



City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20716

City of Bowie Testimony for SB 0508

The City of Bowie has a long history of focusing on sustainable practices, beginning with a green infrastructure plan in 2003. The Maryland General Assembly passed the Sustainable Communities Act of 2010. The Act was passed to increase economic, transportation, and housing choices, as well as to improve environmental quality and health outcomes, among other locally identified goals.

In May 2012, the Maryland Smart Growth Subcabinet approved the City's Sustainable Community Action Plan and designated Bowie as a Sustainable Community. As a member of Sustainable Maryland since 2013, the City of Bowie adopted a comprehensive Sustainability Plan in 2016. One of the City's goals of these sustainable practices is to convert most of the City's electric usage to solar power.

The City owns over 80 acres of land on which it had originally planned to use for sludge disposal. That activity did not need to happen, and the City is able to use that property for constructing the first of two phases of a solar array, which would ultimately remove two thirds of the City's energy consumption from the power grid.

With the first phase of solar array construction set to be complete this spring, the City has a contract ready to proceed with the second phase. Passage of this bill would clear the uncertainty of the PSC regarding Aggregate Net Energy Metering Systems and enable the City of Bowie and other local governments to shift more of their electricity production to a sustainable practice with this higher capacity.

The City of Bowie would appreciate your support of this bill.

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