



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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Harpers Ferry National Historical Park
Appalachian National Scenic Trail
Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park
Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail &
Monongahela National Forest News Release

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NPS Regional Directors Grant PATH Allegheny Transmission Company a Suspension of the Federal Review of its Application for a Right-of-Way access and Construction Permit

Harpers Ferry, WV – The National Park Service (NPS) has granted the request from PATH Allegheny Transmission Company to suspend processing of their permit application for right-of-way and transmission line construction across federal lands in Maryland, West Virginia, and Virginia. The NPS is the lead agency on the application review, with the U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers identified as cooperating agencies.

PJM Interconnection, the Regional Transmission Organization governing the affected electricity grid, produced the 2011 Regional Transmission Expansion Plan forecast, in which construction of the Potomac Appalachian Transmission Highline (PATH) was judged unnecessary for electric system reliability under the current electrical demand models. PJM later recommended to PATH Allegheny Transmission Company that it place the PATH project in abeyance while remaining ready to restart at a later date pending further analysis by PJM. In response to a March 17, 2011 request from PATH Allegheny Transmission Company, the NPS agreed to suspend the permitting process until no later than December 31, 2011. All public comments will be retained, and will be considered should the process be re-started. If the process is re-started, the federal agencies will announce a revised schedule detailing opportunities for public input.

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