

March 6, 2026

To: Honorable Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee

From: Derek Seibel, 2490 Barrister Dr., New Windsor, MD

Honorable Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee,

I am writing today in support of HB1534 Data Centers - Standards for Operation and Siting. As rising electricity rates, destructive and costly transmission projects, and noise pollution continue to impact the everyday life of Maryland Citizens, people have dramatically turned against data centers. The unfettered building of these data centers without thorough public scrutiny has already caused irreversible harm to the people of Maryland. Now that people are aware of the astronomic societal costs associated with data centers, and the nebulous “benefit” they supposedly bring, there will be significant public backlash to any announced data center development. The State must act wholistically to rein the impacts of data centers because the effects are not just felt within eyeshot of proposed data centers. Projects like the Maryland Piedmont Reliability Project aim to clearcut a line of destruction through three Maryland counties to power data centers that are not even in our state. The MPRP has turned thousands of Marylanders permanently against data centers and any public official who supports their construction. Maryland citizens do not want to sacrifice our real, human world for an artificial one that exists inside machines.

I respectfully urge this Committee to provide a favorable recommendation for HB1534 and to subsequently pass HB1534 to affirm that the state of Maryland still values the interests of her citizens.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input, for your time, and for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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