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Dear Chair(s),

Our sincerest apology as I just discovered how to provide testimony with only a few minutes before the 6pm deadline. But this is hugely important to our family and we'll do our best.

Testimony in Support of Bills:

SB0189 Eminent Domain – Agricultural and Conservation Easements – Prohibited Taking

HB0270 Data Center Impact Analysis and Report

HB0081 Real Property - Condemnation - Compensation for Farm and Agricultural Property (Protect Maryland Farm Lands Act)

All of these Bills are critical to our family in hopes our State Legislature can influence the PSC to halt the Maryland Piedmont Reliability Project (MPRP). Our home is on 60 acres in Mount Airy, MD (Frederick County), 18 of which is leased to farmers, 3 acres for our home and the rest is beautiful forest with hiking trails. The MPRP backhaul transmission lines will cut right through our property and will change our lives forever here if they are permitted through eminent domain. We strongly support passage of all of these bills to “pause” this process and invite dialogue...is this right for Maryland, for the many people who have invested their lives in this beautiful state?

I am a data center architect for the past 25+ years and have deployed some of the largest data centers from the initial (3) America OnLine (AOL) sites in Northern Virginia to many data centers around the world for the DoD. Marylanders should NOT have to pay the price for Virginia's lack of planning for data center alley. The big cloud providers are all recognizing that they need to collocate data centers with power sources, they are planning for small nuclear reactors and locating next to existing Nuclear facilities. Contrary to rumor, these are NOT great job creators, data centers are largely “lights out” with a small team needed to run them. We have processed vast data for decades now, in real-time for our armed services as well, what is happening is the hype to “AI” is driven purely by financial gain “the next big thing on Wall Street”. The next 10 years this will evolve as all technology does...but it is not a race!

Please...slow this process down and let's not overreact to PJM/PSEG and others who are trying to scare everyone into our critical power problems. Rest assured, this is NoVa's power problem not ours, but have they ever really planned well? There are so many other solutions to bring forward. Let's start planning for how to do this the right way. Once 70 miles of forest, farms, and residential homes and dreams like ours are imposed by 140 foot tall towers with a half a million volts of electricity ringing down them, there is no turning back. This will ruin Maryland and not just for those on the direct path, for our families, our kids futures.

15 years ago, we bought a corn field. We sited our home on the top of the hill at 232 degree's SW so we could see the beautiful mountains in Frederick between vast forests from our front porch. We fly our RC airplanes, hike with our pets, and have dreams of developing our land for our kids home and possibly a Wellness Center. My wife Nicole is the CNO in the University of Maryland Medical System and our dream is to continue to give back to the community that has afforded us such gratitude for our home and property. All of this is destroyed if these power lines go forward. Our amazing view of sunset is everything to us, but it will be transmission lines humming away with huge towers blocking our dreamscape. We graciously request any member to please come visit our home, our family, our wonderful property we have poured everything into and if you can at sunset you'll understand how important this issue is to so many proud Marylanders.

We need your support. Sleepless nights are the norm, but we must believe that our leaders will use Bills like these to help save so many families. Again, I apologize for only have a few minutes to write this. We would be honored to have any further testimony and our home is welcome to your visit.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey & Nicole Beeson