

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 78 - Public Service Commission Law
Section 54B(b), 57, and 59A
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1980 Replacement Volume and 1981 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland read(s) as follows:

Article 78 - Public Service Commission Law

54B.

(b) (1) In cooperation with the Secretary of Natural Resources as set forth in § 3-304 of the Natural Resources Article of the Code, the Commission shall be responsible for assembling and evaluating annually the long-range plans of Maryland's public electric utilities regarding generating needs and means for meeting those needs. The chairman of the Public Service Commission shall, on an annual basis, forward to the Secretary of Natural Resources a ten-year (10) plan listing possible and proposed sites, including associated transmission routes, for the construction of electric power plants within the State of Maryland. Sites which are identified as unsuitable by the Secretary of Natural Resources in accordance with the requirements of § 3-304 of the Natural Resources Article of the Code shall be deleted from the plan, provided, however, nothing in this subsection shall prevent the inclusion of such site in subsequent ten-year (10) plans. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION SHALL INCLUDE INFORMATION IN THE ANNUAL 10 YEAR PLAN ON CURRENT AND PROJECTED EFFORTS BY PUBLIC ELECTRIC UTILITIES AND THE COMMISSION TO MODERATE OVERALL ELECTRICAL GENERATION DEMAND AND PEAK DEMAND THROUGH UTILITY PROMOTED ENERGY CONSERVATION BY CUSTOMERS AND THROUGH UTILITY USE OF ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES, INCLUDING COGENERATION.

(2) THE COMMISSION SHALL EVALUATE THE COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE UTILITIES' INVESTMENT IN ENERGY CONSERVATION TO REDUCE ELECTRICAL DEMAND AND IN RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES TO HELP MEET ELECTRICAL DEMAND. THE EVALUATION OF INVESTMENTS SHALL INCLUDE:

(I) THE UTILITIES' PROMOTION AND CONDUCT OF A BUILDING AUDIT AND WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM INCLUDING LOW OR NO INTEREST UTILITY FINANCING FOR THE INSTALLATION OF ENERGY CONSERVATION MATERIALS AND RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVICES;

(II) UTILIZATION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES;

(III) PROMOTION OF AND UTILIZATION OF ELECTRICITY FROM COGENERATION AND WASTES; AND