Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/4/2021 7:17:59 PM
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: Please accept this submitted comment as my family's opposition to the current proposal for the Avon to Gilman Transmission Line. We believe that if this line is to move forward it should be 100% underground and only above ground where the end connections are needed. The impact of these large overhead powerlines is detrimental to our community. Overall, our number one worries are the numerous safety concerns in regards to the high fire danger in our community as well as the impact our extreme weather has on overhead power lines currently "out there". Not far behind are the large radius of magnetic fields that are emitted from the massive amounts of voltage coming from these lines. Those magnetic fields are a large concern for the health of my family and our community. I can audibly hear the buzzing on the small lines near our house now and the proposed lines are massively larger than those. And not to be forgotten is the obvious visual and environmental impact this will have on our beautiful mountains.

There are numerous reasons to deny this current plan and push for burying these lines. With regards to repairs, though it is obviously easier to jump into a bucket truck and fix transmission lines, underground lines are also much less likely to need a repair because it's buried beneath the ground and well away from the elements. At a time where system reliability is top of our mind for most utilities, underground transmission is a dependable solution. Cable systems underground have minimal impact from atmospheric conditions, vandalism, terrorism, and natural disasters.

Underground lines have a minimal impact on the surrounding visual environment. They preserve the natural beauty and land value. Overhead lines permanently alter the look of our small community and scenic areas. As this is I am sure one of the greatest concerns for most of our community, this is a concern that can easily be mitigated by burying the lines.

Of the greatest importance is safety. With underground lines there are no electrocution hazards for people or wildlife, no collision or entanglement hazards for small planes or helicopters, no risk of line exposure from traffic collisions, and no fire risk to people, wildlife, nature or homes!

In the end, public support should be the top priority! I am sure the community would rally behind underground transmission because it minimizes impacts to the community, while reliably delivering power. the community impact caused by this project is significant and the impact to our environment is unacceptable. I wholeheartedly believe that this project creates an unfair burden to our community and we have a duty to protect our town and the environment around it!

Thank you for your consideration!