

Potomac-Appalachian Transmission Highline (PATH powerline)

June 2009

We must speak out! Individually written letters to the officials below make a huge difference. Please do all you can!

TAKE ACTION NOW!

There is NO benefit to us – the power goes to the northeast!
It'll turn West Virginia from "Wild & Wonderful" into "Wired & Ugly"
It would mean more COAL, more air pollution!
PLUS, it'll ruin designated scenic routes – see MAP on next page!
WEST VIRGINIA IS OURS, NO MORE TOWERS!

ONLY \$.44 postage to make your voice heard!

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE POWERLINE AT: www.calhounpowerline.wordpress.com
www.URparamount.com/PATH-Powerline

Excerpts from "The Approval Process" article:

It is the interstate sale of electricity that is straining the regional power grid, not increasing demand for electricity in general. If power companies produced power locally to meet local needs, PATH would not be needed. Instead, power consumers in the Northeast and the Mid-Atlantic states will benefit from "cheap" coal in West Virginia to produce the electricity they do not want to produce themselves from resources they have locally like tidal forces, wind and solar energy... Coal is only "cheap" in West Virginia because no one, particularly government regulators, is controlling the massive destruction of our state's land, water and people.

...It would seem that the PATH line would be a no-brainer for the WV PSC (Public Service Commission). PATH will only hurt WV consumers and land owners. That is not the case however. The PSC raised a number of objections to the TrAIL project (in northern WV) when it came before them last year, but almost overnight, Governor Manchin created a number of "benefits" where there were none, including requiring Allegheny Energy to build a new facility in Fairmont and hire 150 new employees. These employees will be a new cost for the company and that cost will be included in the next Allegheny rate hike request, but who reads that kind of fine print.

In other words, Governor Manchin's policy appears to be to use the PSC's "leverage" to create new "benefits" where there are none in the project itself. In some circles, this leverage would be called extortion, in other circles, a shakedown.

Please write the offices below and state your opposition to the PATH lines. Every email, every FAX, every phone call, every letter counts! Have everyone in your house write letters!

State Offices (if you should need more than listed below): <http://www.wvsos.com/service/rosters/stateoffices.htm>

1. GOVERNOR: Governor Joe Manchin
State Capitol
1900 Kanawha Blvd. East
Charleston, WV 25305
Website: www.state.wv.us/governor
Phone: (304) 558-2000
Fax: (304) 558-2722
E-mail: Governor@wv.gov

2. COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OFFICES (partial list of Commission Presidents in chart below):

If your county is not on this brief list, visit this site: <http://www.wvsos.com/service/rosters/countycommissions.htm>

Ask (write, call and/or FAX) your County Commissioner (partial list below) **to adopt a resolution opposing PATH, just as the affected counties did for the TrAIL line in northern WV.** If your commissioners are hesitant, ask them to at least talk to the Commissioners in Hardy (William Keplinger, Jr. 530-0250), Hampshire (Leslie Shoemaker, Jr. 822-5112), Morgan (Glen Stotler 258-8547), Preston (L. Darwin Wolfe 329-0070), Monongalia (Robert Bell 291-7230), and Tucker (Salvatore Eichelberger 478-2414) Counties, all of whom adopted such resolutions. Your Commissioner may have already passed such a resolution, so if they have, say thank you, and if not, ask them why not.

Braxton:	Teresa Frame, President Braxton County Courthouse 300 Main Street, P.O. Box 486 Sutton, WV 26601 765-2833 (FAX 765-2093)	Clay:	Peter Triplett, President Clay County Courthouse 216 Main Street, P.O.Box 190 Clay, WV 25043 587-4259 (FAX 587-7329)	Jackson:	Don Stephens, President Jackson County Courthouse P. O. Box 800 Ripley, WV 25271 373-2258 (FAX 372-1107)
Calhoun:	Larry McCallister, President Calhoun County Courthouse P. O. Box 230 Grantsville, WV 26147 354-6725 (FAX 354-6725)	Gilmer:	Charles Hess, President Gilmer County Courthouse 10 Howard Street Glennville, WV 26351 462-7641 (FAX 462-8855 (S))	Roane:	John Greathouse, President Roane County Courthouse 200 Main Street Spencer, WV 25276 927-2860 (FAX 927-2489)

