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# Robert Swarm

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Dear Delegates, Committee members and Committee co-chairs,

My family lives on Stoney Creek. We have enjoyed living here for the past 20 years and have paid the "waterfront" property taxes throughout this period. I testified at the June 2023 meeting with the MPA against the location of the proposed CAD test site. I was encouraged when Senator Simonaire introduced SB353 to get some factual answers to the potential hazardous, property devaluing, and quality of life impacts that may be associated with the proposed CAD test site at the mouth of our creek. I was distressed to hear that the committee did not take up the similar House Bill HB886 due to the modest cost of \$150,000- 175,000 to conduct the study. I implore the committee to seriously consider the Senate bill and vote to move it forward.

I will not go into the reasons I believe the proposed CAD site is the wrong place in the River/Bay in which to locate it. I believe you have heard all the reasons local residents, and their House delegates, and Senate representatives are against it. I will express my warning to the MPA, Anne Arundel County, and the State of Maryland as to the enormous cost that will be associated with a future class action suit to remediate the effects of and compensate the property owners effected by potential future contamination of the watershed and local population should this project go forth as proposed. These costs will be in the many millions, and possibly billions of dollars. The minor cost of SB353 seems like a no-brainer to the fiscally prudent. At worst case, for the MPA, it would lead to utilization of another CAD site further removed from residential populations incurring marginally higher costs, and in the best case, again for the MPA and the State of MD. would provide a basis for dismissal of future lawsuits should the study conclude there is would be no significant environmental harm.

Don't be penny wise and billions foolish. Move this bill forward and register in favor of it passing.



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