

PROTEST

BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Application of NextEra Energy Transmission :
MidAtlantic, Inc., filed pursuant to 52 Pa. Code :
Chapter 57 Subchapter G, for approval to site : Docket No. A-2026-3060856
and construct a 500 kV transmission line :
associated with the MidAtlantic Resiliency Link :
Project located in portions of Greene County :
and Fayette County, Pennsylvania :

Application of NextEra Energy Transmission :
MidAtlantic, Inc., for All of the Necessary :
Authority, Approvals, and Certificates of Public : Docket No. A-2026-3060921
Convenience (1) to Begin to Furnish and Supply :
Electric Transmission Service in Greene County :
and Fayette County, Pennsylvania; (2) for :
Certain Affiliated Interest Agreements; and (3) :
for any Other Approvals Necessary to Complete :
the Contemplated Transactions :

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Before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission), pursuant to 52 Pa. Code Sections 5.71 through 5.74, [*Print Name of Protestant*] Linda Maust-Jacobs hereby files this Protestant in the above-captioned Application(s). In support thereof, [*Print Name of Protestant*] Linda Maust-Jacobs states as follows:

1. **Name and contact information of the Protestant.** [*Provide name and address of Protestant.*]

Linda Maust-Jacobs, 510 Braddock RD, Markleysburg, PA 15459

2. **Name and contact information of Protestant’s attorney.** [*Provide names and addresses of Protestant’s attorneys. If none, clearly state “No attorney representation.”*]

No attorney representation at this time

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Per **52 Pa. Code § 5.52(a)(1)**, I am writing as a rate payer and land owner near the MARL project filed routes to formally outline a list of reasons why the MARL applications should not be approved by the PA PUC. Specifically, the following points highlight why this project is not in the best interest of Pennsylvania (PA), PA's ratepayers, and myself in accordance with **the grounds of the Protest. 52 Pa. Code § 5.52(a)(2) and the facts establishing the Protestant's standing to protest the Applications. 52 Pa. Code § 5.52(a)(3).**

I. Introduction

I submit this filing to formally object to the proposed Mid-Atlantic Resiliency Link (MARL) transmission project and to object to NextEra Energy Transmission MidAtlantic, Inc. obtaining any utility authority in Pennsylvania since NextEra will not be providing transmission service or any customer service to Pennsylvanian rate payers. The PJM documentation since 2022 indicates that the plan is to funnel power from states west of PA, thru PA, to states southeast of PA. That is not transmission service to PA ratepayers, but a undue burden and injustice to the PA ratepayers and property owners. Based on the evidence available, the MARL line is **not use or useful to Pennsylvania ratepayers, is not the least-cost solution**, and would impose **unjust and unreasonable burdens** on Pennsylvania residents in violation of the Public Utility Code and the principles of 18 CFR 35.

II. MARL Is Not the Least-Cost or Most Effective Solution

PJM has not demonstrated that MARL is the least-cost option for the ratepayers. Adding or restarting reliable generation near the load need—or siting load where generation already exists—is significantly more cost-effective than constructing a new 500 kV line. As PJM's documentation has stated, this is a multi-state project to supply power to data centers in other states. The least cost solution for the majority of the PJM rate payers is to build generation near the load need since generation is a more cost-effective option than this MARL project, or any transmission project.

III. MARL Provides No Long-Term Benefit to Pennsylvania

The project does not serve a Pennsylvania reliability need, nor does it include new PA substations. The fact of the matter is that there is no need for this MARL line in PA. Instead, the line would pull power from western states through Ohio and deliver it to data centers in Virginia, bypassing Pennsylvania entirely.

This deprives SWPA of long-term economic opportunities while harming regions that rely on tourism, hunting, and farming.

IV. Economic and Aesthetic Harm to PA Communities

MARL would initiate a wave of large-scale transmission expansion across rural Pennsylvania, degrading viewsheds and reducing tourism revenue without providing meaningful or longterm local employment. The project imposes permanent land and economic burdens without corresponding benefits.

