

SB931: Public Utilities - Generating Stations - Generation and Siting (Renewable Energy Certainty Act) Maryland Senate Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment Vistra Submitted Testimony: Favorable With Amendments February 28, 2025

Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee,

Vistra appreciates the opportunity to submit these written comments based upon our perspective as the largest competitive power generator in the United States.¹ We are advocating for the removal of unnecessary study language that contemplates utility-owned generation. We advocate for the removal of this language that we believe is in conflict with Maryland's energy goals regarding affordability and we are happy to provide additional information on the detrimental impacts of utility-owned generation.

Our team also notes that this inclusion appears to conflict with the Energy Resource Adequacy and Planning Act (SB909/HB1037) that creates a new process to consider a wide range of solutions for Maryland. The study provisions in SB909/HB1037 have a wider scope that could lead to the most effective and cost-efficient mechanism to bring new resources online. The additional study of a more costly utility partnership for generation proposed in SB931/HB1036 is unnecessary and could yield conflicting results.

We applaud the sponsors' and their staff for their work to bring this legislation forward as well as the work of the Governor and his team, Maryland General Assembly leadership, and dedication of these Committees to address Maryland's energy future.

Submitted Respectfully,

Colin Fitzsimmons Director, Government Affairs Vistra Corp.

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¹ Vistra is a leading Fortune 500 integrated retail electricity and power generation company. The company brings its products and services to market in 19 states and the District of Columbia, including all major competitive wholesale power markets in the U.S. Vistra retail brands serve approximately 5 million residential, commercial, and industrial retail customers with electricity and natural gas and is one of the largest competitive electricity providers in the country and offers over 50 renewable energy plans across the markets we serve. While Vistra does not own electric generation in Maryland, the company is also the largest competitive power generator in the U.S. with a capacity of approximately 41,000 megawatts powered by a diverse portfolio, including natural gas, nuclear, solar, and battery energy storage facilities. Over 7,500 MW of that generation serves the PJM region, of which Maryland is a part. The company also owns and operates the 750-MW/3,000-MWh battery energy storage system in Moss Landing, California, one of the largest of its kind in the world. Learn more about our environmental, social, and governance efforts and read the company's sustainability report at https://www.vistracorp.com/sustainability/.