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Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 0953 -Construction and Expansion of Transmission Lines and Task Force to Develop a Realistic Electricity Plan for Maryland

**To:** Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

**From:** Krista L Hall

Dear Chair West, Vice-Chair Carroza and Members of the Energy and Environment Committee

My name is Krista Hall, and I am a resident of Middletown, Maryland. I am writing to express my support for SB953; Construction and Expansion of Transmission Lines and Task Force to Develop a Realistic Electricity Plan for Maryland and establishment of a task force to study environmental and realistic solutions and protections for Maryland's farmland from harmful environmental and other development projects.

As a Frederick County resident for over 40 years, I have seen firsthand the devastating impacts that poorly planned projects have on our land, personal and commercial, and our health and livelihood.

This does not affect my local community per se, other than to open the door for other projects of a similar nature to come in to impact my local community. I already have high tension power lines nearby that I believe affect the health of the residents living adjacent to them. In addition, one son and his family and property will be severely affected as well as the farmland that sits directly behind his property and adjacent to it. This affects farms growing crops to feed the farm animals, as well as a Gaver Tree farm in their immediate vicinity that grow trees and agriculture for the community.

I also think you need to locally look at the impact of land surrounding Ft Detrick in our County, as to huge increases in home building on that land with developers. Does no one ever think of the health of people living on the land with the toxic waste that has been buried there for many years without recourse. It was Federal land, but it has become local when real people live there.

As a counter argument to the above, I will acknowledge that Ft Detrick has established many acres of solar power fields, and to that end I feel we need to provide heat sources for our area. I vehemently oppose non-local companies blatantly taking our land to use to serve their electrical needs in localities other than Maryland. We must find our own infrastructure and increase our local Maryland production. You Chairman, Vice- Chair. and the committee, I pray, will work diligently to find our solutions for our state, without outside commercial enterprises that absolutely do not benefit us and take away our resources, both environmentally and our own chronic health issues in our country, county and state.

I respectfully urge you to support SB 930 Construction and Expansion of Transmission Lines and Task Force to Develop a Realistic Electricity Plan for Maryland, and to advocate for its passage to protect Maryland's farmland, heritage, and the good people's health and welfare.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please feel free to contact me at [kristahall17@gmail.com](mailto:kristahall17@gmail.com).

I appreciate your dedication to serving our community and look forward to seeing your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

  
Krista L Hall