



## *Friends of Nebo Valley*

1234 Main Street, Nebo, GA 28213

Mr. Ronald Santini, VP  
Electric Transmission and Distribution  
Champlain Power Company  
Three Champlain Way  
Crossroads, NC 12345

RE: Baskin Road – Jackson Interconnect

Dear Mr. Santini:

We are opposed to the proposed Baskin Road- Jackson Interconnect 345kV overhead transmission line for a number of reasons:

Champlain Power's (CP) development of their Baskin Road – Jackson Interconnect (BRJI) threatens this area and others with 12 to 15 story tall towers carrying 345kV lines along its 3-plus mile route from near Baskin Road to Nebo. According to CP, these lines are necessary to prevent near term brownouts in the target areas and future growth.

Local residents do not want the towers and their right of way marching across this area. Concerns include potential harm to the stream, loss of property value, view shed destruction, line noise, tourism issues, and possible future EMF health issues. BRJI makes it possible to shift these issues from the densely populated, expensive urban locations where the electricity will be used to less expensive rural areas where the line will be located. Rural residents feel CP's forced use of land against the wishes of those who own it is nothing more than urban development at the expense of those who live in the county.

Simply stringing more power lines to solve the country's energy problems is a 20th Century economic expediency for power companies. This method fails to reflect sound review of practices needed for this century, such as reducing the nation's continued reliance on coal, better demand side management, and increased use of other power sources.

The Nebo Valley Watershed Association has protested to CP, and will formally protest to the GA PSC. Letters have been sent to local legislators with minimum results. The association approached CP's power line siting director, thinking an on site visit might be helpful. He declined, stating his crew was collecting information. He suggested waiting until routes were actually selected, requesting we email questions to him. He has not responded to such queries.

We have searched the web extensively for power line protest information and found similar cases in New York, Wisconsin, Florida, Minnesota, California, Virginia, and North Carolina. With sufficient clout, a line is

occasionally rerouted, a limited section placed underground here and there, or special colored towers used to blend in with the surroundings as much as possible.

But CP marches ever onward for what is supposed to be the greater good. Those of us in its wake are supposed to profit through lower electric bills. Those of us who cherish what few unsullied acres we enjoy or own find it difficult to accept that there is any greater good worth a power line skunk stripe through our woods.

Mr. Santini, we are asking that your siting project manager personally meet with us to discuss our concerns about this proposed line. Time is of the essence.

Sincerely,

James Dewberry, Chairman  
Friends of Nebo Valley