**FACT SHEET**

Chesapeake Solar & Storage Association

# Abundant Affordable Clean Energy (AACE) Act

HB398 Charkoudian SB316 Brooks

## Closing Maryland's Growing Energy Gap through Rapid and Responsible Clean Energy and Energy Storage Deployment

### New Solar/Storage Rapid Deployment Programs in AACE Act:

- **New Local Solar:** A new program designed to deploy at least 3 GW of new distributed solar, such as residential, commercial rooftop and parking canopies, and community solar, by 2035. This would speed up current rates of local solar adoption.
  Outcome: Increases Maryland energy generation and decreases net demand and grid strain
- **New Large-Scale Solar:** A new competitive procurement to add at least 3 GW of Maryland solar to the grid by 2035. This would speed up current rates of large-scale solar construction.
  Outcome: Increase Maryland energy generation
- **Energy Storage:** Create new programs to deploy over 1,700 MW of new, primarily transmission-connected energy storage. This would dramatically speed up current rates of energy storage construction.
  Outcome: Deploys new dispatchable capacity and reduces grid strain

### Analyzing Maryland's Energy Gap

- **Importing Electricity:** Maryland imported about 40% of its electricity in 2023, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.
- **(Almost) Everyone Imports:** The MDPSC's 10-Year Plan for Electric Companies says 9 of 13 states in PJM import their electricity. That means Maryland has a lot of competition for that electricity.
- **Demand is Increasing:** Between new data centers, new manufacturers, and residential consumers using more electricity, the pressure to import is only increasing.

### Solar/Storage Keep Costs Managed

The grid grows as the size of peak demand grows. Reduce peak demand and grid strain, and the pressure to import expensive power and overbuild the grid with extra power lines goes down.

Technologies such as rooftop solar, paired battery storage, energy efficiency can create the same resource adequacy benefits as a natural gas plant at 40-60% of the cost. (Source: The Brattle Group)

On-shore wind and large-scale solar are now the cheapest forms of new power generation. (Source: Lazard)

**The AACE Act is designed to leverage private capital and to deploy new, firm clean energy capacity in Maryland through programs that avoid unnecessary ratepayer costs.**

Have questions? Robin K. Dutta robin@chessa.org Executive Director Chesapeake Solar and Storage Association (CHESSA)