

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

September 26, 2015

Dear Governor Haley,

You have done a superb job bringing industry and creating jobs for South Carolina. One of those industries, Nexans, manufactures HV XLPE cable for undergrounding transmission lines. As you are aware, the Duke Western Carolina project has created "high energy outage" in the upstate.

The Office of Regulatory Staff says legislation requires the cheapest, most direct line for transmission updates. They are not factoring in the costs of those impacted by Duke's route choice. The visual destruction of this scenic area is immeasurable. The economic impact devastating.

I have offered Duke representatives a solution for their need to strengthen the East Coast Grid and protect this historic area. Bury the lines! Use existing rights of way. Use the existing substation. Give Nexans an opportunity to create more jobs for South Carolinians. Support this new industry to our state.

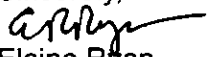
A better solution in undergrounding would be to partnership with DOT and the Federal Highway Administration to bury these high voltage cables in the medians; a straight shot to Asheville's new plant. The Railroad rights of way have been suggested, as well. Long runs already cleared and vetted for soil and geology.

Allowing Duke to take another land grab for a project that does not benefit South Carolinians is unconscionable. There are already three Duke rights of way within a mile of our farm. Duke is slowly taking land, that the landowner pays taxes on, without full use of it. They do not take care of their properties. The current Campobello substation is unkempt. An eyesore. The neighborhood economically depressed. Duke is not a good neighbor.

You and your legislative co-workers need to find a solution to this serious problem. All of South Carolina is precious. It is time to create laws that protect the beauty and history of this great state. Current and emerging technology is available to reduce this visual pollution. It needs to be implemented now. All utility lines need to be buried moving forward. Please do the research for this alternative. Create legislation for a **Scenic South Carolina** that all states will want to emulate.

We of the upstate do not oppose progress. We just don't want to ruin these vistas of untouched natural beauty. These landscapes, dotted with historic buildings, churches and cemeteries, represent America's early days and a way of life many believe is disappearing in America.

Sincerely,


Elaine Ryan
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