



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

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www.co.frederick.md.us

April 2, 2009

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COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

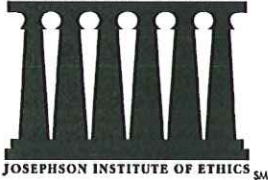
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Terry J. Romine, Executive Secretary
Office of the Executive Secretary
Maryland Public Service Commission
William Donald Schaefer Tower
6 St. Paul Street
Baltimore, MD 21202-6806

Re: Potomac-Appalachian Transmission Highline ("PATH") Project – Independent Study Request

Dear Ms. Romine:

On behalf of the Board of County Commissioners of Frederick County (Board), I am writing regarding the proposed PATH Allegheny Transmission Company's PATH Project that includes a new 765kV transmission line across southern Frederick County for approximately 50 miles. While the County Commissioners recognize the need and importance of this project and the fact that the decision to site this transmission line is within the jurisdiction of the Maryland Public Service Commission, we are concerned with the project's impact on our community and have an interest in mitigating these impacts to the extent reasonably possible.

The Frederick County Commissioners have heard numerous concerns from our residents about the PATH project. One of the Board's concerns is with the right of way required for the transmission line. We understand that an above ground 765 kV alternating current transmission line requires a right of way of approximately 200 feet. We have been told that a high voltage direct current (HVDC) underground transmission line would require only a 20-foot right of way, significantly reducing community impacts and increasing the alignment options.

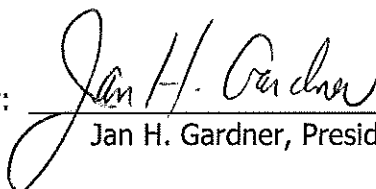
The County Commissioners believe it would be in the best interest of the community, Allegheny PATH, and the Maryland Public Service Commission for Chairman Nazarian and the PSC to request to PJM to commission an independent study to evaluate and consider the feasibility and benefits of alternative options, including utilizing high voltage direct current (HVDC) underground transmission lines. We believe it would be in everyone's best interest if this evaluation was made by an independent third party consultant, recognized as an expert in this technology.

Terry J. Romine
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Thank you for serious consideration of our request and your responsiveness to community concerns.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: 
Jan H. Gardner, President

JHG/lf

cc: Board of County Commissioners
Ronald A. Hart, County Manager
Barry Stanton, Assistant County Manager
Richard McCain, Assistant County Attorney
Eric Soter, Director, Division of Planning
Joyce Grossnickle, Administrative Officer, Office of the County Manager
W. Terry Boston, PJM Interconnection, LLC
Michael J. Hosier, Allegheny Energy, Inc.
Dave Kline, Manager, Local Affairs-Maryland, Allegheny Energy
Reading File