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## Transource Energy transmission line (power line)

Christopher M. Rudyk <chris.rudyk@imiproducs.net>

May 21 at 6:07 PM

To: John Leonard

CC: Warren Christman, Tio Paci, Terry Ward, Bill Bashor

Hello John,

I spoke with Warren Christman this evening on the subject of a utility company called Transource Energy (TE) that is currently owned by American Electric Power (AEP) and Great Plains Electric (GPE). Both (TE) and (AEP) are based in Columbus, OH. (GPE) is based in Kansas City, MO.

Transource intends to build, install, service and maintain a transmission line (electric) from Shippensburg Pennsylvania to Ringgold Maryland, approximately 28 miles, which the vast majority of the run is in Pennsylvania.

The project has been dubbed Independence Energy Connection (IEC) by Transource Energy.

We (Trout Unlimited Falling Spring Chapter) are greatly concerned with the installation of this transmission line since first hearing of its inception. Recently, we have been preparing for Franklin County Public hearings scheduled for 5/22, 5/23, on the subject of this transmission line. The hearings have been put together by a group (Stop Transource) consisting mostly of land owners and Franklin County Visitors Bureau that the transmission line will directly affect.

After these two hearings, a third will be held at the Falling Spring Elementary School with the Pennsylvania Utilities Commission on 5/29.

The intent of this hearing is not only to hear the concerns of residents, but also to gather evidentiary information onsite of the intended route of the transmission line. TU Falling Spring Chapter will also be present at this meeting and again voice itself on the aforementioned subject.

Early this morning, I was able to tour the intended route of the transmission line that will directly effect Falling Spring.

The intended route will run parallel with the stream and have foliage, undergrowth and trees removed from approximately a 1/4 mile of stream and then run perpendicular to the stream crossing it at 2 points and crossing wet lands in between each stream bed. At this juncture they intend to remove a swath of vegetation, foliage and trees 130 feet wide for right of way.

As you can see, this is of great concern to us, but it does not end there. In the process they will be drilling and digging in an area known for its underground limestone springs that feed this beautiful meadow stream.

After discussing these issues over the past couple weeks and my earlier discourse with Warren, it was decided that we should seek further consultation for input, direction and general help with this issue. This is the primary reason for contacting you at this juncture.

It would be greatly appreciated by everyone involved if you could give us guidance or direction in this matter.

Contact information:

Mobile Phone: 717-387-1246

Email: chris.rudyk@imiproducs.net

I thank you in advance for your time and consideration,

Chris Rudyk

V. P. Trout Unlimited Falling Spring Chapter

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Chambushburg

for

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## RE: Transource Energy transmission line (power line)

John Leonard &lt;johnleonard222@gmail.com&gt;

May 21 at 6:50 PM

To: 'Christopher M. Rudyk'

CC: 'Warren Christman', 'Tio Paci', 'Terry Ward', 'Bill Bashor', Russ Collins

Chris,

I will forward your e-mail on to a few people for further advice. Meanwhile, keep the information coming. Do you have maps showing the area where Falling Spring may be affected? What's the proposed timetable for construction? What's the PA F & B classification of the stream? Is Fish & Boat currently involved in any of your discussions? Is your state rep involved? This is an election year. Your chapter's quarterly report (attached) is due in about two weeks. Make sure a summation of this proposed power transmission line is on the report under "Issues to Report to State Council".

I think the Muddy Creek chapter in southern York County may be having a similar issue. I will let the group know what I learn.

Sincerely,

John

**John Leonard – Executive Vice President  
Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited**

Cell (717) 512-4620

Home (717) 697-6188

[johnleonard222@gmail.com](mailto:johnleonard222@gmail.com)<http://www.patROUT.org/>

**From:** Christopher M. Rudyk [mailto:chris.rudyk@imiproductions.net]

**Sent:** Monday, May 21, 2018 9:03 PM

**To:** John Leonard

**Cc:** Warren Christman; Tio Paci; Terry Ward; Bill Bashor

**Subject:** Transource Energy transmission line (power line)

Hello John,

I spoke with Warren Christman this evening on the subject of a utility company called Transource Energy (TE) that is currently owned by American Electric Power (AEP) and Great Plains Electric (GPE). Both (TE) and (AEP) are based in Columbus, OH. (GPE) is based in Kansas City, MO.

