

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 103 (Delegate Rosso, *et al.*)  
Environmental Matters

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Electricity - Power Plant Modification - Approval

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This bill alters the scope of modifications to a power plant that require prior approval from the Public Service Commission (PSC) by including any changes that directly involve the use of anhydrous or aqueous ammonia.

The bill also provides that a *person* may not commence a modification to a power plant without the prior approval of the PSC.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** The bill's changes could be handled by the PSC and the Department of the Environment with existing budgeted resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** Modification means a physical alteration of, replacement of, or other changes to the facilities at a power plant. Modification also includes any changes in the fuel used by the plant that could result in a change of the air emissions from the plant or from the generating unit of the plant.

An *electric company* may not commence a modification of a power plant without the prior approval of the PSC.

A modification does not include a change that would result in ambient air quality levels less than or equal to the levels that were the basis for the issuance of the prior certificate of public convenience and necessity.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Public Service Commission, Department of the Environment (Air and Radiation Management Administration), Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader – March 1, 2001  
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