

To Whistler mayor and council,

I am writing to express our displeasure with the planned power line undergrounding in White Gold. There is a large drainage ditch on our side of the road and we also happen to have the overhead power lines on our side. According to the diagram in the plans sent to us, the excavation will essentially take place in the middle of our driveway, between the ditch and our house.

Although we can understand why some people don't want to look at power poles and lines, we strongly oppose this project mainly because of the disruption it will cause, for no benefit to us. The cost is certainly not justified and should not be imposed on White Gold residents who are not in favour. I really think that any argument that there are major benefits to homeowners other than aesthetics is disingenuous. Moreover the inconvenience of the project, that is the noise and the mess (which has been explained to us as projected to be much worse than the water main replacement) will not be shared equally. I am sensing that a good number of people who returned their petitions in favour are not full time residents but people who use their house part time as a recreational property. But I am sure you have heard all of these arguments before.

White Gold has a history of flooding. We have seen the underground streams at a construction project on our side of the street. We are concerned that the drainage systems in place between our house and the ditch will be disturbed and that there could be increased risk of flooding in our crawl space either during or following the construction. We are asking that, if the municipality cannot guarantee unequivocally that this will not happen, that arrangements be made for the excavation for the main power lines to take place under the road or on the opposite side of the street (or better yet, that the project be reconsidered entirely on the basis of this and other issues brought forward).

Thanks for listening. We look forward to your response to this last issue.

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