3. WRITE TO OUR WV STATE SENATORS, for email letter AND written letter:

Write them online at: http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm?State=WV

Senator Robert C. Byrd
300 Virginia St., E, Ste. 2630,
Charleston, WV 25301
(304) 342-5855 FAX (304) 343-7144
E-mail: senator_byrd@byrd.senate.gov

Senator Jay Rockefeller
405 Capitol St., Ste 308
Charleston, WV 25301
(304) 347-5372 FAX (202) 224-7665
Email: rockefeller.senate.gov

4. WRITE YOUR REPRESENTATIVE: <https://forms.house.gov/wyr/welcome.shtml>

You have to find out which Representative is yours, then you can write them online or send a regular letter (sample below). CALL THE U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515 | (202) 224-3121 to find out who your representative is if you don't have internet access. OR, just write all three of them!

Congressman Alan B. Mollohan, 1st District

Room 2040, Federal Building
Parkersburg, WV 26101

(304) 428-0493 FAX (304) 428-5980
Email: CongressmanMollohan@mail.house.gov

Congresswoman Shelley Moore Capito, 2nd District
4815 MacCorkle Ave., SE (304) 925-5964 FAX (304) 926-8912
Charleston, WV 25304 Email form: <https://forms.house.gov/wyr/welcome.shtml>

Congressman Nick J. Rahall, 3rd District
106 Main Street (304) 252-5000 FAX (304) 252-9803
Beckley, WV 25801 E-mail: NRAHALL@mail.house.gov

5. WRITE the Department of Environmental Protection, Randy C. Huffman, Cabinet Secretary

601 - 57th Street, Charleston, WV 25304
Phone: (304) 926-0440 Fax: (304) 926-0446

Simply state you are against the PATH Powerline, and write "Letter of Protest" on the top.
Tell them "West Virginia is ours, no more towers!" Be sure to include your name, address and phone.

6. AND WRITE a "Letter of Protest" to: WV Public Service Commission (Refer to Case # 09-0770-E-CN)

Sandra Squire, Secretary
201 Brooks Street
Charleston, WV 25323

Again, simply state you are against the PATH Powerline, and write "Letter of Protest" on the top.
Tell them "West Virginia is ours, no more towers!" Be sure to include your name, address and phone.

7. DONATE WHAT YOU CAN to the West Virginia Chapter Sierra Club http://westvirginia.sierraclub.org/aptrail_campaign.html

(They have fought successfully before, and they have the lawyers). They plan to intervene before the WV Public Service Commission to oppose the PATH. Even small donations add up! Make checks payable to: **The Sierra Club Foundation**, and put **West Virginia Chapter** in the memo line. Mail contributions to: Sierra Club, P.O. Box 4142 Morgantown, WV 26504-4142. Be sure to include your return address so they can send you a tax-deductible receipt.

OTHER USEFUL SITES:

PATH: <http://www.pathtransmission.com>

West Virginia Public Service Commission: <http://www.psc.state.wv.us> search for case number **NOIE PATH 08A**

Bill Howley's Calhoun County Powerline site: <http://calhounpowerline.wordpress.com>

West Virginia Legislators: Find yours at: <http://www.wvecouncil.org/index.html>

Sample Letter to Senators and Representatives:

DEAR HONORABLE (Senator or Representative),

Please support legislation to reform the Public Service Commission, and to restore some balance to the rules governing the taking of private property in West Virginia. Senator John Hunter had a couple of good bills last session, but they did not pass, so please sign on to these. Please do all you can, and influence all you can, to oppose the PATH powerline through our state.

The PATH powerline will further destroy beautiful West Virginia to benefit consumers in other states. We'd get more coal mining, more trees cut down through the mountains and more property values falling. Our beautiful state, scarred with this unneeded powerline will be "Wired and Ugly" West Virginia instead of "Wild and Wonderful".

If power companies produced power locally to meet local needs, PATH would not be needed. Instead, power consumers in the Northeast and the Mid-Atlantic states will benefit from "cheap" coal in West Virginia to produce the electricity they do not want to produce themselves from resources they have locally like tidal forces, wind and solar energy. Coal is only "cheap" in West Virginia because no one, particularly government regulators, is controlling the massive destruction of our state's land, water and people.

If consumers in other areas want/need more electricity, let them reap the benefits AND the deficits of producing it.

Respectfully yours, (your name, address, phone, email)

