



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

February 3, 2025

TO: The Honorable Marc Korman
Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee

FROM: Marc Elrich
County Executive

RE: House Bill 40 – *Public Utilities - Transmission Lines - Advanced Transmission Technologies*
Support

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 40, *Public Utilities - Transmission Lines - Advanced Transmission Technologies*, which requires that alternatives such as advanced transmission technologies (ATT) be considered before approval of new overhead transmission lines. Owners of overhead transmission must also report on grid congestion and use of ATT to help address these issues.

Transmission congestion contributes to growing energy costs for ratepayers in Montgomery County and Maryland writ large. The traditional solution of building new transmission lines is expensive and siting can significantly impact private and public landowners.

The use of technologies like advanced conductors can increase the capacity and efficiency of existing grid infrastructure. Requiring utilities to evaluate ATTs before new transmission is built will help ensure that Montgomery County residents and businesses have access to reliable electricity through the most cost-effective solutions available. This is common sense legislation that would address challenges of growing regional demand for energy while protecting ratepayers.

I respectfully request that the Environment and Transportation Committee give this bill a favorable report.

cc: Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee