



*Queen
Anne's
County*

**THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY**

The Liberty Building
107 North Liberty Street
Centreville, MD 21617

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County Commissioners:

James J. Moran, At Large
Jack N. Wilson, Jr., District 1
J. Patrick McLaughlin, District 2
Philip L. Dumenil, District 3
Christopher M. Corchiarino, District 4

County Administrator: *Todd R. Mohn, PE*
Executive Assistant to County Commissioners: *Stephanie L. Jarrell*
County Attorney: *Patrick Thompson, Esquire*

February 25, 2025

The Honorable C.T. Wilson
Chairman, Economic Matters Committee
230 Taylor House Office Building
House Office Building, Room 231
Annapolis MD 21401

RE: **HB1036 – Renewable Energy Certainty Act (Public Utilities – Generating Stations – Generation and Siting)**
OPPOSITION

Dear Chairman Wilson,

Please consider this letter of **opposition** for House Bill 1036. This bill establishes a clear path for the preemption of local zoning authority by restricting and prohibiting local zoning laws that regulate the construction of certain solar energy generating station and energy storage devices. Further, this bill creates an exemption from personal and real property taxes for solar energy generating stations.

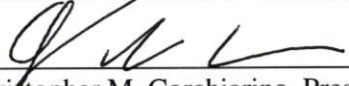
HB1036 completely disregards the good faith collaboration in which Queen Anne's County participated along with state and county leaders, nongovernmental organizations, and solar industry leaders to advance Maryland's renewable energy goals through clear, effective, and balanced policies. The Renewable Energy Certainty Act undermines local taxing authority, local zoning authority, essential community input and protections. This bill does not contemplate essential safety measures affiliated with utility scale battery storage devices.


In general, HB1036 disregards local land use, comprehensive planning, and economic factors that would otherwise allow counties to partner with the State to achieve renewable energy portfolio goals. This bill is in direct conflict with the Queen Anne's County Comprehensive Plan and long-standing land use and property rights assurances provided by QAC Zoning Code which are consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.


Thank you for the opportunity to **oppose** this legislation.

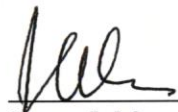
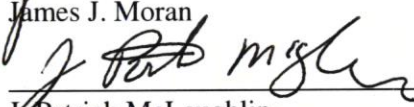
Respectfully,

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Christopher M. Corchiarino, President


Jack N. Wilson, Jr.


Philip L. Dumenil


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J. Patrick McLaughlin