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Susan J. Riley Interim President and CEO 610-666-2231

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## Via email

Hon. Doug Matriano Senator – PA 33<sup>rd</sup> Senate Box 203033 Harrisburg, PA 17120

Hon. Rob Kauffman Representative – PA 89<sup>th</sup> P.O. Box 202089 Harrisburg, PA 17120

Mr. L. Michael Mitchell President, Franklin County Area Development Corp. 1900 Wayne Road Chambersburg, PA 17202

Hon. David Keller, Chairman Hon. Robert Thomas Hon. Robert Ziobrowski Franklin County Commissioners 340 North Second Street Chambersburg, PA 17201

Ms. Janet Pollard Executive Director, Franklin County Visitors Bureau 15 South Main Street, Chambersburg, PA 17201 Mr. Stephen Christian President, Chambersburg Chamber of Commerce 100 Lincoln Hwy # A, Chambersburg, PA 17201

Ms. Patrice Nitterhouse Vice President, Penn National Golf Course Community 3720 Clubhouse, Drive Fayetteville, PA 17222

Dr. Leah Nitterhouse 2479 Newcomer Road Chambersburg, PA 17202

Ms. Melodie Anderson-Smith Ms. Karen Benedict Ms. Eileen Houshka Mr. Larry Houshka Mr. Joel Mower Ms. Linda Mower Ms. Lori Rui

Ms. Jackie Mowen Executive Director, Greater Waynesboro Chamber of Commerce 118 Walnut St #111, Waynesboro, PA 17268

RE: Response to your letter dated December 9, 2019

To Whom it May Concern:

Thank you for your letters regarding the Independence Energy Connection West market efficiency transmission project. PJM appreciates your concerns and respects the collective implications this project has on both the residents of Franklin County and the larger region.

We recognize that PJM's Independent Market Monitor does not support the very concept of market efficiency transmission projects. However, PJM is obligated to implement its governing documents and tariffs that have been approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. As part of its tariff obligations to maintain and plan the grid, PJM is required to evaluate economic congestion on the system and identifies solutions to mitigate that congestion. In this case, the Independence Energy Connection project had been selected to relieve congestion so that electricity can continue to be delivered economically to consumers in the region.

Once a project is selected, PJM defers to the role and authority of the states related to siting for the project. The project developer has the responsibility to select the route, obtain siting approval from state agencies, obtain right-of-way and easements from property owners, and construct and operate the line.

PJM has testified in both Pennsylvania and Maryland and is working collaboratively with the two states to clarify the need for these facilities. This process will continue into 2020.

Again, PJM appreciates your concerns, and I hope this correspondence sheds some light on PJM's role in the Independence Energy Connection West project.

Sincerely,

/s/ Susan J. Riley

Susan J. Riley Interim President and CEO

cc: Franklin County Area Development Corp. Board of Directors