

SENATE BILL 156

C5

4lr1517

By: **Senators Manno and Mathias**

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2014

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Public Utilities – Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard – Hydrokinetic Turbines

FOR the purpose of altering the Maryland renewable energy portfolio standard program to include a certain amount of energy derived from hydrokinetic turbines starting in a certain year; defining a certain term; and generally relating to hydrokinetic turbines and the renewable energy portfolio standard.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Public Utilities

Section 7–701(a) and (r)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2010 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Public Utilities

Section 7–701(d–1)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2010 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Public Utilities

Section 7–703(b)(17)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2010 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Public Utilities

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



7-701.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(D-1) “HYDROKINETIC TURBINE” MEANS A TURBINE THAT HARNESSSES ENERGY FROM OCEAN CURRENTS, OCEAN TIDES, OR OCEAN WAVES.

(r) “Tier 1 renewable source” means one or more of the following types of energy sources:

(1) solar energy, including energy from photovoltaic technologies and solar water heating systems;

(2) wind;

(3) qualifying biomass;

(4) methane from the anaerobic decomposition of organic materials in a landfill or wastewater treatment plant;

(5) geothermal, including energy generated through geothermal exchange from or thermal energy avoided by, groundwater or a shallow ground source;

(6) ocean, including energy from waves, tides, currents, and thermal differences;

(7) a fuel cell that produces electricity from a Tier 1 renewable source under item (3) or (4) of this subsection;

(8) a small hydroelectric power plant of less than 30 megawatts in capacity that is licensed or exempt from licensing by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission;

(9) poultry litter-to-energy;

(10) waste-to-energy;

(11) refuse-derived fuel; and

(12) thermal energy from a thermal biomass system.

7-703.

(b) The renewable energy portfolio standard will be as follows:

(17) in 2022 and later, 20% from Tier 1 renewable sources, including:

(i) at least 2% derived from solar energy; [and]

(ii) an amount set by the Commission under § 7-704.2(a) of this subtitle, not to exceed 2.5%, derived from offshore wind energy; AND

(III) AT LEAST 0.0005% DERIVED FROM HYDROKINETIC TURBINES.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2014.