



**February 3, 2026**

**Environment & Transportation Committee**

**HB 40**

**Public Utilities – Transmission Lines – Advanced Transmission Technologies**

**Sponsor: Delegate Lorig Charkoudian**

**Katie Mettle**

**Policy Principal, Advanced Energy United**

**FAVORABLE**

Dear Chair Korman, Vice Chair Guyton, and esteemed members of the Environment & Transportation Committee:

Advanced Energy United is an industry association that represents companies operating in the clean and advanced energy spaces. “Advanced energy” broadly refers to technology that consists of or which is compatible with clean energy generation, and which makes our grid more affordable, efficient, reliable, resilient and/or secure.

HB 40 will require transmission owners to conduct an analysis on whether alternative routes or the deployment of advanced transmission technologies could be preferable to building an overhead transmission line. It also requires transmission owners to submit a report every four years to the Public Service Commission that will require transmission owners to anticipate future transmission needs and plan accordingly, including the requirement that if feasible, transmission owners create an advanced transmission technology implementation plan.

In general, incorporating advanced transmission technologies on the grid can be faster and more cost-effective than not. This bill has the potential to save ratepayers money in two major ways:

1. By encouraging additional transmission capacity to be added in the fastest, most cost-effective way possible, and
2. By allowing needed energy supply to enter Maryland as quickly and cost-effectively as possible, which will place downward pressure on wholesale energy prices.

We respectfully request the Committee issue a favorable report. Thank you for your time.

Best Regards,

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