

House Bill 624**Position: OPPOSE****Testimony for Brookfield Renewable Partners L.P. to members of the House Economic Matters Committee on HB624 Electricity – Standard Offer Service – Renewable Energy**

Brookfield Renewable thanks Chairman Wilson, Vice Chair Crosby, and members of the Committee for the opportunity to provide comments on HB624. Brookfield Renewable Partners L.P. (“Brookfield Renewable”) has a substantial presence in PJM, including nearly 1,251 MW of renewable hydroelectric resources, 190 MW of wind resources, and over 200 MW of distributed solar resources.

In Maryland, Brookfield Renewable’s nearly 150 MW of renewable resources (20 MW Deep Creek hydropower facility and approximately 124 MW of distributed solar) powers the equivalent of 23,000 Maryland homes and offers over 60 recreational areas for families to enjoy.

Brookfield opposes HB624 as it would require an electric utility company to enter into long-term contracts for between 10-20 years for renewable energy credits and electricity generated from solar, wind, geothermal, tidal, and small hydro-electric sources on the RPS pursuant to the following framework:

- Solicit bids from renewable energy facilities that will be placed into service within 3 years after the date of the solicitation;
- Use a competitive procurement process to award the contract;
- Receive annual compensation equal to 1% of the annual payments under the contract to compensate the electric utility company for accepting the financial obligation of the long-term contract; and
- Be entitled to account for the purchase of renewable energy generation, including the solar energy and renewable energy certificates, as a regulatory asset rather than as debt.

Competitive markets are a more efficient means for the development of new renewable energy resources and such market forces give Maryland the best opportunity to drive new build projects at the least risk to the customer (ratebase).

The Maryland legislature has historically rejected long term contracts as a public policy and should continue to do so. We respectfully urge an unfavorable report.

Sincerely,
Gene Alessandrini
Regional Vice President, US
Brookfield Renewable