

**FrederickNewsPost.com****State rejects PATH application**

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The Maryland Public Service Commission turned down the application by Allegheny Power for its PATH project, which would run through southern Frederick County.

In a 3-to-1 vote, the commissioners said the utility company had filed for the application under its Potomac Edison name and PATH Allegheny Transmission Co.

The commissioners denied the application because Potomac Edison, which is only a legal entity and not a company with offices and personnel, would not be constructing or operating the system.

The commissioners said the application was not properly filed for the utility line and a proposed substation. The commission said the utility company has 30 days to file a notification of intent to refile for an application.

PATH -- Potomac Appalachian Transmission Highline -- is a nearly 300-mile high voltage electric power line beginning in West Virginia, crossing Virginia and about 20 miles of Maryland, ending in a proposed substation near Kemptown.

The project, a joint effort of Allegheny Power and American Electric Power, is estimated to cost \$1.8 billion. The company said the line is needed to provide power to the region.

Todd Meyers, manager of external communications, said the company was reviewing the ruling.

"We are determining the order, the stand of the PSC and our next step," Meyers said.

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