



Randallstown

Po Box 731 Randallstown, MD 21133

February 11, 2025

Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

2 West Miller Senate Office Building
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: SUPPORT SB 0332, Task Force to Study the Premature Retirement of Electricity Generation Facilities

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan and Members of the Education, Energy and Environment Committee:

The Randallstown NAACP is a 500 member branch located in Baltimore County, Maryland. We have members in Baltimore County and Baltimore City. One of primary focuses is ensuring the quality of life for all residents especially black Marylanders free of discrimination. Our branch is here to advocate and support our working and middle class families. Energy is now the number one

issue facing residents in Maryland.

Maryland consumes about 40% more electricity than it generates. The extra supply of more than 200 Trillion Btu of electricity, annually, is delivered to the state over the PJM regional grid. And the amount imported is growing dramatically.

The remaining coal power plants (with a combined generating capacity of nearly 1,800 megawatts), intend to shut down by 2025. Solar energy, wind, and biomass are increasing but will not at any reasonable time replace that capacity or energy density; so, the state will import more electricity. The largest renewable electricity source available on the grid (.. not including hydroelectric dams) is landfill gas, which is an inelastic supply. Since 2022 there is arguably more solar power generated, but nearly two thirds of Maryland's solar generation came from small-scale, customer-sited solar, such as residential rooftop solar panels (.. and not contributing in any meaningful way to the grid).

While it is popular to talk about the fact that Maryland had about 102,530 registered electric vehicles and about 1,667 electric charging stations, with both of those numbers increasing the amount of electricity used (i.e., replacing petroleum), such only exacerbates the already existing total energy imbalance.

Around 90% of Maryland's petroleum is consumed by the transportation sector, which accounts for 33% of the state's total energy consumption, followed closely by the residential sector at 31% and the commercial sector at 29%. But the state public policy to increase electric vehicle use and electrify buildings (that are today using natural gas) will of course increase electricity use and that electricity will be imported with a significant portion of it generated from coal.

We need to investigate not closing Brandon Shores and Wagner Coal Facilities. These facilities specifically power Baltimore City. The closure of these facilities will impact power reliability across seven PJM zones. We also need to investigate a third reactor at Calvert Cliffs. We must balance environmental concerns and the energy needs of Marylanders. **If the Maryland General Assembly does not act, Maryland could face rolling black outs this summer. This bill starts us in the right direction but more must be done!**

The Randallstown NAACP supports SB 0332, Task Force to Study the Premature Retirement of Electricity Generation Facilities

The Randallstown Branch of the NAACP urges a favorable report from the committee on SB 0332.

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yours

Ryan Coleman

Randallstown NAACP, President

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