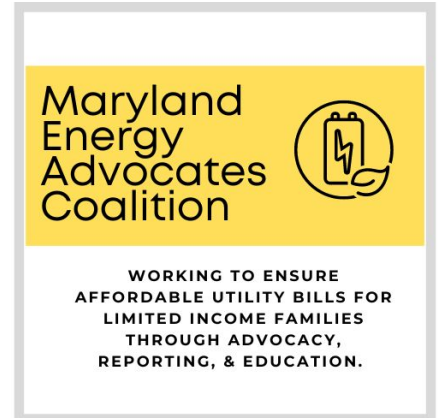


TESTIMONY IN **SUPPORT** OF HB1214

Residential Retail Electricity - Green Power -
Renewable Energy Credits and Marketing Claims
Economic Matters Committee Hearing
Delegate Stein
February 23, 2023



Chairman Wilson and members of Economic Matters Committee: I am Laurel Peltier the Chair of Maryland Energy Advocates, a coalition of non-profits, foundations, churches and volunteers that advocate, directly help, and support policies and change to ensure that the Maryland's low income segment will one day have affordable utility bills that run about 6% of their households' income.

HB1214 is a consumer protection bill intended to improve retail "green power" product transparency.

Today, there are no regulations surrounding retail energy "green power" marketing and offer claims. Retail marketers sell "100% renewable energy" in some form or another. The vast majority of Maryland consumers that I help assume they are paying premium pricing for clean electricity fed into the PJM grid. Yet "green power" retail offers are REC-based products and that information is extremely difficult to find as a consumer.

Because consumers are paying significant pricing premiums for retail "green power" it is reasonable that consumers have more readily available and clear product information to make informed energy choice decisions.

This bill:

1. Requires clean energy RECs that match the marketing and like RPS RECs, are generated within PJM.
2. Requires that all RECs purchased to support the "green power" claims are reported using the current yearly PSC reporting process.

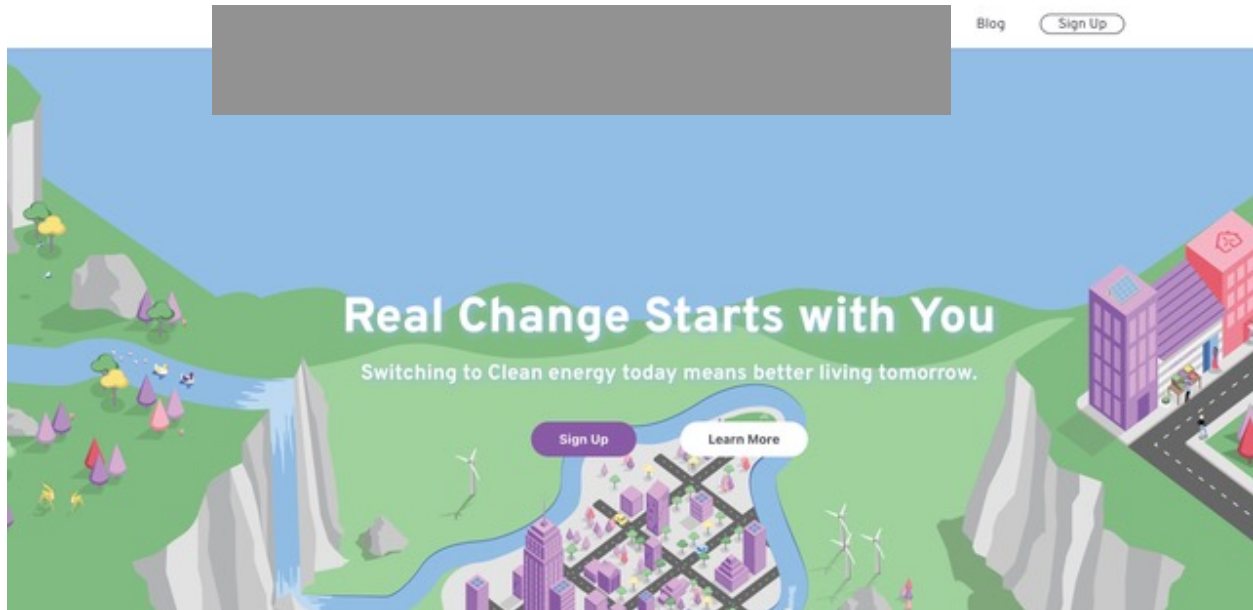
3. Requires a standardized product disclosure statement used by all retail "green power" offers on all marketing, and in the contract, explaining what "green power" retail energy offers are: local utility grid electricity paired with renewable energy certificates from clean energy generation sources.

Energy Advocate thanks Delegate Stein for sponsoring HB1214 and we ask for a favorable report from ECM.

This chart is sourced from the DOE Energy Information Administration 861 files and reports for Maryland's residential market, the number of customers, and the average actual premium paid by each family for "green power."

