

Oppose  
Education, Energy, and the  
Environment  
2/20/2025

**Senate Bill 756 - Electric Companies, Gas Companies, Gas and Electric Companies, and Water Companies - Periodic Audits**

Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (BGE) opposes *Senate Bill 756 – Electric Companies, Gas Companies, Gas and Electric Companies, and Water Companies - Periodic Audits*. Senate Bill 756 requires each electric company, gas company, gas and electric company, and water company in the State to submit an audit of utility operations, rate changes, customer usage, and customer billing to the Public Service Commission (“Commission”) every three (3) years.

As a regulated utility providing electricity to 1.3 million customers and natural gas to more than 700,000 customers in Central Maryland, BGE is already required to submit various filings and reports to the Commission on a regular basis. BGE opposes Senate Bill 756 as it imposes an undue administrative burden. The reporting requirements stipulated in the bill are either redundant, as they duplicate existing reports required under current law, or are insufficiently defined.

Regulated utilities operating in Maryland are mandated to charge just and reasonable rates for the services they provide to their customers. Under current law, these utilities must set forth their rates and charges for regulated services in a tariff, which serves as the contract between the utility and its customers. The tariff must be made publicly available to customers, including on the utility web site. Before a utility may change any of its rates or charges, the utility must submit the proposed change to the Commission for review and approval at least 30 days in advance of the change. These filings must also be published on the utility web site. Included in the filing made with the Commission is a thorough explanation and support for the change, which is thoroughly reviewed by the Commission Staff, the Maryland Office of People’s Counsel and other interested stakeholders to ensure that the rates charged by the utility are just and reasonable.

Additionally, regulated utilities are already required to file numerous reports with the Commission to demonstrate compliance with regulatory standards and provide transparency regarding their respective utility operations. This includes a comprehensive annual report that outlines the utility’s financial performance, revenues from the sales by rate schedules, and operational activities for the past year.

The reporting requirements prescribed in Senate Bill 756 related to “customer usage patterns” and “customer billing increases or decreases” are insufficiently defined. Lastly, regulated utilities are already required to file to notify the Commission if there are changes in their billing practices and policies, including any changes to the form of the customer bill.

BGE remains committed to supporting Maryland’s energy transition and supports policies that keep affordably, resiliency, and reliability a priority. Senate Bill 756 will impose an undue administrative burden as the additional reporting requirements are duplicative or insufficiently defined. For these reasons, BGE requests an unfavorable report.

BGE, headquartered in Baltimore, is Maryland’s largest gas and electric utility, delivering power to more than 1.3 million electric customers and more than 700,000 natural gas customers in central Maryland. The company’s approximately 3,400 employees are committed to the safe and reliable delivery of gas and electricity, as well as enhanced energy management, conservation, environmental stewardship and community assistance. BGE is a subsidiary of Exelon Corporation (NYSE: EXC), the nation’s largest energy delivery company.

Charles Washington | Brittany Jones | Guy Andes | Dytonia Reed | 410.269.5281