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BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202

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Honorable Chair Korman and members of the House Environment and Transportation committee,

I write to you in support of **House Bill 1532 – Continuing the Next Generation Energy Act** and amendments being offered by Speaker Peña-Melnyk.

Every day I hear from my constituents that they simply cannot afford their high Baltimore Gas and Electric (BGE) bills. And the research backs this up – low-income Baltimoreans, in particular, bear among the [highest energy cost burdens in the United States](#).

HB1532 would provide critical new safeguards to BGE ratepayers. But Baltimoreans also need substantial relief from further rate increases, and that is why I also strongly support amending the bill to end the use of future and hybrid test years in proceedings before the Public Service Commission.

Existing rate constructs are enabling unaffordable bills and excessive profits for BGE and its parent company, Exelon, which [openly attributes](#) its record profits in part to multi-year rate plans (MYP).

I note that the PSC [initiated](#) a “Lessons Learned” proceeding in August 2024 in which it was to determine the future of MYPs. All filings were due to the PSC by December 2024. More than a year later, however, the PSC still has not issued a decision, and the future of MYPs is in limbo.

On February 19, 2026, BGE [asked](#) the PSC to extend its current rates beyond this calendar year so it could delay its application for a new multi-year rate plan. BGE stated that absent approval of this request, it would submit an application for a new MYP by March 7, 2026.

Absent action from the PSC, and with the likelihood of an imminent BGE rate proceeding before the PSC, it is incumbent upon the General Assembly to act decisively in the interest of ratepayers and end the use of future and hybrid test years, which drive excessive capital spending in MYPs.

I urge the committee to report favorably on this bill as amended. Please contact my office with any further questions.

Sincerely,

Zeke Cohen, Baltimore City Council President