

JENNIFER WEXTON  
10TH DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE ON  
APPROPRIATIONS

TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING  
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT,  
AND RELATED AGENCIES

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-4610

August 26, 2024

Commissioners of the Virginia State Corporation Commission  
P.O. Box 1197  
Richmond, VA 23218

Re: Support of Undergrounding 500kV/230kV Transmission Lines along the Aspen to  
Golden Route

Dear Commissioners of the Virginia State Corporation Commission,

I am writing to express my strong support for the undergrounding of Dominion Energy's proposed 500kV/230kV transmission lines along the Aspen to Golden Route where it is feasible. The chosen route impacts highly developed parts of our communities, including residential, commercial, religious, and school properties. Additionally, the proposed route will materially diminish historical and scenic easements. Undergrounding these lines to the greatest extent possible will protect the economic value and aesthetic quality of our neighborhoods while allowing for the construction of sustainable energy infrastructure.

As the Congresswoman representing Virginia's 10th Congressional District and a former Senator in the Commonwealth of Virginia, I recognize the importance of balancing energy needs with environmental stewardship and community interests. Undergrounding feasible portions of the proposed route will protect these vital interests while ensuring the construction of reliable energy infrastructure.

While there are challenges associated with undergrounding transmission lines, the County's technical feasibility study and the economic benefits of undergrounding offset the additional costs of this particular proposal. These challenges must be weighed against the long-term benefits to our communities and environment. Protecting the existing economic value of established residential and commercial development is just as important as considering the economic benefit to the industries that will benefit from the construction of these power lines.

Ordering the underground placement of the Aspen to Golden line at critical junctures will demonstrate that solutions to the energy crisis must be a shared effort. The Commission has previously supported undergrounding pilot programs when observation data for an emergent technology is scarce and valuable. With the increasing demand for electricity nationwide, particularly in Loudoun County, bold regulatory action will provide the data needed to build a grid that supports future generations of Virginians.

In conclusion, I urge the Commissioners to carefully consider the benefits of undergrounding the 500kV/230kV transmission lines along the Aspen to Golden Route. Undergrounding where possible presents a significant opportunity to enhance our energy infrastructure, protect our environment, and promote the financial and aesthetic well-being of our communities.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you require any further information or assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Wexton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "W".

Jennifer Wexton Member of Congress 10th Congressional District

cc: Loudoun County Board of Supervisors