, we expressed our overarching concern around the constricted timeline and the incredibly impactful scale of what is being proposed in that short window to primarily serve one industry. In this letter we would like to add specific concerns on the [greenfield](#) line through western Loudoun, Proposal 2022-W3-853.

Your own ranking of this line presented on October 31<sup>st</sup> and the Constructability & Financial Analysis Report 2022 RTEP Window 3 report seem to show that the constructability and cost risks around this route are high due to anticipated lengthy regulatory process, potential public opposition, construction difficulty, environmental constraints and property acquisition. It states that these factors may have significant impacts on the cost and schedule for the proposed project.

Main Office PO Box 460 Warrenton, VA 20188 (T) 540.347.2334 (F) 540.349.9003

[www.pecva.org](http://www.pecva.org)



## West Cluster Constructability Matrix

West Cluster Projects – Selected for Detailed Evaluation											
PJM Proposal ID	Proposing Entity	Project Title	Proposed In-Service Date	Proposed Costs (\$M)	Independent Costs (\$M)	Cost Estimate Risk	Cost Containment Risk	Schedule Risk	Constructability Risk	Use of Existing ROW & Right-of-Way	Outage Coordination Risk
837	POTOD - FirstEnergy	Data Center Reinforcement Proposal #1 (West)	6/1/2030	\$ 2,788.40	\$ 2,642.05	Low	High	Medium	Medium-High	High	Low
548	LS Power	RTEP Window 3 Solution (West)	6/1/2030	\$ 972.75	\$ 876.03	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium-High	Medium-High	Medium
855	NextEra	502 Junction - Black Oak - Woodside - Gast, Woodside SVC + Cap Banks	6/1/2027	\$ 683.35	\$ 1,395.24	High	Medium	Medium-High	Medium-High	High	Medium
904	AEP - Transource	Joshua Falls - Year 2034 Greenfield Line and Substation	5/1/2029	\$ 1,048.33	\$ 1,522.40	Low	Medium	Medium-High	Medium	High	Low

This makes sense as the route goes through numerous resources including:

- Newly designated Sweet Run State Park
- Middleburg Virginia American Viticultural Area
- Short Hill Mountain where the community recently fought a cell tower in 2021 and the County voted to reject the application due to the visual impacts to the surrounding agritourism businesses and rural community
- Waterford Historic District surrounding the village of Waterford which is designated a National Historic Landmark
- Three Virginia Byways including Harmony Church Road, Charles Town Pike, and Mountain Road.
- Washington and Old Dominion Trail
- Journey Through Hallowed Ground a National Scenic Byway
- Several conservation easements
- Several wetlands and streams
- Philip Bolen Park recreational ball fields

It's also important to note that a 230 kV line along Rt 7 and over the W&OD faced significant opposition through this same area and was placed underground. If this 500 kV line were selected and constructed through this area, it would negate that expensive decision made by Virginia not very long ago.

Equally concerning though is the selection of NextEra, a company with very little experience in PJM territory and none in Virginia as far as we can tell, to complete this extremely difficult and complex project. Has PJM fully considered the additional time that will need to be allocated for this new company to familiarize themselves with the wide variety of environmental, preservation, and agricultural groups in this area and the state agencies and localities involved? With such an

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impactful project there should be a robust community engagement process but without this background in Virginia and such a constricted timeline, we are concerned that they may be unable to engage with the community as fully as they should. For example, it is not clear if there are any Nextera Energy Transmission offices in Virginia or nearby, meaning that staff may only be available for a very limited number of community meetings. Even remote meetings would be challenging being that much of the impacted area is rural and has limited internet capability.

We ask PJM to please provide additional detail about why this path was selected despite high constructability and cost risk and detail about how a robust community engagement process can be insured by a non-incumbent party with little experience or presence in Virginia or even the PJM territory.

Thank you for considering our comments and please feel free to reach out to us to discuss further.

Sincerely,  
Julie Bolthouse  
Director of Land Use,  
Piedmont Environmental Council  
[jbolthouse@pecva.org](mailto:jbolthouse@pecva.org)

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Good evening David,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500 kV line in western Loudoun County, Virginia to be built by Florida-based NextEra (Proposal 2022-W3-853).

There was a multi-year fight in the mid-2000s over a new transmission line in this same area that generated huge opposition and ultimately resulted in a compromise that put part of the new line under the existing right-of-way along the W&OD trail, with the rest aligned in a new right-of-way along an existing transportation corridor, namely the Leesburg Bypass. In the intervening years, organized efforts to protect rural Loudoun and its farming, historic, equestrian, environmental/conservation, and agritourism interests have only grown stronger. There is a very mobilized public that will fight even harder over the placement of new transmission lines through undisturbed Loudoun countryside than they did in the mid-2000s.

The interested parties this time are much broader and span multiple counties. Loudoun has worked hard to promote tourism in the western half of the county, which is a major pillar in Loudoun's Comprehensive Plan. The quantity and quality of agritourism businesses in Loudoun outpaces all other jurisdictions in Virginia. Crisscrossing this area with transmission lines to meet energy demand elsewhere would hurt this vital sector of the economy. We appreciate that PJM has a very difficult task ahead of it making up for anticipated electric power shortfalls, but we think community engagement and a broader range of alternative solutions and transmission technologies need to be considered. Meanwhile, other parts of Virginia are adding data centers, and old data centers will be modernizing with new computers that consume even more power, all further complicating PJM's task. The current path we are on is unsustainable and unworkable, and much needs to change in the way the region approves data centers and plans for

the expected demand for electric power. We urge PJM to step back and reconsider its approach, with a goal of ensuring your mission to deliver power, but not at the cost of destroying the communities and other economic interests that are in your path.

The community of Western Loudoun has worked for decades to preserve our history, land and turn it into a tourism destination, allowing thousands of people each year to partake in what makes Western Loudoun so special. This proposal threatens all of this, our land, our history and our livelihoods.

Thank you for your consideration,

Emily Bremer-Thomas

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Hello,

I am writing to express my **strong opposition** to the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500 kV line in western Loudoun County, Virginia to be built by Florida-based NextEra (Proposal 2022-W3-853). Your maps indicate this line would transit historic and conservation areas around Mt. Gilead, Digges Valley, and Waterford National Historic Landmark along the Catoctin Ridge. There was a multi-year fight in the mid-2000s over a new transmission line in this same area that generated huge opposition and ultimately resulted in a compromise that put part of the new line under the existing right-of-way along the W&OD trail, with the rest aligned in a new right-of-way along an existing transportation corridor, namely the Leesburg Bypass. In the intervening years, organized efforts to protect rural Loudoun and its farming, historic, equestrian, environmental/conservation, and agritourism interests have only grown stronger. There is a very mobilized public that will fight even harder over the placement of new transmission lines through undisturbed Loudoun countryside than they did in the mid-2000s.

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Meanwhile, other parts of Virginia are adding data centers, and old data centers will be modernizing with new computers that consume even more power, all further complicating PJM's task. The current path we are on is unsustainable and unscalable, and much needs to change in the way the region approves data centers and plans for the expected demand for electric power. I urge PJM to step back and reconsider its approach, with a goal of ensuring your mission to deliver power, but not at the cost of destroying the communities and other economic interests that are in your path.

Regards,

Dale Thomas

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I urge PJM to vigorously oppose the proposed high voltage line which would traverse the northern Loudoun County farmland. This would be a horrible intrusion on the region. Many of the area farmers, to include vineyards, breweries, and tree farms, depend upon the rural setting for their livelihood. Erecting enormous, ugly transmission lines within eyesight would absolutely devastate these small businesses. Not only that, but an entire population of residents would see their home/property values plummet overnight. They don't deserve this. You can do better.

