

SENATE BILL 584

C5

6lr2589
CF 6lr2590

By: **Senators Jennings, Salling, and Ready**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2026

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and Transmission Lines –**
3 **Notice to Landowners**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring a person applying for a certificate of public convenience and
5 necessity for the construction of any transmission line to provide certain notices to
6 certain landowners regarding the construction; establishing that failure to provide a
7 certain notice invalidates a certain hearing and, under certain circumstances, voids
8 an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity; and generally
9 relating to the construction of transmission lines and applications for certificates of
10 public convenience and necessity.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
12 Article – Public Utilities
13 Section 3–106
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
17 Article – Public Utilities
18 Section 7–204
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

23 **Article – Public Utilities**

24 3–106.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(a) If a person timely files, the person may apply to intervene in a proceeding before the Commission.

(b) The Commission shall grant leave to intervene unless the Commission concludes that:

(1) the parties to the proceeding adequately represent the interest of the person seeking to intervene; or

(2) the issues that the person seeks to raise are irrelevant or immaterial.

(c) (1) An intervenor has all the rights of a party to a proceeding.

(2) In a proceeding before the Commission, an individual who is an intervenor may represent himself or herself.

7-204.

(a) **IN THIS SECTION, "CONSTRUCTION" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 7-207 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

(B) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, at least 30 days before a hearing, a public service company shall provide to each owner of land and each owner of adjacent land, by certified mail, written notice of intent to run a line or similar transmission device over, on, or under the land.

(2) AT THE SAME TIME A PERSON APPLIES FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF ANY TRANSMISSION LINE UNDER § 7-207 OR § 7-208 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE PERSON SHALL PROVIDE, BY CERTIFIED MAIL, NOTICE OF INTENT TO RUN A LINE OR SIMILAR TRANSMISSION DEVICE OVER, ON, OR UNDER THE LAND TO:

(I) EACH OWNER OF LAND THAT ABUTS THE PROPERTY WHERE THE CONSTRUCTION IS PLANNED; AND

(II) FOR CONSTRUCTION OF AN OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION LINE, EACH OWNER OF LAND AND EACH OWNER OF ADJACENT LAND.

(3) NOTICE PROVIDED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL ADVISE THE RECIPIENT OF ANY APPLICABLE RIGHT TO FILE AS AN INTERVENOR IN THE PROCEEDING IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 3-106 OF THIS ARTICLE.

[(2)] (C) The public service company shall determine the property owners from the current tax assessment records of the political subdivision in which the property is located.

1 [(b) Unless the failure is willful or deliberate, the failure of a public service
2 company to provide notice does not invalidate a public hearing or require that another
3 hearing take place.]

4 **(D) FAILURE TO PROVIDE NOTICE UNDER THIS SECTION:**

5 **(1) INVALIDATES A PUBLIC HEARING AND REQUIRES THAT ANOTHER**
6 **HEARING TAKE PLACE; OR**

7 **(2) IF THE REQUIRED NOTICE IS REGARDING AN APPLICATION FOR A**
8 **CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY, VOIDS THE APPLICATION**
9 **FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY.**

10 **(E) A PERSON WHOSE APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC**
11 **CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY IS VOIDED UNDER SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION**
12 **MAY REAPPLY.**

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 October 1, 2026.