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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom It May Concern,

I own a home in Village of Oak Creek and plan on being a full time residence soon.

I object to APS Oak Creek to McGuireville 69kV Transmission Line Project. Look at what happened in California. This devastation should tell you that this project must have the power lines buried underground.

Excerpt from news article: Liability for the Eaton fire alone is expected to exceed \$10 billion, which could strain Edison's resources, insurance companies and even the state's backup wildfire fund, which is designed to protect utilities against liability. The threat that electrical equipment poses to life and property has led energy and safety experts to push for power lines to be buried underground and for wider use of technologies that can better detect problems on the grid. "We can't insure our way out of this problem," said Michael Wara, director of the climate and energy policy program at Stanford University. "We have to reduce risk."

From The New York Times: New Data Shows Major Electrical Disruption Ahead of Eaton Fire. A private lab found evidence of two massive electrical faults in the Eaton Canyon area just before a fire erupt.

https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2025/01/29/business/energy-environment/eaton-fire-electrical-faults-southern-california-edison.html?unlocked_article_code=1.tU4.4txx.82tRBXlbSIEj&smid=url-share

<https://www.robertkinglawfirm.com/california-wildfire-attorneys/southern-california-edison-fire-lawsuit/>

<https://www.eastbaytimes.com/2017/10/10/pge-power-lines-linked-to-wine-country-fires/>

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/pge-55-million-dollars-old-power-lines-two-major-wildfires-dixie-fire-kincade/>

<https://www.statesmanjournal.com/story/news/2020/10/25/beachie-creek-santiam-wildfires-oregon-department-forestry/5999851002/>

Excerpt from Climate News: With the West stricken by rising temperatures, deepening drought and blasting winds, often all that's needed to ignite a fire is a spark. Increasingly, power lines strung through expansive wildlands to sprawling Western communities provide the flashes that grow into megafires. Burying electrical distribution lines prevents nearly all such ignitions, and the related power outages, but prices of up to \$4 million or more for each mile of "undergrounding," and difficult logistics have prevented widespread adoption of the practice. Power lines shouldn't be sparking wildfires anymore, said Paul Chinowsky of Resilient Analytics, an engineering consulting firm in Boulder, Colorado that focuses on adaptation to climate impacts.

Chinowsky said. "If we want to minimize wildfires, if we want to minimize the risk to our reliability, start undergrounding."

We know that going underground will cost more, but it will be worth every dollar spent to insure safety to the people and our environment.

Thank you for reading.

Terri

