



February 29, 2024

112 West Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Letter of Information: House Bill 1328: Solar Energy and Energy Storage - Development and State Procurement

Potomac Electric Power Company (Pepco) and Delmarva Power & Light Company (Delmarva Power) submit this letter of information on **House Bill 1328- Solar Energy and Energy Storage - Development and State Procurement**. This legislation establishes the Utility-Scale Solar Design and Siting Advisory Commission in the Power Plant Research Program to provide recommendations related to solar development. It also requires each electric company to submit comprehensive information specific to safety sensitive critical infrastructure to the Solar Technical Assistance Program (Solar TAP) to assist the program in its analysis of solar energy commitments under the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (RPS).

Pepco and Delmarva Power understand that the intent of the legislation is to assist the State in its analysis to better site and deploy solar as part of the 14.5% solar carve out in Maryland's RPS. Under the State's existing Solar TAP program, State and local governments can receive technical assistance with solar siting surveys and conducting preliminary development of solar projects. This information assists government entities in making decisions concerning the location, use (including resiliency options), and budget for solar energy projects. While this is a valuable resource for State and local government entities who do not otherwise have expertise to evaluate the potential of solar siting and development, the requirement that the electric companies share safety sensitive critical infrastructure information with Solar TAP is of concern- specifically the information related to our transmission assets. The siting and development of a solar project is very project specific, and it is ultimately the developer of the project that would work one on one with the electric company to determine the information outlined in this legislation. Pepco and Delmarva Power already provide various mapping tools on our websites to assist with the siting and development of renewable projects that would not compromise any of our safety sensitive critical infrastructure information which should be sufficient for the purposes of this legislation.

Additionally, Pepco and Delmarva Power respectfully ask to be included in the Utility-Scale Solar Design and Siting Advisory Commission as an official member. This would afford Pepco and Delmarva Power with the opportunity to participate, contribute and provide insight into solar development in the State as Pepco and Delmarva Power continue to prepare the grid for the clean energy transition.

Pepco and Delmarva Power are committed to working with the bill sponsors and program directors at Solar TAP to come up with a resolution that provides Solar TAP with information that may be helpful, but does not threaten the security of our critical infrastructure.

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