



March 19, 2009

Terry J. Romine
Executive Secretary
Maryland Public Service Commission
William Donald Schaefer Tower
6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Ms. Romine:

The following is sent to you per your instructions.

As you may be aware, Sugarloaf Conservancy has been calling on Allegheny Energy to conduct an independent study on the merits and costs of using HVDC underground technology in their soon to be filed, PATH project. Allegheny Energy has refused to conduct this study and has repeatedly suggested that other organizations would be more appropriate to conduct the study. According to an article in the Frederick News Post on March 17, 2009, Allegheny Energy official stated that the MPSC is the proper venue to review the merits and costs of HVDC underground and that you could "hire third-party experts" to conduct such a study.

It would be appreciated if you would respond as to the possibility of commissioning this type of study by hiring firms such as ABB for the equipment costs and Black & Veatch for the civil engineering or siting alternatives and costs. If the MPSC would be the entity to commission this type of study, please advise me as to the proper procedure for Sugarloaf Conservancy to make this request.

Thank you for your consideration,

Douglas S. Kaplan

President
Sugarloaf Conservancy
www.sugarloafconservancy.org
www.nomore towers.org