There are many other sources of power generation besides the proposed coal burning plant in West Virginia. And there are far better routes, many already existing, for transmission lines.

David Hubbuch

Lovettsville, VA

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**Margaret K Good**  
[REDACTED]  
**Chambersburg, PA** [REDACTED]

David Anders  
Secretary, Board of Directors  
PJM Interconnection

Dear Mr. Anders,

Imagine my horror when I learned that PJM's planned route for their new power lines in Northern Virginia passes right through the Waterford National Historic Landmark, a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Waterford has enjoyed this designation since 1970 when it was announced by the Secretary of the Interior of the United States. One of the many reasons for the designation is the pristine nature of 1404 acres of unspoiled farm land, including the small Quaker village of Waterford, founded in 1733. It too is virtually unchanged. Tourists, historians, scholars, and school children can step back in time in Waterford and get a better understanding of what agricultural life might have been like in an 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> century American village. What better educational tool for people of all ages to learn from?

That this designation is recognized on a national level is testament to its significance. Your plans could destroy that.

Furthermore, your proposed route dissects one of the most important farms in the area, the Phillips Farm. This farm is located within the National Historic Landmark boundaries. It is also protected by an easement held by the Virginia Outdoors Foundation. The farm is protected for agricultural and historic reasons. No development is allowed except a farm house, should one ever be needed. It is protected by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. And it is further protected by the Loudoun County's Waterford Historic Cultural Conservation District. The owner of the farm, the Waterford Foundation, has spent thousands of dollars and hours ensuring the protection of this property. Other entities have helped, including the US Department of Agriculture, the Federal Highway Administration, and others. Many smaller donors also participated in the effort including a class of school children who donated their lunch money.

Your company's selection of this route disregards the historic significance of the area and its importance to the preservation of America's past.

Sincerely,

Margaret Good  
Retired, Director of Preservation  
Waterford Foundation

CC: Stephanie Thompson, Executive Director, Waterford Foundation  
Phyllis Randall, Chair, Loudoun County Board of Supervisors

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To Mr. David Anders and the PJM Board of Managers:

I strongly oppose the new greenfield 500 kV line PJM has proposed for western Loudoun County, Virginia. Unfortunately, your maps indicate the line will dominate the view from my backyard, destroying the view of the verdant hills and idyllic rural fields dotted with livestock and crops that my husband and I sought after when we bought our “forever” home after 31 years of military service. Worse still, the line and towers will travel through Waterford National Historic Landmark—a beautifully preserved 18<sup>th</sup> Century village—as well as mar the views of my rural neighbors, agri-business, and tourism related establishments. I know of a number of Airbnbs, B & Bs, as well as numerous farm markets, wineries, and breweries whose views—and therefore livelihoods—would be negatively impacted.

I understand that PJM is tasked with providing electric power to fuel the data centers—a challenging task to be sure; however, this proposal will devastate the communities and businesses in the path of the project. I urge you to reject this proposal and consider alternative solutions and technologies for providing for projected power needs: piggybacking on existing right-of-way or pursuing new right-of-ways along existing large transportation corridors, or completely burying the lines. In the future, Loudoun, for its part, must reconsider its approach to homing data centers in the county: data centers/power producers should foot the bill for power generation, not county residents; creative on-site or nearby power generation; or simply stopping future builds.

Interested parties within the county and beyond have mobilized to protect rural Loudoun from this threat to its agricultural, historical, equestrian, and agritourism entities as well as to the rural inhabitants. Not only will the project face a considerable regulatory process, but it will also encounter substantial resistance from the public and assorted organizations on many fronts: environmental, property acquisition, and various legal issues (Pursuing limitations on eminent domain 1-219.1 D(b) Code of Virginia, questions on superseding conservation easements, and historical preservation—Waterford shares the same designation as Mount Vernon and Monticello, etc.).

I appreciate your consideration of my request. I would imagine if you were faced with a proposed 500 kV line in your backyard or neighborhood, you’d weigh in to mitigate the negative impact on the community and pursue alternative strategies. All I ask is that you do the same for us.

Concerned Rural Loudoun Resident,

Kathleen Molloy

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Dear Mr. Anders,

My husband and I are adamantly opposed to the proposed data transmission line route along the west side of the village of Waterford, Virginia. The village was designated as a National Landmark by the National Trust in 1970 because of its preserved 18th century architecture **and surrounding agricultural viewshed**. Installing 300 foot towers on top of the 460 foot ridge on the west side of the village would interrupt the **entire** western viewshed, only accentuated by a wide open flood plain between the village

and the ridge. I'm sure the design engineers are not looking at this level of detail, but they couldn't have selected a worse location.

On a personal note, we live on the north side of the village, just outside of the historic district, and have two conservation easements on our property with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and Land Trust of Virginia. These transmission lines would be about half a mile to the west at basically the same elevation of our home and ruining the mountain view. We always anticipated development to the west in the form of additional farms and houses, but never 300 foot towers with power lines. We have notified both easement holders of this situation.

In addition, the lines would run alongside the Terra Nebulo Vineyard. This intrusion would significantly impact their wine tasting and event venue business. <https://www.terranebulo.com/> If you look at their website photo, the transmission lines would be directly behind the barn, between the barn and the first group of trees in the distance.

It is our hope that PJM selects another more suitable route or develops a solution that eliminates the need for long distance transmission lines altogether.

Sincerely, Mary Hutton

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Mary F. Hutton  
Waterford, VA

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500 kV transmission line in western Loudoun, as outlined in Proposal 2022-W3-853. This project, spearheaded by NextEra, raises significant concerns as it would traverse historic and conservation areas surrounding Mt. Gilead, Digges Valley, and Waterford along the Catoctin Ridge.

I would like to draw attention to a similar project in the mid-2000s, which resulted in a protracted battle and eventual compromise. The agreed-upon solution involved establishing a new right-of-way along the existing Leesburg Bypass (Route 7) to minimize the impact on the region. Over the intervening years, efforts to protect the unique character of rural Loudoun, farming, historic, environmental/conservation, and agritourism interests have intensified, with a more extensive and well-funded coalition spanning multiple counties. The potential ramifications of introducing new transmission lines through undisturbed Loudoun countryside will certainly trigger a very robust public resistance. We vow to vigorously fight any effort to destroy our Western Loudoun County.

Loudoun County has actively promoted tourism in its western half, a cornerstone of its Comprehensive Plan. The flourishing agritourism sector has become a vital component of the local economy, surpassing other jurisdictions in Virginia both in quantity and quality. Introducing transmission lines across this area would jeopardize this crucial economic sector.



My neighborhood near Digges Valley, which is part of the 11,000-acre Goose Creek Historic District is shown in the current plans to have the 500 kV lines plow through it. This neighborhood boasts properties dating back to the 1750s, with historical significance tied to figures such as Mary Janney, Amos Janney, and Lord Fairfax. The prospect of large transmission lines disrupting these historical treasures is deeply troubling and we will fight with everything we have.

I appreciate that PJM has a very difficult task ahead of it making up for anticipated electric power shortfalls, but I think comprehensive community engagement and a broader range of alternative solutions need to be considered. It is my recommendation to PJM that any new transmission lines consider existing power corridors or major transportation routes, balancing the need for energy infrastructure with the preservation of our cultural, environmental assets, homes, farms and our thriving agritourism sector.

Bigger picture, I believe the current path we are on is unsustainable, a change in the way the region approves data centers and plans for the expected demand for electric power needs to change. Continuing to bring additional power into Loudoun County, in my opinion, for data centers does not seem to be the right approach. A better approach would be to locate the data centers physically with the power production.

