



---

An Exelon Company



---

An Exelon Company

March 31, 2021

112 West Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
410-269-7115

**Informational – Senate Bill 414  
Climate Solutions Now Act of 2021**

Potomac Electric Power Company (Pepco) and Delmarva Power & Light Company (Delmarva Power) appreciate the opportunity to comment on Senate Bill 414 Climate Solutions Now Act of 2021. SB414 would set higher greenhouse gas emissions reductions that the State must achieve by 2030 and 2045, respectively. Additionally, it would also set procurement standards for state purchases of electric vehicles and require that bus purchases be 25% electric in 2021 ramping to 50% in 2025, and light duty electric vehicle be 50% in 2021 ramping up to 100% in 2025. SB 414 would also impact energy efficiency savings targets established for EmPOWER Maryland and create requirements for solar on new buildings over a certain square footage. Finally, SB 414 adds an environmental justice component to the strengthened GHG targets, with the intention of identifying and targeting for economic opportunities, communities harmed by discrimination and/or the effects of pollution and climate change.

SB 414 advances Maryland's efforts to decarbonize, however, the details with respect to how Maryland will achieve those goals, particularly as it relates to the energy sector, will be critical. For example, increased penetration of distributed energy resources such as solar can place stress on feeders within our system and as a result, planning and investment will be critical to ensure a reliable interconnection process for all customers.

SB 414 increases the target for energy efficiency programs currently reviewed and approved by the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC). Pepco and Delmarva applaud Maryland for recognizing the importance of energy efficiency as an important tool in driving down greenhouse gas emissions. EmPOWER programs have been active in the state since 2008. Currently Maryland has one of the most aggressive energy savings goals of any state, requiring a 2% energy sales reduction target through its EmPOWER Maryland programs. While Pepco and Delmarva have developed effective and successful programs to date, we agree with the amended version of the bill before you which incrementally increases energy efficiency targets for EmPOWER Maryland programs over a period of time.

Pepco and Delmarva agree that encouraging the growth of EVs is critically important because transportation is the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in Maryland. In addition, transforming the transportation sector to one that is fueled by electricity has immediate local air quality and public health benefits, particularly for those communities that live closest to high volume transportation corridors, bus routes and bus depots, etc. SB414 recognizes the importance of reducing emissions in the transportation sector by setting several targets that will help advance transportation electrification in the state.

We look forward to working with the sponsors and key stakeholders on Senate Bill 414 in order to ensure the bill achieve its goals, effectively, efficiently and affordably. We believe reduction of the Empower targets is warranted in order to preserve the affordability of that program.

Contact:

Katie Lanzarotto  
Senior Legislative Specialist  
202-428-1309  
[Kathryn.lanzarotto@exeloncorp.com](mailto:Kathryn.lanzarotto@exeloncorp.com)

Ivan K. Lanier  
State Affairs Manager  
202-428-1288  
[Ivan.Lanier@pepco.com](mailto:Ivan.Lanier@pepco.com)