

STATE OF MARYLAND

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March 26, 2009

The Honorable Alex X. Mooney  
Maryland State Senator, Legislative District 3  
James Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street, Room 402  
Annapolis, MD 21401

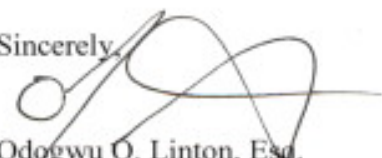
Dear Senator Mooney:

This is in response to your letter dated December 17, 2008 regarding the proposed "PATH" transmission line proposed by The Potomac Edison Company d/b/a Allegheny Power, which is proposed to run from Beddington, West Virginia to Kemptown Junction in Frederick County, Maryland. The purpose of your letter was to urge the Commission to examine the issue and to comment on the viability of using HVDC underground wires in the PATH project. The Commission appreciates your interest in the matter; however, we must reserve judgment on the matter until any proceeding is concluded.

A proceeding has not yet been initiated at the Commission to consider the PATH project, and will not be initiated until Allegheny Power files an application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("Application") with the Commission as required by § 7.207 of the Public Utility Companies Article, *Annotated Code of Maryland*.<sup>1</sup> Under this statute, a public hearing must be held to obtain public comment on the Application in each county and municipal corporation in which any portion of an overhead transmission line designed to carry a voltage of 69,000 volts (such as PATH) is proposed to be located. Once the Application is filed, your constituents will have the opportunity to either attend the public hearing to comment on the Application or file written comments for consideration by the Commission.

Thank you again for your inquiry. The Commission appreciates hearing from you about this important matter.

Sincerely,



Odogwu O. Linton, Esq.  
Director

<sup>1</sup> An application for a CPCN is expected in mid-April 2009.