



## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

Winchester Hall • 12 East Church Street • Frederick, Maryland 21701  
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[www.co.frederick.md.us](http://www.co.frederick.md.us)

January 7, 2009

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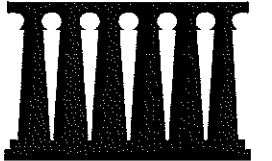
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Mr. Michael J. Hosier  
Allegheny Energy, Inc.  
General Manager, Transmission Projects  
800 Cabin Hill Drive  
Greensburg, PA 15601

### **Re: Potomac-Appalachian Transmission Highline ("PATH") Project**

Dear Mr. Hosier:

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 citizens 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.

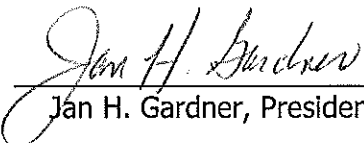
The County Commissioners believe it would be in the best interest of both the community and Allegheny PATH to evaluate and consider the feasibility and benefits of locating the PATH project underground as it crosses Maryland. We also believe it would be in everyone's best interest if this evaluation was made by an independent third party consultant, recognized as an expert in this technology. Completing this independent study prior to PATH Allegheny submitting its application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to the PSC for the PATH project would clearly evidence Allegheny PATH's stated goal of soliciting and considering public input and all feasible alternatives to the proposed line routes.

Mr. Michael J. Hosier  
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We appreciate your serious consideration of these requests and your responsiveness to community concerns. Please copy the Board with all PATH Allegheny and affiliated companies' responses to these requests.

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  
Dave Kline, Manager, Local Affairs-Maryland  
Reading File