Commission, in consultation with the Maryland Energy Administration, shall report, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly on:

- (i) (1) the status of programs and services to encourage and promote the efficient use and conservation of energy, INCLUDING AN EVALUATION OF THE IMPACT OF THE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES THAT ARE DIRECTED TO LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES, LOW- TO MODERATE-INCOME COMMUNITIES TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, AND OTHER PARTICULAR CLASSES OF RATEPAYERS; and
- $\frac{\text{(ii)}}{\text{(2)}}$ a recommendation for the appropriate funding level to adequately fund these programs and services; AND
- (3) IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (C) OF THIS SUBSECTION SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, THE PER CAPITA ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION AND THE PEAK DEMAND FOR THE PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR.
- (L) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW, THE COMMISSION MAY NOT REQUIRE OR ALLOW AN ELECTRIC COMPANY TO REQUIRE AN ELECTRIC CUSTOMER TO AUTHORIZE THE ELECTRIC COMPANY TO CONTROL THE AMOUNT OF THE ELECTRIC CUSTOMER'S ELECTRICITY USAGE, INCLUDING THROUGH CONTROL OF THE ELECTRIC CUSTOMER'S THERMOSTAT.
- (2) In determining whether a program or service encourages and promotes the efficient use and conservation of energy, the Commission shall consider, among other factors:
 - (i) the impact on jobs;
 - (ii) the impact on the environment;
 - (iii) the impact on rates; and
 - (iv) the cost-effectiveness.

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- (A) IN THIS SECTION, "RATE DECOUPLING" MEANS A RATE ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM THAT SEPARATES A UTILITY COMPANY'S AGREED ON FIXED COSTS, INCLUDING ALLOWED EARNINGS, FROM THE ACTUAL VOLUME OF UNIT SALES THAT OCCUR.
- (B) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2008, BY REGULATION OR ORDER, THE COMPANY TO IMPLEMENT