

Support SB0037 for Transparency in Energy Decision-Making

Dear Senator,

I am writing as a constituent of Baltimore County Maryland to express my strong support for SB0037 and urge you to vote favorably on this important legislation. This bill addresses a critical need for transparency in the decision-making processes of Regional Transmission Organizations (RTOs) and their interactions with electric utilities.

Currently, utilities and their affiliates can participate in RTO meetings and vote on significant transmission-related projects with minimal public oversight. These decisions, which have profound impacts on energy costs and infrastructure development within our state, are often made behind closed doors, leaving state regulators, lawmakers, and the public uninformed and unable to effectively participate in the process.

SB0037 offers a crucial step towards greater transparency by shedding light on the involvement of electric companies in RTO meetings. By requiring greater disclosure of these interactions, this bill will empower stakeholders to better understand the factors influencing transmission project approvals and hold utilities accountable for their decisions. This increased transparency will foster a more informed and democratic process, ultimately benefiting all Maryland ratepayers.

I urge you to support SB0037 and help bring much-needed transparency to the crucial energy decisions that affect our communities. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Julie Frye

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