Transource intends to build, install, service and maintain a transmission line (electric) from Shippensburg Pennsylvania to Ringgold Maryland, approximately 28 miles,

August 8, 2017

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Chambersburg

Transource

Gentlemen,

We would like to ask the following questions and have the answers in writing so there are no questions about what is said. *jar*

What advantage is it to Franklin County to have you tear up the land and put your lines in?

What advantage is it to us to give you right of way to tear up our land as it will never be the same after you go through?

Are there any other electric lines that you can use the same route and add your line, are there any lines not used to the max that you can add your poles and lines to?

Do you really believe we will think we will get cheaper electricity if this line goes through our county? Do you have a guarantee in writing for us?

How much will the new line devalue our property and property of our neighbors if this line goes through and we have to see the line every day. Who would want to buy or build anything with this view?

What about an electrical storm? Is it going to get hit with lightning as it is so high and what would the results.

What happens if a line breaks and falls to the ground. What will the results be?

What about stray voltage and noise of line? Stray voltage is a great concern as we have dairy animals on our property and it is our source of income.

You say you are going to use two types of poles so do we have a say in what type is used on our land?



A-2017-2470200  
Carol Pugh <pughca@gmail.com>

5/22/18

Charlottesville

jar

## Independence Energy Connection

2 messages

lec@transourceenergyprojects.info <lec@transourceenergyprojects.info>  
To: pughca@gmail.com

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NOTES: AUG 23, 2017 at 4:42 PM

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Thank you very much for your comment. To make sure that additional questions or comments get answered in a timely manner, please submit your question or comment through the comment page on our project website at the link below.

Hello Carl -

Thank you for taking the time to attend our open house and provide input. I wanted to follow up on some of the questions you submitted on your comment card and thank you for your patience as we work to respond to inquiries.

PJM Interconnection, the regional transmission organization for parts of 13 states, including Pennsylvania and Maryland, determined the need and benefit for this project and has forecasted that there will be direct benefits to parts of Pennsylvania and Maryland. Additionally, when low-cost electricity is introduced into the market, it helps drive the overall competitiveness of the electric grid.

The project will alleviate congestion on the regional transmission grid and create cost savings to consumers of more than \$600 million over 15 years. To analyze savings, PJM modeled generation costs and power flows both with and without the project for a 15-year period.

Transource is responsible for the siting, construction and maintenance of the transmission line project and facilities.

On the west side of the project, approximately 25 miles of new overhead electric transmission line will connect a new substation that will be constructed in Franklin County to the existing Ringgold Substation near Smithsburg in Washington County, Maryland.

Many landowners ask whether the presence of a transmission line will impact the value of their property. This is not a simple answer, as the effects are highly variable. Many factors affect market prices of real estate.

During right-of-way acquisition, we treat landowners and their property with respect. If our project impacts your property for an easement or access, you will be fairly compensated and made whole for any land rights needed by Transource. If we damage your property as part of our construction activities, we will work with you to restore the property in a responsible way.

Safety is the top priority for Transource. Allowable activities within a right-of-way are clearly defined for the landowner. Although every case is unique, typical permitted activities include gardening, farming and any other activities that do not interfere with the safe operation of the transmission lines. The right-of-way width is determined based on voltage, span length and maintaining a safety clearance. The 130-foot right-of-way allows us to safely construct, operate and maintain this new line.

The easement will grant Transource the rights to safely construct, operate and maintain infrastructure on land owned by another person. Landowners are compensated for these property access rights with a one-time payment. The landowner can still use the property under the line with some restrictions (such as buildings and tall trees). The company will maintain the right-of-way to make certain trees and other vegetation don't interfere with the safe operation of the transmission line.

Stray Voltage is typically not a concern for high voltage transmission lines. These lines differ in engineering standards for the design, operation, and maintenance that apply to transmission facilities than distribution lines.

Transource will oversee emergency response and maintenance of the Independence Energy Connection transmission lines and substations with local contractor support.

Transource's project proposal that was selected by PJM includes the construction of a lattice transmission structure. However, based on the amount of feedback received during and following the first round of open houses regarding the proposed structure type, we are now considering the use of steel monopoles and/or lattice structures on this project. Actual structure type, height and base width may vary and/or result in a combination of structure types along the line route. While the structure type may vary, the typical right-of-way is 130 feet wide for safe construction, operation and maintenance of the facilities. We appreciate your continued input.

Thank you again for your participation as we work to determine a proposed route. We will continue to keep you updated as the project progresses.

