

SB 613 Electricity – Community Solar Energy Generating Systems Program
Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee 2-28-2023

FAVORABLE

Honorable Chair Feldman and members of the committee, **I am writing as a citizen and residential subscriber to a community solar subscriber organization ‘Neighborhood Sun.’**

When I first subscribed the company claimed I would (1) save money on my monthly energy bill, and (2) my subscription would simultaneously fund the development of new solar projects in Maryland.

This seemed too good to be true, but I now realize it is possible because solar electricity is so much cheaper than electricity from BGE using a mix of electricity sources. Solar energy costs have dropped ten-fold in recent years. I can attest that **my savings, month after month and year after year, really add up**. Marylanders should have continued access these savings.

The fact that we can save, and simultaneously fund new solar projects, is an incredible bonus!

As a layman, I read the July 1, 2022 PSC ‘Report on the Community Solar Energy Generating Systems (CSEGS) Pilot Program’ which describes the types of analysis that are need to optimize costs. The report also stated that: “Community Solar may impact the revenue and cost true-up process for SOS (Standard Offer Service rates), but there is no evidence to date that this is happening.”

Apparently, it is necessary to conduct various types of analysis. And I understand that there are concerns about interconnection issues and how to optimize them.

However, the need for Maryland to reach it’s greenhouse gas reduction targets is urgent. We don’t have time to put community solar on ‘pause’ for several years. We need to do the necessary analysis, and make any necessary modifications to interconnection processes in parallel. We don’t have time to address these things sequentially.

Please allow this critical program to continue without the need to sunset.

Respectfully,

Joseph A. Adams MD, Towson, MD., legislative district 11B