



*Wes Moore, Governor*  
*Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor*  
*Josh Kurtz, Secretary*  
*David Goshorn, Deputy Secretary*

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March 13, 2025

**BILL NUMBER: House Bill 1417 - First Reader**

**SHORT TITLE: Department of General Services - Clean Energy Procurement Program - Establishment**

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: LETTER OF INFORMATION**

#### **EXPLANATION OF DEPARTMENT'S POSITION**

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This legislation requires the Power Plant Research Program (PPRP) to pay for a study to be conducted by the University System of Maryland. PPRP's current fiscal and operational constraints include increased operating costs associated with the escalating cost of consultants, a 400% increase in the number of Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) cases in 2024, and stagnant Environmental Trust Fund (ETF) monies which have decreased since its inception in 1972. The statutory priority of PPRP is CPCN cases.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

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The Environmental Trust Fund, which funds PPRP, is statutorily required to focus its funds on energy generation-related projects.

#### **BILL EXPLANATION**

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Under this legislation DGS, in consultation with others, would establish a biogas procurement program and collect certain data for the University System of Maryland, which would then conduct a study on the carbon lifecycle using money provided by PPRP.

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