

MIKE ROGERS
Legislative District 32
Anne Arundel County

Economic Matters Committee

Subcommittees

Banking, Consumer Protection, and
Commercial Law

Unemployment Insurance



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February 4th, 2021

**Testimony in Favor of HB0467
Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard – Hydroelectric Power**

Chair Davis, Vice-Chair Dumais, and members of the Economic Matters Committee

I respectfully request a favorable report of House Bill 467. This bill would extend Tier 2 in Maryland's Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard indefinitely, which would allow hydroelectric power sources to be included once again as part of Maryland's portfolio.

Tier 2 of the RPS expired at the end of 2020, which means that hydroelectric power sources are no longer eligible to apply for renewable energy credits. Reintroducing hydropower to the RPS preserves the participation of a low-cost resource. This has an insignificant cost to ratepayers and has been in the portfolio for over 15 years. Hydroelectric Power is considered a clean energy and does not produce carbon emissions. It should be noted that other states have incorporated Tier 2 into their RPS as a permanent fixture.

With me today, I have Chris Ercoli and Brett Lininger on behalf of Brookfield Renewable Partners to explain further the benefits of permanently extending Tier 2 in the RPS.

I thank the committee for their consideration of HB 467 and I ask for a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Rogers".

Mike Rogers
Maryland Delegate, 32nd District