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V. Reliability Claims Have Been Misrepresented

NEXtEra's public messaging has overstated PA's reliability risk. The actual reliability concerns stem from:

- PJM-approved generator retirements
- Other states' energy policies
- Load growth in Virginia's data-center corridor

NextEra's messaging amounted to unethical partial truths and scare tactics to the general public. NextEra's message during the open houses and in press releases was that MARL was needed for our area's power reliability when in fact, MARL could even increase PA's risk of load shedding to support Virginia due to the creation of a new transmission "highway", without any exits to help Pennsylvania.

VI. Energy Will Flow Out of PA, Not Into PA

By physics and system topology, MARL will move power **from PA and western states toward Virginia**, not the reverse. Specifically, *MARL cannot flow power from MARL's eastern proposed point in Virginia, west to PA*. These increases in congestion and market costs are negatively impacting PA ratepayers and will continue until generation is required to balance the transmission system within the smaller PJM zones.

VII. Higher Energy Losses and Increased Customer Costs

Long-distance transmission increases line losses, and those costs are allocated to ratepayers. PJM has not demonstrated that MARL minimizes losses or meets least-cost planning standards.

VIII. Unfair Cost Allocation

PJM's cost allocation methodology imposes unjust and unreasonable charges on Pennsylvania ratepayers, contrary to 18 CFR 35 and the PJM tariff. PA customers would pay for:

- Construction
- Maintenance
- Congestion
- Energy losses over distance

while receiving little or no benefit. If cost allocations are regulatory required by PJM zone, then why isn't the reliability, resource adequacy, and reserve margin being managed by PJM zone?

IX. Significant Harm to Landowners

The project would "island" homes and properties, reducing property values and creating unsafe and undesirable living condition and significant negative property and home values. Although it

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sounds noble to save the home, one must ask, *"Would you want a 500 kV line on both sides of your home?"*

X. Lack of State Alignment and Insufficient Stakeholder Engagement

The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate learned of MARL late in the process, and many affected landowners—including myself—never received the required notifications. This violates basic principles of transparency and public participation.

XI. Environmentally Inferior to Available Alternatives

MARL requires clear-cutting forests and disturbing habitat. More sustainable alternatives exist, including:

- Bring-Your-Own-Generator (BYOG) models
- Geothermal and waste-heat recovery systems
- Sodium Nuclear package reactors
- Upgrading existing rights-of-way with Direct Current (DC) underground technology

Specifically, BYOG or installing sodium nuclear package reactors could eliminate the need for long transmission lines entirely.

XII. Congestion Costs and PJM's Market Failures

Rising PA electric bills and frequent PJM emergency actions indicate systemic issues tied to generator retirements and data-center growth. MARL does not address these root causes. Virginia gaining reliable generation tied to the existing grid does.

XIII. Premature Generator Retirements

PJM approved generator closures without ensuring reliable replacement generation near existing transmission assets, worsening congestion and reliability issues in the very areas MARL is intended to serve by adding MARLS costs to construct, maintain, and operate.

XIV. Lack of Transparency in Project Documentation

MARL documents were difficult to access, and library availability was limited. Many residents only learned of the project in 2025 despite PJM documentation dating back to 2022. Personally speaking, I am a fifth-generation property owner within feet of the proposed route and I never received the second postcard.

XV. MARL Is Inefficient Infrastructure and an Unreasonable Burden

"MARL will essentially be an expensive 'extension cord'" moving power across PA without benefiting PA. Costs have already escalated from \$400 million to \$1.2 billion before filing with the PUC, indicating substantial risk of further cost increases.

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The real issue is a **generation shortage**, not a transmission shortage.

XVI. Conclusion

For the reasons above, the MARL project fails to meet the standards of Pennsylvania's:

- **Use and usefulness**
- **Least-cost planning**
- **Just and reasonable rates**
- **Public interest**

I submit this Statement of Position to formally object to the proposed Mid-Atlantic Resiliency Link (MARL) transmission project and to oppose granting NextEra Energy Transmission MidAtlantic, Inc. any utility authority in Pennsylvania. My position is based solely on my personal views, my direct experience as a potentially affected landowner, and the documented impacts this project would impose on Pennsylvania ratepayers and property owners.

