

**TESTIMONY OF BLOOM ENERGY
IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 992**

Public Utilities – Large Load Customers – Registration and Demand Response Program
with the BYOP Large Load Amendment
Senate Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment

March 12, 2026

Members of the Maryland Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
Maryland General Assembly
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Testimony Pertaining to SB 992 – **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT**

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

Bloom Energy appreciates the General Assembly’s focus on grid planning and ratepayer cost protections; as such, we testify in support of SB 992 and respectfully urge the committee to adopt the “Bring You Own Power” Large Load Amendment. We strongly support the Legislature’s efforts to address the cost and reliability issues posed by large loads, and highlight the importance of this amendment to avoid unintended consequences of interactions with existing state programs.

SB 992 sets a strong foundation

SB 992 takes important steps towards ensuring responsible development in Maryland of facilities with large electricity demand. By establishing a registry to arm the Public Service Commission with critical data to fully understand the broader implications of these loads, and by ensuring that only those meeting thoughtful standards are eligible for tax exemption, the bill would set a framework for protecting grid stability, ratepayer and taxpayer costs, and existing environmental obligations. Such a foundation would allow growth of critical sectors without compromising other public policy objectives or placing undue risk on ratepayers.

Critically, on-site power, often referred to as “behind-the-meter” power, meets the objectives of SB 992 while ensuring that providing power to the large load will have no ratepayer impacts. When facilities provide their own power, as envisioned in Section (E)(3)I, and do not rely on the local utility for any power, ratepayers are entirely isolated from costs associated with the provision of energy.

Onsite Power in Maryland is currently at a disadvantage compared to grid power

Unfortunately, the State’s Building Energy Performance Standards (BEPS) penalize onsite power while exempting grid power from facility emissions calculations. Under the current BEPS program, any onsite power otherwise enabled by SB 992 would be penalized, even if that on-site power source were cleaner than the local electric grid. This effectively limits the bill’s ability to encourage new on-site power, forcing large loads to rely on dirtier grid power with long lead times, negative community impacts, and ratepayer exposure.

The proposed amendment offers a simple fix. As drafted, the amendment states that facilities that deploy onsite power systems that demonstrate (using longstanding EPA data and

methodologies) a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions compared to the local grid's marginal emissions rate shall exclude the power system's emissions from BEPS. Importantly, this would not apply to systems that are dirtier than the grid. For clarity, we point out that currently **BEPS excludes all grid power emission sources** no matter how dirty and **penalizes all onsite power emission sources** no matter how clean.

Conclusion

Bloom Energy supports SB 992 with the BYOP Large Load amendment. The bill would set important standards for responsible large load development, and the amendment would ensure that the onsite power systems envisioned under the bill are not made inviable by a penalty that favors grid power. We respectfully note that SB 992 would not have its intended effect without this amendment.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be helpful to the committee as you continue to grapple with these important issues.

Sincerely,

/s/Jordan Garfinkle

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