



February 20, 2025

112 West Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Oppose- House Bill 1406 - Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity - Environmental Impact Analysis and Existing Burden Report

Potomac Electric Power Company (Pepco) and Delmarva Power & Light Company (Delmarva Power) Oppose - **House Bill 1406 - Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity - Environmental Impact Analysis and Existing Burden Report**. House Bill 1406 adds new permitting requirements for large infrastructure projects, including additional environmental and public health impact assessments, undefined mitigation funds, and expanded regulatory reviews.

House Bill 1406 proposes additional regulatory requirements that are unnecessary and would create substantial delays and burdens for critical infrastructure projects. Maryland's current permitting and regulatory processes already include extensive studies and reviews to ensure that projects are protective to the public and the environment. These requirements are outlined in the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 20.79.01 and 20.79.03.

Pepco and Delmarva Power strive to not only act responsibly, but also to serve in a leadership capacity in addressing the environmental challenges that impact our company, communities and stakeholders. Maryland's existing permitting processes, which Pepco and Delmarva Power support are designed to determine what is protective of human health and the environment, ensuring that infrastructure projects meet stringent safety and environmental standards. House Bill 1406 would significantly extend permitting timelines, potentially adding years to project approval timelines. This regulatory lag would significantly delay critical infrastructure projects and further exacerbate Maryland's resource adequacy challenges.

Pepco and Delmarva Power respectfully urge an unfavorable report for House Bill 1406 as the legislation introduces unnecessary and cumbersome requirements. The existing regulatory framework is already robust, ensuring that permits are granted based on established regulated criteria.

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