

SECTION 1. *Beit enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 178 of Article 23 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, (1939 Edition), title "Corporations," sub-title "Gas and Electric Light Companies," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

178. Any gas light corporation formed under this Article shall have full power to manufacture artificial gas, and to sell, and to furnish such quantities of gas, both natural and artificial, as may be required in any city, town or county of this State, in which, or adjoining which the same may be located, for lighting the streets, roads and public or private buildings, or for other purposes, and such corporation is hereby authorized and empowered to lay conductors or pipes for the transmission of gas, both natural and artificial, in any city, town or county, under the streets, squares, lanes, alleys and roads thereof, paved or unpaved, and to connect the same with any manufactory, public or private building, lamp or other structure or object, and with the place of supply, after first securing the proper assent of the municipal authorities of said city or town, or of the county commissioners of said county, under such reasonable and proper regulations and conditions that may be prescribed by them, subject, however, also to any law or ordinance that may be prescribed by them, subject, however, also to any law or ordinance that may be passed by the municipal authorities of the city or town, or the county commissioners having jurisdiction, for the filling up and repaving of any street, lane or alley or road under which the said pipes may be laid. Any corporation of this or any other state which has heretofore been authorized by ordinance passed by the municipal authorities of any city or town, or by order of the proper authorities of any county, to lay or maintain mains, conduits, pipes, or other structures in streets, squares, lanes, alleys, roads or other public highways and places for the transmission or supply of natural gas or artificial gas, is hereby authorized and empowered to use such mains, conduits, pipes, or other structures, whether now in place or hereafter constructed, for the transmission and supply of artificial gas or natural gas, or a mixture of natural and artificial gas, provided the consent of the Public Service Commission of Maryland be obtained. Nothing herein shall be deemed to extend the duration of any franchise granted by any city, town or county, or to change the terms or conditions of any such franchise except as herein expressly set forth.