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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

June 4, 2026

The Honorable Chris Wright
Secretary
Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Wright,

I write to you today in light of President Trump's recent announcement to invoke the Defense Production Act to boost American coal production. President Trump's actions in support of a critical American industry, at a time of increasingly high energy demand, are a correct departure from years of insane federal investments into unproven and inefficient energy generating technologies. I also want to thank the Administration for an expected investment for the restart of the AES Warrior Run power plant in Allegany County Maryland. This action will deliver much needed relief to countless Marylanders struggling with high energy costs.

Like many other states, Maryland went all-in on "green energy" fantasies to include the mass covering of prime farmland with utility scale solar fields and a relentless (and yet fruitless) pursuit of one of the costliest and least efficient forms of energy generation, offshore wind. Meanwhile, state leaders in Annapolis have done everything possible to crush reliable generation sources powered by fossil fuels, leading to over 40% of the state's energy being imported from states like Pennsylvania in recent years. These counterproductive policies were coupled with relentless environmental litigation on the part of groups like the Sierra Club to eliminate critical fossil fuel generation sources like the Brandon Shores and Wagner generating stations.

Mr. Secretary – while Governor Moore and other state leaders would choose to double down on this absurd energy policy, I believe there is an opportunity to further remedy this problem especially in light of President Trump's Defense Production Act decision. Besides the Warrior Run plant, fossil fuel production that is boosted by these historic investments need places to go, and I believe that prime candidates to receive it are the partially-active power generation stations in Maryland. These would include the Brandon Shores Generating station and the Wagner Generating station in Anne Arundel County. Given the significant energy shortages facing Maryland and the PJM grid as a whole, it would be well within your right and indeed your jurisdiction to invoke Section 202(c) of the Federal Power Act and compel the continuous operation of all 3 of these generating stations. Not only will this provide ample opportunity for the use of fossil fuel and clean American coal, but it will also deliver needed economic relief to a state seemingly incapable of realizing the resources it has available to itself.

I look forward to working with you on this effort, and I urge your swift consideration of these and other measures to minimize the possibility of brownouts and blackouts this summer across the PJM grid. My constituents are counting on the commonsense leadership of President Trump's administration given the lack of such leadership in Annapolis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andy Harris, M.D.". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Andy Harris, M.D.
Member of Congress