

Position Statement

SUPPORT Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/31/2021

House Bill 784 - Residential Construction - Electric Vehicle Charging

Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (BGE) supports *House Bill 784 - Residential Construction - Electric Vehicle Charging*, which requires builders to offer new home buyers the option to include an electric vehicle charging station or a dedicated electric line, capable of supporting a charger, at their new residence. This legislation is a tremendous opportunity to efficiently facilitate the installation of EV chargers and enable wider deployment of electric vehicles.

House Bill 784 will remove a barrier to electric vehicle adoption – onsite construction. The legislation presents an option -- rather than a mandate – for home buyers to select charging while their home is under development, rather than having to later navigate the logistics required to have the chargers installed on their own.

This legislation is consistent with Maryland's greenhouse gas reduction goals. In 2013, along with nine other states, Maryland signed a memorandum of understanding on state Zero-Emission Vehicle programs. At that time, Maryland adopted a goal of 300,000 zero-emission vehicles on the road by 2025. Studies show that to meet this goal, approximately 125,000 electric vehicles (EVs) would need to be added to BGE's service territory and about 27,000 charging stations would be needed.

Accordingly, BGE launched its EVsmart Program, which fits into this directive and will propel progress on Maryland's Air Quality and Chesapeake Bay goals. Under EVsmart, in addition to consumer education programs, BGE plans to install 500 public access charging stations. In addition, BGE's EVsmart program would help to mitigate the costs of implementing House Bill 784, because the program incentivizes the installation of charging infrastructure at 1,700 residential and multi-unit dwelling properties.

BGE is committed to helping Maryland achieve its electric vehicle goals. Accordingly, we support House Bill 784, and respectfully request a favorable committee report.