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RE: House Bill 1244

Dear Delegate Rose and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:

I am writing in support of House Bill 1244. I am a concerned citizen of Carroll County impacted by the MPRP proposed transmission line and a Board Member of Stop MPRP, Inc, a not-for-profit organization educating impacted community members. I greatly appreciate the Committee addressing this issue. **You have an opportunity in this bill to help level the playing field for those you represent.**

The fact that a high voltage transmission line can be constructed within 300 feet of a residence is by itself a terrible violation of property rights. To then discover that the construction company is only required to reimburse the owner of the property for the 150 foot right of way easement is ridiculous when obviously the entire property, including the home has suffered devaluation. Additionally, any neighboring property where the home is within a short 300 foot distance from the edge of the right of way should be awarded for property value damage. To top it all off if the resident has a mortgage, the mortgage may be worth more than the remaining value of the house. This is an untenable situation that is completely one sided against the interest of the homeowner.

Many property owners with homes located less than 300 feet from the right of way are neither under the right of way or adjacent to it as defined by the construction company who set the definition at 275 feet from the center line of the right of way (see CPCN application testimony of Roger Trudeau, PJM Corporate Real Estate Manager). These homeowners outside the 275 feet adjacency definition will never be notified of the project by PSEG or be given any opportunity for reimbursement of their property value loss. Your Bill helps by providing citizens with homes within 300 feet of the right of way due process for recovery of lost value.

Thank you for your attention to these issues and moving forward toward passage of this important bill. Without it, construction companies are taking advantage of the rights of citizens defending their most valuable asset, their legacy for children and their estate used to fund retirement, senior care and credit to grow their business.

Most sincerely,  
Jenny Teeter