

MIKE GRIFFITH
Legislative District 35A
Cecil and Harford Counties

Ways and Means Committee

Subcommittees

Early Childhood

Election Law



The Maryland House of Delegates
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

August 1, 2023

Dear Secretary McIlwain:

I'm reaching out today on behalf of my constituents to underline the vital role the Conowingo Dam and its operator Constellation Energy play in achieving Maryland's clean energy goals and sustaining the Chesapeake Bay for generations to come.

For the past 95 years, the dam has benefitted our great state in numerous ways, from helping to keep our environment clean to boosting our economy. The dam remains the largest source of renewable energy in Maryland – and an economic lynchpin for Harford and Cecil counties – and produces enough energy each year to power approximately 165,000 homes while avoiding 867,000 metric tons of carbon emissions.

The dam has also been a key agent in our effort to keep the Chesapeake Bay and Susquehanna River clean. And Constellation is committed to investing more than \$700 million over the term of the 50-year license to keep both bodies of water healthy, marking it the largest water quality investment from any private entity in the three-state Susquehanna Watershed.

We all want clean, safe, and healthy waterways, and we know that the dam itself is not a source of debris and pollution. In fact, the dam has prevented upstream pollution from Pennsylvania and New York from entering the Bay by removing an estimated 600 tons of upstream debris each year. Many environmentalists acknowledge that without the dam, the health of the Bay would be far worse. The dam is not an impediment in our efforts to clean the Bay; instead, it's always been a part of the solution.

I am committed to working with Governor Wes Moore's administration to fix the procedural issues identified last year by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia to secure the long-term future of the dam. It's an integral part of our state as it hosts 365,350 recreation visits each year, supports 265 full-time jobs, and brings \$273 million in annual economic benefits to Maryland.

It's incumbent on us to work together on a multi-state solution that holds all parties, public and private, responsible and not just the Conowingo Dam, which provides so many recreational, economic, and environmental benefits to our community.

From all of my constituents and me, thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Griffith".

Delegate Mike Griffith
District 35A, Cecil and Harford Counties