

Jennifer Rock
Troy
LD 2087

Dear Committee Members,

My childhood farm and home was threatened by LS Power's proposed line, and so too my solace, identity, peace of mind and so much more. It is the land both my parents are buried on. To say I "own" it doesn't convey how important it is to me: it is itself a part of my family and my heritage. Eminent domain would have stripped this from me and so many people like me. A corporate giant like LS Power doesn't care about any of this, it cares about \$. It also doesn't care about the productive farmland or wildlife habitat its new corridor would destroy.

State resource maps overlaid with just a portion of the proposed new corridor show the devastating effect. Looking at just the southeast proposed corridor here is the thoughtless impact LS Power would have blithely levied with eminent domain: almost a quarter (23%) of the southeast proposed corridor would directly impact farmland. This proposed section of the corridor alone would include 620 acres of either prime farmland soils and/or soils of statewide importance.

This part of the proposed corridor would also impact significant amounts of wildlife habitat and biodiversity: 5% of its length would be over wetlands (138 acres including 4 acres of river crossings) as well as 4 acres of designated waterfowl habitat.

In terms of its wider effect on wetlands (particularly regarding the spread of herbicidal sprays, water temperature, etc) a full 38% of its length would intersect wetland habitats. 210 acres (8%) would specifically impact known deer wintering areas. Most significantly, 3% of the corridor would impact the known habitat of listed species of special concern (constituting ~87 acres of their habitat).

This part of the proposed corridor would also threaten to modify existing aquifers by drilling its pylons across 92 acres of aquifers, including in known PFAS-affected townships.

I support the bill LD2087, with amendment to rephrase such that it is not prohibited (which I understand would make the bill all but impossible to pass) but still grants more rights to landowners.