



Jolene Ivey
Council Member
District 5

November 14, 2023

Ms. Danielle Spendiff, Regulatory and Customer Service Division Chief
Wetlands and Waterways Protection Program
Water and Science Administration
Maryland Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Boulevard, Suite 430
Baltimore, Maryland 21230

Re: Water Quality Certification Application for B-W Rapid Rail's Maglev project

Dear Ms. Spendiff,

I am writing to express my opposition to the Maryland Department of the Environment granting a Water Quality Certification approval for a Tier II antidegradation water quality permit for the proposed Maglev project. I represent several of the jurisdictions and communities that would be immediately impacted and would have to live with the long-term consequences. Because the environmental standards cannot be met, the additional justifications do not adequately address the social justice and economic aspects on already burdened communities.

There is a need for reliable, fast, and affordable public transit between Baltimore and Washington, D.C., but this project is not a cost-effective, socially justified, or environmentally sound way to achieve that. Better options are available.

Building the project would not bring economic, employment, or social benefits that would outweigh the damage, and would not be wise public policy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Council Member Jolene Ivey
Prince George's County Council
District 5