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Editor of the Chillicothe Gazette

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Chillicothe Gazette

50 W. Main St.

Chillicothe, OH 45601

Dear Editor:

I am writing this letter as a concerned citizen of Ross County, as well as a very concerned parent. As you are probably aware, AEP needs to add an additional electrical transmission line in our area. It is my understanding that this transmission line will not improve the electricity to our county at all, but is to improve that of surrounding counties. There are two possible routes that the transmission line could potentially take through our county. One of these routes could pass through an area that would affect mostly property that does include the Pleasant Valley Nature Center, which is known as the "Red Line" and the alternate route is the one known as the "Blue Line" that will pass through valuable farm lands, in close proximity to 227 homes, and in close proximity to Unioto Schools.

My concern is that the "Blue Line" has become the preferred route because the "Red Line" that passes near the Nature Center is not the optimal route according to AEP because the Ohio Department of Natural Resources does not want it to cross the nature center. Therefore, AEP is "leaning toward" the "Blue Line". Although I do not want to disrupt nature either, I feel strongly about the preservation of human life. The effects of electromagnetic radiation caused by this new 138-kilovolt electric transmission line are well documented to be contributing factors in cases of leukemia, breast cancer, and many other blood and health disorders. My home does not lie directly on the proposed line, but I live in the neighborhood in close proximity to the proposed line. I do not feel that my child, my family, my neighbors' children and families, or the children and faculty of Unioto schools should be exposed to these risks if there is an alternative route that would avoid such unnecessary exposure. I simply ask this question: Is putting the lives of innocent people and children to install this dangerous line in close proximity to homes and schools really the "best" alternative they have? I understand the "Red Line" affects approximately 70 homes which I am not a fan of either, so could they not go back to the drawing board and look at other alternative routes that would not endanger so many lives? If these 2 routes are the only potential routes that could be used, then the "Red Line" should be chosen so that the lives of our current and future generations will not be jeopardized. I would ask the members that are making this decision on this board if they would want to live near this line, or have their children attend a school that is so close to these lines? Even their own application to the power siting board states they will

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place the line where it "will not significantly increase EMF exposure to the public". They would not have to state this fact in the application unless they knew it was a concern, and IT WILL be in CLOSE proximity to 227 homes, a large school district in Ross County, as well as destroy precious farmland in that area. Therefore, to reduce the harmful effects to hundreds of innocent people, I feel that the "Blue Line" should NOT even be considered as an option.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patty Haller", written in a cursive style.

Patty Haller, O.D.

P.O. Box 95

Chillicothe, OH 45601

Cc: Shawn Malone

AEP Transmission Project Manager

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Ohio Power Siting Board

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