## **HOUSE BILL 890**

C5 1lr2681

By: Delegate D.E. Davis

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2021

Assigned to: Economic Matters

## A BILL ENTITLED

1	AN ACT concerning
2 3	Natural Gas – Strategic Infrastructure Development and Enhancement – Surcharge and Plans
4	FOR the purpose of altering the maximum monthly surcharge that may be assessed on
5	certain natural gas customers for certain infrastructure replacement projects under
6	certain plans approved by the Public Service Commission under the Strategic
7	Infrastructure Development and Enhancement Program; providing for the inclusion
8	of certain project costs in certain gas company base rates during a multiyear rate
9	plan; providing for the continuation of a certain surcharge for certain costs not
10	included in certain base rates; and generally relating to natural gas and
11	infrastructure development and enhancement.
12	BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
13	Article – Public Utilities
14	Section $4-210(d)(1)$
15	Annotated Code of Maryland
16	(2020 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)
17	BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
18	Article – Public Utilities
19	Section 4–210(d)(4) and (g)
20	Annotated Code of Maryland
21	(2020 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)
22	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
23	That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
24	Article - Public Utilities

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

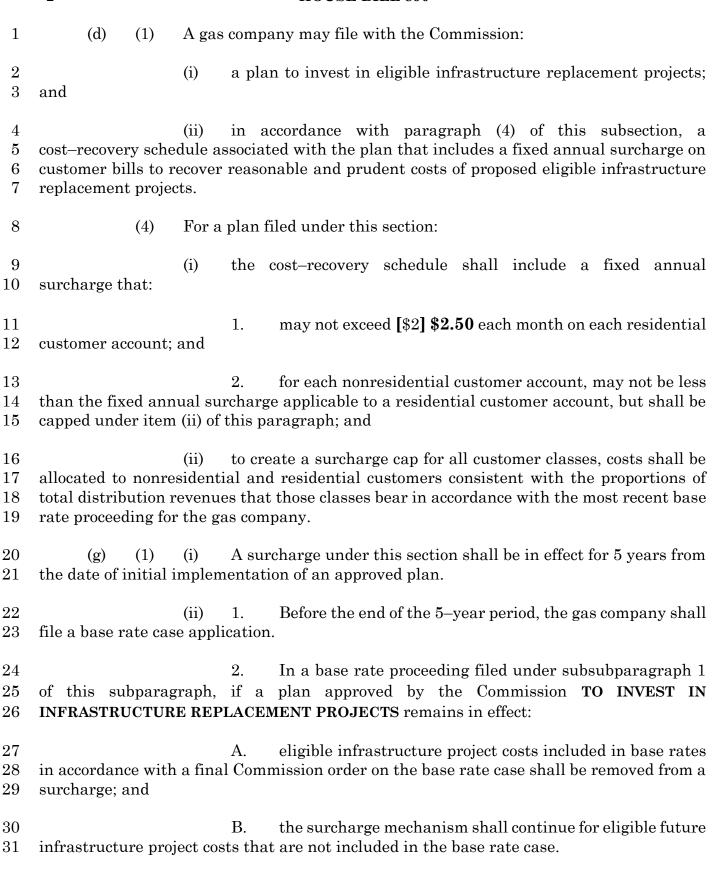
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4-210.



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(III) DURING A MULTIYEAR RATE PLAN APPROVED BY THE

COMMISSION, IF A PLAN APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION TO INVEST IN

## 1 INFRASTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT PROJECTS REMAINS IN EFFECT:

- 1. EACH TIME DURING A MULTIYEAR RATE PLAN THAT A
  3 GAS COMPANY'S BASE RATES ARE ADJUSTED, ELIGIBLE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT
  4 COSTS COLLECTED PREVIOUSLY UNDER A SURCHARGE UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL
  5 BE INCLUDED IN BASE RATES: AND
- 2. THE SURCHARGE SHALL CONTINUE FOR ELIGIBLE FUTURE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT COSTS THAT ARE NOT INCLUDED IN BASE RATES.
- 9 (2) (i) If the actual cost of a plan is less than the amount collected under 10 a surcharge, the gas company shall refund to customers the difference on customer bills, 11 including interest.
- 12 (ii) If the actual cost of a plan is more than the amount collected 13 under the surcharge and the Commission determines that the higher costs were reasonably 14 and prudently incurred, the Commission shall authorize the gas company to increase the 15 surcharge to recover the difference, subject to the rate limit under subsection (d)(4) of this 16 section.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2021.