

Maryland-Delaware Solid Waste Association
a chapter of the

TO: The Honorable Delores G. Kelley, Chair
Members, Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable Michael J. Hough

FROM: Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
Danna L. Kauffman
Richard A. Tabuteau

DATE: February 25, 2020

RE: **OPPOSE** – Senate Bill 560 – *Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard – Eligible Sources*

The Maryland Delaware Solid Waste Association (MDSWA), a chapter of the National Waste and Recycling Association, is a trade association representing the private solid waste industry in the State of Maryland. Its membership includes hauling and collection companies, processing and recycling facilities, transfer stations, and disposal facilities. MDSWA and its members **oppose** Senate Bill 560 to retain waste-to-energy as a Tier 1 source in Maryland’s Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (RPS).

Waste-to-energy is not only a renewable source of energy, it is regarded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as a reliable and responsible method of waste disposal, and is subject to stringent state and federal air, water, and solid waste regulations. As the Association representing the entire private solid waste industry, we are deeply concerned about how this bill will affect the waste-to-energy facilities in the State of Maryland and the jurisdictions that rely on them for management of their solid waste. For example, Wheelabrator operates a waste-to-energy facility servicing the City of Baltimore, Baltimore County, and numerous commercial clients. It processes up to 2,250 tons of post-recycled waste each day resulting in 64 megawatts of clean electricity while also providing steam for downtown Baltimore’s heating and cooling system.

Removing waste-to-energy would be a step backward toward increasing the availability of renewable energy in Maryland and would negatively impact the jurisdictions for which waste-to-energy is a critical component of their solid waste management infrastructure. As such, an unfavorable report is requested.

For more information call:

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