
FWA - Testimony of Lawanda Edwards

SB560, Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard - Eligible Sources

Thank you Madam Chair, Mr. Vice Chair, and distinguished members of the Senate Finance Committee.

My name is Lawanda Edwards on behalf of former Senator Roger Manno and ACOYA Energy. We would like to sincerely thank Senator Hough and Delegate Mosby for introducing this important legislation, which we support with amendment (SWA).

We speak today with a deep understanding of this issue, after serving for more than a decade in the General Assembly, and as advocates for renewable and sustainable Waste-to-Energy and Refuse-to-Fuel solutions. During my time as Chief of Staff to Senator Manno, we opposed Incineration in Tier 1, supported every one of Senator Hough's amendments to remove Incineration from the RPS, and authored legislation to clean up the RPS and expand clean renewable energy and waste solutions in Maryland.

That's why we formed ACOYA.

ACOYA is a renewable energy company utilizing an ultra-low emission *steam-reformation* technology to process Waste-to-Energy or Refuse-to-Fuel, while providing superior energy efficiencies and economics. This process is clean -- so clean, that the *Carbon Intensity Index*, which is a recognized standard of measuring emissions relative to the intensity of an industrial process, is NEGATIVE. The process contains no incineration, no combustion, no landfill waste, and emissions are a fraction of the most stringent regulations in the world – less than 0.009 percent of the particulate matter of traditional incineration. The proprietary process is *Non-Combustion Carbon Energy Recovery (BRADAM CER™)*. It is vastly more efficient and environmentally safe than other forms of Waste-to-Energy and Refuse-to-Fuel, including generating ~1.4-2.5X more energy than Incineration, ~6-10X more energy than Anaerobic Digestion, is virtually emission free, and has the capability of eliminating 100% of all toxic greenhouse gases (methane) created by landfills. The technology is breathtaking, and transformational.

In my opinion, this technology is at the heart of what Tier 1 of the Renewable Portfolio Standard was initially all about – to incentivize truly clean renewable energy and waste solutions. Only later did it become acceptable for the RPS to incentivize incineration, methane landfills, or simply sweeping the problem under the rug by sending our waste to someone else's state. None of those are sustainable or acceptable solutions to the pernicious problems of waste, and they have no place in the RPS.

This legislation gets to that problem. However, while we enthusiastically support this legislation, we would ask that an amendment be included, which preserves the one WTE / RTF technology that is exceptionally clean, and could not have been envisioned when the RPS was developed: *Non-Combustion Carbon Energy Recovery*.

For these reasons, we ask for a favorable committee report, with amendment.

Thank you for your consideration.