

**Submission Date: 3/08/2022**

**Hearing Date: 3/10/2022**

**BILL & TITLE:** HB0171 Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice Act (CCEJ)  
**POSITION:** Favorable  
**COMMITTEE:** Economic Matters / Environment & Transportation  
**SPONSOR:** Delegate David Fraser-Hidalgo

Dear Committee Members,

I'm Lynda DeWitt, owner of Solar Mowing, an emission-free landscape company based in Bethesda, in Montgomery County. And I'm pleased today to voice support of the Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice Act.

I've been using all battery-powered equipment — and charging it with renewable energy — since 2009, when I started Solar Mowing. In these 14 years, I've never had an advertising budget. My experience shows that people are hungry to reduce their carbon emissions and be part of the climate solution. Not just the well-to-do in certain zip codes but people everywhere. We get frequent calls from folks outside our service area, who we can't help.

Also, our crew members (who, by the way, earn more than State and County minimums) aren't subjected to nauseating fumes or deafening engine noise. If they have something in their ears, it's earbuds allowing them to listen to music or podcasts — while they mow. Many of our customers, working from home, don't even know we're outside unless they see us through a window.

As a homeowner and business owner, I'm grateful for energy choice, which I've taken advantage of long before I started Solar Mowing in 2009. I would like to go on record, however, encouraging state leaders to better promote renewable energy choice. I've found that many people don't know about the option and/or have misconceptions about its difficulty and expense.

My entire business is based on providing a carbon-free service. Not only is this possible, it's profitable. As we all know, the cost of *not* reducing greenhouse gas emissions and *not* acting in an environmentally just way is unimaginable in terms of dollars, destruction, and deaths. I wish it was 1992 or even 2002. But now, in 2022, we must act boldly. I urge you to pass HB0171.

Thank you,

**Lynda DeWitt**  
**Solar Mowing, Founder/Owner**  
**301-787-5018**

cc: Members of the Economic Matters / Environment & Transportation Committees