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Committee: Education, Energy, and the Environment

Testimony on: SB0952 “Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity – Overhead Transmission Lines – Grid Enhancing Technologies”

Position: Support

Hearing Date: March 6, 2025

Valleys Planning Council, a non-profit that conserves land and resources, preserves historic character and maintains the rural feel and land uses in northwestern Baltimore County, urges a favorable report on SB0952, which would require the Public Service Commission to consider the use of grid-enhancing technologies as an alternative to construction of a transmission line before taking final action on an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity.

The United States Department of Energy released a study in February 2022 (["Grid-Enhancing Technologies: A Case Study on Ratepayer Impact"](#)) that showed that grid-enhancing technologies (GETs) can save ratepayers money. Using dynamic line rating and power flow controllers optimize use of existing infrastructure, easing transmission congestion and allowing grid operators to route power through optimal paths. GETs are especially important when renewable energy sources are integrated into energy systems.

GETs increase grid reliability and resilience while alleviating grid congestion. Valleys Planning Council urges a favorable report on SB0952.

Renée Hamidi
Executive Director
Valleys Planning Council

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