

Highlands Coalition says new powerline project is not needed

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Parsippany Life*

Dear Editor,

In an article published on March 4, 2011, "Resident is fighting new power line on two fronts," Cindy Forrest stated that a permit approval from the National Parks Service (NPS) is the last requirement before the start of the proposed Susquehanna-Roseland Transmission Line.

Actually, the last requirements before any construction can begin on the Susquehanna-Roseland line are permits from the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), not the NPS, and application for those permits will likely take some time.

A recent announcement that a project similar to the Susquehanna-Roseland plan has been suspended indefinitely, PJM's Potomac-Appalachian Transmission Highline (PATH) project bodes well for opponents of the Susquehanna-Roseland Line. In a press release dated Feb. 28, PJM cited the need to conduct "... more rigorous analysis of the potential need for PATH..." In short, this abeyance was issued because energy needs are falling and there is no need for additional coal-powered energy in our region.

Our hope is that PJM's finding will correct the perception that we need more coal-powered energy brought by the Susquehanna-Roseland Line and that this correction will result in the termination of the project. With any luck, PJM's conclusion on PATH will force proponents of this project to consider tapping into the renewable, sustainable and clean technologies already available to the residents of New Jersey.

For more updates, visit our website at www.njhighlandscoalition.org and sign up to receive more information.

Erica Van Auken
Campaign and Grassroots Coordinator
NJ Highlands Coalition
Boonton