

Dear Editor:

With cries of alarm, "Save the Trail" absolutely rejects the recommendation of the "Modified D" route in the November 28, 2007 Supplemental Report of the SCC hearing examiner. His well-intentioned but misguided effort to protect the W&OD Trail does NOT save the Trail at all; in fact, this report's recommendation of "Modified D" is a route that makes the W&OD Trail the site for the 145 foot tall towers and 230 kv transmission lines. This route places transmission towers and power lines on the Trail between the town of Leesburg and Clarke's Gap. This route will chop down trees and put 145 foot towers in the backyards of families. This route was made up by the hearing examiner as the legal proceedings were in process – and it is not the preferred route of Dominion Virginia Power for many reasons clearly in the record.

Save the Trail calls on the 3 commissioners of the Virginia State Corporation Commission (who make the ultimate decision) to reject the 'Modified D' route. Our region spoke strongly and decisively with over 5000 signatures submitted to the SCC telling the Commission to protect the W&OD Trail. We implore the SCC to respect this natural resource and public park used by over 2 million people each year by selecting another route -- the E-7 route that the applicant in this proceeding, Dominion Virginia Power, proposed as it's preferred route. E-7 does NOT impact the W&OD Trail.

This has been a very costly and difficult fight for our entire community. It is not lost on any of the respondents in this case that there will be a loser in this battle once a final route is selected by the 3 SCC commissioners. However, we all lose if the "Modified D" route is selected by the SCC.

Sincerely,

Brin Luther, President  
Save the Trail, Inc.

[www.savethetrail.com](http://www.savethetrail.com)