



February 6, 2026

The Honorable Marc Korman
Chair of the Committee on the Environment and Transportation
Maryland House of Delegates
250 Taylor House Office Building
251 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Opposition to HB 66, Restore Energy Freedom Act

Dear Chair Korman:

On behalf of the Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), I am writing to oppose HB 66, the Restore Energy Freedom Act, which would require the Governor to withdraw the State from participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).

Climate change is a regional priority for COG, the association of local governments in metropolitan Washington. COG's legislative priorities include supporting policies and actions that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in metropolitan Washington to meet the region's climate goals. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, power plants are one of the largest sources of GHG emissions in the country. RGGI is a cooperative, market-based effort among the states in the mid-Atlantic and New England to reduce CO2 emissions from the power sector. The Restore Energy Freedom Act will inhibit Maryland's efforts to meet state-wide GHG emission reduction goals. As such, CEEPC, on behalf of COG, opposes HB 66, as it promotes the use of nonrenewable energy.

Please contact Jeffrey King, COG Director of Climate, Energy, and Air Programs at (202) 962-3238 or jking@mwcog.org if you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cindy Dyballa', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Cindy Dyballa
Chair, Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee

cc: Honorable Michele Guyton
Honorable Nick Allen
Honorable H. Kevin Anderson
Honorable Terry L. Baker
Honorable Dylan Behler
Honorable Regina T. Boyce
Honorable Linda Foley
Honorable David Fraser-Hidalgo
Honorable Robin L. Grammer, Jr.

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Honorable Anne Healey
Honorable Marvin E. Holmes, Jr.
Honorable Jay A. Jacobs
Honorable Robbyn Lewis
Honorable Jeffrie E. Long, Jr.
Honorable Todd B. Morgan
Honorable Ryan Nawrocki
Honorable Darrell Odom
Honorable Dana Stein
Honorable Natalie Ziegler