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Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee

Testimony in SUPPORT Senate Bill 955

Federal Clean Water Act – Authority of State

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

The Delmarva Fisheries Association (DFA) endorses the written testimony of the Clean Chesapeake Coalition regarding Senate Bill 955, particularly in terms of gaining leverage for the State of Maryland and in recognition of the context in which the proposed Settlement Agreement between the State and Exelon Corporation was compelled. There is no dispute that the loss of trapping capacity behind Conowingo Dam is causing adverse environmental impacts downstream on flora and fauna in the Maryland portion of Chesapeake Bay, which hurts the seafood industry and harms local economies.

We urge all committee members to watch the Emmy Award winning documentary video “The Conowingo Factor”, which summarizes the Dam’s history and the water quality issues posed by both the Dam and sediment, nutrients and debris coming down the Susquehanna River, and the impact on commercial fisheries.

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LvK86Ripmc4&feature=youtu.be>)

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