## Some residents hope to zap Edison plan

Continued from Page 1

THE PROJECT would improve service reliability to Edison customers in Southfield, Farmington Hills and West Bloomietd, said Maurice Vermeulen, manager of Edison's Oxland Division.

"It won't prevent electric outges," he said, "but it will help us restore service quicker when outges do occur."

Vermeulen said he'd like to have the 33.2 million overhead, project "coergized" by the summer of 1991, by that time, he added, demand for power will be even greater in the suburbs.

power will be even greeness suburbs.
"If we don't get what we need by the peak summer (power) usage of '33... we might have to go into a rotating blackout system," the Edi-son official said.

son official sald.

At first Edison thought the lines could be strung along the southern edge of the busy 1.698 freeway, but the state Department of Transportation so no because of safety concerns.

ONE PERSON who isn't raving about Edison's plan is Dan Jakeson, president of the Orchard Ridge campus of OCC.

For one thing, he's worried about the hundreds of trees that would have to be cut down to make way for the wires. Also, the lines would cross-the nature trails on campus.

'I understand that Edison wants to make a profit, but you can't put a price on health. You know what they say: It may be safe now, but what about 15 vears down the road?"

> – Elaine Roberts Farmington Hills resident

"We tried to cooperate (with Edison), but when we saw the environmental damage... we said find an other plan." Said Jakeson.
Before the wires even reach OCC-Orchard Ridge, they'd have to cross Peliz-MDOT, a wooded, largely-undeveloped 70-acre piece of land south of 1-698 and west of Farming ton Road.
How — and if — Peliz-MDOT is developed has long been a concern for a group of Farmington Hills residents, who say they don't want the high voltage lines and poles on the property.

nign voltage lines and poles on the property.

"There hasn't been enough critical dialogue to see what's going on here," said Roy Lindhardt, a businessman who sits on the city's Pelty-MDDT Ad Hoc Committeee.
RESIDENTS along the route—especially in the subdivisions cast of

OCC Orchard Ridge — have spoken out on the plan. Many cite studies that show a higher incidence of cancer among people living near high voltage lines.

Many have sald they favor placing the lines underground, instead of overhead — although Edison's Vermeulen sald the underground route would hike the price 10 limes to 32 million. Who would pay the difference isn't clear.

Edialne Robers, who lives in the Kimberly subdivision near 11 Mite and Middlebelt, sald she wants the lines underground.

and Middlebelt, said she wants the lines underground.
"I understand that Edison wants to make a profit, but you can't put a price on health. You know what they say: It may be safe now, but what about 15 years down the road?" There has been a lot of talk about the lines in the Springland-LaMuera

sub where Harry Johnson lives.
"I'm not concerned about the health issue — ions in the air and all that — but I'm against it because they (the poles and wires) are so usighty," he sald. "Putting up high tension lines is too easy. They're all over the country. Edison should explore other options."

SAID ANOTHER Lahuera resident, who didn't want to be named, etc., who was a considerable to the consideration of t

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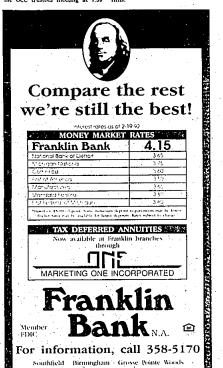
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ad in Thursday's Sub-Life Section

The lines issue will be discussed at the OCC trustees meeting at 7:30





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