

CITIZENS FOR THE PRESERVATION OF MIDDLETOWN VALLEY

For immediate release
February 20, 2008

Local Governments Oppose Construction of Natural Gas Facility

Opposition to Middletown Valley Compressor Station Growing

Middletown, MD—A natural gas compression station proposed by Dominion Transmission Inc., a major utility company, has run into strong opposition from the Frederick Co., Maryland Board of County Commissioners and the Burgess and Commissioners of Middletown, Maryland. Both local government bodies recently came out against the construction of the proposed plant on 135 acres of agricultural and historic land in the Middletown Valley.

The boards of commissioners also filed formal opposition statements with the Secretary of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) voicing their objections to the placement of an industrial facility on a site located in the midst of Maryland's Rural Legacy Area and surrounded by historic properties such as Fox's Tavern, which dates to the late 1700s (see Links, below).

The natural gas compressor station, proposed by Dominion Transmission, Inc., requires formal approval by the FERC, which is now conducting an assessment of the environmental impact of the facility.

At a FERC sponsored February 6, 2008 hearing on the proposed facility, approximately 350 residents of Middletown Valley turned out to oppose Dominion's plans. There were no speakers at the hearing in favor of the facility. In addition, over 70 stakeholders have formally filed protests with the FERC, citing a host of environmental issues related to the construction and operation of the plant.

The CPMV urges that the facility be moved to an appropriate commercial site in the county. Dominion had not considered *any* alternate sites in Frederick Co. prior to its filing with the FERC for permission to build the proposed facility in Middletown Valley.

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Links:

Frederick County Board of County Commissioner response to the FERC:
<http://www.tellmetoday.com/dominion/20080219105619312.pdf>

The Burgess and Commissioners of Middletown, Maryland response to the FERC:
<http://www.middletown.md.us/>

About the CPMV: Citizens for the Preservation of Middletown Valley is a grass-roots citizen's action organization seeking responsible and appropriate land use in Maryland's agricultural and historic Middletown Valley.

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