



Maryland

Energy Administration

TO: Chair Wilson, Vice Chair Crosby, and Members of the Economic Matters Committee
FROM: MEA
SUBJECT: HB 1217 - Natural Gas Generating Facilities - Authorization
DATE: February 21, 2025

MEA Position: LETTER OF INFORMATION

This bill purports to authorize the construction and operation of natural gas generating facilities, but limits such until the State meets 50% of its energy needs from renewable energy generating resources including nuclear generation.

The bill is not needed, as natural gas generation facilities may already be constructed and operated in the state. Additionally, the bill contains no language that would actually promote the construction of natural gas generation, renewable generation, or nuclear generation.

Additionally, the bill requires that the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) work with the owners and operators of natural gas generating facilities once the state does meet 50% of its energy needs from renewable energy resources, again including nuclear energy, to decrease the production of energy from natural gas generating facilities. MEA has no regulatory authority to accomplish this goal. Generators in the state are regulated in various ways by the Maryland Public Service Commission, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), and through the market rules and other mechanisms within PJM that are approved by FERC.

MEA urges the committee to consider this information before issuing its report.

Our sincere thanks for your consideration of this testimony. For questions or additional information, please contact Landon Fahrig, Legislative Liaison, directly (landon.fahrig@maryland.gov, 410.931.1537).