



**HB0645/713420/1**

AMENDMENTS  
PREPARED  
BY THE  
DEPT. OF LEGISLATIVE  
SERVICES

17 FEB 25  
14:13:31

BY: Delegate Guyton

(To be offered in the Economic Matters Committee)

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 645

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, strike “**Transmission**” and substitute “**Public Utilities – Transmission**”; in the same line, after “**Siting**” insert “**and Electricity Demand**”; in the same line, strike “**Comprehensive Plan, Recommendation,**” and substitute “**Limitations**”; strike beginning with “requiring” in line 4 down through “lines” in line 11 and substitute “prohibiting the Public Service Commission from authorizing, and a person from undertaking, the construction of an overhead transmission line under certain circumstances”; in line 13, after “to” insert “overhead”; and in the same line, strike “line construction and siting in the State” and substitute “lines and electricity demand”.

On pages 1 and 2, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 14 on page 1 through line 5 on page 2, inclusive, and substitute:

“BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Public Utilities

Section 7–207(b)(1)(i)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)”.

On page 2, in line 8, after “Section” insert “7–207(h) and”; and after line 10, insert:

“BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Public Utilities

Section 7–207(h) and 7–802

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2020 Replacement Volume and 20204 Supplement)".

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 2 through 6, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 13 on page 2 through line 14 on page 6, inclusive.

On page 6, after line 16, insert:

"(b) (1) (i) Unless a certificate of public convenience and necessity for the construction is first obtained from the Commission, a person may not begin construction in the State of:

1. a generating station; or
2. a qualified generator lead line.

(H) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE COMMISSION MAY NOT AUTHORIZE, AND A PERSON MAY NOT UNDERTAKE, THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION LINE THAT DOES NOT UTILIZE AN EXISTING TRANSMISSION LINE RIGHT-OF-WAY UNLESS THE APPLICANT ADEQUATELY DEMONSTRATES TO THE COMMISSION THAT EXISTING TRANSMISSION LINE RIGHTS-OF-WAY ARE NOT SUFFICIENT FOR THE PROPOSED OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION LINE.

(2) IF THE COMMISSION DETERMINES THAT AN EXISTING TRANSMISSION LINE RIGHT-OF-WAY IS NOT SUFFICIENT FOR A PROPOSED OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION LINE, THE COMMISSION MAY AUTHORIZE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION LINE WITHIN 0.25 MILES OF AN EXISTING OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION LINE.

[(h)] (I) (1) A county or municipal corporation has the authority to approve or deny any local permit required under a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued under this section.

(2) A county or municipal corporation shall approve or deny any local permits required under a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued under this section:

(i) within a reasonable time; and

(ii) to the extent local laws are not preempted by State law, in accordance with local laws.

(3) A county or municipal corporation may not condition the approval of a local permit required under a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued under this section on receipt of any of the following approvals for any aspect of a generating station, an overhead transmission line, or a qualified lead line proposed to be constructed under the certificate:

(i) a conditional use approval;

(ii) a special exception approval; or

(iii) a floating zone approval.”.

On pages 6 through 9, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 17 on page 6 through line 21 on page 8, inclusive.