PJM documentation dating back to 2022 demonstrates that the MARL project is designed to move power from states west of Pennsylvania, through Pennsylvania, to states southeast of Pennsylvania. This configuration does not provide transmission service to Pennsylvania ratepayers. Instead, it places an undue burden on Pennsylvania communities while delivering the benefits to other states. Such an arrangement fails the fundamental requirement that utility infrastructure be "use and useful" to the ratepayers who are expected to bear its costs.

The MARL project is not the least-cost solution to the regional needs PJM has identified. More cost-effective and practical alternatives exist, including siting generation near the load need, restarting or adding reliable generation where transmission assets already exist, and pursuing customer-sited solutions for large new loads. These approaches would avoid the long-distance energy losses, congestion costs, and escalating construction expenses associated with MARL. The project's cost estimate has already increased from \$400 million to \$1.2 billion before reaching the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, indicating substantial financial risk to Pennsylvania ratepayers.

The project also imposes significant and unreasonable burdens on Pennsylvania landowners. MARL would cross private properties, potentially "islanding" homes and diminishing property values while offering no corresponding benefit to the affected residents. As someone whose property may be directly impacted, I am deeply concerned about the physical, financial, and quality-of-life consequences this project would create.

Based on the evidence available, the MARL project is **not use or useful, not the least-cost solution**, and would impose **unjust and unreasonable burdens** on Pennsylvania ratepayers in violation of the Public Utility Code and the principles of 18 CFR 35. For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission deny approval of the MARL project and require PJM to pursue alternatives that provide genuine, cost-effective, and equitable benefits to Pennsylvania ratepayers. Thank you for your time.

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Service on Protestant

For the purposes of receiving communications from the Commission and from the parties to this proceeding regarding the protest, if the protest is granted, [*Print Name of Protestant*] Linda Maust-Jacobs agrees to (*check one*):

- Open and use a Commission eFiling account and receive eService
- Receive all documents by email at: [email] lindamaustjacobs@gmail.com

** Protestor acknowledges documents cannot be filed via email.

- Receive all documents by First Class Mail at the above-listed address

Verification and Signature

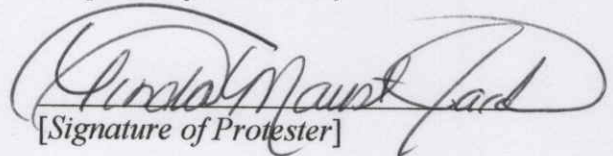
Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code Section 1.36, I, [*Print Name of Protestant*] Linda Maust-Jacobs hereby state that the facts above set forth are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. §4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).


Signature

5/1/2026
Date

Signature and Date

Respectfully submitted,


[Signature of Protestor]

Linda Maust-Jacobs
[Print Name of Protestor]

May 1, 2026

Dated: [*Insert Month Day, Year*]

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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I hereby certify that I have this day filed electronically on the Commission's electronic filing system and served a true copy of the foregoing Protest upon parties of record in this proceeding in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant), in the manner and upon the persons listed below.

Dated: *[Insert Month Day, Year]* May 5, 2026

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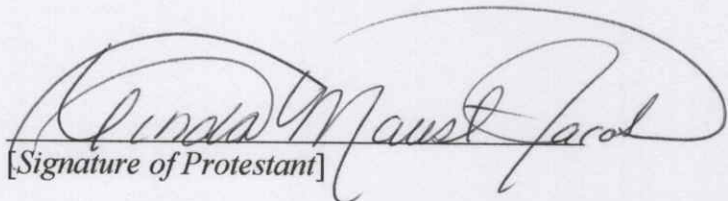
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[Signature of Protestant]

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[Printed Name of Protestant]