



PLUMBERS AND STEAMFITTERS

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To: Chairman C. T. Wilson, Vice Chair Brian M. Crosby, and Members of the Economic Matters Committee

From: Christopher Anderson, Business Agent, Plumbers and Steamfitter Local 486

Support HB 1035 with amendment - Public Utilities – Electricity Generation Planning – Procurement, Permitting, and Co-Location (Next Generation Energy Act)

On behalf of Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 486, I am writing to express our strong support for Maryland House Bill 1035 with amendment, the "Next Generation Energy Act." This critical piece of legislation represents a significant step forward in ensuring Maryland's energy future is both sustainable and reliable, aligning with our values of promoting job growth, workforce development, and clean energy infrastructure.

As a union representing skilled plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters, we recognize the vital role our workforce plays in the development and implementation of energy generation and infrastructure projects. With the push to eliminate fossil fuels, which provide the most reliable energy, we are putting our regional grid in danger. While we support an all the above approach to energy generation (as long as it's built UNION). Wind and solar are not ready to take center stage in our energy production. Nuclear and Natural Gas create enough electron to start to replace other fossil fuel generation that has already been closed, though it takes time to get online as well so the development process needs to start quickly.

HB 1035 not only creates a path for the development of new Nuclear and Natural gas to create a reliable grid, but includes excellent standard to protect ratepayers, workers, and ensure diversity in the industry.

For the above reasons, we ask that you give HB 1035 a favorable Report with amendment.

Sincerely,

Christopher Anderson