



## **Resolution expressing significant concern regarding the need for and impact of JCP&L's proposed Monmouth Reliability Project.**

The Jersey Central Power & Light Company (JCP&L) has recently announced plans for a 230,000Kv transmission line with 140 +/- foot high monopoles along the New Jersey Transit right-of-way running through the Township of Middletown generally known as the JCP&L Reliability Project.

As advocates for the benefit of Poricy Park in Middletown, New Jersey, the Poricy Park Conservancy Board of Trustees wishes to voice our deep concern regarding the proposed power lines that would run along the entire eastern border of our park.

We are a nature preserve, an education center, an environmental preserve and as the former home of a Revolutionary War Hero, a New Jersey Historic site. All of our facilities are within sight of and less than ¼ mile from the proposed poles and our Nature Center where elementary school children have classes is within 100 feet of the proposed poles.

Poricy Park's 250-acre open space was purchased with Green Acres funding. It features hiking trails, gardens, prehistoric fossil beds and a unique section of forest and marsh that supports a large variety of wildlife. We have two ponds. One is quite large. Its watershed runs underneath the nearby NJ transit railroad tracks and is a tributary of the Navesink River. Various species of fish and birds inhabit our large pond and we are the migration trail for many species of birds and butterflies. The pond is an educational resource for many school education programs as well. The sound waves, electronic magnetic waves and high frequency waves from the proposed power lines would adversely affect our migratory birds and all the wildlife that seek refuge in our preserve.

Poricy Park also includes a New Jersey Historic site, which was the home of Joseph Murray, a Patriot and Revolutionary War Hero who was murdered on the site because he was part of the colonial forces opposing the British during the Revolutionary War. His former home has been restored and is used to inform the public and school classes about our American history. In order to present an authentic site all power to the farmhouse is underground and hidden from view so that when visitors come they get a peaceful, authentic experience about what life was like during those times. An authentic garden and cornfield have been re-

created and are cared for by autistic young adults as they learn to become independent working adults. The proposed power lines would always be in full view of this site and destroy the whole experience and atmosphere. Classes come to the farmhouse all year and we open to the public to celebrate Weekend in Old Monmouth and have special events for our local citizens. The proposed power lines put all of these events in jeopardy.

Poricy Park offers varied experiences. We also hold Community events, some in our large parking lot adjacent to our Nature Center and within less than 100 feet from the proposed power lines. We have antique car shows, 5 K Runs, Lawn Sales, and Hullabalooos with the Recreation Department. We hold many joint ventures with the Middletown Recreation Department, which now runs our camps, fossil hunts, birthday parties, scouting events as well as public school education programs. We also have a Handicapped trail adjacent to the parking lot. Several other non-profit 501 c 3 organizations also meet at our Nature Center and in a close building called the Annex. The proposed power lines are putting in jeopardy a proposed Pavilion next to the Nature Center. The planned Pavilion is to be an outdoor classroom and stage for concerts and presentations for the benefit of the entire community. In addition, the trees that border the Park's eastern boundary are under the range of the tall monopoles and our old magnificent Oak Tree could be compromised.

Poricy Park Conservancy is a non-profit 501 c 3 organization dedicated to the preservation its natural and historic site for the use in education and enjoyment by present and future generations. Our purpose is to preserve and interpret woodlands, fields, river and marsh ecosystems, a bed of Cretaceous fossils, collections of natural objects, our restored historic site, our nature center and other facilities within the Park. We are also advocates to protect the eco-system.

Therefore, it is resolved that the Poricy Park Conservancy Board of Trustees formally expresses and states its opposition to JCP&L's Monmouth Reliability Project.

Poricy Park Conservancy encourages JCP&L to more fully consider less detrimental means to increase the reliability of its transmission lines.

Poricy Park Conservancy resolved that this resolution shall be sent to the Executive Director of New Jersey Transit, urging New Jersey Transit to not grant an easement to JCP&L for this project as proposed.

Poricy Park Conservancy resolved that a copy of this resolution should be sent to the Board of Public Utilities to preemptively register the Conservancy's opposition as an interested party in the event the JCP&L submits an application to the BPU.

Poricy Park Conservancy resolved that a copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to Assemblywoman Amy Handlin to encourage her to utilize her state

position to lobby New Jersey Transit to deny JCP&L's use of its right of way and to utilize her influence before the BPU in anticipation of an application being made.

Poricy Park Conservancy resolved that additional copies of this resolution should be sent to Congressman Chris Smith, Congressman Frank Pallone, Senator Joseph Kyrillos, Assemblyman Declan J. O'Scanlon Jr., the Monmouth County Freeholders, the Clerks of Middletown Township, Holmdel Township, Hazlet, Aberdeen, and the Borough of Red Bank for dissemination amongst their respective governing bodies.

Respectfully submitted,

Poricy Park Conservancy  
Board of Trustees

August 18, 2016

Seal of Poricy Park Conservancy