

Support
Economic Matters
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House Bill 807 Consumer Protection – Online and Biometric Data Privacy

Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (BGE) offers the following thoughts on *House Bill 807 Consumer Protection – Online and Biometric Data Privacy*. House Bill 807 would establish requirements for businesses that collect consumer information, including how or if information can be disclosed without the consumer’s consent. Consumer information applicable under this bill would include account information, social security numbers, driver license numbers and forms of tracking data, which could include electricity consumption data and other data by BGE for billing purposes, as well as data that could impact the security of Maryland’s transmission and distribution grid collected by BGE.

BGE understands the concerns regarding data privacy breaches; however, Maryland has historically exempted utilities from providing customers with disclosure of sensitive information to protect disclosure of critical electric infrastructure information.

The process of how information that impacts critical electric infrastructure information is disseminated and to whom continues to evolve through an existing Cyber-Security Reporting Work Group regulatory process at the Public Service Commission. Any policy impacting critical electric infrastructure information must be developed in a way that does not add unnecessary risk to the electric system, while protecting the electric utility’s ability to service the needs of its customers.

Rather than pursue varying and disparate state-by-state regulations to address consumer privacy issues, we believe a more efficient and productive approach is the existing efforts to develop a uniform federal policy regarding consumer privacy.

We look forward to working with the sponsors and stakeholders to ensure the security of Maryland’s energy infrastructure remains resilient against cyber-attacks.

BGE, headquartered in Baltimore, is Maryland’s largest gas and electric utility, delivering power to more than 1.2 million electric customers and more than 655,000 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 leading competitive energy provider.