



## Renewable Industries Statement of Support for the Clean Energy Jobs Act in 2019

Dear Maryland Leaders,

The renewable energy industry supports passage of the Clean Energy Jobs Act in the 2019 legislative session. The Clean Energy Jobs Act, which increases the Maryland RPS to 50% and includes a robust solar carve-out of 14.5%, is broadly supported across wind and solar developers, installers, operators, manufacturers, and advocates. This includes broad support from the wind and solar energy industry, the environmental community, and faith-based groups. The Clean Energy Jobs Act is also the most practical approach to increasing Maryland's share of renewables, building on the existing RPS regime which has incentivized significant growth in clean energy in and around Maryland. While the wind and solar industries envision a future where Maryland sources 100% of its electricity from clean resources, we believe the best path through 2030 will be paved by the expansion of the RPS to 50% via the Clean Energy Jobs Act.

The Clean Energy Jobs Act represents an excellent win-win opportunity for Marylanders, enabling a huge infusion of private capital and Federal tax credits that will support a decade of clean energy jobs and the greening of Maryland's electricity grid. In 2018, the Maryland Department of Legislative Services determined that The Clean Energy Jobs Act would cost between \$1.40 and \$1.85 per month for the average Marylander, far smaller than the monthly benefit Maryland workers will gain in wages alone (equivalent of \$5-\$8/month per Maryland resident). In short, the economic and environmental benefits to Marylanders of The Clean Energy Jobs Act far outweigh the modest cost.

The undersigned industry groups represent the vast majority of renewable energy companies, employees, investments, projects, and facilities both operating, under construction, and under development under the Maryland RPS. We wish to unequivocally declare our support for the 50% RPS via the Clean Energy Jobs Act as the primary vehicle for supporting the renewable energy industry.

Sincerely,

**Maryland-DC-Virginia Solar Energy Association**

David Murray, Executive Director

**Utility-Scale Solar Energy Coalition of Maryland**

Cyrus Tashakkori, Chairman

**American Wind Energy Association**

Andrew Gohn, Eastern Region Director of State Policy

**Mid-Atlantic Renewable Energy Coalition**

Bruce Burcat, Executive Director