



Holiday Island Fire Department

**251 Holiday Island Dr.
Holiday Island, Ar. 72631**

Arkansas Public Service Commission
PO Box 400
Little Rock, AR 72203-0400

Re: APSC Docket # 13-041-U, SWEPCO Proposed
Shipe Road – Kings River 345 kV Project

The Holiday Island Fire Department would like to express their opposition to the proposed Shipe Road-Kings River 345 vK transmission like project.

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2013 JUN 18 P 4: 03
SECRETARY OF STATE

ARKANSAS PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

It is our belief that if this proposed project becomes a reality, the impact to the Ozarks will be devastating. Our department has been involved with the National Firewise Program for 10 years, a program that encourages local solutions for wildfire safety by involving homeowners, community leaders, developers, firefighters and many others in efforts to reduce the risk for wildfires. If this project goes through, any steps that have been taken to reduce these risks will be wiped out because of the potential dangers that accompany such a project.

Access to much of the area here is limited and as a small volunteer department, our resources and man power are limited as well. A wild land fire that occurred during or after construction would easily deplete our resources along with those of the surrounding departments.

As important as the potential for fire danger is, just as important is the affect it will have on the people who live here. The "unspoiled" beauty and serenity is what attracts people to the Ozarks. Many who came here to vacation ended up staying because of the naturalness that surrounds them. If you allow trees to be replaced with 180' towers and electrical lines, you'll destroy all that has made this area what it is. Once that happens, tourism will decline, property values will fall and folks who rely on visitors will lose their businesses and many will be forced to leave.

The Holiday Island Fire Department strongly encourages the Commissioners of the Arkansas Public Service Commission to deny SWEPCO's application.

Sincerely,

Jack Deaton
Fire Chief