



101 Commerce Drive
Exton, Pennsylvania 19341

Tel: (610) 363-9525
www.westwhiteland.org

May 28, 2025

Via Email and First-Class Mail

The Honorable Kristine C. Howard
167th Legislative District
PO Box 202167
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2167

The Honorable Carolyn T. Comitta
457 Main Capitol
Senate Box 203019
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3019

**RE: Opposition to House Bill No. 502
New Large-Scale Electric Generating Facilities**

Dear Senator Comitta and Representative Howard,

We write to express our strong opposition to House Bill (HB) No. 502 which proposes the establishment of the Reliable Energy Siting and Electric Transition (RESET) Board. If enacted, this legislation would significantly limit or eliminate the authority of local governments to regulate land use and zoning within their communities.

As the elected officials representing West Whiteland Township, we oppose this proposal legislation which would strip local governments of the powers granted by the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) and instead transfer decision-making authority to an appointed body in Harrisburg. This removal of local authority would disenfranchise our residents from their rights to express voices being heard with respect to what is built in their own communities and have potentially dangerous consequences.

Land use decisions are best made at the local level, where officials like us have firsthand knowledge of infrastructure limitations, environmental priorities, historic preservation needs, and long-term planning goals. We rely on comprehensive plans, zoning ordinances, and public input to ensure responsible growth that protects both our quality of life and the natural environment.

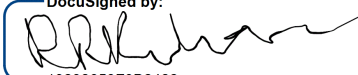
By way of example, an energy developer approached both West Whiteland Township and our neighbors in East Whiteland Township with a proposal to construct an energy production (hydrogen) facility. Both municipalities denied the plans as the use was not suitable for the property or surroundings and was not consistent with the wants and needs of our residents. Under the proposed legislation, such community decisions could be overruled by individuals who have no knowledge of our local conditions or planning framework, and it would be harder for our residents to make their voices heard and have their concerns addressed.

The proposed legislation's vague language is also of particular concern. It lacks meaningful restrictions and omits key guidance on issues like building height, noise levels, open space protection, and environmental impacts. This opens the door to unchecked development—potentially even on preserved land and/or near residential neighborhoods.

We urge you to reject HB 502 and stand in support of local control of large-scale electric generating facilities. The MPC correctly ensures that our communities are shaped with local input, and we should not forego that right and give that authority to Harrisburg.

We appreciate your consideration of this important matter. We welcome the opportunity to discuss this issue further and encourage you to vote in opposition to this bill.

Respectfully,
West Whiteland Township
Board of Supervisors

DocuSigned by:

19292659F9B2422...
Rajesh Kumbhardare
Chair

Signed by:

AA3DF642210A4DB...
Brian Dunn
Vice-Chair

Signed by:

1187002E838042E...
Jo Ann Kelton
Supervisor