

Candace B. Hollingsworth
Mayor



Tracey E. Douglas
City Administrator

Name: Danny Schaible
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Organization or Office: Hyattsville City Councilmember, Ward 2
Committee: Senate Finance
Testimony on: SB 315 - "Electric Industry – Community Choice Energy"
Position: Favorable
Hearing Date: February 25, 2020

January 7, 2020

Delegate Diana M. Fennell
House Office Building, Room 404
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Delegate Fenell,

The City of Hyattsville fully supports State legislation adopting a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) Act. We urge you to co-sponsor legislation in support of a CCA and vote in favor of a bill that reflects our residents' interest as described herein.

Adoption of a Community Choice Aggregation Act would empower Hyattsville to significantly increase the proportion of City residents using clean, renewable, power while reducing the cost of electricity. Although specific statistics are not available at the City level, Potomac Electric Power Company (PEPCO) has estimated that just 5.42% of Maryland electricity is generated from renewable sources in 2018, a figure that could dramatically increase if CCA legislation is implemented.

Hyattsville residents can currently meet their electricity demands with PEPCO, the default provider, or by selecting an electricity retail provider of their choice. However, the process of shopping for an electricity provider can prove to be complicated and many predatory providers offering misleading contracts are abound, resulting in an overwhelming majority of consumers who do not entertain any choice outside of the default provider. Furthermore, without the ability to form a CCA and negotiate rates with a large block of consumers, individual residents have limited negotiating power to lower costs.

If passed, a Community Choice Aggregation Act would allow local governments like Hyattsville the opportunity to negotiate with electricity providers on behalf of its residents creating a great deal more flexibility in negotiating the purchase of renewable energy at competitive rates.

Sincerely,



Candace B. Hollingsworth
Mayor

CC: Hyattsville City Council
Tracey E. Douglas, City Administrator
Jim Chandler, Assistant City Administrator