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Sugarloaf Conservancy

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Regional Authority Agrees with Sugarloaf Conservancy No need for PATH

In a press release today, PJM, the regional transmission authority stated, "The Board has decided to hold the PATH project in abeyance..." They further said, "the Board further directs the sponsoring transmission owners to suspend current development efforts on the PATH project..."

This action proves that Sugarloaf Conservancy position that there was not a need for the PATH transmission line was correct and that the only driving force was the guarantee from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) of a 14.3% profit.

Attached please find the Applicant's Notice of Withdrawal of its Application, filed today in the above-referenced matter. It is due to the efforts of citizens in all three affected states that this unnecessary line will not be built. Without the citizen opposition, the PATH project would already be under construction and PMJ would have not run the tests that have proved the absence of need!

Sugarloaf Conservancy asks the PSC to review its approval process so that others do not have to spend over 2 ½ years fighting an unneeded transmission line. As Governor O'Malley has requested, they should look at the broader picture for Maryland's future energy needs including renewables like the Atlantic Wind Connection and the possibilities of local power generation.

Sugarloaf Conservancy also calls on PJM to explore the rebuilding of existing lines (similar to the approved rebuilding of the Mount Storm to Doubs line) in the future, which would result in increase power capacity without requiring the confiscating of personal property through the use of Eminent Domain.

Sugarloaf Conservancy thanks everyone who supported our efforts to defeat PATH.

Sugarloaf Conservancy was formed to protect and enhance the quality of life in Frederick County by education on issues related to wetlands, streams, meadows, rivers, forests, view sheds, conservation, restoration, and preservation. Currently our focus is opposing the overhead PATH high voltage power lines. For more information, go to www.sugarloafconservancy.org or www.nomoretowers.org.