



Maryland

Energy Administration

TO: Chair Wilson, Vice Chair Crosby, and Members of the Economic Matters Committee
FROM: MEA
SUBJECT: HB 220 - Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard - Eligible Sources - Alterations (Reclaim Renewable Energy Act of 2025)
DATE: February 20, 2025

MEA Position: FAVORABLE

House Bill 220 would alter the definition of a “Tier 1 renewable source” and exclude energy derived from waste and refuse as eligible for inclusion in the renewable energy portfolio standard (RPS).

The Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) supports significant efforts to invest in the State’s climate pollution reduction goals. This legislation represents a necessary adjustment to the RPS that prioritizes the state’s clean energy future, and MEA is supportive of this policy as it was highlighted in Maryland's Climate Pollution Reduction Plan.

The intent of the RPS is to invest in the advancement of clean energy solutions in the state that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support sustainability. This legislation will ensure that measured investments are doing just that as the state works to develop and implement a more robust, long-term waste diversion solution.

By eliminating trash incineration from the renewable portfolio standard, Maryland can align its RPS with the broader goals of achieving net-zero emissions and investing more in clean energy sources.

MEA urges the committee to issue a **favorable report**.

Our sincere thanks for your consideration of this testimony. For questions or additional information, please contact Megan Outten at megan.outten@maryland.gov or 443.842.1780.