

SENATE BILL 702

M3, C5

2lr2264

By: **Senators Pipkin and Colburn**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2012

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Utilities – Susquehanna River – Dam Floodgates**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring that the Public Service Commission order all owners of
4 dams located on the Susquehanna River to keep the dam's floodgates open at all
5 times; and generally relating to dams on the Susquehanna River.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
7 Article – Public Utilities
8 Section 2–113
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

11 BY adding to
12 Article – Public Utilities
13 Section 5–107
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
17 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – Public Utilities**

19 2–113.

20 (a) (1) The Commission shall:

21 (i) supervise and regulate the public service companies subject
22 to the jurisdiction of the Commission to:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 1. ensure their operation in the interest of the public;
2 and

3 2. promote adequate, economical, and efficient delivery
4 of utility services in the State without unjust discrimination; and

5 (ii) enforce compliance with the requirements of law by public
6 service companies, including requirements with respect to financial condition,
7 capitalization, franchises, plant, manner of operation, rates, and service.

8 (2) In supervising and regulating public service companies, the
9 Commission shall consider the public safety, the economy of the State, the
10 conservation of natural resources, and the preservation of environmental quality.

11 (b) The powers and duties listed in this title do not limit the scope of the
12 general powers and duties of the Commission provided for by this division.

13 **5-107.**

14 **THE COMMISSION SHALL ORDER ALL OWNERS OF DAMS LOCATED ON THE**
15 **SUSQUEHANNA RIVER TO KEEP THE DAM'S FLOODGATES OPEN AT ALL TIMES.**

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
17 October 1, 2012.