

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE Office of the President

February 10, 2023

Education, Energy and Environment Committee

As President of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore located in Princess Anne, Somerset County, please accept this letter indicating our strong support for Senate Bill 447, Anaerobic Digestion Workgroup.

The purpose of this bill is to establish a workgroup to determine and review the processes and current regulation in this matter. In addition, this workgroup would make recommendations and requirements about these facilities. We know that anaerobic digesters are beneficial in breaking bacteria down into organic matter. Ensuring there are appropriate standards, requirements and criteria for these systems will maximize their efficiency and environmental sustainability.

Our mission at UMES strives to provide a sustainable environment on our campus and the surrounding communities. As such, we are committed to teach sustainable development concepts, encourage research on sustainable development issues, create a greener campus, and support sustainability efforts within our local community. Thus, Senate Bill 447, calling for the creation of an anaerobic digestion workgroup is complementary to our endeavors and one in which we fully support.

Please call if I can answer any questions you may have or be of further assistance.

Respectfully,

Dr. Heidi M. Anderson

President University of Maryland Eastern Shore