

DAVID PENDELTON SR.
Chairperson/Director

TOM CAHILL
Vice Chairperson/Assistant
Director

BRITTANY GARRIS
Secretary



ANNAPOLIS OFFICE
99 Cathedral Street
Suite 201
Annapolis, MD 21401-2597

PH: (240) 271-9420
smartmdsla@yahoo.com

February 11, 2025

To the Honorable Brian Feldman, Chair; Cheryl Kagan, Vice Chair and Members of the Education, Energy and the Environment Committee.

My name is Tom Cahill. I'm a 29-year employee of CSX Transportation currently working as a locomotive engineer out of Brunswick, MD. I want to express my opposition to **SB10 – the Reclaim Renewable Energy Act of 2025** and highlight the positive role that Waste-to-energy plays in providing a clean, refined, and efficient source of energy to the residents of Montgomery County.

CSX currently provides a six-day per week service to Dickerson Generating Station where double-stacked containers loaded with solid waste collected from county residents and businesses are moved from the Shady Grove Transfer Station to Dickerson.

CSX generally moves 75 to 94 containers of waste at a time. Just one container car can handle what would be three truckloads of solid waste. One train keeps 225 - 300 diesel trucks off of Montgomery County's roads, daily. Ash produced at Dickerson is moved by another CSX crew to Brunswick where it is added to freight trains and sent to out-of-state recovery facilities.

Dickerson Generating Station has been a good idea since its conception and continues to play a vital role in waste disposal for the county to this day. Power generated there provides heat and electricity for 30,000 homes. Giving relief to the region's extremely stressed electrical grid. Dickerson has evolved over the years to stay at the forefront of clean burning and efficient [technologies](#) just as CSX's locomotives have evolved to meet current [Tier 4](#) requirements for exhaust emissions.

The partnership between CSX, ReWorld and Montgomery County is the best and cleanest method to manage this residual waste with the benefit of contributing to the regional electric grid. Alternative proposals to truck county waste out of state would negatively affect local air quality, add to traffic, and take a reliable, renewable, locally produced source of power off of Maryland's strained power grid.


The current partnership also provides good paying Union jobs at both CSX and ReWorld Waste, manager of the Shady Grove Transfer Station and Dickerson Generating Station. Additionally, providing good paying jobs in support of local companies that maintain equipment at these facilities.

The partnership is a win-win for all those involved, especially the county residents who are the electric utility customers in the region.

I ask for your support of this program for years to come and urge an Unfavorable Report!

Sincerely,

Thomas E Cahill, Vice Chairperson/Assistant Director
Maryland Safety & Legislative Board, LO-023

 Transportation Division