Thank you again for contacting Transource. If you have any other questions, please check out our project website at <http://www.transourceenergyprojects.com/IndependenceEnergyConnection>.

Abby Foster  
Project Outreach

1-800-440-4213

---

Carol Pugh <pughca@gmail.com>  
To: Karri Benedict <karrib@gmail.com>

Thu, Aug 24, 2017 at 6:13 AM

Received this and thought you might like to read. Carol

(quoted text hidden)

February 13, 2018

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary

PA Public Utility Commission

Commonwealth Keystone Building

400 North Street

Harrisburg, PA 17120

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*puc 381c)*

*A-2017-2640200*

*5/22/18*

*Chambersburg*  
*jar*

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 230 kV Transmission Line

Associated with the Independence Energy Connection-West Project

In Portions of Franklin County, Pennsylvania

**Docket Number: A-2017-2640200**

PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
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Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

We are writing you today to protest and ask you to investigate the request of Transource Independence Energy Connection and also asking you to deny their request to build a double-circuit 230kV electric transmission line on new right of ways in Franklin County.

After going to Transource's open houses and talking with them, we have not been shown a benefit of this line to Franklin County. They kept telling us this will benefit the areas that are south of us, such as Baltimore, Washington, D. C. and northern Virginia. They also said that it will result in lower electric bills. We want this reduction in our bill in writing as to how much it will go down. Personally, we believe that the cost of this project is not cost effective to build much less give us lower electric bills. Our electric bill will more likely go up with this new line because of the cost to build. When you spend 320 million plus on a project such as this, who is going to pay for it, the rate payers, so how do our electric rates go down? This is something to be considered in making the decision, what is the cost, is there a need for the new line and will the benefit be worth what it does to the landowners that it affects.

The line will consist of new 130 foot right of ways and 135 foot tall transmission towers to carry the lines across Franklin County. We feel that this will devalue our land in Franklin County and that will result in a lower tax base in order to maintain Franklin County and the schools of Franklin County. One of the original lines went through 6 of our fields; the line they picked does not go through our land at this time.

I know how hard my husband's parents worked to buy and pay for this farm. My husband, son, and I farm it now. We have worked many long hours to maintain and get our farm into what it is today. Having the line come through the land would greatly affect the value. The farms, that the new line is proposed to run through, have worked just as hard as we have to maintain their farms and way of life. Farming is **not** underdeveloped land. They say you can still farm under the lines. That is correct but they will own a 130 foot right of way on the land and the owners of the land will have the taxes to pay on it but have no say in anything Transource wants to do with their right of way in the future. It is not easy farming around structures in the fields, equipment is getting larger and that makes it harder to maneuver around the structures. Transource has said they will do ariel spraying to control the weeds and vegetation that grows around their structures. How can they make sure that it will not harm the crops and drift onto places they do not want it too? We have people in the county that are into organic farming and organic gardening this spraying would greatly affect them. We are also wondering what the effect of these high voltage lines will be to our animals health, our personal health, a person with mental disabilities etc. In talking to Transource they have not been able to prove to us that it is safe to reside close to the high voltage lines. We need to have proven studies that the line are safe not just Transource telling they are.

When they build the structures for the new line they will be using large equipment and that will damage our roads and greatly affect the land. Once you compact the ground, move top soil, build temporary roads you can never get the land back to the productivity that it once had. This will all be at the expense of the residents of Franklin County.

We have people in our county that have purchased homes, that they have also worked hard for, dreamed about and finally purchased or built with mortgages based on the home value. After the line goes close to their homes or even within sight of the home, the value of that home is going to go down but they will have the same mortgage on that home at the original value. Who wants to buy a home or farm with these lines on them on in sight of them? This is just not right.

Some land owners will feel that they have to sell their right of ways, not because they want to, but because they cannot afford the hassle and the cost of hiring an Eminent Domain lawyer. Therefore they will not get what they deserve for their right of way nor do they want to let Transource to have a right of right. Again this is not right.

Transource has said they will use Monopoles as much as they can. In my research I find that they have to drill into the earth a good distance. This would affect our water table, our wells (with having a herd of cattle, water is always a concern) and our springs. Again this will not benefit Franklin County.

In researching things about Franklin County, I have found that tourism and agri-tourism bring substantial dollars to Franklin County. This line would not only affect the affected land owners but it will affect our hotels, motels, restaurants, and all businesses dealing with tourism. I enjoy driving on a road on the mountain that has a great view of the valley. These 130 foot structures would not make it enjoyable to drive by and look at.

