

HOUSE BILL 1217

C5, M5

5lr3041
CF SB 950

By: **Delegates Buckel, Griffith, Hornberger, Mangione, Miller, Pippy, Reilly, and Tomlinson**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2025

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Gas Generating Facilities – Authorization**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the construction, permitting, and operation of natural gas
4 generating facilities in the State until the State meets a certain percentage of its
5 energy needs from renewable energy resources; requiring the Maryland Energy
6 Administration to work with the owners and operators of natural gas generating
7 facilities in the State to decrease the production of energy from natural gas after the
8 State meets a certain percentage of its energy needs from renewable energy
9 resources; and generally relating to natural gas generating facilities.

10 BY adding to
11 Article – Public Utilities
12 Section 7–218
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Public Utilities**

18 **7–218.**

19 **(A) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, AND SUBJECT TO**
20 **SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (C) OF THIS SECTION, NATURAL GAS GENERATING FACILITIES**
21 **MAY BE CONSTRUCTED, PERMITTED, AND OPERATED IN THE STATE UNTIL THE**
22 **STATE MEETS 50% OF ITS ENERGY NEEDS FROM RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES,**
23 **INCLUDING NUCLEAR ENERGY.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(B) A PERSON CONSTRUCTING A NATURAL GAS GENERATING FACILITY**
2 **UNDER THIS SECTION MUST OBTAIN:**

3 **(1) A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY UNDER**
4 **§ 7-207 OF THIS SUBTITLE; OR**

5 **(2) COMMISSION APPROVAL UNDER § 7-207.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

6 **(C) ONCE THE STATE MEETS 50% OF ITS ENERGY NEEDS FROM RENEWABLE**
7 **ENERGY RESOURCES, INCLUDING NUCLEAR ENERGY, THE MARYLAND ENERGY**
8 **ADMINISTRATION SHALL WORK WITH THE OWNERS AND OPERATORS OF NATURAL**
9 **GAS GENERATING FACILITIES IN THE STATE TO DECREASE THE PRODUCTION OF**
10 **ENERGY FROM NATURAL GAS GENERATING FACILITIES AT THE SAME RATE AS**
11 **ENERGY PRODUCED FROM RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES, INCLUDING NUCLEAR**
12 **ENERGY, IS INCREASED.**

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 October 1, 2025.