

SB 937: Public Utilities - Electricity Generation Planning - Procurement, Permitting, and Co-Location (Next Generation Energy Act)

Maryland House Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment Vistra Submitted Testimony: Favorable with Amendments February 28, 2025

Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and members of the Committee,

Vistra appreciates the opportunity to submit these written comments with suggestions for bill amendments.¹ In principle, Vistra supports amendments that will improve the market for generators to bring additional energy capacity to Maryland.

We also urge the Committee to consider the work that is ongoing at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Understandably, this legislation was drafted prior to significant federal action on this matter and Maryland leaders are taking action.

On February 20th (last week at the time of this submission), FERC voted unanimously to launch a review of issues associated with the co-location of large loads in PJM. Grid reliability and fair costs to consumers are among the matters under consideration. Industry leaders, such as Vistra, are following these proceedings closely.

At this time, based on the complexity of the issue and the proceedings at FERC, we believe it would be appropriate to strike language banning a behind the meter configuration without the conditions specified in the legislation. We look forward to continuing this conversation with stakeholders

Submitted Respectfully,

Colin Fitzsimmons Director, Government Affairs Vistra Corp.

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¹ Vistra is a leading Fortune 500 integrated retail electricity and power generation company. The company brings its products and services to market in 19 states and the District of Columbia, including all major competitive wholesale power markets in the U.S. Vistra retail brands serve approximately 5 million residential, commercial, and industrial retail customers with electricity and natural gas and is one of the largest competitive electricity providers in the country and offers over 50 renewable energy plans across the markets we serve. While Vistra does not own electric generation in Maryland, the company is also the largest competitive power generator in the U.S. with a capacity of approximately 41,000 megawatts powered by a diverse portfolio, including natural gas, nuclear, solar, and battery energy storage facilities. Over 7,500 MW of that generation serves the PJM region, of which Maryland is a part. The company also owns and operates the 750-MW/3,000-MWh battery energy storage system in Moss Landing, California, one of the largest of its kind in the world. Learn more about our environmental, social, and governance efforts and read the company's sustainability report at https://www.vistracorp.com/sustainability/.