## HOUSE OF DELEGATES WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

In the end, the MARL and Valley Link projects are about supplying electricity to Virginia—a state that refuses to generate enough power for its own needs yet has no qualms about exploiting West Virginia's land and people to make up the difference. They're happy to scar our mountains and rip off our communities just to keep their lights on. I say, "Not on my watch."

I strongly urge the Public Service Commission to reject the MARL and Valley Link projects <u>as currently proposed</u>. I believe neither of these projects' will significantly benefit West Virginians, and their objectives can be achieved without unfairly burdening our citizenry and landowners. If necessary, developers should consider abandoning these projects entirely.

Should the projects be abandoned, FERC Commissioner Christie's remarks in FERC Docket No. ER24-472-000 highlight a critical issue: "The CWIP (Construction Work in Progress) Incentive effectively makes consumers the bank for transmission developers, and the Abandoned Plant Incentive makes them the insurer of last resort." I support his call for FERC to reassess transmission developer incentives to protect ratepayers.

Frederick "Rick" Hillenbrand

Delegate, West Virginia House of Delegates District 88 – Hampshire and Mineral Counties

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