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February 28, 2025

To: Members of the House Economic Matters Committee

Members of the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

From: Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake

Re: Letter of Information for House Bill (HB) 1036 and Senate Bill (SB) 931 -

Public Utilities - Generating Stations - Generation and Siting (Renewable

Energy Certainty Act)

Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake represents approximately 200 electrical contractors who employ approximately 15,000 workers in the mid-Atlantic region. In addition, IEC Chesapeake has nearly 1,000 electrical apprentices. IEC Chesapeake offers this letter of information for the Committee's consideration.

As the Committees consider SB931 and HB1036, which have requirements for the siting of solar generating stations, IEC Chesapeake strongly encourages that work on these projects be performed by licensed electricians. Utilizing licensed electricians on solar projects is good for the consumer, ensures safety, and promotes skilled craftsmanship.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact Grant Shmelzer, Executive Director of IEC Chesapeake, at 301-646-0197 or at gshmelzer@iec-chesapeake.com or Kevin O'Keeffe at 410-382-7844 or at kevin@kokeeffelaw.com.

About Us

Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC) Chesapeake represents members throughout Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, D.C. Our headquarters are located in Laurel, Maryland. IEC Chesapeake has an extensive apprenticeship program for training electricians. In addition, IEC Chesapeake promotes green economic growth by providing education and working with contractor members, industry partners, government policy makers and inspectors to increase the use of renewable energy.