

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS - LOCAL UNION No. 24

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Baltimore Port Council
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Written Testimony of
Rico Albacarys, Assistant Business Agent, IBEW LOCAL 24
Before the House Environment & Transportation Committee On
HB 629 Maryland Energy Administration - Study on Land-Based Wind Energy

Favorable

February 13, 2026

Chairman Korman, Vice Chair Guyton, and Committee Members,

My name is Rico Albacarys, and I am a member and employee of IBEW Local 24, writing to express support for House Bill 629.

Maryland's electricity demand is growing while generation continues to decline. At the same time, the State has made strong commitments to clean energy. To keep the lights on and meet those standards, we need to take a serious look at every realistic source of reliable, homegrown power.

House Bill 629 does exactly that by directing the Maryland Energy Administration to study the potential for land-based wind in Maryland. This bill does not approve or require any specific project. It simply ensures that decisions about our energy future are based on real data rather than assumptions. Other states have shown that wind generation can coexist with military and aviation systems when modern mitigation tools are used, and Maryland deserves the same fact-based evaluation.

Land based wind also represents good, long term jobs for skilled electrical workers and a way to keep energy dollars in Maryland instead of sending them out of state.

For these reasons, we urge a favorable report on House Bill 629.

Sincerely,

Rico Albacarys
Assistant Business Agent
IBEW Local 24