

September 27, 2024

Dear Maryland Leaders:

I am writing to provide an update on the Maryland Piedmont Reliability Project (MPRP) and information on next steps in moving this project forward. We know there has been significant public interest along with many questions so we would like to clarify some important points.

As you are aware, the MPRP is the first of several transmission line projects across Maryland that aim to bolster the reliability of the state's power grid. The lines are part of a plan developed by PJM, the independent Regional Transmission Organization. PJM has indicated that the project is necessary in order to ensure reliability for Maryland's electricity consumers. Additionally, it should alleviate congestion to support affordability in Maryland.¹

The driving force behind this project is reliability. As PJM has clearly stated, there will be rolling brown-outs and blackouts if this project is not placed in service by June of 2027.

Reliability is just one benefit of the MPRP.

Based on information from Energy Information Agency, Maryland ratepayers already pay significantly more than their regional counterparts for power. Maryland is a net-importer of electricity, and, according to PJM, the amount of power used will continue to grow in the coming years. PJM has stated that two factors - increased load and the fact that there is currently very little additional proposed generation in this area - has led to Maryland having the most congested market in the PJM territory. PJM specifically indicated that, "the congestion charge, ultimately is passed along to consumers, raising their bills."¹

Over the summer, PSEG held numerous public meetings in-person and virtually to share information about the project and its potential routes. We received and processed over 5,300 public comments shared during those meetings.

We wanted to keep you up to date on our schedule for this fall.

- We will announce a preferred route in mid-October – the route will include changes and adjustments in response to the public comments.
- Following that announcement, we will host another round of public meetings and other engagement opportunities to be as transparent as possible with residents who own property on or near the selected route.

¹ <https://www.pjm.com/-/media/about-pjm/newsroom/fact-sheets/ftf-fact-sheet.ashx#:~:text=If%20there%20is%20no%20congestion,be%20higher%20in%20those%20areas>

- Those affected residents will also receive letters advising how they can contact us to set up a time to meet to answer their questions and discuss next steps.
- After the public information sessions, the next step in the process is finalizing our Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity application, which we intend to submit to the Public Service Commission by the end of 2024. The project is expected to be online by June 2027.

Throughout the project, we will continue to work with you and your constituents to minimize impacts on residents and our environment. In addition, we anticipate minimal impacts on any farming operations, which are generally compatible with transmission lines. We will continue to stay engaged with you as this process moves forward. I am happy to find time to meet and answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Jason Kalwa

Jason Kalwa

Project Director