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## PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

February 9, 2021

Chair Delores G. Kelley  
Senate Finance Committee  
3 East, Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

### RE: SB0428 – FAVORABLE – Public Service Commission – Annual Reports

Dear Chair Kelley and Committee Members:

The Commission supports Senate Bill 428, which alters the due dates of certain mandated reports that the Commission submits to the Maryland General Assembly annually. First, this legislation changes the deadline for the Commission's Annual Report from March to May, after the legislative session and after the Commission receives necessary data from the Utilities. These data include EmPOWER Maryland data as the *Public Utility Article* requires ("Commission activities to moderate peak electric demand" and "energy conservation measures taken by gas companies and electric companies in the State to reduce electrical and natural gas demand.")

Second, SB 428 alters the due date of the Commission's EmPOWER Maryland report from March to May of each year, in order to allow time for the Commission to receive and analyze data from all of the regulated Utilities in Maryland. These companies submit semi-annual data, covering the period through December 31, to the Commission by February 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. In addition, Staff issues a data request for the Utilities' total electricity sales by class for the system peak (at the PJM peak and the utilities' own peak), as specified in the *PUA*. The proposed deadline will allow the Commission to receive and analyze the required information, which requires questions and responses of the Utilities, and to ensure timely submission.

Third, the legislation changes the due date of the Electric Universal Service Program reports from the Commission and the Department of Housing and Community Development, from December to January of each year. Department of Human Services - Office of Home Energy Programs (OHEP) provides necessary data for this report to the Commission in November. The proposed shift will provide sufficient time for our agency to receive and analyze this critical data regarding low income ratepayer funding. OHEP's report is included in its entirety in the Commission's annual EUSP report to the Maryland General Assembly.

SB 428 would take effect on June 1, 2021. Thank you for your consideration of the Commission's testimony. We urge a favorable report on SB 428. Please contact the Commission's Director of Legislative Affairs, Lisa Smith, at (410) 336-6288 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jason M. Stanek, Chairman