

WHEREAS, Representatives of local communities that may be impacted by the siting decisions involving liquefied natural gas facilities should participate in the siting process; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article — Public Utility Companies

~~11-101.~~

(a) (1) ~~In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.~~

(2) ~~“Liquefied natural gas” means natural gas cooled to form a liquid at approximately atmospheric pressure.~~

(3) ~~“Liquefied natural gas facility” means any facility used to produce, store, or regasify liquefied natural gas.~~

(b) ~~The Commission shall adopt regulations to ensure to the greatest extent practicable the operational safety of liquefied natural gas facilities.~~

(c) (1) ~~The Commission shall inspect periodically each liquefied natural gas facility to ensure compliance with the regulations adopted under subsection (b) of this section.~~

(2) ~~Inspections shall be conducted at intervals the Commission determines necessary.~~

(d) ~~The Commission may enforce [these] THE regulations by any method provided in § 2-117(a), § 13-201, or § 13-205 of this article.~~

(E) (1) ~~A LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS FACILITY MAY NOT BE CONSTRUCTED OR OPERATED WITHOUT THE APPROVAL OF THE COMMISSION.~~

(2) ~~THE COMMISSION MAY NOT GRANT ANY APPROVAL FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OR OPERATION OF A LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS FACILITY IF THE FACILITY IS TO BE LOCATED:~~

(I) ~~IN BALTIMORE COUNTY, AND~~

(II) ~~WITHIN 2 MILES OF ANY RESIDENCE.~~

~~[(e)] (F) —The Commission may enter into agreements with federal units as necessary to carry out this section.~~

~~[(f)] (C) This section does not expand the definition of “public service company” in § 1-101 of this article.~~

~~[(g)] (H) —A person who violates a regulation that the Commission adopts under this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 for each day the violation continues, and imprisonment not exceeding 1 year.~~

(a) There is a Baltimore County Liquefied Natural Gas Task Force.