

## EXECUTIVE ORDERS

EXECUTIVE ORDER OF MARCH 1, 1978

01.01.1978.03

## ENERGY CONSERVATION - POTOMAC EDISON AREA

WHEREAS, On February 22, 1978, pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Energy Powers, I ordered that certain energy conservation measures be implemented in the Potomac Edison Company Service Area; and

WHEREAS, These measures were made necessary by the strike action of the United Mine Workers Union which, because of its duration, has resulted in a drastic reduction of the available supply of coal necessary to generate electricity in those parts of the State; and

WHEREAS, The Potomac Edison Company had informed me that, on February 22, 1978, it had less than a 25-day supply of coal remaining for the purpose of generating electricity for its customers, and that this supply of coal represented a critical shortage for the Company, and that, absent a settlement of the United Mine Workers strike and absent certain measures to conserve electricity, this lack of coal would have a profound effect upon the citizens of this State who live within the Potomac Edison Company service area; and

WHEREAS, I am also informed that the electricity conservation measures which I have ordered to take effect at 12:01 a.m., March 2, 1978 may cause some customers of the Potomac Edison company to implement a plan of temporary layoffs of their employees; and

WHEREAS, The proposed contract between the Mine Workers and the operators may be ratified by the principals within the next week, thus easing the need for the stringent electricity conservation measures which are scheduled to take effect on March 2, 1978; and

WHEREAS, I am informed that Maryland's neighboring States have acted today to delay the implementation of similar conservation measures scheduled for March 2, 1978 in their jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, The conservation measures which were ordered and implemented at 12:01 a.m., February 23, 1978 have helped to ease the potential crisis in the Potomac Edison Company Service Area and will continue to ease that situation until a settlement of the strike is realized;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BLAIR LEE III, ACTING GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY ARTICLE II, SECTION 6 OF THE MARYLAND