

One more time I would like to take the opportunity to let you know how opposed I am to Bipole III's west route. In lieu of all the storms currently taking place in North America, I once again like to speak about my concern with possible tornadoes nearby. We have an oil pump station half a mile from our place, a natural gasline running right beside the oil pipe line, and the proposed Bipole route is 200 meters from our house. We all know what oil, gas, and electricity combined can do in a storm. I would not feel safe.

I have been to many Bipole "open houses" put on by hydro, have spent countless hours at meetings etc, and still there is no clear answer as to why Bipole III ought to be built on the West side. We were always under the impression that Canada, and our province of Manitoba, was a free country, but the last several years it sure hasn't felt like it. Our cries for help have fallen on deaf ears, we have been ignored and ridiculed, and if the government has its way, we would be burdened with a massive power line that no-one wants so close to their farm or house. And to take it through the most densely populated rural area of the province is too absurd for words.

One presenter spoke about being "bullied," and I agree with him. Another presenter mentioned about Manitoba hydro and the CEC doing its job, and once it's over, move on to another job. For those of us who'd have to put up with these ugly, horrible towers on their property or close by, there is no moving on. Our home, and that of so many others and their farms and businesses, would be severely affected for generations. I just cannot fathom how one person can do this to another, when an East side is so readily available, having been prepared for the last twenty-plus years, with virtually no homes and farms affected. We may be simple "country bumpkins," but we do know right from wrong, and anyone who thinks this through, the change of plan as far as Bipole III's route is concerned, knows it screams "wrong" on every level.

America no longer wants our electricity. we as a province do not need another Bipole line at this point in time, Manitobans don't want an increase in their hydro bill, and the farmers and homeowners in this region will not allow Bipole III to be built on their land. Can you imagine the huge pricetag that would come with compensations and expropriations? There would be none of that on the East side.

Since the province appears to be so well endowed with money, as building the much longer Bipole west line doesn't seem to be too expensive for the government, (no-one buys the fable that Americans would pay for it through hydro export) I'd like to request a new long term care building for Carman. The curent one is falling apart and our seniors deserve better than that. That would be money well spent, and a win-win situation. Bipole III West route would be a lose-lose situation, and our fervent prayer is that you can help us put a stop to this.

Thank you very much for your time!

Helena Graafland West, municipality of Grey.

Attached: drawing of house and proposed Bipole line, the gas line, and the oil line and pump station.

