

Kevin B. Sullivan
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

October 18, 2004

Pamela B. Katz, Chairwoman
Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Dear Chairwoman *Pam* Katz:

As you know, the proposed construction of overhead electric transmission lines from central to southwestern Connecticut remains a matter of significant concern to residents whose lives and property may be at risk. Public Act 04-246 makes clear that underground installation of the proposed higher voltage transmission lines is expected when located adjacent to residential areas. Where underground installation is not technologically feasible, the law requires overhead lines to be situated in a buffer zone.

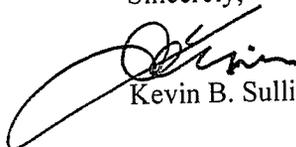
On October 13th, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission convened in Hartford, without public participation, to discuss transmission issues. In fact, the apparent purpose of this FERC meeting was to undermine jurisdiction of the Connecticut Siting Council and the case for underground installation by continuing to insist that any added cost be borne by Connecticut rather than regional ratepayers. In other words, FERC continues to come down on the side of disincensing safer installation.

Now it is also proposed that the Connecticut Siting Council take administrative notice of this closed FERC proceeding as evidence in the pending application to locate electric transmission lines from Middletown to Norwalk. Any such bootstrapping of evidence outside of the usual protections of due process, including examination and contrary evidence presented in public session, is simply unfair and prejudicial. FERC must not be permitted to do by indirection that which it has no jurisdiction to do directly.

Therefore, encouraged by your recent comments about the pace of these proceedings before the Connecticut Siting Council, I ask and urge that any admission of the FERC proceedings be disallowed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Kevin B. Sullivan

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