



Solar United Neighbors Action

1350 Connecticut Avenue NW,
Suite 412, Washington, DC 20036

RE: SB 983 – Public Utilities - Distributed Generation Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity

Favorable

March 3, 2025

Chair Feldman, Senator Brooks, and members of the Senate Education, Energy, and Environment Committee,

Solar United Neighbors Action provides this written testimony regarding Senate bill 983. SUN Action's position on this legislation is Favorable.

SUN Action is a 501(c)4 non-profit organization that represents the needs and interests of solar owners and supporters in Maryland and across the country. Together with our 501(c)3 affiliate Solar United Neighbors (SUN), we help people go solar, join together, and fight for their energy rights. SUN is dedicated to creating a clean, equitable, resilient energy system that benefits everyone. SUN has helped more than 1,600 Marylanders add 13.5 MW of solar to their homes and businesses and represents forty thousand solar owners and supporters across the state. These comments are on behalf of SUN Action.

SUN helped develop the original community solar pilot program in Maryland, which launched in 2015 and helped make community solar permanent in 2023 with the passage of SB 613 (HB 908). Community solar supports state clean energy and climate goals with local, clean energy and provides at least 40% of the energy to benefit low-and-moderate income customers.

Since the program has become permanent, there is a lot of potential for community solar in Maryland. However, some challenges exist, especially around siting of community solar projects. SUN Action is supportive of the solutions proposed within SB 983 including a new "Distributed



Generation Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity" (DGCPCN) process.

SUN Action urges a favorable report on SB 983 to help lower Marylander's energy bills with more local solar energy from community solar. SB 983 will help streamline and accelerate community solar deployment that meets the standard siting and design conditions determined by the Power Plant Research Program. SB 983 will accelerate clean energy development in Maryland and help the state reach our ambitious goals including 14.5% local solar.

From,

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