



**The Maryland Department of the Environment
Secretary Serena McIlwain**

Senate Bill 425

Environment - Coal Combustion By-Products - Fees, Coordinating Committee, and Regulations

Position: Support
Committee: Environment and Transportation
Date: March 26, 2025
From: Leslie Gray, Government Relations Officer

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) **SUPPORTS** SB 425 as amended.

Bill Summary

Senate Bill 425 would alter the factors that the Department is required to consider in establishing the fee to be deposited in the Coal Combustion By-Products (CCB) Fund to include the volume of certain CCB that have been disposed of and remain in landfills or other storage units in the state as a source of the fee. These facilities are subject to routine inspection and monitoring. The Fund is used to administer and implement the management of CCB in the State. The bill also establishes the Statewide Coal Combustion By-Products Coordinating Committee. On or before October 1, 2026, and each October 1 thereafter, the Statewide Coal Combustion By-Products Coordinating Committee must report its findings during the immediately preceding calendar year to the Senate Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment and the House Environment and Transportation Committee.

Position Rationale

The existing fee structure is based solely on CCB generation, ensuring the costs of CCB management are paid by the companies who generated them. Because power plants no longer use coal as a fuel source, MDE estimates CCB generation in CY24 is below the existing fee structure and no revenue will be collected for FY26 without the addition of a storage fee. This bill would temporarily prevent a significant funding shortfall and enable MDE to continue to inspect and monitor sites where CCBs are landfilled or in other storage units in the state. Additionally, the bill would allow MDE to continue to perform currently funded CCB related activities such as the review of engineering and operational plans, monitoring data and generation of the CCB Report to the Legislature.

Accordingly, MDE asks for a **FAVORABLE** report for SB 425.