



Maryland House of Delegates Economic Matters Committee

Chair: CT Wilson

Vice Chair: Brian M. Crosby

House Bill 088 Public Utilities – Energy Distribution Planning and Required Labor Standards

Position: Support

The Baltimore DC Metro Building Trades Council supports HB 088. The establishment of labor Labor standards on renewable energy and the upgrading of the power grid is crucial for Maryland's energy future. Maryland has four major utility suppliers, BG & E, PEPCO, Potomac Edison and Delmarva Power. Currently hydroelectric, solar, wind and biomass account for about 11% of renewable energy with another 75% being imported into MD. A 2018 Abel Foundation report showed that 97% of end users with 3rd party suppliers pay more than the standard service offer of the big four. As Maryland moves forward with improvements to the distribution grid, it is imperative that this work is done with contractors and subcontractors who will:

1. Pay the area prevailing wage standard for each trade, including the wages and fringe benefits per trade, and be subject to all state reporting and compliance requirements.
2. Participate in an apprenticeship program registered with the State of Maryland for each trade employed on the project.
3. Have been compliant with federal and state wage and hour laws in the previous three years.
4. Establish and execute a plan for outreach, recruitment, and retention of Maryland residents to perform work on the project—including residents who are returning citizens, women, minority individuals, and veterans—with an aspirational goal of 25 percent of total work hours performed by Maryland residents, including individuals in one or more of the groups identified.

Electrical Workers

Insulators

Boilermakers

United Association

Plumbers & Gas Fitters

Sprinkler Fitters

Steam Fitters

Roofers

Cement Masons

Teamsters

Laborers

Bricklayers

Ironworkers

Sheet Metal Workers

Elevator Constructors

Painters

Operating Engineers

Carpenters

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5. Offer health care and retirement benefits to the employees working on the project.
 6. Maintain appropriate license requirements and are in good standing to perform the work.
- c. Exempts the prevailing wage requirement if construction of the renewable energy project is covered by a project labor agreement.

We ask the committee for a favorable vote. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Jeffry Guido

Baltimore-DC Metro Building Trades Council

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