

BILL NUMBER: **HOUSE BILL 1406**
Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity -
Environmental Impact Analysis and Existing Burden Report

COMMITTEE: **Economic Matters**

HEARING DATE: **February 21, 2025**

SPONSOR: **Delegates Behler, Fennell, Foley, and Turner**

POSITION: **Favorable**

Chair C. T. Wilson, Vice Chair Brian M. Crosby and Members of the Committee,

As a resident of Maryland and a professional electric power engineer I ask for a favorable report.

This comprehensive bill would add protections for populations already burdened with the negative effects of polluting industries. Since generating facilities that are powered by fossil fuels produce particulates and polluting emissions such industries and related ones listed in HB 1406 should be required to include a final environmental impact assessment and if applicable a final existing burden report.

The Public Service Commission's CPCN process is the correct mechanism to require such reporting and to require mediation, if necessary.

As Maryland reacts to the increasing demand for energy from datacenters and other high energy industries, full environmental assessments and final existing burden reports are especially necessary. Other states have rushed in with approvals for industries and later found that the state and taxpayers are left with the burden of mitigation and protection from pollution that the industries should have paid for.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Law, P.E.

1758 Wheyfield Dr.

Frederick, MD 21701