I appreciate your attention to these concerns and urge PJM to abandon Proposal 2022-W3-853 now.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Erin Walter

Citizen of Loudoun County

Leesburg, VA

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To PJM customer service, to Mr. Dave Anders, the PJM Members Committee Secretary, and to David Souder, the chairman of the Transmission Expansion Advisory Committee:

We live in a rural, historic area with many acres under conservation easements and that are now agricultural assets, some of which would be designated for future tourism with winery and event facilities, all encouraged by Loudoun's Comprehensive Plan. Why should this attractive land be considered for such ugly, distasteful electric poles and lines? There are right-of-ways nearby that are available, some are already being used for this (for prior multi-year opposition in mid-2000s) which could be upgraded.

These concerned people have organized, then and now, in this Middleburg, Fauquier, Loudoun, Leesburg areas; the mutual importance of this farming, historic, equestrian, environmental/conservation, and agri-tourism interests have only grown stronger and will fight to oppose new transmission lines.

We find it challenging to even consider it safe to increase data centers that are already located within such close proximity to each other. Why would large companies, financial institutions, US government departments and agencies, etc. want all of their data storage in this one location? Such an easy target for disaster! There obviously needs to be a stronger attempt to utilize existing transmission line routes or major transportation corridors and to pursue more innovative solutions!

Sincerely,

Kathleen "Kaki" and Ted Pearson

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Mr. David Anders and PJM Members Committee,

It is with a sense of urgency that I am writing regarding the recently held Piedmont Environmental Council meeting in Hillsborough. The subject was the proposed PJM project 853 transmission line. As I hope you are already aware, this proposal, and all that it could mean for our local area, is a subject of great concern for its residents who find it, as currently structured, to be invasive and damaging to the communities in its path.

The current instantiation of the project will have a significant impact on Western Loudon County to include the Hamilton and Waterford area in which I, and so many others, own property. Impacts include detrimental effects on the environment and infringement on the historical value of the area that has been largely untouched since its role in American history during the 1700's – a source of great pride for its residents and tourists alike. Also meriting concern is the introduction of health concerns and risk of devaluing properties in its shadow. In short, the proposal will compromise the character and value of the area and levy irreversible impacts.

After 36+ years in uniform in service of our country, I chose to stay in Virginia and invest in a property in Waterford with the intent that this property will be in my family for generations to come. We chose this location because of the intrinsic value that its residents place on history, conservationism, and the opportunity to live in a rural environment that is both peaceful and beautiful. I have since learned that the majority of my neighbors moved to this area for like reasons and with similar long-term objectives – objectives that are compromised by the PJM project, as currently scoped.

Although I recognize that there is a need for projects like what PJM is recommending, I strongly encourage its Board to work closely with the local community to identify alternative courses of action that do not infringe upon personal property and jeopardize what makes localities like Hamilton and Waterford unique and desirable places to live and grow roots.

Please know that the local residents in the path of the 853 project, as currently scoped, stand united in support of what is in the best interest of our community. We hope that PJM respects what we value and will work to identify a way forward that protects our families, local history, and way of life.

Respectfully,

Pat and Phil Balisle

Waterford, Virginia

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Dear PJM Board of Managers, State Corporation Commission Commissioners, Loudoun County Board of Supervisors and VA State representatives; separate copy to VA Members of Congress:

My family and I are long time residents of Loudoun County, VA, who have moved to Lovettsville within the past month, and we have been appalled to learn about the NexEra Transmission Line Proposal 2022-

W3-853. Our new home that we bought for its peace, tranquility, and unobstructed views of beautiful local landscape will be within 1/4 of a mile of the proposed transmission line. My husband and I are both medical team members in a local hospital where we work diligently to save community members' lives, and rely on our quiet, peaceful home to offset the stress we face daily in our jobs. We strongly urge you to just say no to this ill-conceived proposal, which would be both financially unwise and detrimental to the rural community that I and so many others have chosen to call home.

A new transmission line through western Loudoun has a high constructability risk due to an anticipated lengthy regulatory process, significant public opposition (which continues to grow even in the very short amount of time since the proposal was made public), construction difficulty, environmental constraints and property acquisition, which will likely impact the cost and schedule for the proposed project. In addition to negative cost consequences, the proposed lines could have devastating impacts on the viewsheds of rural businesses that rely on agritourism in the impacted area, and negatively impact the rural economic environment.

I therefore respectfully request that PJM, in its upcoming Transmission Expansion Advisory Committee meeting on Tuesday, December 5:

1. DENY the proposed routing by NextEra;
2. Commit to giving deeper consideration to preferable alternative proposals, in particular routings through Doubs, that will use more existing rights of way, offer similar performance and scope in terms of length and ratings, and be far less likely to experience risks and delays of the NextEra proposal; and
3. Make publicly available a complete set of information on Proposal 2022-W3-853 and all alternative proposals so that all affected residents and elected officials have the opportunity to review and comment on them before a final decision is made.

Thank you for your attention.

Best,

Maggie Stumpf

Lovettsville, VA

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I am writing to voice my displeasure of the proposal to run transmission lines thru rural and historic Waterford.

These lines will have a great impact on my family, our community and the beautiful rural landscape.

Shane McLaughlin

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Mr. Anders,

I write to express my profound concern for the proposals PJM has put forward to install electric lines to power data centers in Loudoun County.

The impact that the proposed lines will surely have on the historic villages of Loudoun, specifically Waterford, is simply unacceptable. Waterford is a National Historic Landmark and shares the same status as Mount Vernon, the Smithsonian Institution, and the U.S. Supreme Court building. Waterford is a jewel of our county, and it must be assiduously preserved and protected at all costs.

I run an airbnb out of our home, and I am intimately familiar with how valuable our area is for people needing a pastoral getaway from the hustle and bustle of Washington, D.C. and the surrounding areas. The proposed power lines will have tremendous negative effects on our agro-tourism.

I am concerned about the impact that the proposed lines will have on me and my family. We have invested our lives in preserving the land on which we live, building and landscaping our land, and keeping it free of noxious plants.

A new transmission line as proposed WILL FACE PUSHBACK, so it will certainly not be worth the financial investment PJM will devote to trying to push through the project. The members of our community are united in not supporting PJM's proposals. We are organizing, and we will actively oppose PJM's efforts. I recommend PJM consider a lower impact and lower risk option to minimize the impact and unnecessary costs to PJM to try to push through this project.

I hereby respectfully request that PJM provide documentation and information regarding all factors considered in evaluating this project and the various proposed routes to my address below.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

Karen Kirkpatrick

Attorney at Law

Waterford, VA

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To the PJM Transmission Expansion Advisory Committee (TEAC) and Board:

Recently you publicized potential routes for new transmission lines through Loudoun County, Virginia (the West route). I am a homeowner in the proposed path and would like to express my concerns for the damages the new lines will cause.

The current route goes through business and residential areas, as well as lands in conservancy and lands designated as national historical landmarks. Even the historical Village of Waterford

appears to be in the path - the Village has the same national historical designation as Monticello and Mt Vernon. NONE of these should ever have enormous transmission lines run through them.

Do you understand the damage that would be done? Running towers through fields and farms, over mountains and rivers, and through heavily wooded areas would leave permanent scars on the landscape. Tourism in the County, on which many farms, wineries, and other small businesses rely for their livelihood, would be heavily damaged or destroyed. Who wants to drive to what used to be a scenic, calm and peaceful area, to get away from their crowded living conditions in nearby Ashburn, Reston, or Fairfax, when Loudoun County will merely look like the area they left? People purposefully come to Loudoun County to see the mountains and rolling fields - not to look at gigantic towers with power lines stretching for mile after mile, disrupting the landscape. They may as well stay home!

Personally, our family owns 25 acres of wooded land near Hamilton and Paeonian Springs. The proposed path would essentially destroy that property and render it useless for enjoyment. Not only would we lose our forever home, but all of the wildlife would be displaced, same for our neighbors on Route 704. No one wants to live in proximity to these 500kv lines. The property values, view shed, and ability to enjoy the lives we've created for ourselves would be gone. And for what? To provide power to data centers that should never have been approved, in locations where there is not sufficient infrastructure.

