

January 30, 2026

The Honorable Marc Korman, Chairman
Environment and Transportation Committee
The Honorable Michele Guyton, Vice-Chairwoman
Environment and Transportation Committee
Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee
250 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: HB 40 Public Utilities - Transmission Lines - Advanced Transmission Technologies

Dear Chair Korman, Vice-Chair Guyton and Committee Members:

I respectfully submit this testimony in support of HB 40, *Public Utilities – Transmission Lines – Advanced Transmission Technologies*.

The proposed Maryland Piedmont Reliability Project (MPRP) transmission line, which would cut through Baltimore, Carroll, and Frederick Counties, has brought into sharp focus important questions about Maryland's current transmission-line approval process.

As Maryland moves toward developing new energy-generating sources, the siting of transmission lines will become an increasingly significant issue. We should demand the use of the most up-to-date transmission technologies, particularly given that projects of this scale allow only one opportunity to get it right. Environmental impact, alternatives to routes and other consideration as outlined by the bill should be carefully and thoroughly evaluated. I commend HB 40 for requiring applicants to consider these impacts as part of their internal planning process; however, I believe the bill would be further strengthened by requiring an economic analysis that accounts for lost revenue and reduced productivity of farmland or other income-producing properties affected by transmission lines.

HB 40 represents an important step toward ensuring that Maryland has a thoughtful, comprehensive, and forward-looking process for evaluating transmission line projects. For these reasons, I urge the committee to give HB 40 a favorable vote.

Sincerely,

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