

# SENATE BILL 840

C8, M5

6lr3527

---

By: **Senators West and Hester**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2026

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Stadium Authority – Electricity Generating Facilities – Site Planning**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Power Plant Research Program to make certain  
4 recommendations to the Governor’s Energy Subcabinet on or before a certain date;  
5 requiring the Subcabinet to make a certain assessment and recommendations to the  
6 Maryland Stadium Authority; requiring the Subcabinet to report certain information  
7 on or before a certain date; requiring the Authority to conduct certain feasibility  
8 studies and to submit certain information on or before a certain date; and generally  
9 relating to siting new electricity generating facilities.

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
11 That:

12 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

13 (2) “Authority” means the Maryland Stadium Authority.

14 (3) (i) “Electricity generating facility” means a facility that is designed  
15 to generate electricity to be supplied to the State’s electrical grid.

16 (ii) “Electricity generating facility” includes:

17 1. a nuclear power facility;

18 2. a hydroelectric facility;

19 3. a fossil fuel powered facility;

20 4. a solar generating facility;

21 5. a wind generating facility; and

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



6. a geothermal generating facility.

(4) “PJM region” has the meaning stated in § 1–101 of the Public Utilities Article.

(5) “Program” means the Power Plant Research Program established under § 3–303 of the Natural Resources Article.

(6) “Subcabinet” means the Governor’s Energy Subcabinet as established by Executive Order 01.01.2025.27.

(b) (1) (i) On or before October 1, 2027, the Program shall study and make recommendations to the Subcabinet for 5 to 10 sites in the State that are suitable for rapid development of an electricity generating facility with a cumulative capacity of more than 3,000 megawatts.

(ii) In making recommendations, the Program shall prioritize sites that would accommodate the highest generation capacity.

(2) In carrying out the study, the Program shall consult with:

(i) the Maryland Energy Administration;

(ii) the Department of Commerce;

(iii) the Department of the Environment;

(iv) the Department of Planning; and

(v) the Strategic Energy Planning Office.

(c) The Subcabinet shall:

(1) assess the Program’s recommendations; and

(2) recommend to the Authority the sites identified by the Program for which the Authority should complete feasibility studies.

(d) On or before December 1, 2027, the Subcabinet shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly, the Senate Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment, and the House Environment and Transportation Committee.

(e) On or before June 30, 2028, the Authority shall:

1                   (1)     complete a feasibility study for each site recommended by the  
2     Subcabinet; and

3                   (2)     submit to the Legislative Policy Committee, in accordance with §  
4     2–1257 of the State Government Article, and the Board of Public Works, the feasibility  
5     study and a description of how the planned electricity generating facility for each planned  
6     electricity generating facility:

7                   (i)     will provide for the needs of Marylanders, Maryland businesses,  
8     hospitals, schools, and all other electricity users in the State;

9                   (ii)    will provide electricity at reasonable prices that are comparable  
10    to prices paid in surrounding states;

11                  (iii)   is consistent with the State’s commitment to promote clean air,  
12    clean water, and a clean environment; and

13                  (iv)   will result in emissions that are lower than the average  
14    emissions for the PJM region.

15           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
16    1, 2026.