And where would we go when we are displaced by these enormous towers? There are not large pieces of land available in the county, and none that are like what we have. Our property is in the County's Land Management program for Forestry. We are land stewards, and tasked with helping keep green spaces in the County - specifically so it does not become over developed, and to preserve the natural settings here. We have bald eagles that live and hunt on in our back yard, deer, wild turkey, coyotes, and recently discovered Fisher Cats and otters. These habitats must not be destroyed, as there is no recovery once the woodlands are demolished.

Additionally, the burden of paying for these atrocious eyesores will fall upon me and my neighbors, not the end users of this power. Obviously not fair, especially if we are displaced. Local power bills are projected to double before this proposed new line is complete. People peg Loudoun as a wealthy county, but there are plenty of people for whom that rate increase would be a tremendous hardship, forcing them to move away from Loudoun County.

**With so many alternatives to producing power - wind, solar, water, nuclear - where are the plans for building power generation plants near the data centers that need this power?** None of the landowners in this rural county are on board with your plan to destroy what we have created, all in the name of the almighty data center. Yes, we enjoy having the internet, but we don't want to be the sacrificial lamb to supply power to the never ending ugly buildings being constructed in our neighborhoods, stealing our peace and livelihoods. **PJM must make a new plan that relies on new generation sources closer to where the electricity is needed and does not produce profound impacts on our rural communities.**

Please do not allow the 2022 Window 3 planning recommendations to move to a final vote. We urge PJM's Board of Managers to reject them and find alternative ways to provide power in Northern Virginia. Thousands of Loudoun County residents implore you to not destroy our way of life. Find an alternative to spoiling Loudoun County forever.

Thank you.

Janell & Dave Zech  
Hamilton, VA

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I recently learned that there is a proposal to put up new high power transmission lines along with the huge and invasive structures to support them. I have lived in Western Loudoun County (Lovettsville) for over 20 years. My family owns a horse farm business. This proposal would put us out of business. I am totally against these power lines, not only because it will destroy our business, but also because of the negative health implications for people and horses, along with the terrible damage it will do to the beauty of western Loudoun County. These lines will go through protected conservation land, historical properties and valuable farm land. If these lines are put up the land in Loudoun County will be negatively impacted forever. We do not want these lines in our community. Thank you.

Brandi Benedict

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TO: PJM Board of Managers

RE: Proposal for a New Greenfield 500-kV line in Western Loudoun County, Virginia (Proposal 2022-W3-853)

We are writing to express our complete and total opposition to this dismal Greenfield 500-kV line proposal. We reside at 16165 Hamilton Station Road, Waterford, VA 20197. As indicated by PJM maps, this line would dissect directly through our personal property. So, this is PERSONAL. One of our immediate neighbors includes a horse farm, horses that, in the not too distant past, were bred and raised to run in major equestrian races including the Kentucky Derby. Another neighbor has a working farm, raises cattle, and runs a beautiful B&B in an historic home built in the 1700s. We personally grow hay on our property to feed local cattle. This is a sanctuary for all kinds of animals and birds, who are running out of places to nest. This threatens us, our neighbors, friends, and families, not to mention the environment, waterways and view shed. This means people's livelihood, retirement, the inheritance for our children and grandchildren and for some, that's all they have to leave behind. So, this is PERSONAL.

And most of us have shed blood, sweat and tears to protect the historic landmark known as Waterford which is on the registry for historic places. Waterford's mission IS preservation and education. This is an area rich in history – Civil War soldiers roamed these beautiful hills, farmers raised cattle, sheep and other livestock for generations. We've worked hard to protect that history, and continue those traditions. So, this is PERSONAL.

These activities are the heart of what makes Loudoun County the hub for agritourism. This proposal will destroy view sheds necessary for Loudoun County's agritourism, critical nesting grounds for Virginia's threatened wildlife and the land needed for Loudoun's farming and equestrian communities.

The people of this community are well organized, rich in resources and have successfully fought Disney, other invasive construction projects and many other threats over the years. They will not rest until this is made right, not just for this community, but for other communities throughout Virginia threatened by private industry for private gain. Residents will not be fooled by "public" references. PJM would be better served to find alternative sites on existing right of ways and four lane highways. And let's not forget that Virginia law states that eminent domain cannot be used for economic development. These laws are in place for a reason.

We know this is not an easy decision for PJM, but there are alternative solutions that do not require high constructability risks, higher costs, environmental constraints, destruction of historic sites, and financial burdens on ratepayers and landowners. You have accountability to this community and PJM and those "undisclosed entities" involved need to be transparent in the complete process.

We are ALL the current caretakers of this land and that does not just mean the residents of this community, it includes YOU, the PJM Board, and state and county representatives. We cannot, will not and should not allow private gain to destroy Virginia's few remaining heritages...NOT on our watch. So, this IS PERSONAL, as it should be for ALL of us, including the PJM Board. Is this what you want your legacy to be?

In the famous words of one doomed leader, you've "just awakened a sleeping giant." Environmental agencies, conservationists, historic preservation groups, climate advocacy groups, community representatives, taxpayers and local residents will fight this proposal tooth and nail with all of its available resources. So this IS PERSONAL, and with that we leave you with one question, what if this proposal directly affected YOU or YOUR family, then would it be PERSONAL? Well, Virginia's history and future make all of us family and we should all be prepared to protect it.

Respectfully submitted,

*William E. Morris*

*Deborah W. Morris*

Waterford, VA

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December 3, 2023

Mr. Mark Takahashi, Chair PJM Board of Managers

Mr. Manu Asthana, PJM President and CEO

PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.

2750 Monroe Boulevard

Audubon, PA 19403

RE: Opposition to Project 853, NextEra

Dear PJM Board of Managers:

We write on behalf of our family opposing PJM's proposal for a new 500-kilovolt power line (Project 853, NextEra), which appears to traverse protected historic and conserved land in Loudoun County. Our family has lived in Loudoun County since 1936, and has been instrumental in donating and easing protected land for public purposes. We currently own and operate Digges Valley Farm, a working farm that encompasses over 800 acres of land, located east of Hamilton and protected by The Nature Conservancy, a leading national and international conservation organization.

PJM's proposed plan puts all conserved land in Virginia at risk. The plan has the potential to eviscerate the state's conservation program, which protects over 4.2 million acres of land benefiting the public and is a backbone of Virginia's rural economy. If approved, the PJM plan will call into question the purpose, integrity and validity of conservation easements throughout the state. The greenfield properties now protected by easements will become a target for any entity seeking open space. In this circumstance, no landowner will give up development rights to navigate the long and expensive process of obtaining a conservation easement. In addition, owners of existing eased land will pursue the rescission of toothless, unprotected easements in order to develop their land.

The evisceration of Virginia's conserved lands will severely damage the state's tourism, winery, equine, and agricultural industries, which rely significantly on conservation easements. Furthermore, the proposed power lines would negatively impact the natural and historic resources of Digges Valley Farm and neighboring conserved properties, diluting the significant public benefit of these resources.

Protection of the farm is consistent with the purposes and policies of the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act, 10.1-2100 to 10.1-2116 of the Code of Virginia ("the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act"); the Loudoun County Comprehensive Plan, which promotes regulations and criteria for land use control to protect water quality in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries; the Potomac River Watershed, an area designated for special environmental protection in Loudoun County's Comprehensive Plan, and in the Critical Areas report prepared by the Division of State Planning and Community Affairs for the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia; and The Nature Conservancy's ecoregional planning process for aquatic sites.

