

October 14, 2026

Re: Grid Modernization and Potential Redevelopment of Deactivated Energy Sites – Cromby Generating Station

Docket No. M-2026-3059601

Dear Commissioners:

As a resident of East Pikeland Township, I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the preliminary Phase 1 report of the Pennsylvania Accelerated Transmission and Energy Redevelopment Study.

I recognize the importance of maintaining a reliable electric grid and meeting Pennsylvania's growing energy needs. However, energy infrastructure planning must prioritize the long-term interests of Pennsylvania's residents, not solely the needs of large industrial users or the interests of private developers.

I respectfully urge the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission and the agencies involved in the study to consider the following priorities as the study progresses:

1. Protect residential ratepayers. Any proposed transmission upgrades or energy redevelopment should include a transparent assessment of who will bear the costs. Residential customers should not be left paying for infrastructure investments that primarily benefit large commercial or industrial energy users. The study should clearly evaluate potential impacts on household electricity bills and identify ways to protect consumers from unnecessary cost increases.
2. Prioritize existing infrastructure and previously developed sites. Redeveloping former power generation and industrial sites may offer opportunities to meet energy needs while limiting additional land disturbance. I encourage decision makers to prioritize suitable previously developed properties and existing infrastructure before considering projects that could consume underdeveloped land or negatively affect established communities.
3. Require meaningful environmental review. Potential projects should be evaluated for the impacts on air and water quality, wildlife, noise, traffic, and surrounding neighborhoods.
4. Ensure transparency and meaningful public participation. Residents should be able to understand which sites are being considered, why they were selected, what potential impacts may result, and how decisions are being made. Communities potentially impacted by future projects should receive timely notice and meaningful opportunities to participate before major decisions are finalized.
5. Balance economic development with residents' quality of life. PA's energy strategy should support economic growth without placing an unreasonable burden on those of us who are existing residents. Grid reliability, affordability, environmental protection, and community well-being should be treated as complementary priorities rather than competing interests.

I respectfully request that the Commission incorporate these considerations into its evaluation of the preliminary report and any subsequent recommendations. I also encourage the Commission to make future findings, cost assumptions, site-selection criteria, and opportunities for public input readily accessible to us residents.

As the Board of Supervisors mentioned in their public comment, the Cromby site and its surrounding lands exist within a growing residential community and within landscape that contains valuable open space, natural resources, recreational opportunities and wildlife habitats. I am one of many local residents that frequently utilize this specific area to spend time outdoors.

Thank you for considering my comments and for ensuring that the long-term development of PA's energy infrastructure serves public interest.

Respectfully,

Charmaine Cullen  
East Pikeland Township Resident