

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

(5) "Program" means the Power Plant Research Program established under the Natural Resources Article.

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

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

14 (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

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

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

28 (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

(i) will provide for the needs of Marylanders, Maryland businesses, 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.