Protection of Digges Valley Farm preserves scarce prime and historic farmland; reduces habitat fragmentation; improves air and water quality; enhances fish, wildlife, and habitats, including pairs of nesting bald eagles, turkeys, *Hesperia attalus slossanoe*, the dotted skipper (a G2G4T2T3 SH ranked species as identified by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Division of Natural Heritage); and *Salix exigua*, the sandbar willow (a G5S1 ranked species) found near Digges Valley Farm.

The lands in this protected, historic and scenic landscape, including part of Digges Valley Farm, were settled by Mary Janney, wife of Amos Janney, a prominent Pennsylvania Quaker and the founder of Waterford. In 1754, as a widower, Mary Janney purchased 469 acres from Lord Fairfax, of which 100 acres are included in our easement and are part of the Goose Creek Historic District. We also understand that parts of our farm were within the compass of other lands granted to Lord Fairfax.



As noted by a director of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, "the farms in the area share a similar history of original Quaker settlement from the eighteenth century. The farms...contain historic structures from the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. After driving through the area recently, I concluded that the farms warrant inclusion in the Goose Creek Historic District. In fact, I recommend expanding the district to include both sides of Diggs Valley Road, which is an exceptionally well-preserved agricultural landscape."

Years ago, we successfully fought Dominion Energy's efforts to install a high-voltage power line through Digges Valley, forming Scenic Loudoun Legal Defense. We strongly oppose PJM's proposed plans, and Scenic Loudoun Legal Defense, along with the Loudoun community, will actively fight it, should the route be approved.

Sincerely,

Joyce and Henry Harris

Digges Valley Farm

Hamilton, Virginia

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To the PJM Board of Managers, care of David Angers:

I am writing to inform you that we oppose the recommendation for the 2023 Window 3 project to expand a Transmission line across our property and neighboring land.

As a current landowner in Lovettsville, VA, my husband and I bought our property with land here 20 years ago to enjoy a balance of working in the IT space along the Dulles, VA toll road corridor, and the commercial area in Frederick, MD (respectively) and escaping to a farm life experience where we can come home at the end of the day and enjoy the peace and beauty that nature provides, a place where we can decompress and raise our family in the safety of a country lifestyle. Our property is our sanctuary and has been enjoyed by countless friends and family over the last 2 decades.

As I understand the current proposal, a transmission tower and line would come across Berlin Turnpike, to the front of our property and cut across our pasture land, enroute to connection points Northward. The negative impact to our property value, livelihood of our livestock and impact to the health and safety of our family is immeasurable. The same sentiment applies to anything on our neighbors properties, too.

I ask that you deny this proposed transmission line route, and instead work with other existing infrastructure options to support the expanding data center requirements for energy that don't cut across conservation land, farmland and our Loudoun county heartland.

Sincerely,

Hillary and Christopher Haag

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Please reconsider and STOP this line, this pathway and the gross amount of power transmitted through the HISTORIC VILLAGE OF WATERFORD, VA. We have historic and conservation easements, wildlife preservations, and pristine farm land with historic view sheds that should not be interrupted at any cost.

We don't want any power line, no more data centers and we especially do not want government granted easements to be violated so hideously!

Thank you,

Sandra M Hunter

Paeonian Springs, VA

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Dear Mr. Anders,

I am writing as a resident of western Loudoun County, Virginia, specifically the National Historic Landmark Village of Waterford.

Waterford's Quaker history of opposition to both slavery and war cast it into poverty after the Civil War, which positioned it to be a unique throwback to America's agricultural history. Since 1933, Waterford residents have consistently worked to preserve both the buildings and the agricultural viewshed evocative of 19th century living. There have been many threats to its continuance, and time after time, both residents and preservationists have sought, and found, solutions that have saved this special place.

Were the line proposed through the Phillips Farm in Waterford to be built there, the towers would loom over the village, dominating virtually every property and eviscerating the bucolic view. Ninety years of preservation work would be lost, a National Historic Landmark village ruined. Please try to find another route that will not have such a heavy and unnecessarily tragic price attached.

Thank you,

Susan Honig-Rogers

Waterford, VA

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Adding some more of the PJM party members, as well as the **Loudoun County Board of Supervisors** for their awareness of the strong opposition to this ruinous plan. Please read below, and check your inboxes

for the myriad of citizens who \*live here\* and do not want your Project 853, nor any similar ideas produced by third parties in answer to your request for quotes. There is no "public good" in this proposal that destroys our community and livelihoods.

As word spreads, I pray you hear the intense voice of opposition from those of us who live here.

Respectfully,

CAPT Beth "Gabby" Creighton, USN (Ret), PMP  
and the Community of Western Loudoun

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Dear Mr. Anders,

I am writing as a concerned citizen of Waterford, Virginia. I have learned of the PJM's recommendation to build a new

power transmission line through property owned by the Waterford Foundation. I understand the Board will be voting on selected projects on December 11 and I

wanted the Board to be aware of my serious concerns with your proposed path for the

transmission line. Waterford is a National Historic Landmark, which the US Department of Interior puts on a par with Mount Vernon and Monticello. In the 2023 affirmation of our Landmark status that was originally granted in 1970, the nomination report noted the

following about Waterford's historic importance to the nation:

"As a result of almost a century of historic preservation efforts, the Waterford Historic District retains a high level of integrity—including integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. Beyond the remarkably well-preserved architecture in the village core, Waterford's natural features—including hedgerows, tree lines, waterways, and viewsheds—have also been sensitively conserved and continue to represent an authentic rural agricultural

service village set within farmlands. Additionally, beyond the preservation of its historic resources, the very limited modern infill, especially within the historic core, is notable. The integrity of the district is, in fact, due as much to the lack of twentieth and twenty-first century development in the village core and surrounding agricultural

lands as it is to the high degree of integrity found in the individual historic buildings. Waterford's exceptional significance is thus partially derived from its overall

appearance—including evocative viewsheds within and outside the village in nearly every direction. The intact views and vistas add greatly to the authentic feel of a

rural village as it might have appeared during the nineteenth century, featuring only houses, a few small businesses in the village core, and historic farms and

The mission of the Waterford Foundation, Inc., is to preserve the historic buildings and the open spaces of the National Historic Landmark District of Waterford, Virginia; and through education, to increase the public's knowledge of life and work in an early American rural community. As a result, the Waterford Historic District's integrity is exceptionally high." This preserved viewshed is visible from my backyard. Power lines that are over 300 feet tall, in a swath spanning 30 to 50 feet wide would destroy that precious integrity and violate the protective easement on that land held by the Virginia Outdoors Foundation. I, along with The Waterford Foundation, strongly oppose the PJM's plan. It is important to note that the Virginia State Constitution prohibits

the use of eminent domain seizure for the purposes of economic development, which is clearly the intent of this project. I assume that PJM was unaware that they were projecting construction of this line through a National Historic Landmark and that once you are aware of the significance of this historic site you will adjust your plans accordingly.

Respectfully,

Elaina Young

Concerned resident of Waterford, VA

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Mr. Anders,

Please pass the attached letter from us regarding NextEra Proposal 2022-W3-853 to the PJM Board of Managers. Our letter references the recent letter to PJM from the Organization of PJM States, signed by 12 of the 13 state regulators in the region (minus Virginia). This letter is of course available on the PJM website, but we have included an attachment here for completeness.

We have provided courtesy copies of this email and attachment to our recently elected representatives to the Virginia General Assembly, Senator-Elect Russet Perry and Delegate-Elect Geary Higgins, as well as to the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors and related county officials. We have copied our state regulator, the Virginia State Corporation Committee (SCC) for awareness, although we recognize it is early in the process for the SCC. We have also included Gregory Carmean, the Executive Director of the Organization of PJM States. Finally, we have copied the local power provider, Dominion Energy, and several PJM officials who might have interest in this situation. We have been unable to identify an appropriate address for NextEra Energy.

