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Testimony in Support of HB1210

To: Environment and Transportation Committee

From: Shawn Ryan

Dear Chair Tomlinson, and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee,

My name is Shawn Ryan and I am a resident of Cockeysville, Maryland. I am writing to express my support for HB1210 which requires utilities to send certified notice to affected landowners before applying for a transmission line CPCN.

I am currently in the process of searching for and purchasing a home and land in the Northern Baltimore County area that would be affected by the proposed MPRP transmission line. When I first saw the signs posted by residents in the region calling for action to stop the MPRP, I was deeply disappointed and saddened that something like this was in the process of transpiring. I have been traveling to the area for years for recreational purposes and made the decision to pursue property in the region after falling in love with the area.

A project like this has a devastating impact on landowners and it is certainly something that I must keep in mind and plan for the effects of if I were to go through with becoming a landowner in the region. There have been times when I have considered looking elsewhere and abandoning my plans due to the issues and property value implications of projects like this.

I am deeply supportive of legislation such as HB1210 which gives landowners clear notice to highly impactful development like transmission lines. Requiring utilities to send certified notice before they apply is a great step forward to ensure that citizens are given full transparency and preparedness for situations like this and keeps projects like this from happening under the noses of those affected. Additionally, I fully support legislation that would void applications where notice is not properly given so that everyone is held accountable.

I ask that you support HB1210 and to advocate for its passage to ensure that utilities are held accountable and landowners are given the transparency they deserve to maintain the integrity of their property rights and land use. I also fully believe that a bill like this would be a great step to ensure that Maryland's natural beauty is not put the wayside for massive projects without all of the proper surveying steps being taken.

Thank you for your attention and time on this matter. I am happy to answer any questions or provide additional information if requested. I can be contacted at the email and phone number provided in the header of this letter.

Best regards,

Shawn Ryan