

February 19, 2026

12 West Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**Favorable with Amendments – Senate Bill 201 - Public Utilities - Transmission Lines -  
Advanced Transmission Technologies**

Potomac Electric Power Company (Pepco) and Delmarva Power & Light Company (Delmarva Power) support with amendments **Senate Bill 201 - Public Utilities - Transmission Lines - Advanced Transmission Technologies**. **Senate Bill 201** requires an application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) for the construction of an overhead transmission line to include (1) evidence that the applicant considered, during its internal planning process, specified transmission planning processes and (2) an analysis of the selected transmission line route. The Public Service Commission (PSC) may not take final action on such a CPCN application until it gives due consideration of evidence that specified alternatives have been considered by the applicant. By December 1, 2026, and every four years thereafter, each owner or operator of an overhead transmission line must submit a report to PSC containing specified information related to transmission congestion. The bill also makes a related change to the definition of “qualified generator lead line.

The bill creates inconsistent definitions of advanced conductors, conflicting with those definitions in FERC Order 1920 and 2023, and reinforced in FERC Order 2023-A. For example, the definition in Senate Bill 201 of high-performance conductors would exclude aluminum conductor, steel supported conductors (ACSS), despite their superior performance over traditional ACSR conductors. As written, the bill would limit engineers’ ability to choose the most cost-effective technical solutions when executing large-scale infrastructure projects. More importantly, the bill would require utilities to evaluate other technologies before making equipment upgrades, even when those equipment limitations, not conductors, are the true constraint, which may not deliver the expected benefits. We strongly urge the bill sponsor to amend the definition of high-performance conductors to align with the definition found in FERC Order 1920, 2023, and 2023-A.

We also are concerned with the lack of cost recovery language in the bill. We have suggested language with the bill sponsor and look forward to continuing those conversations.

Pepco and Delmarva Power look forward to continuing to work with the bill sponsor to address our concerns.