We have registered to attend the 5 December 2023 meeting of the Transmission Expansion Advisory Committee in person at your facility in Audubon, PA and would appreciate the opportunity to pose a question regarding alternative approaches.

Thank you for your consideration.

Thomas Donahue

Millicent Schwenk

Leesburg, Virginia

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Dear PJM Board of Managers,

I am writing this letter in vehement opposition to PJM's proposal to construct new 500kv greenfield transmission lines through Loudoun County. The project, which so far is to include substantial and invasive electrical towers running from coal-burning generation plants and through northern Virginia, would permanently ruin some of our nation's most historic and coveted landscape and notably speed up the environmental demise in West Virginia where expanded use of coal-burning power generation is necessitated.

Issues concerning the project that are patently obvious and emerge from common sense are discussed and confirmed widely:

1. Constructing long-distance, invasive, above-ground greenfield transmission lines in order to feed the inordinate concentration of Virginia's data centers that consume more electricity than literally anything on planet earth in previous history does not make sense as opposed to having power generation near the load needs
2. The idea of running long-distance above-ground lines as opposed to other options (closer generation plants; underground burial) smacks of a financially-driven plan precipitously conceived as to benefit the entities that do the building and not the general public who will end up footing the enormous bill.
3. The need for data centers and the energy they consume will inevitably expand while the unrenowable fossil fuel (coal) source will diminish, thus threatening the hideous and permanent transmission towers obsolete.

Our personal story is among a multitude of others: After weighing numerous options, my wife and I chose to invest in a home and retire in Lovettsville in order to spend our last years in the area's peaceful, bucolic setting and to share its striking natural beauty with our grandchildren. I am a former teacher and my wife a librarian. As such, our house here in Lovettsville is our financial

nest egg. Apart from our economic investment, we have put an untold amount of sweat equity during our six years on the property: remediating drainage, hand-digging a 750 ft. creek, planting hundreds of trees and shrubs including a fruit tree orchard, building a patio of 1300 pavers and raised bed vegetable garden; removing over a quarter mile of decaying farm fence; refurbishing the home's interior. With the installation of transmission lines near or on our property, all this turns to dust.

Just within our view, six 5000+ sq. Ft. homes and an historic pre-civil war barn will meet this demise similarly if the transmission lines are built. Is each one of these homeowners going to be compensated at fair-market value for the demolition of their respective properties? One can only imagine the magnitude and cost from the oppositional headwind that will inevitable arise from the ire of those who are in danger of losing their life's investments. My wife and I are certainly planning to participate in what promises to be this sweeping opposition.

Dr. Neal Larrabee

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Mr. Anders and Mr. Souder,

The NextEra Proposal 853 has a tremendous negative impact on our family. These power lines will bisect western Loudoun County and come very close to our home. We believe this will adversely affect our health. We chose to live here 21 years ago to avoid such encumbrances, and this will dramatically alter the desirability and safety of our home.

This proposal will have devastating impacts on the natural environment in this area and the viewsheds of our home and rural businesses that rely on tourism in western Loudoun County. This plan will negatively impact the entire rural economy of this area because it bisects through our area. Western Loudoun with its national historic landmarks, parks and land in conservancy is for the benefit of all including future generations. This transmission line plan would destroy all that this countryside provides for respite and relaxation for those in congested parts of northern Virginia.

We strongly recommend a lower impact and lower risk option to also minimize cost. A new transmission line through western Loudoun will have significant risk for cost and schedule overruns. The anticipated cost burden on the household ratepayers and landowners is

unacceptable. The bulk users (data centers) should pay their full costs including infrastructure they require in the form of transmission lines.

Thank you for your consideration of our thoughts.

Sincerely,

Suzanne and Allen Hiser

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To David Anders and the PJM Board,

Almost seven years ago my husband and I moved to Lovettsville, Va to enjoy our retirement years in this beautiful, historic, picturesque part of Virginia. A few days ago, to our dismay, we learned about the proposal of installing the enormous electric transmission line that would cross our backyard. It is not only that our life savings which we used to purchase the house would evaporate, but also the beauty of the area would be destroyed.

There has to be a better way to provide electricity needed for the data centers than by destroying neighborhoods, farms, businesses and the environment. We absolutely oppose the plan and will do what is necessary to protect our livelihood.

Would you yourself; approve of the line going through your own backyard?

Elzbieta Cyran Larrabee

Lovettsville, VA

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Residents and Land Owners of Carter Ridge Lane, Leesburg, VA  
Contact Information Provided Below

December 3, 2023

David Anders, Secretary  
PJM Members Committee

PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.  
1200 G St. NW, Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20005

PJM Interconnection, L.L.C.  
2750 Monroe Blvd  
Audubon, PA 19403

RE: Proposed Transmission Lines in Loudoun County

Mr. Anders and Other PJM Members,

This letter informs you of the strong opposition the Residents of Carter Ridge Lane, Leesburg, VA (hereinafter referred to as the "Residents") have to the path indicated in PJM's original transmission proposals dated 9/5/2023. This particular proposal indicates construction of transmission lines and high-tension power lines through the properties of several Residents (shown on NextEra 642, Greenfield proposed pathway). This proposal also indicates that this construction will cross Carter Ridge Lane a narrow and privately maintained roadway. The Residents have a vested interest in ensuring that this construction does not occur.

While PJM's most recent "selected transmission proposals," dated 10/31/23, does not indicate that the transmission and high-tension power lines will be constructed on and through properties with Carter Ridge Lane addresses, the Residents remind PJM Members of the following facts:


- The properties on Carter Ridge Lane are located within the Catoctin Mountain Range. Loudoun County provides specific prohibitions, rules and regulations concerning the development of areas containing ridgelines, hilltops and steep slopes.
- The Residents believe that the construction of transmission and high-tension power lines will have profound negative effects on property values, environmental and natural features of the area including, but not limited to: wildlife habitat, vegetation, and wetlands; water quality, to include groundwater, which is of particular significance as residences in this area rely on well water; air quality; as well as, topographic, scenic, and historic features. No environmental impact study has been conducted to indicate that this is a well-thought-out and minimal-impact course of action for the Residents, other local residents, or PJM.
- There is no existing easement(s) that would allow for the development of PJM's proposed transmission and high-tension powerlines.



It is because of the aforementioned reasons, as well as many others, that the Residents maintain strong opposition to PJM and partners suggesting, proposing or implementing any plan that negatively affects Carter Ridge Lane and surrounding areas (such as the 9/5/2023 proposal). It is in neither the best interests of the Residents, nor PJM, to pursue a proposal that impacts properties located in this area.

  
Bruce Engen  
41572 Carter Ridge Lane  
Leesburg, VA 20176

  
Merita K. Atherly Engen

  
Joseph Guiliano  
41636 Carter Ridge Lane  
Leesburg, VA 20176

  
Sarah Henry, Esq.  
41728 Carter Ridge Lane  
Leesburg, VA 20176

  
Richard Storbeck  
41457 Carter Ridge Lane  
Leesburg, VA 20716

  
Diedre Storbeck

  
Michael Thomas  
41613 Carter Ridge Lane  
Leesburg, VA 20176

  
Teresa Thomas

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To the PJM Board of Managers,

This is to oppose strongly PJM Proposal 2022-W3-853 to construct a new 500 kV line in western Loudoun County, Virginia. The map puts it between our stable and indoor riding ring, which would destroy my daughter's business. The data center industry won't need the power if it uses, as it inevitably will the new IBM North Pole chip. Who wouldn't want something 25x faster and uses 80% less electricity?

There is abundant literature on the therapeutic effects of the rural environment. Ours would be damaged by transmission line towers. People come from all over to gain benefit from our countryside. Why cause unnecessary stress.

