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Sugarloaf Conservancy

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Maryland Public Service Commission Issues Order

On July 13, 2010, the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) issued Order No. 83469 in Case No. 9223 and found that Potomac Edison while holding only 5% interest in the PATH Project, is a proper applicant for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) to construct the PATH transmission line and substation. The PSC did reiterate that that [we will not consider the Company to have filed a complete Second Application “until such time as it files the evidence on which it relies to prove ‘the need for the project in meeting demands for service’”]. Previously PATH informed the PSC that they intended to file supplemental testimony on or about July 16, 2010.

Dominion Power & Northeast Transmission File Alternative Proposals to PATH with PJM

The two companies named above have submitted alternative proposals to the PATH Project with PJM, the regional authority who is responsible for identifying the need for more power to the grid. Both proposals have the advantage of being multi-part so that fixes can be phased in as needed rather than done in one large project such as PATH. One Dominion alternative would cost about a third of the cost of PATH and could be phased in over time as needed. A phased in approach would allow wind power to flourish whereas PATH would be detrimental to the development of renewable energy projects. This position is supported by the governors of eleven states. There has been no comment on either set of alternatives from PJM.

Sugarloaf Conservancy was formed to protect and enhance the quality of life in Frederick County by education on issues related to wetlands, streams, meadows, rivers, forests, view sheds, conservation, restoration, and preservation. Currently our focus is opposing the overhead PATH high voltage power lines. For more information, go to www.sugarloafconservancy.org or www.nomoretowers.org.