



## **Franklin County Commissioners' Office**

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**COMMISSIONERS**  
David S. Keller, Chairman  
Robert L. Thomas  
Robert G. Ziobrowski

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Administrator**  
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**County Solicitor**  
Mary Beth Shank

**Assistant County Solicitor**  
Hannah Herman Snyder

November 9, 2017

Public Utility Commission  
400 North Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: Transource Independence Energy Connection Project

Dear Commissioners,

We have received comments from landowners in Franklin County regarding multiple concerns about Transource's proposed high voltage transmission line that will pass through approximately 29 miles of Franklin County on the western route of the project. Concerns raised by these landowners include loss of productive land, potential loss of income due to the proximity of the transmission line affecting salability of products, and the hazards of stray voltage.

Farmers who manage preserved farms are also concerned that the project intrudes on land that was officially designated to be farmed in perpetuity, rather than developed.

Citizens have also expressed concern over loss of quality of life due to disturbance to the natural views they currently enjoy.

These and additional concerns have been brought to our attention by prominent organizations active in Franklin County such as the Franklin County Visitors Bureau, South Mountain Partnership and Franklin County Area Development Corporation. The argument has been made that this transmission line may hinder the natural, agricultural and recreational components of Franklin County tourism.

The Transource Independence Energy Connection Project, by contrast, has not identified tangible benefits for our local consumers.

We urge you to take into account agriculture, tourism and quality of life concerns that have been expressed by our community's landowners, citizens and organizations. It is our desire that the PUC makes every effort in the consideration of this proposal to minimize any adverse impacts on local landowners and the county in general, and, in the event that the project is justified and necessary, to

ensure that appropriate compensation and mitigation efforts are made by Transource Energy in a collaborative and equitable manner.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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David S. Keller, Chairman

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Robert L. Thomas

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Robert G. Ziobrowski

C: Transource Energy  
John Koons, Sr.  
Mark Hickman