

Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB765

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Surovell

3. Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

4. Title: Coal ash ponds; mandatory testing of drinking water wells.

5. Summary: Requires the owner or operator of any coal ash pond in the Chesapeake Bay watershed that is closed by capping in place to complete a survey of all drinking water wells within one mile of the pond by October 1, 2018. The bill requires the utility to commission an independent well water test on behalf of the owner of each such well by January 1, 2019, and requires such a test once per year during each of the five years following the approval of the closure of the coal ash pond, and once every five years thereafter. The bill provides that if any test exceeds groundwater quality standards for constituents associated with coal ash, the Board shall instruct the utility to provide alternate water supplies to the owner of the well. The bill requires the Department of Environmental Quality to consider the results of the tests in its permitting, monitoring, or enforcement proceedings.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See #8.

8. Fiscal Implications: It is anticipated that any fiscal impact on the Department of Environmental Quality as a result of this bill can be absorbed within existing resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Environmental Quality

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.