

*Jeremy Hall is a friend and work colleague of Karen Sheehan who lives in Sterling, Va. He describes himself (in his testimony below) in this way: "Cloud services are assisting in allowing me to function on a level playing field with my sighted counterparts."*

*Jeremy has been very interested in the Haymarket transmission line and substation project fight from the outset, after hearing about it from Karen. He sent this email to Karen back in December of 2014: "I wanted to take a moment to encourage you. I've only met two other people that even mildly come close to your skill in making the right thing happen on the timeline, rallying the troops, and making a difference! Furthermore, I am certain that you will find the correct solution, promote a logical, safe, and eco-friendly solution along with proposals that would cut costs, improve over-all stability of the power grid, and preserve the beauty of creation. What is the reason the under-ground I-66 route has been rejected?"*

*It is an honor and privilege to stand with you and your husband against the decimation of beauty!"*

*On May 2, 2016, after walking down the aisle of the auditorium at Haymarket's Battlefield High School, escorted by his 2 yr. old black lab guide dog, Legion, Jeremy delivered the following testimony to the SCC Hearing Examiner, and the SCC Commissioner:*

I am here to oppose the expansion of the Dominion power lines for the sole beneficiary of the customer, because I believe that the cost, to Prince William, and Loudoun, and others in Virginia, is too great.

Technology is largely responsible for my ability to survive in a sighted world. Cloud services are assisting in allowing me to function on a level playing field with my sighted counterparts. But if that cost means that my son, and my wife, who currently enjoy seeing the sunrise unobstructed, would have to look at towers, transmission lines, and other potential technology to remind them that we are in an ever-changing world, I would prefer to have the cloud services initiative placed elsewhere.

I work in the cable television industry and recognize that data centers are an important part of what we do, and how we do business. So I am sure that there is a possible way to place the data centers into power redundant locations with other utilities, not just power, but water, sewage and other pieces required to make the operation successful and safe.

As has been pointed out many times this evening, this is being considered for a rural area and in my experience in the technology industry for over 20 years, the rural areas are the ones that provide the most difficult access, and the most difficult areas to restore.

So if in fact the customer is Amazon Web Services, and if in fact the customer is going to place its customer's data in a facility which is powered by two 230kV dual circuits, then I must ask if those circuits are provided by redundant power, and if they are safe.

When we first moved to Loudoun County in 2000 I was excited. I had become a first time homeowner, and after signing 22 pages of documentation, I was handed the deed to my house. I went outside the door and found that I lived on a street at the bottom of a hill. At the top of the hill was a 7-11, a Chinese

take-out place, and lots of rural area. It felt like the rural area of the country that I had grown up in as a child.

I soon discovered, however, being a Dominion Power customer, that the power was subject at the time to storms and loss of service. Within the first three months of living there I lost service multiple times a week, either for 10 minutes at a time, or for 2 hours at a time. So much so, that at my expense, I purchased a multiple kilowatt UPS to control the sensitive equipment which was constantly being destroyed by voltages and disruptions to the power service in my home.

I recognize that these lines are not directly providing power to residences and that technology has improved in the last 16 years. However, I also recognize that building cable television lines above ground rather than underground have also caused problems with television service in the areas, and that individuals have to wait for their lines to be restored.

So, if these power lines must go in for innovation, then I would support, begrudgingly, at the expense of the customer, the lines to go underground, without any visible, without ANY visible detriment to the surrounding communities.

I also remember when I went out my front door, I discovered a walking trail, called the W&OD walking trail, that spans from Leesburg to Washington DC, and possibly beyond. Although I didn't walk all of the distance, the first thing that I encountered when I walked down the trail with my new service dog, was he was walking down the trail, and he stopped. There was no hazard in front of me, but he was definitely concerned about what was ahead. As I encouraged him to pass, I discovered what he was concerned about. There are 230kV lines that go across that segment of the trail. They provide crackling and hissing, and you can feel electrons dancing on your skin as you walk under them. I was surprised to learn that they are 110' tall, because they felt a lot closer, in ways that the environment was difficult to bear because I was so consciously afraid of them.

In time I learned to walk under them. As was mentioned earlier, in humid and rainy situations the noise is more disruptive and loud. The crackling was uh, you could get used to it. As I began to walk the trail more frequently I became less afraid of them, but even still I was concerned that one might fall on or near me, or on or near my child as we play on the trail.

As also has been mentioned, terrorism is a growing threat. Sometimes technology firms will build a data center in a secluded, remote location in the hopes that people won't know where this data center is. This data center is now not a secret. Most of the residents in the affected areas know where this data center is, and although this data center is highly protected, a terrorist who wanted to seek to do harm to the infrastructure would know where the data center was. So the secrecy aspect is not an issue any longer for this particular location. It would, in my opinion, make sense to place this data center and the buildings in a more appropriate location for industrial use and power, that has been built out with redundancy and proper use like I have already mentioned.

So, in closing I would like to thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today, and I hope that my wife, and my child, and I, will one day be able to walk through the community and see an unobstructed view.

When I worked in the District, I would travel down I-66 with a friend of mine, and we talked many times about what we would pass. Some days it was the beautiful scene of the Capital as we approached it at

sunrise, and some days it was the scene of the mountains reflecting a rainbow. We had discussion about how you could see the mountains for such a distance, because for me, seeing distance is sometimes a difficult thing to understand. For example, I don't understand how you can see something that is far away as if it is very close.

But if these towers go up, and if it eventually means that we couldn't look out the window and look down 66 to see the mountains unobstructed, is the cost (to underground) so great?

Thank you.