

**PENNSYLVANIA  
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
Harrisburg, PA 17120**

Public Meeting held March 26, 2026

Commissioners Present:

Stephen M. DeFrank, Chairman  
Kimberly Barrow, Vice Chair  
Kathryn L. Zerfuss  
John F. Coleman, Jr.  
Ralph V. Yanora

Letter of Notification of Mid-Atlantic Interstate  
Transmission, LLC for approval of the Hilltop –  
Krayn – Rachel Hill 115 kV Transmission Line  
Switch Replacement Project in Richland  
Township, Cambria County, Pennsylvania

Docket Number:  
A-2025-3058575

**ORDER**

**BY THE COMMISSION:**

On November 14, 2025, Mid-Atlantic Interstate Transmission, LLC (MAIT), Utility Code 1117780, filed a Letter of Notification pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 57.72(d)(1)(i) and (vi) of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission’s (Commission) transmission line siting regulation. For the reasons expressed in this Order, the Letter of Notification is approved.

Copies of the Letter of Notification were served in accordance with Section 57.72(d)(3) and 57.74(b) & (c), 52 Pa. Code §§ 57.72(d)(3), 57.74(b) & (c). No protests were filed. No hearings were held.

MAIT requests approval of the Hilltop – Krayn – Rachel Hill 115 kV Transmission Line Switch Replacement Project in Richland Township, Cambria County, Pennsylvania. MAIT submits that the subject switch is located on existing structure #2 and will be replaced with a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) switch. MAIT also submits that the subject project area extends approximately 0.2 miles in length from existing transmission structure #1 to proposed transmission structure #3A. Application ¶¶13 and MAIT Data Request Response Nos. 6 & 11.

MAIT states that the existing air switch on structure #2 on the Hilltop – Krayn – Rachel Hill line is an obsolete design and nearing its end of life and needs to be replaced. MAIT also states that transmission air switches have an anticipated service life of approximately 30 years without maintenance and that the previous two attempts at performing maintenance failed. Additionally, MAIT states that maintenance was unsuccessful because repair parts and vendor support are no longer available. MAIT further states that maintenance performed on the switch in 2023 found damaged and corroded contact pads that could not be replaced and that temporary restoration efforts enabled return to service in a degraded condition. Finally, MAIT states that the switch manufacturer was absorbed by another vendor that does not support legacy equipment which reduces the viability of any future maintenance attempts. Application ¶¶10 & 13 and MAIT Data Request Response No. 1.

MAIT submits that to address this issue it will replace the existing 1200 ampere switch with a new SCADA operated 2000 ampere switch. MAIT also submits that SCADA switches offer significant advantages over traditional air switches, primarily due to their

enhanced remote control, monitoring, and automation capabilities. MAIT further submits that SCADA systems allow for real-time data collection and analysis, enabling remote monitoring of multiple devices, troubleshooting problems, and controlling equipment from anywhere. Finally, MAIT submits that the existing poles will be replaced due to their condition and to avoid clearance violations. Application ¶¶10, 12-13, & 20 and MAIT Data Request Response No. 8.

MAIT states that replacing the switch on the Hilltop – Krayn – Rachel Hill line will include replacing two existing transmission structures and installing one additional structure. MAIT also states that the existing conductors will be transferred to the new structures and that approximately 200 feet of new 636 kcmil 24/7 “Rook” aluminum conductor steel reinforced (ACSR) conductor will be installed to splice new Structure #2 into the existing line. Additionally, MAIT states that the existing structures to be removed are approximately 70 feet in height and the new structures will range from approximately 64 feet in height to approximately 84 feet in height. MAIT further states that the subject project has been designed and will be built entirely within the existing right-of-way and that the right-of-way is approximately 100 feet in width. Application ¶¶14 & 16-18.

MAIT asserts that the subject project will be designed, constructed, operated and maintained in a manner that meets or surpasses all applicable FirstEnergy and National Electrical Safety Code minimum standards and all applicable legal requirements. Application ¶21.

MAIT states that the total estimated cost for the Hilltop – Krayn – Rachel Hill relocation project is approximately \$748,600 and will be paid for by MAIT. MAIT also states that construction of the project is anticipated to commence in April 2026, with a proposed in-service date of May 2026. Application, pages 1-2 and MAIT Data Request Response Nos. 9 & 10.

Section 57.72 authorizes the abbreviated Letter of Notification siting application process in lieu of an application for the following:

- (i) An HV line which is proposed to be located entirely on an existing transmission line right-of-way, so long as the size, character, design, or configuration of the proposed HV line does not substantially alter the right-of-way.
- (ii) An HV line which is proposed to be located entirely within a public road.
- (iii) An HV line which is proposed to be located entirely within applicant's existing transmission line right-of-way and the property of the sole customer to be served by the line, so long as the size, character, design, or configuration of the proposed HV line does not substantially alter the right-of-way.
- (iv) A line for which the voltage is proposed to be increased above its present levels so long as the size, character, design, or configuration of the proposed HV line does not substantially alter the right-of-way.
- (v) An HV line which is to be recondotored or reconstructed so long as the size, character, design or configuration of the proposed HV line does not substantially alter the right-of-way.
- (vi) An HV line having a proposed route of 2 miles or less.

52 Pa. Code § 57.72(d).

We agree with MAIT that the formal MAIT Letter of Notification and manner in which it was filed conforms to the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 57.72(d)(1)(i) and (vi) because the Hilltop – Krayn – Rachel Hill project will be constructed in such a manner that it does not substantially alter the existing right-of-way and because the subject project will be constructed over an area which is less than 2 miles in length. Moreover, the Commission has reviewed the filing and does not find it to be inconsistent with the applicable law or Commission policy regarding transmission line siting and, therefore, to be in the public interest.

We also note that our approval of the Letter of Notification does not address the issues of accounting treatment, and cost recovery; **THEREFORE,**

**IT IS ORDERED:**

1. That the Letter of Notification of Mid-Atlantic Interstate Transmission, LLC for approval of the Hilltop – Krayn – Rachel Hill 115 kV Transmission Line Switch Replacement Project in Richland Township, Cambria County, Pennsylvania, is hereby approved.
2. That upon completion of the subject project, Mid-Atlantic Interstate Transmission, LLC shall file the final project cost with the Commission.

3. That upon completion of Ordering Paragraph 2, this proceeding at Docket No. A-2025-3058575 be closed.

**BY THE COMMISSION,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew L. Homsher". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Matthew L. Homsher  
Secretary

ORDER ADOPTED: March 26, 2026

ORDER ENTERED: March 26, 2026