

RESOLUTION No. _____

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania-New Jersey-Maryland Interconnection L.L.C. (PJM), has proposed a 500,000 volt transmission line stretching approximately 70 miles through Baltimore, Carroll, and Frederick counties, known as the Maryland Piedmont Reliability Project (MPRP); and

WHEREAS, PJM selected Public Service Energy Group, Inc. (PSEG), an electric utility based in New Jersey, as the public utility responsible for the planning, design, and construction of the MPRP, which will run from its Peach Bottom nuclear power plant in Pennsylvania, three miles north of the Maryland border along the Susquehanna River through large swaths of land in Baltimore, Carroll, and Frederick counties, and connect into the existing Doubs 500-kV substation in southern Frederick County; and

WHEREAS, the MPRP is largely driven by the electricity needs of proposed data centers in northern Virginia; and

WHEREAS, it is evident to the Board of Commissioners that the current proposed MPRP alignment will negatively impact natural, environmental, and heritage resources, local businesses in the hospitality and tourism sectors, historical sites, forested areas, and open space and conservation areas; and

WHEREAS, the proposed new 70 mile right of way will carve up farms, some of which are subject to county and state agricultural preservation easements, severely disrupt agricultural operations, devalue farm values, and may result in the loss of numerous small farms that form the backbone of the agricultural industry in Carroll County; and

WHEREAS, at the Joint Listening Session on the MPRP, held on August 22, 2024, and the Information Session held on November 13, 2024, residents of Carroll, Baltimore, Frederick, and

other impacted counties and Carroll County Farm Bureau representatives spoke eloquently and forcefully of their opposition to the MPRP and its potentially devastating impacts on their properties; and

WHEREAS, permitting an MPRP alignment that creates new rights of way across preserved agricultural and conservation lands is antithetical to the purpose of land preservation, namely to preserve productive farmland and woodland, including prime and productive soils; to protect agricultural lands and woodlands as open space; to protect wildlife and wildlife habitats; to support a sustainable land base for natural resource industries; to protect the local waterways that lead to the Chesapeake Bay; to maintain agrarian viewsheds; to provide outdoor recreation opportunities; and to protect historic farms and buildings; and

WHEREAS, in solidarity with the many concerned residents of Baltimore and Frederick Counties that will be impacted by the MPRP, the Commissioners desire to express their unequivocal support for these residents and its opposition to the MPRP as currently proposed, and advocates for short-and-medium-term solutions that Maryland's elected leaders could take to better serve both the State's residents and its energy needs; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CARROLL COUNTY, that the Commissioners strongly oppose the MPRP due to its potential to harm Carroll County farms, wetlands, streams, homes, and residents, as well as those of neighboring counties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Commissioners encourage the Public Service Commission to reject the MPRP and deny any application for approval for the MPRP; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Commissioners urge the Maryland Public Service Commission to uphold and protect the property rights of landowners and farmers pursuant to the Constitution of the United States, the Maryland Constitution, and the laws of this state, and deny

the use of eminent domain for the MPRP project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution shall be sent to: the Governor of the State of Maryland; Carroll County’s Delegation to the Maryland General Assembly; the Maryland Public Service Commission; the Maryland Office of People’s Counsel; Baltimore and Frederick County Governments; and Maryland’s Congressional and US Senate Delegation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect from the date of its passage by the Commissioners.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CARROLL

COUNTY, MARYLAND this _____ day of _____, 2024.

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF CARROLL COUNTY, MARYLAND,
a body corporate and politic of the
State of Maryland

ATTEST:

Vivian Daly, County Clerk

_____(SEAL)
Kenneth A. Kiler, President

_____(SEAL)
Joseph A. Vigliotti, Vice-President

_____(SEAL)
Thomas S. Gordon, III, Commissioner

_____(SEAL)
Michael R. Guerin, Commissioner

_____(SEAL)

Edward C. Rothstein, Commissioner

Approved for legal sufficiency:

Timothy C. Burke
County Attorney