- The route is planned to pass through multiple agricultural districts These districts are intended to protect farmland and open space to conserve the production of agriculture and protect local ecological resources. The construction of the transmission lines and associated right-of-ways will assuredly further limit the ability of farms in these districts to raise livestock, plant crops, and protect the ecology.

The route is proposed to extend into National Historic Landmarks which will result in extreme opposition and challenges from historic groups and the Waterford Foundation as has happened when past projects were proposed.

- The route is planned to traverse multiple farms in conservation easements. These conservation easements are intended to preserve their character for generations to come. The use of this land to erect transmission towers via eminent domain will call into question the reasoning for land conservation in Loudoun County and may backfire on conservation throughout the region.

PJM's own risk matrix indicates that the proposed 853 route is complex and highly risky due to construction costs and the need to attain land through a well-preserved region. We understand that PJM and its staff and Board have to complete their work to make up for anticipated electric power shortfalls. However, we want to make sure that the PJM Board and Staff understand that the community is in strong opposition and is prepared to resist the project.

Sincerely,

Zebulon Taintor, MD, DLFAPA, FACPsy

Adjunct Professor of Psychiatry, NYUSOM

16409 Hamilton Station Road

Waterford, VA

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**To the PJM Board of Managers:**

I vehemently oppose PJM's proposed path (2022-W3-853) for a new right-of-way (ROW) that cuts through private property in Loudoun County, Va., for a 500 kV overhead transmission line.

***There is already a previous case by the Virginia SCC with an established precedent for the required use of existing ROW for a transmission line before considering private land.***

***The existing ROW proved adequate in SCC Case No. PUE-2005-00018 for the Pleasant View - Hamilton 230 kV transmission line in Loudoun County***, with portions required to be built underground.

The recently proposed 500 kV line that's single circuit (only three wires) should parallel the current Pleasant View - Hamilton 230 kV transmission line on already-designated ROW.

To cut through scenic countryside with massive transmission towers and to claim private property through eminent domain when adequate ROW exists would be economically and environmentally irresponsible as well as illegal.

Perhaps PJM proposed the western Loudoun County route for the greenfield portion of the 500 kV line without knowing it matches ***paths already rejected by the Virginia SCC*** for the Pleasant View - Hamilton 230 kV line.

Precedents, testimonies, and evidence that reject the taking of private and historic property in scenic Loudoun are documented in the Virginia SCC case (PUE-2005-00018).

***The PJM-proposed path for the 500 kV line bisects several open-space easements held by Loudoun County***, which exist "to preserve the environment of the Property and to maintain permanently the natural and cultural values of the Property and the dominant scenic and agricultural character of the Property," as stated by easement. The proposed line goes against the very purpose of these conservation easements, which give balance to Loudoun's economy and protect its unique natural beauty, which enhances tourism. Many properties throughout Western Loudoun are held in other land conservation programs.

***PJM Proposal 2022-W3-853 threatens the core tenets of the National Historic Landmarks program*** set up by the National Park Service to preserve the heritage of the United States. The village of Waterford recently renewed its status within the program and was compared to Monticello and Mount Vernon in its importance. Your

lines on that property and/or in the village's view shed would diminish and devalue our National Historic Landmarks designation and jeopardize the security and value of others across the state and country.

***Proposal 2022-W3-853 threatens the lifeblood of our hard-fought viticultural community.*** Our wineries have successfully toiled for decades to earn the attention and respect of oenophiles, who come in droves from near and far to enjoy our wines and our unsurpassed views. **Tourism in Western Loudoun is a major pillar of Loudoun's Comprehensive Plan**

Further, the proposed 500 kV line will serve Dominion Energy's commercial customers (data centers) in Eastern Loudoun. In addition to destroying the scenic and environmental qualities of Western Loudoun, the proposed 500 kV line devalues private properties and family investments. It is our opinion that the data centers should have to pay for the provision of the electrical infrastructure needed to support their for-profit businesses. That burden should not be forced upon a minority who purposefully purchased properties within the scenic and open spaces of Western Loudoun.

***PJM should keep like infrastructure together to maintain the quality, scenic beauty, and integrity of Western Loudoun.*** The infrastructure and ROW for the 500 kV line already exist along the Pleasant View - Hamilton 230 kV line. Portions that impact residential areas along the existing ROW ***should be placed underground***, same as required in the previous Virginia SCC case (PUE-2005-00018).

As demonstrated in the previous SCC case, ***rest assured the residents of Western Loudoun will vigorously defend their rights*** and insist the Virginia SCC enforce existing laws related to transmission line placement.

Sincerely,  
Hila Wever  
19150 Peale Lane  
Leesburg, VA 20175

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To the PJM Board of Managers:

We are writing to express our strong opposition to the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500 kV line in western Loudoun County, Virginia to be built by Florida-based NextEra (Proposal 2022-W3-853). Your maps indicate this line would transit historic and conservation areas around Mt Gilead, Digges Valley, and Waterford National Historic Landmark along the Catoctin Ridge. There was a multi-year fight in the mid-2000s over a new transmission line in this same area that generated huge opposition and ultimately resulted in a compromise that put part of the new line under the existing right-of-way along the W&OD trail, with the rest aligned in a new right-of-way along an existing transportation corridor, namely the Leesburg Bypass, in the intervening years, organized efforts to protect rural Loudoun and its farming, historic equestrian, environmental/conservation, and agritourism interests have only grown stronger.

The path described crosses right through my property and I intend to take every legal action available to oppose the destruction of my property.

There is a very mobilized public that will fight even harder over the placement of new transmission lines through undisturbed Loudoun countryside than they did in the mid-2000s. The interested parties this time are much broader and span multiple counties. Loudoun has worked hard to promote tourism in the western half of the county, which is a major pillar in Loudoun's Comprehensive Plan. The quantity and quality of agritourism businesses in Loudoun outpaces all other jurisdictions in Virginia. Crisscrossing this area with transmission lines to meet energy demand elsewhere would hurt this vital sector of the economy.

We appreciate that PJM has a very difficult task ahead of it making up for anticipated electric power shortfalls, but we think community engagement and a broader range of alternative solutions and transmission technologies need to be considered. Meanwhile, other parts of Virginia are adding data centers, and old data centers will be modernizing with new computers that consume even more power, all further complicating PJM's task. The current path we are on is unsustainable and unscalable, and much needs to change in the way the region approves data centers and plans for the expected demand for electric power. We urge PJM to step back and reconsider its approach, with a goal of ensuring your mission to deliver power, but not at the cost of destroying the communities and other economic interests that are in your path.

Thanks for your consideration,

Gabriela Hughes

Waterford Resident

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Dear PJM Board of Managers,

I am writing to express my strong opposition with the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500 kV line in western Loudoun County, Virginia to be built by Florida-based NextEra (Proposal 2022-W3-853). I am part of a large and growing contingent of citizens, civic organizations, businesses, and elected officials who are against the proposed plans. This is part of a larger concern with an unsustainable path to deliver power to data centers at the expense of rural counties.

Your maps indicate the transmission line would go directly adjacent to my property, within yards of my home, and adjacent to my children's elementary school in Waterford, VA. The [National Institute of Health](#) has raised concerns over children's long term exposure to EMFs and has recommended parents "avoid long term exposure to strong EMFs in home, school, or other places children spend much of their time." Your proposed plan would go contrary to NIH recommendations and could potentially put children in Waterford at risk.

Additionally, the map indicates the lines would traverse historic and conservation areas around Mt. Gilead, Digges, Valley, and Waterford National Historic Landmark (I live in Waterford). This line would be at odds with the intent and desires of many throughout the county who live here because of the conservation and historic sites.

