



Maryland House of Delegates – Environment and Transportation Committee

Chair: Kumar P. Barve  
Vice Chair: Dana Stein

House Bill 583 – Climate Solutions Now 2021 Act

Position: Oppose

- Electrical Workers
- Insulators
- Boilermakers
- United Association
- Roofers
- Cement Masons
- Teamsters
- Laborers
- Bricklayers
- Ironworkers
- Sheet Metal Workers
- Elevator Constructors
- Painters
- Operating Engineers
- Carpenters

The Baltimore DC Metro Building Trades Council opposes HB 583. To be clear we are not climate change deniers, but feel the need to oppose this far reaching bill as it creates a pandora’s box of unintended consequences for Maryland’s energy needs and the jobs that it wants to provide. The provisions of the bill are very vague and leave it to committees to substantiate and create solutions to what is needed to get to net zero. First we do not agree to one public school per district when all public schools and other BPW projects can be built to energy efficiency. The following use of green roofs, solar, wind, geothermal, rain water catchment and the thermal skin of buildings should be required in any building specifications going forward. We are glad to be considered when creating these committees but would prefer to be included in the conversation before a bill of this magnitude be drafted. Let’s look at some facts on MD energy as stated on the energy information agency website.

[Maryland - State Energy Profile Analysis - U.S. Energy ... - EIA](http://www.eia.gov/state/analysis/sid=MD)  
[www.eia.gov > state > analysis > sid=MD](http://www.eia.gov/state/analysis/sid=MD)

*Maryland's economy is among the 10 least energy-intensive of the 50 states. ... More than 4 out of 10 Maryland households use natural gas as their primary fuel ...*

Maryland's per capita petroleum consumption is the second lowest among the states.<sup>24</sup> Almost 9 out of every 10 barrels of petroleum used in Maryland are consumed by the transportation sector.

Maryland ranks among the 10 states with the lowest per capita natural gas use Maryland holds about 0.1% of the nation's estimated recoverable coal reserves and accounts for about 0.2% of U.S. coal production

Maryland consumes almost 50% more electricity than it generates. Renewable energy, including small-scale generating installations (less than 1 megawatt) and larger utility-scale generating facilities, provided about 11% of Maryland's in-state net generation in 2019. Hydropower accounted for almost half of the state's renewable electricity generation.<sup>77</sup> The Conowingo hydroelectric generating station, located in northern Maryland on the Susquehanna River, was the largest power plant ever built when it began operating in 1928. The 11 turbines at the station have a combined generating capacity of 572 megawatts.<sup>78</sup> Conowingo provides almost all of Maryland's hydroelectricity and it is one of the five largest power plants in Maryland based on actual annual generation.<sup>78</sup>

Value on Display... Everyday.



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Solar energy provided almost one-third of the state's renewable electricity generation and has increased significantly in recent years, doubling from 2016 to 2019. Two-thirds of the state's solar generation came from small-scale solar photovoltaics (PV), such as rooftop solar panels, and the rest of the generation was at larger utility-scale solar farms.<sup>80</sup> By mid-2020, Maryland had 1,122 megawatts of total solar generating capacity installed.<sup>81</sup> The state's largest solar project—located on the Eastern Shore—came online in 2018 with a generating capacity of 75 megawatts.<sup>82</sup> Several large solar panel arrays also have been installed at commercial buildings in the state.<sup>83</sup>

Wind energy provided about 12% of Maryland's renewable electricity generation in 2019.<sup>84</sup> The state's best onshore wind potential is in its western mountains and along its southern Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Ocean shorelines.<sup>85</sup> The state's only operating utility-scale wind farms are along Maryland's western Appalachian Mountain crests, where almost 200 megawatts of generating capacity is installed.<sup>86,87</sup> Maryland's greatest wind energy potential is offshore.<sup>88</sup> Two major wind projects are planned off Maryland's Atlantic coastline. One wind project, located about 17 miles offshore, will consist of 32 turbines that can generate up to 270 megawatts of electricity and is scheduled to come online in early 2023.<sup>89</sup> A second wind project, expected to come online in late 2023, will be located about 20 miles offshore and have 12 turbines with a generating capacity of 144 megawatts.<sup>90,91,92</sup>

Many of the job creation aspects can be adopted from the Clean Energy Jobs Act of 2019 Chapter 757.

We ask for an unfavorable report by the committee.  
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Sincerely,  
Jeffry Guido

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