

**Sturbridge Lakes Community  
Voorhees, NJ**

July 24, 2009

Kristi Izzo, Secretary  
New Jersey Board of Public Utilities  
ATTN: BPU Docket Number: EX0804235  
Two Gateway Center  
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Dear Ms. Izzo:

**Subject: Sturbridge Lakes Community (Voorhees, NJ)**  
**Ref: PSE&G Power Line Easement (proposed tree cut down)**

I am a resident of the Sturbridge Lakes community in Voorhees, NJ, where large PSE&G towers and power lines cross through our neighborhood. The 120 foot wide power line easement cuts across our ball field and many residents' back yards.

As you know, the NJ Board of Public Utilities has regulations which require most of an easement to be cut down so nothing grows over 36 inches. Along the edges of the easement, nothing over 15 feet is permitted. The BPU is now considering new regulations for the edges of easements BUT the new approach would still call for the removal of pine and oak trees, which is exactly what we have at Sturbridge Lakes.

If applied to Sturbridge Lakes, the BPU rules would amount to an **ecological disaster**. They would **seriously impact home values along the easement** and perhaps for nearby homeowners as well. This would **harm our entire neighborhood**.

We live within an oak and pine tree woodland, and so these new rules could cause rows of oaks, pines and other trees to be removed from along the ball fields. **Many residents would see their backyards cut down just about up to their houses.**

This plan is **not** needed to protect the power lines. Currently, no tree is allowed which could hit the lines or even come close enough to be affected by the electrical field. The BPU rules are strictly to save PSE&G money, so they will not have to trim trees every several years.

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This is an odd thing for our state to be doing, when we are supposed to be **preserving the environment and fighting carbon dioxide emissions** that many believe cause global warming – the trees naturally convert carbon dioxide to oxygen.

I **\*strongly\*** oppose PSE&G's intentions in this matter and respectfully request that our community, and others like it, be spared the **gross injustice** not only to our home, but the earth itself. Furthermore, make no mistake, my community has fought injustice of this nature in the past and we are experienced at using all venues to assure that our rights as citizens are not violated. This includes the use of the **media** to expose those who feel they can impose their wishes over the tax payers of our community without our approval.

Sincerely,

Cc: Trustees, Sturbridge Lakes Community  
Attachment: Sturbridge Lakes Photos

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