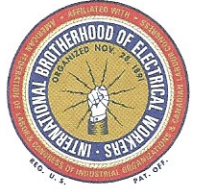




# International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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February 24, 2020

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO SB 887  
ELECTRICAL GENERATION-FOSSIL FUEL TRANSITION ACCOUNT  
FEBRUARY 25, 2020

To: Hon. Delores G. Kelley, Chair, Hon. Brian J. Feldman, Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Finance Committee

From: Thomas Clark, Executive Board, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 26

I am writing testimony to ask the committee to please oppose this bill, SB 887. This piece of legislation was put together aimlessly and without thought of the many jobs that will be lost and communities destroyed. I respect this legislative body too much to believe this bill was written by anyone other than a special interest group. As elected leaders I ask that you comb through this bill, consider the major pitfalls. We as citizens of Maryland deserve a better bill than this one.

Maryland is a leader in clean energy. We, and you as leaders should be proud of this distinction. This bill may appear to be a green bill on the surface but does nothing but make us dependent on the electrical grid of boarding states; states like Pennsylvania and West Virginia, who burn, you guessed it, COAL!! Marylanders should continue to strive for way to increase our use of clean energy but it needs to be done in a way that is not reckless and follows a well-conceived plan that does not leave us scrambling to fill our energy needs by relying on any means necessary when our citizen are left with limited energy supply options.

When IBEW was asked about the stipulation in this bill (2-10A-02 (B) that these generating units not exceed an emission rate of 180 pounds per million BTU's we were told that this is an unattainable goal and it was made clear that the ultimate goal was to try and shut down these plants no matter what. IBEW would be given a month to respond with concerns over this bill that took 9 months drawing up. Of course, as you know, 10 days later, without hearing from the IBEW, this bill was dropped in one chamber and then the next.



I ask that you throw this bill out of your committee, ask that a summer study be conducted and restart with a bill that is written in good faith, with attainable goals, with consideration of all factors, including Maryland jobs and one deserving of the great state of Maryland.

I ask you once again, vote unfavorably to this bill SB887.

Thank you,

Tom Clark,  
Executive Board IBEW Local 26 and proud Marylander