

CASE No. 9018 – Application of Allegheny Power to Construct an Overhead 230 KV Transmission Line in Fredrick County (Urbana Loop)

On August 24, 2004 Allegheny Power filed an application with the PSC to construct an overhead 230KV transmission line. Historically, over the existence of the PSC, applications for CPCN have been routinely granted and have always been favorably supported by Power Plan Research Program (PPRP) of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

The unique feature of this case was that the PPRP for the first time in history recommended against Allegheny Power's plan. PSC stated Allegheny Power failed to consider Fredrick County's comprehensive development plan and 26 citizens participated fully in the process as parties and provided valuable evidence to assist in winning a favorable result. It is expected that in the future, the utilities will present more than one proposed route, will consult more fully with the County and that the citizens will be given opportunities for input well before the routes are recommended.

The PSC Hearing Examiner found the single most deficient element of the route proposed by Allegheny Power was its impact upon the view shed of the Urbana region. On August 3, 2006 a PSC order was issued rejecting the CPCN of Allegheny Power.