

Committee:	Education Energy and the Environment
Testimony on:	SB716 Decarbonization Infrastructure Solutions Act of 2025
Submitting:	Karl Held
Position:	Unfavorable
Hearing Date:	March 6, 2025

Dear Chair and Committee Members:

Thank you for allowing my testimony today on SB716. I urge you to vote unfavorably on this bill.

The Decarbonization Infrastructure Solutions Act of 2025 adds nuclear energy to Tier 1 and would add a carve-out within Tier 1 that requires annual increases in the percentage of nuclear power, starting at 4% in 2026, and growing 4%/year through 2030. This growth rate is unrealistic to achieve.

On page 9, the bill also specifies that existing nuclear generation sources cannot qualify for the RPS. The result would be to simply derail the whole RPS by including targets that are simply impossible to meet, thereby forcing ratepayers to be charged for Alternative Compliance Payments for RECs that the utilities and retail suppliers won't be able to procure.

After 2030, the bill would stop growth of actual renewable energy within Tier 1 and continue expanding nuclear power to 50% of Maryland's electricity supply in 2040. That is also a clearly unrealistic target and would essentially shut down the wind and solar industries, requiring nearly all of Maryland's electricity growth to come from building new reactors every year.

I am strongly opposed to SB716 and urge a UNFAVORABLE report in committee.