

# Mailbox

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## **Power Lines and Health**

Rose Liang  
Livermore

I am a resident of Livermore and I am writing to you about the article, "Big Crowd Opposes Power Line," published on the front page of yesterday's Independent.

The article described the concerns about the proposed TANC project from different aspects, such as environment and property value, however, it did not cover the one that I feel is the most important, the human health. Through my research, I found quite a few scientific reports indicating that there are two times higher chance for young children living under high power line zone to develop leukemia than those who live in normal area (attached please see one of the reports). My neighborhood is right next to the Holdener Park, so it is very close to the existing power lines. One of our neighbors has a three year old son with leukemia and their house is almost the closest to the power line, which seems coherent with those reports. The TANC project proposed to increase the voltage of the power lines to 500K. I am afraid that will bring bigger risk for the health of the little kids. I have a six year old daughter and definitely I don't want anything potentially can hurt her happens here. There are dozens of small kids in this neighborhood and I am sure all the parents have the same concern as me.

By looking into the proposed transmission power line map in southern Livermore area, I see two routes. One power line runs very close to the residential area and the other one is on the hill area further away from the houses. I think it will be great to combine the two line routes into one by removing the line next to the residential area, while still achieving the proposed power transmission goals. My point is that upgrading power transmission line is beneficial to the economy, but should not be with the cost of potential harm to people's health and environment.

Thanks for covering this power line issue in the newspaper. Please continue reporting on any updates and encouraging more people to express their comments to the related TANC project manager and supervisor.