Additionally, our county has made tremendous investments in agri-tourism and our county would face irrevocable economic and reputational damage if this proposal was approved.

I appreciate the need to balance development and energy needs with conservation, health, and overall well-being, but this plan is not it. I urge the Board of Managers to consider alternative options that meet the needs of not only a far distant data center, but the needs of the citizens who will bear the burden of the health and economic fallout from this new transmission line path.

A very concerned stakeholder, parent, homeowner and taxpayer

David Ducharme

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David Ducharme

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To: PJM Board of Managers

I have seen the intended route of the proposed transmission lines to be installed in Western Loudoun County. I cannot believe that you would place these lines and support structures that would destroy the scenic beauty and tranquility offered by the Waterford Historic District. I know you are receiving many opposition letters from other areas as these transmission lines are not a welcome sight.

I live in the Waterford District and I and my neighbors would be deeply affected by the present intended construction.

Please add my name in opposition.

Sincerely: A.B. Elliott  
16309 Hamilton Station Road  
Waterford, Va.

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TO: PJM Board of Managers

RE: Proposal for a New Greenfield 500-kV line in Western Loudoun County, Virginia (Proposal 2022-W3-853)

We are writing to express our complete and total opposition to this dismal Greenfield 500-kV line proposal. We reside at 16165 Hamilton Station Road, Waterford, VA 20197. As indicated by PJM maps, this line would dissect directly through our personal property. So, this is PERSONAL. One of our immediate neighbors includes a horse farm, horses that, in the not too distant past, were bred and raised to run in major equestrian races including the Kentucky Derby. Another neighbor has a working farm, raises cattle, and runs a beautiful B&B in an historic home built in the 1700s. We personally grow hay on our property to feed local cattle. This is a sanctuary for all kinds of animals and birds, who are running out of places to nest. This threatens us, our neighbors, friends, and families, not to mention the environment, waterways and view shed. This means people's livelihood, retirement, the inheritance for our children and grandchildren and for some, that's all they have to leave behind. So, this is PERSONAL.

And most of us have shed blood, sweat and tears to protect the historic landmark known as Waterford which is on the registry for historic places. Waterford's mission IS preservation and education. This is an area rich in history – Civil War soldiers roamed these beautiful hills, farmers raised cattle, sheep and other livestock for generations. We've worked hard to protect that history, and continue those traditions. So, this is PERSONAL.

These activities are the heart of what makes Loudoun County the hub for agritourism. This proposal will destroy view sheds necessary for Loudoun County's agritourism, critical nesting grounds for Virginia's threatened wildlife and the land needed for Loudoun's farming and equestrian communities.

The people of this community are well organized, rich in resources and have successfully fought Disney, other invasive construction projects and many other threats over the years. They will not rest until this is made right, not just for this community, but for other communities throughout Virginia threatened by private industry for private gain. Residents will not be fooled by "public" references. PJM would be better served to find alternative sites on existing right of ways and four lane highways. And let's not forget that Virginia law states that eminent domain cannot be used for economic development. These laws are in place for a reason.

We know this is not an easy decision for PJM, but there are alternative solutions that do not require high constructability risks, higher costs, environmental constraints, destruction of historic sites, and financial burdens on ratepayers and landowners. You have accountability to this community and PJM and those "undisclosed entities" involved need to be transparent in the complete process.

We are ALL the current caretakers of this land and that does not just mean the residents of this community, it includes YOU, the PJM Board, and state and county representatives. We cannot, will not

and should not allow private gain to destroy Virginia's few remaining heritages...NOT on our watch. So, this IS PERSONAL, as it should be for ALL of us, including the PJM Board. Is this what you want your legacy to be?

In the famous words of one doomed leader, you've "just awakened a sleeping giant." Environmental agencies, conservationists, historic preservation groups, climate advocacy groups, community representatives, taxpayers and local residents will fight this proposal tooth and nail with all of its available resources. So this IS PERSONAL, and with that we leave you with one question, what if this proposal directly affected YOU or YOUR family, then would it be PERSONAL? Well, Virginia's history and future make all of us family and we should all be prepared to protect it.

Respectfully submitted,

*William E. Morris*

*Deborah W. Morris*

Waterford, VA

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To the PJM Board of Managers:

Let's cut to the chase – Proposal 2022-W3-853, your greenfield 500 kV powerline plan for western Loudoun County, is a bad move. Crossing historic and conservation areas, disrupting Mt. Gilead, Digges Valley, and the Waterford National Historic Landmark? Seriously?

We remember the mid-2000s drama over a transmission line in the same area – a fight you lost. Now, you're back with the same nonsense. Our community has only gotten stronger, and we won't let you bulldoze through our countryside again. We compromised once, and we're not doing it again.

Agritourism is a big deal here, and your powerline threatens the very backbone of our local economy. Loudoun's Comprehensive Plan supports tourism, and we won't let your project undermine that. Figure something else out.

We know you have to deal with power shortfalls, but destroying our communities isn't the answer. Step back, reconsider, and find a way that doesn't wreck our homes and livelihoods.

Let the battle begin.

Piper D'Emanuele

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To the PJM Board of Managers:

We are writing to express our strong opposition to the PJM proposal for a new greenfield 500 kV line in western Loudoun County, Virginia to be built by Florida-based NextEra (Proposal 2022-W3-853). Your maps indicate this line would transit historic and conservation areas around Mt Gilead, Digges Valley,



and Waterford National Historic Landmark along the Catoctin Ridge. There was a multi-year fight in the mid-2000s over a new transmission line in this same area that generated huge opposition and ultimately resulted in a compromise that put part of the new line under the existing right-of-way along the W&OD trail, with the rest aligned in a new right-of-way along an existing transportation corridor, namely the Leesburg Bypass, in the intervening years, organized efforts to protect rural Loudoun and its farming, historic equestrian, environmental/conservation, and agritourism interests have only grown stronger.

There is a very mobilized public that will fight even harder over the placement of new transmission lines through undisturbed Loudoun countryside than they did in the mid-2000s. The interested parties this time are much broader and span multiple counties. Loudoun has worked hard to promote tourism in the western half of the county, which is a major pillar in Loudoun's Comprehensive Plan. The quantity and quality of agritourism businesses in Loudoun outpaces all other jurisdictions in Virginia. Crisscrossing this area with transmission lines to meet energy demand elsewhere would hurt this vital sector of the economy.

We appreciate that PJM has a very difficult task ahead of it making up for anticipated electric power shortfalls, but we think community engagement and a broader range of alternative solutions and transmission technologies need to be considered. Meanwhile, other parts of Virginia are adding data centers, and old data centers will be modernizing with new computers that consume even more power, all further complicating PJM's task. The current path we are on is unsustainable and unscalable, and much needs to change in the way the region approves data centers and plans for the expected demand for electric power. We urge PJM to step back and reconsider its approach, with a goal of ensuring your mission to deliver power, but not at the cost of destroying the communities and other economic interests that are in your path.

Thanks for your consideration,  
Kathy Galvan  
Loudoun County Resident

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David Anders,

I live in Waterford outside the village on Hamilton Station Rd. I am outraged that your company would consider erecting transmission lines in this beautiful historic district. I have spent my life restoring and caring for my historic house and property. We who have lived in Loudoun for most of our lives will not stand for it. It is heartbreaking to see what was once beautiful rolling land turn into an industrial complex covered in cell towers and transmission lines. What was once fruitful farm land has just become a vast expanse of subdivisions Data Centers and 4 lane highways all driving the need for more energy and power. Well I have had enough! I raised my 5 children here and I do not want to move. My roots are here in Loudoun County. My taxes keep going up and my quality of life keeps going down. I am officially joining others in whole heartedly opposing the construction of these unsightly transmission lines through Waterford and the whole of Loudoun County.

Amy McMullen  
Waterford Va.