In closing we would like to request that the people at your agency visit the sites that they plan to use before they make their decision for or against Transource.

We would also like to request that the hearings be held in Franklin County as this would give the residents of Franklin County a greater voice in the matter.

Thank you for your attention to my comments and requests.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chad Pugh". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "C" and "P".

Chad Pugh

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carl Pugh". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "C" and "P".

Carl Pugh

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol Pugh". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "C" and "P".

Carol Pugh

2607 Stone Quarry Road

Chambersburg, PA 17202



PUC 439

A-2017-2446200

5/22/18

Chambersburg

# Summary

In this report, we present the results from a literature study on the effects of electromagnetic fields (EMF) on honeybees. This literature study was carried out as part of a bigger project of the Science Shop, acting upon a request from the Nationaal Platform Stralingsrisico's. The aim of the project was to get an insight in whether or not honeybees are harmed by EMF. This is complicated, as the current literature on this topic is of questionable quality.

Possible health effects of exposure to EMF on humans, but also on animals, are heavily debated, both in the scientific community and in society. Some of the groups in this public debate (e.g. advocacy groups concerned about radiation, phone companies) have opposed interests, and this may result in biased information about the topic. In this report, we not only wanted to give an overview of the current literature on effects of electromagnetic radiation, but also judge the quality of the information. Criteria to judge literature were a.o. background of the authors, appropriateness of material and methods, the nature of the results and use of references. Next to this, also the facts in the studies were evaluated.

In order to do this, we first emerged ourselves in some basic information about electromagnetic fields, radiation and types of effects of radiation. Electromagnetic radiation is a very broad definition, and includes many types of radiation ranging from electric waves to gamma rays. Some of these types of radiation have no (known) effects, while others (e.g. X-rays) are known to cause health problems. These effects can be thermal and non-thermal, i.e. caused by heat generated by the radiation, or by other, less understood mechanisms. We also give background information about bees and colony losses in bees. Colony losses in bees have received much attention the last few years. Some people claim a new type of colony losses, CCD, is putting the bees at risk worldwide. EMF is mentioned as a possible cause, amongst other such as pathogens and pesticides. Combining the information about radiation, bees, and also information from research on other animals, we wanted to look at hypothetical effects of EMF on honeybees. So: how *could* bees be harmed by EMF? In this, we focus mainly on navigation in bees, as this seems to be the most realistic way in which bees could be affected by EMF.

Studies on other organisms show that EMF can have both thermal and non-thermal effects in living systems. *Drosophila* is shown to be adversely effected in reproduction and development, this could also be the case in honeybees, as their development is similar. In studies on birds, negative effects on their navigation were also found, so this also provides clues for the honeybee case. Honeybees, just like birds, use magnetoreception for orientation and navigation. The most important cue for honeybees in their navigation is the sun's position, but also landmarks are used. The importance of magnetoreception is unknown and it is not yet clearly understood overall. However, magnetoreceptors (magnetite and cryptochrome) are found in honeybees and they do respond to changes in the Earth magnetic field. Therefore, the hypothesis that EMF could influence there behavior does make sense.

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Scientific studies show local adverse effects from high tension power lines on bee colonies, including stinging behaviour and electric shock when the bees are in contact with a conducting medium, and especially around the entrance of the hive.

Some studies were done on effects on the waggle dance by interference with the Earth magnetic field. Bursts of artificial low-frequency fields induced misdirection in the waggle dance, while compensation of the Earth magnetic field resulted in a lower dance tempo.

There is a complete lack of reliable information on the effects of radio frequency EMF on honeybees. A couple of publications from a German group (University of Koblenz-Landau) deal with the influence of DECT-phones. The experimental set-up is found to be inappropriate with a low number of observations and many other flaws. A study from two Indian researchers (Panjab University) had an even lower number of colonies that were studied and the authors seem biased as they strongly give their opinion in the article. Another publication that deals with radio frequency radiation effects on honeybees is a brochure from the Kompetenzinitiative (a German advocacy group), written by Dr. rer. nat. Warnke. It is presented as a review of the scientific information that is available, but was actually found to be highly unreliable and biased.

Because of the clear knowledge gaps, no conclusions can be drawn on the question whether or not EMF is harmful to honeybees. We can also not conclude if EMF is a (contributing) cause of colony losses and/or CCD or not. Clearly, more research is needed to answer these questions.

