Carroll County Board of Commissioners

Kenneth A. Kiler, President Joseph A. Vigliotti, Vice President Thomas S. Gordon III Michael R. Guerin Susan W. Krebs Carroll County's Delegation to the Maryland General Assembly District 5

Senator Justin Ready
Delegate Eric Bouchat
Delegate April Rose
Delegate Christopher Tomlinson **District 42**

Senator Christopher West Delegate Joshua Stonko

October 6, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump C/O James C. Braid White House Office of Legislative Affairs 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW Washington, District of Columbia 20500

Dear President Trump:

We hope this letter finds you well. We are writing to request your help regarding a powerline project that will negatively affect the citizens we represent. Carroll County's Delegation to the Maryland General Assembly (the Delegation) and the Carroll County Board of Commissioners (BoC) have been working together for over a year to stop the Maryland Piedmont Reliability Project (MPRP). MPRP is an electrical grid enhancement plan authorized by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and PJM, the regional electric grid operator serving Maryland. The Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG) has been contracted to install 70 miles of high-voltage overhead transmission lines running from Pennsylvania to Virgina, the majority of which are in Carroll County, Maryland.

Under the Biden Administration, FERC, PJM and the Department of Energy developed and approved this project without adequately consulting local jurisdictions and have single-handily taken away all local control, using lawsuits and threats of eminent domain against family farms and private property. These power lines will only benefit data centers in Virgina while our citizens shoulder the cost.

The Delegation and BoC acknowledge the need for enhanced electrical power but also maintain that property owner rights, local control, and land use and permitting authority should not have to be violated to do so. MPRP does not respect any of these concepts.

There are other options and a better path forward:

- Modernize existing electric infrastructure before building new corridors;
- **co-locate energy infrastructure** with existing road and rail rights-of-way and optimize existing transmission lines:
- invest in distributed energy systems and local reliability improvements;
- hold federal and state agencies accountable to local land-use decisions; and
- **allow for short-term energy generation for data centers,** including fossil fuel-based generation & small modular reactors to address immediate needs.

The State of Maryland is in the process of closing down all but one power plant and is touting the importance of developing renewable energy sources that are unrealistic and only driving up costs. While Governor Wes Moore has publicly denounced MPRP, his administration has not introduced any viable solutions nor taken any meaningful steps to assist our citizens to stop MPRP. Between failed energy policies and MPRP, Maryland and Carroll County are being forced down the wrong path.

We were ecstatic to see your administration weigh in on the battle between the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and the property owners of Cheatham County, TN over the location of a proposed power plant on 280 acres of rural land. After years of debate, the TVA decided this summer to seek another location once your Secretary of Agriculture weighed in. Carroll County landowners find themselves in a similar David vs. Goliath struggle where everyday farmers are fighting for their livelihoods against a multi-billion dollar publicly traded company (PSEG).

We respectfully implore you to exercise the full weight, influence and authority of your office to stop this unjust and unnecessary project in the best interests of the citizens of Carroll County and the State of Maryland. We are sincerely grateful and thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Respectfully,

Carroll County Board

of Commissioners

Kenneth A. Kiler

President

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Maryland Delegation, District 42

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Schalor Chris Wes

Delegate Joshua Stonko

cc:

The Honorable Sec. Brooke Rollins, Dept. of Agriculture

The Honorable Sec. Lee Zeldin, Dept. of Environ. Protection Agency

The Honorable Sec. Chris Wright, Dept. of Energy

The Honorable Senator Angela Alsobrooks

The Honorable Senator Chris Van Hollen

The Honorable Congressman Andy P. Harris

The Honorable Congressman John A. Olszewski, Jr

The Honorable Congresswoman Sarah K. Elfreth