

(As enacted by Chapters 3 and 4 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1999)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section(s) 7-510(e) through (f), respectively, of Article Public Utility Companies of the Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 7-510(d) through (g), respectively.

SECTION 1. 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article Public Utility Companies

7-510.

(C) (1) NOTWITHSTANDING § 7-505 (B)(1) OF THIS SUBTITLE, FROM THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ACT THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2000, AN INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICITY CUSTOMER THAT HAS A DEMAND OF AT LEAST 350 MEGAWATTS DURING A 1 HOUR PERIOD OF ANY CALENDAR YEAR SHALL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR CUSTOMER CHOICE ONLY DURING THOSE PERIODS WHEN THE ELECTRIC COMPANY SERVING THE INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICITY CUSTOMER DESCRIBED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION IS PURCHASING POWER TO SUPPLEMENT ITS EXISTING GENERATION DUE TO A SHORTAGE OF GENERATING CAPACITY DEDICATED TO SERVING REGULATED LOAD.

(2) THE COMMISSION MAY ISSUE ORDERS OR REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SUBSECTION.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

(a) Notwithstanding § 7-505(b)(1) of the Public Utility Companies Article as enacted by Chapters 3 and 4 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1999, from the effective date of this Act through December 31, 2000, an industrial electricity customer that consumed at least 2 billion kilowatt hours of electricity in calendar year 1998 shall have the opportunity for customer choice only during those on-peak periods when the electric company serving the industrial electricity customer described under this Act is purchasing power to supplement its existing generation due to a shortage of generating capacity dedicated to serving regulated load, if the shortage would trigger a requirement under a contract between the customer and the electric company that the customer either reduce load or authorize the electric company to purchase power for the customer.

(b) The Public Service Commission may issue orders or regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 2. 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety, has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted.