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Testimony on HB 768 –

HB 768: Montgomery County Community Choice Energy

Finance Committee

Position: Favorable

Interfaith Power & Light (DC.MD.NoVA) supports HB 768.

At Interfaith Power & Light, we've worked with many people and communities of faith who are choosing to get their energy from above. From installing solar panels on homes and congregations, to community solar projects, to choosing clean energy contracts, faith communities have used a variety of tools to cut climate pollution and better care for our common home.

Now, our friends in Montgomery County are asking for your help in adding a new clean energy option. This bill would allow Montgomery County to make clean energy the default option county-wide — hugely expanding the amount of clean energy used in the county.

Of course, just like everywhere else in Maryland, each household would still have the final say. Residents could choose to go back to the standard electricity offered by the utility company, or stick with their current alternative energy plan. But by making clean energy the default, Montgomery County would be taking a powerful step to better care for Creation and protect clean air here in Maryland and beyond.

We urge the committee to give HB 768 a favorable report.