



Commonwealth of Virginia
General Assembly
RICHMOND

August 25, 2025

[VIA EMAIL]

The State Corporation Commission
1300 East Main Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Re: 500 kV and 230 kV Golden to Mars Lines – Case Number PUR-2025-00056

Dear Chair Towell and Commissioners Hudson and Bagot:

We, the undersigned, write to express our deep concerns regarding the proposed Golden to Mars (“GTM”) transmission lines in Loudoun County. The residents in our communities, who are not responsible for the significant increase in power demand, stand to bear the significant burden of it, unless alternatives are given serious and immediate consideration.

As published in the December 2024 Joint Legislative and Audit Review Committee (“JLARC”) study, our Commonwealth faces urgent and unprecedented power demand challenges in Northern Virginia, driven primarily by large-scale consumers such as data centers. While these facilities contribute to economic growth, they also consume extraordinary amounts of electricity. Per the JLARC study, a single data center can consume the equivalent energy to that used by 4,500 - 50,000 homes. Meeting this demand requires substantial new transmission infrastructure, precipitating the need for lines such as GTM.

It is unacceptable that the burden of meeting these large-scale power demands falls disproportionately on the shoulders of our residents. In particular, those along Loudoun County Parkway and neighboring communities are severely impacted. These hardworking families have made significant investments in their homes, neighborhoods, and communities, and actively contribute to the rich tapestry that is Loudoun County.

We appreciate that the Commission has scheduled two local in-person public hearings next month, demonstrating your awareness of the proposal’s significant impact on our community and ensuring that our residents have a meaningful opportunity to express their concerns directly to you. We must take their concerns seriously as they face numerous harms, both temporary and long-term, including health risks, diminished views, declining property values, noise pollution, restricted access and land use limitations, and environmental damage. They deserve better.

Therefore, we respectfully ask that, in reviewing the request for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for GTM, you give serious consideration to:

1. An assessment of the identified violations of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC”) Reliability Standards and PJM requirements, and a determination of the true necessity of this project.
2. An independent analysis on the viability of undergrounding the transmission lines. 500 kV lines, like those proposed for GTM, have been successfully undergrounded elsewhere.
3. Prioritization of routes that minimize adverse effects on residential communities, schools, and other public areas, including potential financial impacts. It is paramount that public well-being be considered first and foremost.
4. Alternative routes, including those underground, identified and proposed by case respondents.
5. All available and reputable data regarding health risks, diminished views, declining property values, noise pollution, lack of access and land use restrictions, and environmental impacts when determining the best path forward for the public.

Thank you for your consideration of this request, and your service to our Commonwealth.

Respectfully,



Delegate JJ Singh
House District 26



Senator Kannan Srinivasan
Senate District 32



Delegate Marty Martinez
House District 29