

I strongly support SB955 for the following reasons:

First, Eminent domain MUST be avoided at all costs. This practice devastates families. Farm families land is rendered useless if transmission lines are constructed on it. The land doesn't recover from the disruptions caused by erecting the lines, building roads for erecting and maintaining the lines. Crops won't grow as successfully because of the diminished health of the soil. Livestock can be seriously and negatively impacted by these lines, and grazing pastures will not be as productive as they would be if they were not disturbed.

Second, In the case of MPRP, a corporation is attempting to use eminent domain to construct overhead transmission lines to save money and increase their profits. This is wrong. Simply wrong to cause economic and environmental devastation to Maryland citizens who vote and pay taxes to live in a wonderful state. Maryland MUST require companies like these to fund thorough research to find the best and most current technology to transmit electricity through our state.

Third, The State of Maryland MUST not allow itself to be played by corporations who threaten its citizens with blackouts if the MPRP transmission lines are not built. These lines are intended to transport power through our state to data centers in Virginia. They won't impact Maryland's electrical supply.

Respectfully submitted,

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