

Topic: High energy use facilities; natural gas fuel cell generating resources

Bill Patron: Del. Webert

Overview:

- Allows large energy users to enter into fuel cell contracts with the utility as long as the fuel cell is on site of the large energy user
 - Creates a net metering style arrangement related to bill credits for the energy delivered from the fuel cell
- Specifies that these fuel cells don't affect the utilities' RPS requirements, NEM program capacity limits, or affect the right of the customer to self-generate

Reasons to oppose:

- HB 1087 creates a significant loophole for new fossil fuel resources for large load customers
- This bill does not seek to incentivize fuel cells that use hydrogen or other clean fuels, instead it seeks to incentivize the use of gas fuel cells
 - Gas fuel cells have lower localized air pollutants than traditional gas generators, but they still create about 60-75% of the amount of CO₂ created by a traditional gas generator
- Gas fuel cells will need to be connected to the gas distribution system, potentially leading to upgrades to pipeline infrastructure given the always on nature of fuel cells
- We will not be able to meet our Clean Economy Act goals if we are investing in new fossil fuel generating facilities.

For more information, contact:



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