

March 4, 2020

To: House Environment & Transportation Committee

Re: Testimony Supporting HB 1425 The Climate Solutions Act of 2020

By: Joyce Dowling, 13907 Cherry Tree Crossing Rd., Brandywine, MD 20613

I am not a scientist. I have no formal education in climate science. As a resident of Brandywine, Maryland where there are 4 gas-powered energy plants within a 13-mile radius, I am aware of the current situation.

People are scared of Climate Change. The information available to the typical news-watching tax-payer in Maryland makes most of us uncomfortable. So the fact that the state has a plan is very encouraging and I very much appreciate the efforts that the state is making to try to reduce greenhouse gases.

I've attended two of the hearings about the current greenhouse reduction plan, including the one in Baltimore at the Maryland Department of the Environment where Secretary Grumbles admitted that they have to do more.

One of the things that can be done is to eliminate the Mattawoman Energy plant from the plan. We have absolute evidence that there has been no building of the plant since it was permitted in 2015. Having one less power plant would mean fewer greenhouse gases in the state of Maryland. The current power plants are hardly running any time at all, so the need for another is apparently not there.

There is so much more that can be done to increase the amount of renewable energy available, such as solar canopies over parking lots. There are so many parking lots. Currently there are only a few small solar farms in southern Prince George's County and one of them has been said to be the largest in the state, which is a sorry situation considering where we are in the progression of Climate Change.

Please move this bill forward as it is very much needed.