January 5, 2021

Maryland State Legislature – State Capitol
100 State Cir.
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 135 - Support for statutory changes defining and regulating Battery-Charged Security Fences as an Alarm System

Dear Senator,

On behalf of PENSKE, I am writing to affirm our support for statutory changes to clarify Battery-Charges Security Fences as alarm system statewide.

Penske Corporation is a diversified, on-highway, transportation services company whose subsidiaries operate in a variety of industry segments, including retail automotive, truck leasing, transportation logistics and professional motorsports. Penske Corporation manages businesses with consolidated revenues of more than $32 billion, operating in over 3,200 locations and employing more than 56,000 people worldwide, including many in the state of Maryland.

To this end, PENSKE utilizes Battery-Charged Security Fences at many of our facilities located in commercial, manufacturing, and industrial zones to protect our properties and fleet inventory. It has been our experience that this perimeter security system is the most effective at preventing criminal trespass and theft from our sites. In addition, these Battery-Charges Security Fencing systems are preferred given the ease of installation and operation, discreteness, and safety.

This clarity in statue is needed because the current lack of a clear regulatory structure has caused permitting to be inconsistent and inefficient, causing unreasonable delays or denials in permitting Battery-Charges Security Fencing. Collaboration with local governments is also key to ensuring that the communities in which we are installed be protected and have the tools necessary to maximize public safety and deter theft. It is essential that we be able to quickly secure our facilities so that we can protect our workers, run our business effectively, and service our customers and the People of Maryland efficiently.

We thank you for your consideration and respectfully request your support.

Sincerely,