

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
Legislative Session 2024, Legislative Day No. 12

Resolution No. 37-24

Mr. David Marks, Councilman

By the County Council, July 1, 2024

A RESOLUTION of the County Council of Baltimore County, Maryland encouraging Baltimore Gas and Electric Company (“BGE”) to lessen the impacts of the Brandon Shores Retirement Mitigation Project on affected communities and residential neighborhoods to the greatest extent possible, and to bury transmission lines underground where feasible, especially in park land and in rural areas that could act as wildfire corridors, particularly those that lack public water to extinguish potential fires.

WHEREAS, the Brandon Shores ~~and H.A. Wagner Generating Stations (collectively, the “Brandon Shores Plants”)~~ are ~~Generating Station (“Brandon Shores”) is a~~ 40-year-old coal-fired electric power ~~plants that sit~~ plant that sits on the banks of the Patapsco River in northern Anne Arundel County ~~and together generate~~ that generates about ~~2,000~~ 1,300 megawatts, a substantial portion of the state’s electric power; and

WHEREAS, in April, 2023, the owner of ~~the~~ Brandon Shores ~~Plants~~ – Talen Energy Corp. – gave notice that it plans to deactivate ~~the~~ Brandon Shores ~~Plants~~ as of June 1, 2025 ; and

WHEREAS, ~~in order to alleviate the burden on the regional power grid, BGE has proposed a large transmission upgrade project, known as the BGE Brandon Shores Mitigation project in~~ order to address significant grid reliability issues arising from the planned retirement of Brandon Shores, the federally regulated regional grid operator – PJM – directed BGE to construct

transmission upgrades known as the Brandon Shores Retirement Mitigation Project (“the Project”), which will affect Middle River, White Marsh, Fallston, and other areas in northeastern Baltimore County and southern Harford County; and

WHEREAS, as part this Project, BGE is upgrading several existing BGE substations, constructing one new substation in both Baltimore County and Anne Arundel County, and modifying approximately 35 miles of transmission lines on existing BGE rights-of-way between the Pennsylvania border and southern Baltimore County; and

WHEREAS, the proposed path for this Project could run through historic neighborhoods or environmentally sensitive areas that should be protected, as well as communities where overhead transmission lines could adversely affect the public health, safety, and welfare; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND that the County Council hereby encourages BGE to lessen the impacts of the Brandon Shores Retirement Mitigation Project on affected communities and residential neighborhoods to the greatest extent possible, and to bury transmission lines underground where feasible, especially in park land and in rural areas that could act as wildfire corridors, particularly those that lack public water to extinguish potential fires; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Baltimore County Council encourages BGE to take special care to protect historic neighborhoods and the scenic beauty of communities and parks in its placement of transmission lines during the Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution shall be sent to representatives of BGE, the Maryland Office of People’s Counsel, and the Maryland Public Service Commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect from the date of its passage by the County Council.



LEGISLATION DETAIL

LEGISLATION

DISPOSITION

ENACTED

EFFECTIVE

AMENDMENTS

ROLL CALL - BILL

MOTION

SECOND

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NAY

☐☐

Councilman Young

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Councilman Patoka

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Councilman Kach

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Councilman Jones

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Councilman Marks

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Councilman Ertel

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Councilman Crandell

ROLL CALL - AMENDMENTS

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Councilman Crandell