

4. Consistent with regional plans for expansion of electric power

I cannot speak to this point from personal knowledge, but if Orwell and Middlefield need more power for industry and development, a local power plant there would seem to make more sense.

5. Comply with the revised code

6. Serve the public interest, convenience and necessity

The proposed path of the power line does not serve the public interest, convenience, or necessity of the farmland it will mar.

We do not need more power.

We do not want our wetlands and creeks eroded or degraded.

We do not want to mow around guy wires.

We do not want open corridors for trespassers to have easy access to our land.

We do not want our woodlands, pastures, or croplands marred by a 60 foot clear cut.

If the power is needed in Orwell and Middlefield, put a power plant there.

7. What impact will be on the viability as agricultural land in an existing agricultural district?

Personal impact on us: A fence row clear cut of trees, a creek crossed, a clear cut through the edge of our wood lot above another creek, guy wires and more clear cuts to work around, open access to trespassers, devalued property, scarred pristine farmland and natural places.

8. Maximum feasible water conservation practices

The proposed power line follows our west property line, more or less. In the path of the proposed line is our west front pasture and the neighbor's land to the west of the pasture, which are designated wetlands. The proposed line would also cross the creek that runs west to east in the front pasture.

When the proposed line goes through our and adjoining woodlots, it clear cuts above another beautiful creek in a ravine.

Disturbing the natural wetlands and clean creeks would not be good water conservation practice.

In conclusion:

There are existing open corridors - the railroad right of way east of Thompson that goes from Ashtabula to Lisbon, or Route 11. Orwell is East of Thompson and the entire proposed route. A power source where it is needed would be more practical in the long run. There would be fewer maintenance issues, and less electricity would be lost in transporting the power. There is no reason to open a new corridor through farmland.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Binnig

