

TO: Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Korman, and Members of the Education, Energy, and

Environment Committee

FROM: MEA

SUBJECT: SB 332 - Task Force to Study the Premature Retirement of Electricity Generation

Facilities

DATE: February 13, 2025

MEA Position: LETTER OF INFORMATION

Senate Bill 332 would establish a task force to conduct assessments and make recommendations regarding the premature retirement of electricity generation facilities in Maryland.

Assessments on energy generation and facility retirement are already completed regularly by both the Maryland Public Service Commission (Commission) and PJM.

The Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 required the Commission to complete a general system planning study to assess the capacity of each gas and electric company's distribution systems to successfully serve residents.¹ As part of its role overseeing regional transmission, PJM is responsible for the continued reliability of the transmission system. Generator retirements and any required system upgrades to keep the grid running smoothly are included in PJM's Regional Transmission Expansion Planning Process.²

Additionally, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission issued Order No. 1920 in 2024, requiring PJM to conduct, and periodically update, long-term transmission planning to anticipate future needs. This long-term planning includes assessments on cost savings, infrastructure needs, and grid reliability. Order 1920-A, passed in November of 2024, strengthened the original order and included additional requirements for transmission providers to create a 20-year plan to anticipate future energy facility and infrastructure needs.

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 Megan Outten, Policy Manager, at megan.outten@maryland.gov or 443.842.1780.

¹ https://www.psc.state.md.us/wp-content/uploads/Corrected-MDPSC-Electrification-Study-Report-2.pdf

² https://www.pjm.com/library/reports-notices/rtep-documents