

Support
Education, Energy, and the
Environment
3/4/2024

Senate Bill 695 - Building Code - Construction and Significant Renovation of Housing Units - Electric Vehicle Parking Spaces

Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (BGE) supports *Senate Bill 695 – Building Code – Construction and Significant Renovation of Housing Units – Electric Vehicle Parking*. *Senate Bill 695* will continue the push for the installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure, which will lead to more electric vehicles on Maryland roads, effectively expanding the use of zero-emission vehicles in the state. This, in turn, will be essential to achieving Maryland’s climate and air quality goals.

Specifically, this bill would require the installation of electric vehicle charging equipment during the construction of or significant renovation of all housing units that have separate garages, carports, or driveways for each residential unit. It will also require a greater number of electric vehicle (EV) parking places under certain circumstances.

Maryland is concerned about its ability to meet the ambitious goal of having 300,000 zero-emission vehicles on the road by 2025. Currently, there are approximately 95,000 electric vehicles in Maryland, with about 55,000 in the BGE Service Territory. About 205,000 additional charging stations are needed to meet the EV charging demand goal. Expanding policies to boost EV adoption is crucial to meeting on-road targets. The construction mandates in *Senate Bill 695* will help support Maryland’s policies to broaden the adoption of electric vehicles and ensure that Marylanders have adequate access to charging stations.

BGE is a cooperative partner of Maryland’s goals. In support of the State’s goals, BGE launched the EVsmart Program. Since the launch of the EVsmart Program, BGE has educated consumers, installed 331 public chargers, and has plans to install 169 additional public stations in the near future. In addition, in conjunction with *Senate Bill 695*, BGE’s EVsmart Program could help to mitigate the costs of implementation as the program incentivizes the installation of charging infrastructure at multi-unit dwelling properties.

BGE is committed to helping Maryland achieve its electric vehicle goals. Accordingly, we support this legislation and respectfully request a favorable committee report.

BGE, headquartered in Baltimore, is Maryland’s largest gas and electric utility, delivering power to more than 1.3 million electric customers and more than 700,000 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 largest energy delivery company.