



**Favorable testimony for
Task Force to Study Restructuring Maryland's Electric Utility Industry
HB54**

**House Environment and Transportation Committee
2/3/2026**

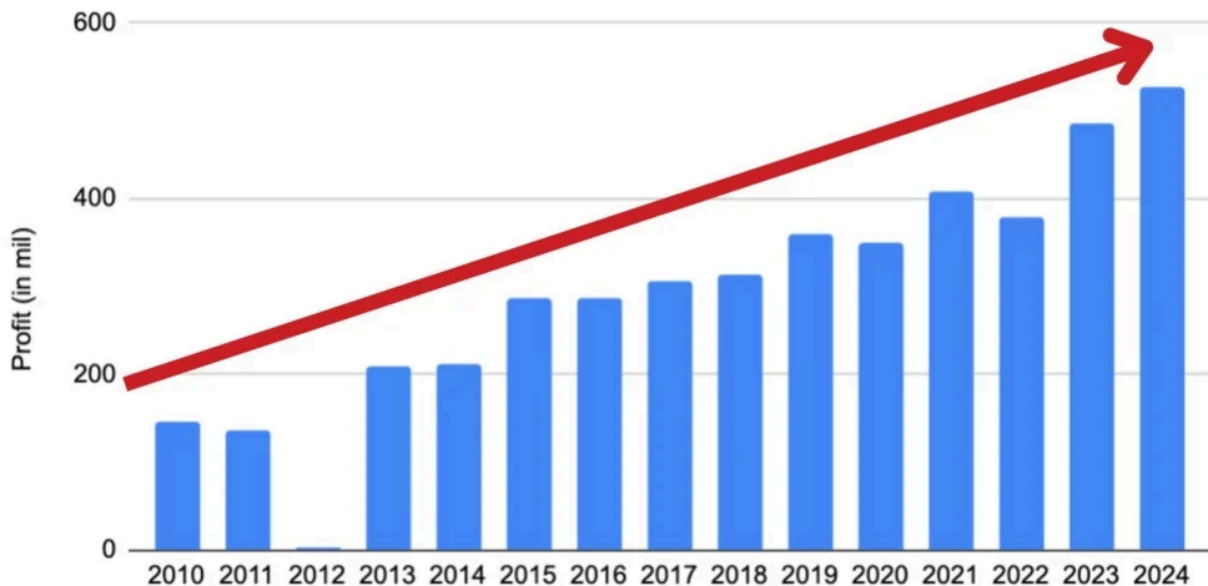
**Jamie DeMarco
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On behalf of the Chesapeake Climate Action Network Action Fund, I urge a favorable report on HB54. Record high energy prices make clear that the current energy system is failing Marylanders. Utility companies are finding ways to increase the price of the distribution system, and PJM is driving up energy supply costs by suppressing clean energy. While there is much debate about how the current system could be improved, recent years have shown that the status quo is leading to unacceptably high energy prices.

HB54 will convene relevant stakeholders to holistically study the energy systems we have in place and alternative systems such as public power. This analysis will give valuable insights into how Maryland should move forward in solving the energy cost crisis we are currently experiencing.

CCAN Action Fund also supports this legislation because we think it will put to bed the terrible idea of allowing utilities to own generation. Exelon utilities and their shareholders have caused the energy distribution costs in Maryland to rise consistently over time. To maximize their profits they are driven to make every aspect of the energy distribution system as costly as possible. Since 2010 in the BGE service territory, gas delivery rates have increased [246%](#), electric delivery rates have increased [92%](#), and BGE profits have tripled from \$147 million to [\\$527](#) million in 2024. The only way their profits can increase is if our energy bills increase, and that's exactly what we have seen:

BGE Annual Profits 2010-2024



Any thorough analysis of the energy landscape will identify Exelon Utilities as part of the problem, not part of the solution.

Energy makes our modern lives possible, but its rising costs are forcing families to make hard choices about whether to heat their homes or put food on the table. A study of our energy systems and what better options are available to us is well warranted and we urge the passage of HB54.

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