#### **BEFORE THE**

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# PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

PA PUC SECRETARY'S BUREAU

Application of Transource Pennsylvania, LLC

Filed Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code Chapter 57, Supchapter G

For Approval of the Siting and Construction of the 230 kV Transmission Line

Associated with the Independence Energy Connection-West Project in Portions of Franklin County

Docket No. A-2017-2640200

#### **PROTEST**

Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code Sections 5.51, et seq. and 66 Pa. C. S. Sections 1101, et. seq., Dawn Markus files this Protest to the Independence Energy Connection-West. In support of this Protest, Dawn Markus avers as follows:

1. The name and contact information of the Protestant is as follows:

**Dawn Markus** 

7641 Burkholder RD

Waynesboro, PA 17268

2. As a business owner within close proximity of the proposed transmission line, your decisions will directly affect my livelihood and financial security.

As a resident within close proximity of the proposed transmission line, your decisions will directly affect my health and well-being.

As an electric company rate payer, your decisions will directly affect my utility rates since the cost of this project is passed on to rate payers

3. I am filing this protest for a number of reasons:

I am owner and proprieter of The Herb Corner, a family business in operation for decades. I am a Certified Health Practitioner and help customers live and maintain a healthy and natural lifestyle. We raise and sell organic herbs and vegetables, and my daughter raises bees. The effects of this

transmission line would be detrimental in so many ways to my business and my families' livelihood and well-being.

I am a life long resident of beautiful Franklin County, and home owner. Along with the total destruction of the pristine view-shed, which I hold dear, this project would also result in decreased property values.

I am a rate payer and buy electricity. Not only might this project result in higher rates and an extra burden on my tax rate, but it increasingly shows a decreasing cost to benefit ratio.

4. Studies document the health hazards created by EMF's from this type of high voltage wire. The proposed line is slated to go less than one mile from my family business, The Herb Corner. We raise and sell organic herbs, and my daughter has bee hives, the honey and wax of which she uses for our business. Having these towers so close will definitely hurt business, as visitors and customers often remark on enjoying coming to our shop because of the beautiful scenery which abounds. Even more alarming, the health hazards which will be created from these high power lines to people and animals living nearby is well documented. The insecticides and herbicides which would be used to keep undergrowth of power lines in check would be externely detrimental to our plant growing, bee keeping, and other business prospects. Our business is designed to help keep and maintain the health of all people...approving this power line would be in strict opposition to good health.

Property values will go down. It has been proven that high voltage power lines will decrease propery values by as much as 50%. This includes not just the property affected, but basically all surrounding property, within view of the 13-story towers. Local realtors are very upset and are against the project, as they know that this proposed transmission line will have a crushing effect on new and existing property sales. In addition to property values and monetary concerns, I am also most upset about the proposed destruction of our rural setting, farmlands, hiking trails, and scenic views. There can be no price put on the beautiful nature of our County, and certainly a for-profit company should NOT be given approval to destroy all that we citizens and tax payers have worked so hard to maintain.

This is a totally unnecessary and unwanted project, which will have zero benefit to residents of PA, but will entail a multitude of detriments, if approved. PJM did not properly consider the use of existing rights-of-way to rebuild or upgrade existing transmission lines to provide transmission, for their profits. Instead, they approved the IEC project, which was one of the costlier projects, and entailed desecrating green, untouched land, while taking private land from tax paying citizens against their will! The IEC puts

the financial goals for profits of corporations and the wealthy and politically connected ahead of the hardworking, good people of Franklin County. I ask that you protect the ratepayers, citizens, and landscapes of PA and deny this project.

WHEREFORE, I, Dawn Markus, respectfully requests that the PA Public Utility Comission REJECT approval from this for-profit corporation. I also request that any public hearings to be held are held locally, in Franklin County, so citizens can express their outrage and opposition to this proposal. I further request that any member of the decision-making body actually visit affected areas, under this proposal, to see for themselves what a hardship and detriment this proposed line would be to our area; a mistake that would live into perpetuity.

Respectfully submitted.

Dawn Markes

Dated: February 12, 2018

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Re: Application of Transource Pennsylvania, LLC Filed Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code Chapter 57 Subchapter G, for Approval of the Siting and Construction of the 230kV Transmission Line Associated with the dependence Energy ....

2017-2640200

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the ....

Intervene upon parties of record in this proceeding in accordance with the requirement.

Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant), in the manner and upon the persons listed SECRETARY'S BUREAU. Independence Energy Connection-West Project in Portions of Franklin County, Pennsylvania Docket No.

The Honorable Elizabeth H. Barnes
The Honorable Andrew M. Calvelli
Administrative Law Judges
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17 North Second Street, 12th Floor

Harrisburg, PA 17101-1601

[Signature of Protestant]

## **VERIFICATION**

I, Dawn Markus, hereby state that the facts above set forth are true and correct (or are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief) and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

Wawn M

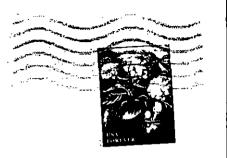
February 12, 2018

(Signature)

7641 Burkholder R Waynesborn PA 17268

HARRISBURG PA 171

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Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Secretary's Bureau 400 North Street Harrisburg, PA 17120