

## Seeing a convenience

Unsuccessful in reaching my supervisor by telephone, I decided to write this letter regarding the power lines at Norris Bridge.

When I came into this world, my family did not have electricity. I stacked and brought in wood for heating and cooking every day. I went to bed at night burning up and woke up in the morning freezing. I read at night with a kerosene lamp.

The day we got electricity was one of the greatest days of my life. I was so proud of the poles and lines coming across our field. Everybody going up and down the highway (Route 360-Burgess) could see we had current.

In the year of 2000, my wife and I bought a piece of property on Ring Farm Road

to build on. Guess what? It has major power lines and poles on it. I do not see them as ugly or gross. I see them as a convenience that I would not or could not live without today.

I know everybody does not see everything in the same way. But, this is my story.

For that reason, I am against spending extra money for buried power lines. Someone wrote it will only cost a first class stamp a month to pay for it. We spend a stamp here, a stamp there, and on and on. Our country is in the red by trillions of dollars using this formula.

How is this going to be paid?

**Earl M. Haynie,  
White Stone**

According to the coalition spokesman, his group's expenses total over \$50,000 and "it is now time for Lancaster County to show" its support of the coalition's goals.

Nuts to that.

Based on what's appeared in the paper, the coalition is a group of private citizens with whom the county has had no contractual ties. Consequently, any expenses they've already incurred are theirs alone to pay.

If the county has any legal interests in the Dominion matter, then it already has the mechanism and resources to pursue them through the office of the county attorney.

If the county has any non-legal interests in the Dominion matter, e.g., it believes the proposed towers would be unattractive, then it already has the voices of its elected officials to make its views known.

Therefore, the county also shouldn't share any future coalition expenses.

Like any interest group, the coalition is free to solicit money from other citizens. My guess is that if the coalition's goals were more popular, it wouldn't be necessary to go begging for money from government.

If the coalition's request is approved, then people who are opposed or indifferent to its objectives would be forced to fund it through their taxes. Democratic? Yes. Fair? Absolutely not.

If the board of supervisors approves the coalition's request, I'd recommend that disgruntled citizens form a new coalition to oust the board and then submit its expenses for payment. I wonder if the board would pay that bill?

**Hank Hoover,  
White Stone**

## Coalition's legal fees not county's responsibility

Last week, the Record reported that the "Save the Rappahannock Coalition" requested "the county board of supervisors to help fund the coalition's legal battle" to challenge Dominion Power's proposal to construct high voltage transmission towers next to the Norris Bridge.