We recommend that in further studies, the experiments should be carefully set up and that measurements and observations should be done in appropriate ways. This would lead to more reliable and comparable results. Studies on effects of radio frequency radiation on the waggle dance are recommended, as there might be an influence there as was already shown by studies with low-frequency radiation. Lastly, it is recommended that proper communication of the results to the public should be taken care of, to end the circulation of a lot of speculative information.

PUC 639

A-2017-2446200

5/22/18 Chambersburg

## Summary

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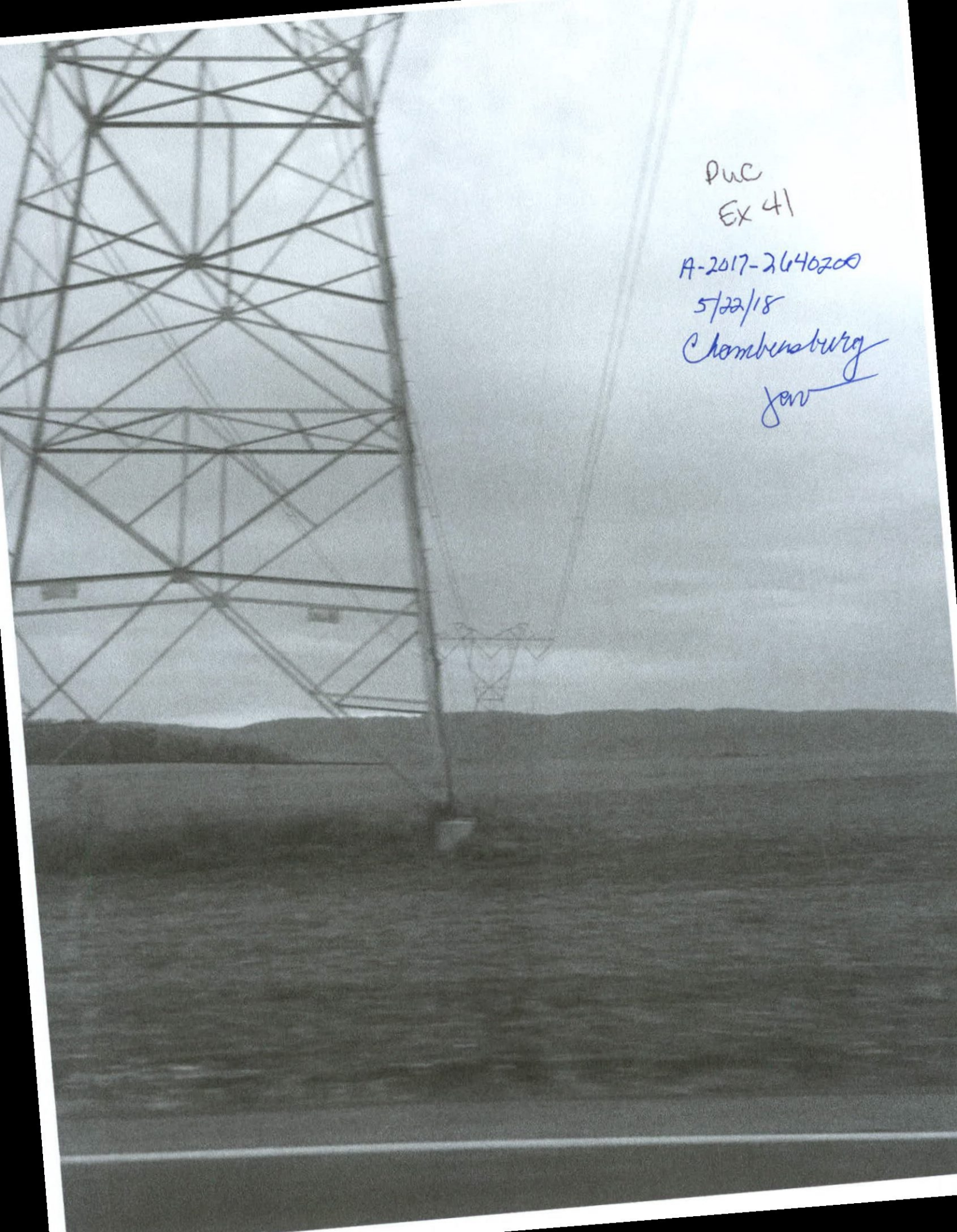
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Jen