MARYLAND RETAIL ENERGY "100% RENEWABLE" 2021 RESULTS			
Res. Supplier	# Customers	Xtra \$ Paid per Family	Revenues Above SOS
#1 Shell Oil's Inspire	27,000	\$315	\$ 8.5 million
#2 CleanChoice	24,000	\$577	\$14 million
#3 Shell's SmartEnergy	8,500	\$116	\$1 million
#4 CleanSky / Titan	7,300	\$464	\$3.4 million
#5 Clearview	5,600	\$263	\$1.5 million
#6 M Power	5,500	\$257	\$1.4 million
#7 Star Energy	5,400	\$318	\$1.7 million
#8 NRG - Stream	5,200	\$519	\$2.5 million
#9 Indra / Palmco	4,600	\$559	\$2.5 million
#10 Tomorrow/Sperian	4,500	\$559	\$1.8 million
#11 NRG - Green Mount	3,400	\$705	\$2.4 million
#12 Greenlight	3,300	\$388	\$1.3 million
#13 Vistra - Viridian	2,300	\$807	\$1.8 million
#14 Spring Energy	2,200	\$447	\$1 million
All "Green" Suppliers	108,000	\$412	\$45,000,000

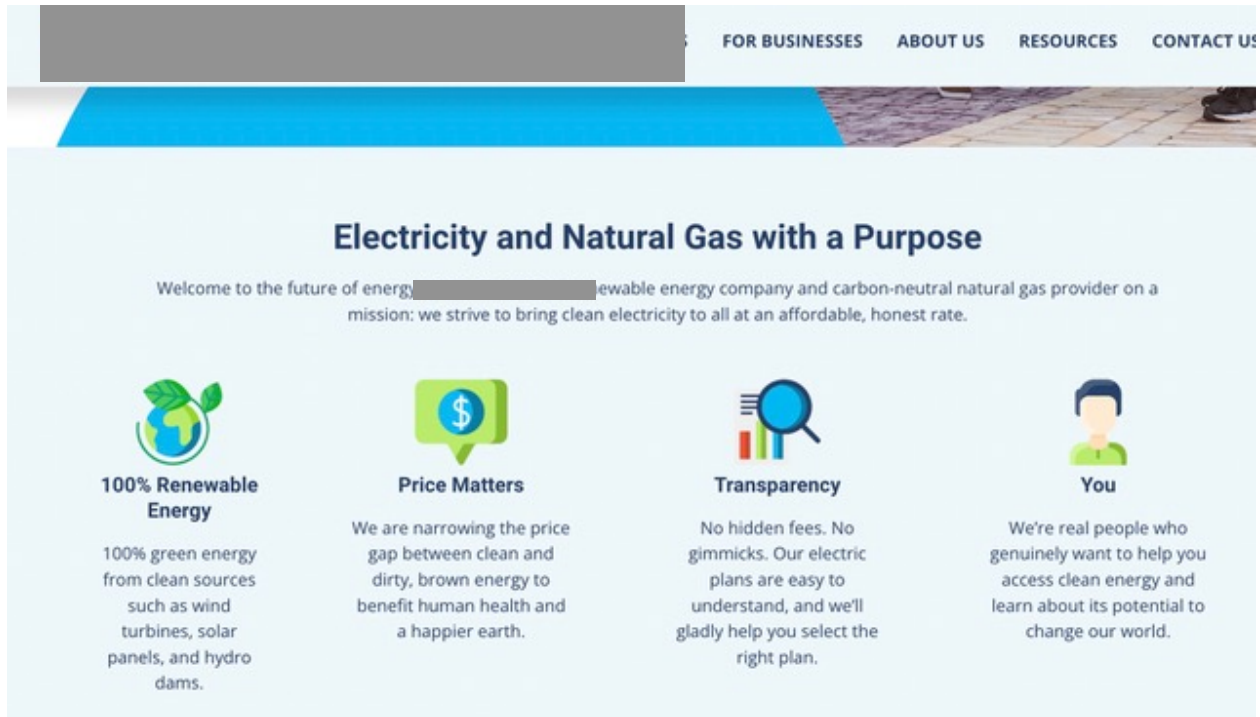
Here are examples of "green power" retail product marketing :



How is [redacted] different than other energy companies? ^

[redacted] is different in several important ways:


- We sell only 100% clean energy from renewable sources like wind and solar.
- We don't contribute to any fossil fuel or nuclear energy production.
- We source our energy in the regions we serve.



The screenshot shows a website header with a navigation menu containing the following items: [redacted], FOR BUSINESSES, ABOUT US, RESOURCES, and CONTACT US. Below the header is a blue horizontal bar. The main content area has a light blue background and features the following elements:


Electricity and Natural Gas with a Purpose

Welcome to the future of energy. [redacted] renewable energy company and carbon-neutral natural gas provider on a mission: we strive to bring clean electricity to all at an affordable, honest rate.




100% Renewable Energy

100% green energy from clean sources such as wind turbines, solar panels, and hydro dams.




Price Matters

We are narrowing the price gap between clean and dirty, brown energy to benefit human health and a happier earth.



Transparency

No hidden fees. No gimmicks. Our electric plans are easy to understand, and we'll gladly help you select the right plan.



You

We're real people who genuinely want to help you access clean energy and learn about its potential to change our world.

Plans and Services Why Go Green? About Us Customer Service [Sign Up](#) [My Account](#)

Renewable Energy Plans for Your Home

Enter your ZIP code to find renewable energy in your area.

ZIP CODE

 [View Plans](#)

8:24 AM Mon Jun 27 Search Facebook [Laurel](#)

Write a comment...

Help fight climate change from the best seat in the house.

The fact that [redacted] provides access to clean energy is great for the environment and for anyone concerned with climate change.

★★★★★ - Walter

[Learn more](#)

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