

March 5, 2020

Written Testimony of Jason Owens representing Synthetic
Materials, a resident contractor at the GenOn coal facilities
Morgantown, Chalk Point and Dickerson in opposition to
HB 1545

Hello, I represent Synthetic Materials LLC, a coal combustion byproduct marketing and production company that manages production and sale of synthetic Gypsum produced at these plants for use in the production of building products along with operation of the 3 GenOn Flue Gas Desulfurization wastewater treatment facilities in Maryland.

Not only will this bill affect the hundreds of union employees at these Maryland coal facilities but also hundreds of on-site contractors at these facilities and hundreds of vendors around the region as well. Yet again we are attempting to shut these facilities down through legislation instead of letting the market determine our life cycle even though reduced operating percentages from these plants make them an even more attractive option to keep in service as we search for new forms of energy. These plants being taken offline will affect your constituents all over the state not just economically but will also cause hardship during extreme weather and periods of high demand. It is with this we urge for an unfavorable report on this bill.

Thank you