# **Timeline of Past Policy Decisions** and State Energy Goals

The Maryland legislature has a long track record of dealing with energy-related policy and regulation. In past sessions, the Maryland General Assembly has established goals related to energy consumption and supply, as well as to the associated emissions:

- 15% Demand reduction by 2015
- 20% Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) by 2022; with a 2% mandated carve out for solar generation.
- 25% Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020

This timeline highlights of some of the most significant past policy decisions, but it is not a complete record of those decisions.



# 2006 Healthy Air Act

The Healthy Air Act addressed air pollution from power plants by requiring reductions in nitrogen oxide, sulfur dioxide, and mercury, It also required Maryland to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), a regional pact of northeastern and Mid-Atlantic states to reduce greenhouse gases from power plants.

http://mgaleg.maryland. gov/2006rs/bills/hb/hb0189t.pdf

## 2007 RPS Increased from 7.5% to 20%

Amended the Renewable Portfolio Standard in 2007 to expand the requirement to generate 20% of electricity from renewable source by 2022, up from the original 7.5% goal.

http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2007RS/ chapters\_noln/Ch\_119\_sb0595E.pdf

2007 RPS- Expands **Net Energy Metering** 

Regulations adopted that raised the size of eligile systems to 2 MW and quanity of net meters in the state to 1,500 MW. This allows non-utility generators of renewable energy to receive a monetary credit for the power placed onto the grid.

http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2007RS/ chapters\_noln/Ch\_119\_sb0595E.pdf

2005

#### **2008 Maryland Clean Energy Center Created**

Enabled the creation of the Maryland Clean Energy Center in statute as a corporate instrumentality of the state to promote economic development and jobs in the clean energy industry sector, promote the deployment of clean energy technology in the state and serve as an incubator for its development; collect, analyze and disseminate industry data; and provide outreach and technical support to further the clean energy industry in the state.

http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2008rs/chapters\_noln/ Ch\_137\_hb1337E.pdf

## 2008 EmPOWER Maryland Implemented

The 2008 EmPOWER Maryland Energy Efficiency Act set a goal for the state to reduce energy use by 15% and reduce peak demand per capita by 15% by 2015 (based on 2007 levels) through energy efficiency programs. It also established a process by which utilities could collect and utilize a surcharge on ratepayer bills to fund rebates and other implementation strategies approved in advance by

http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2008rs/chapters\_noln/ Ch\_131\_hb0374E.pdf

2009 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act sets a

goal of Maryland reducing emissions of greenhouse

gases such as Carbon Dioxide 25% by 2020 (based

on 2006 levels). Directed the Maryland Department

goals and promulgate regulation with defined terms

of the Environment to develop a plan to meet the

http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2009rs/chapters\_

for compliance.

noln/Ch\_172\_sb0278E.pdf

## 2011 RPS adds Waste to Energy to Tier 1(SB 690)

Adds grid tied waste to energy to the category of energy generation technologies eligible for Tier I credit in the RPS.

http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2011rs/ chapters\_noln/Ch\_519\_sb0690E.pdf

# 2011 RPS Expands Solar Carve-Out to include Solar Thermal

In 2011, the legislature amended the RPS to add solar thermal technology, which is typically used to heat water, into the solar carve out. Previously, the solar carve out only included solar photovoltaic, or "PV," which is typically used to create electricity.

http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2011rs/chapters\_ noln/Ch\_407\_sb0717E.pdf

# **2013 Offshore Wind Act**

The Offshore Wind Act expanded the RPS to include a "carve-out" for offshore wind starting in 2017. The Act does not specify the percentage of electricity sold in the state that has to come from offshore wind, but rather leaves it to the PSC to determine each year. The Act has many protections and alternate scenarios to provide the PSC maximum flexibility and keep rate

2013 Established the Maryland Thermal

**Renewable Energy Credit Task Force** 

Plant Derived Biomass Systems.

To evaluate amending the RPS to Include Wood and

http://mgaleg.maryland. impacts for ratepayers to a minimum gov/2013RS/bills/hb/ hb1534F.pdf http://mgaleg.maryland. gov/2013RS/bills/sb/sb0275f.pdf

#### **2013 Gas Companies - Rate Regulation Infrastructure Replacement Surcharge**

Allowing a gas company to recover costs associated with infrastructure replacement projects through a gas infrastructure replacement surcharge on customer bills.

http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2013RS/bills/hb/ http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2013RS/chapters\_noln/ hb0089t.pdf Ch\_323\_hb1084T.pdf

2013 RPS Solar Water

Altering the definition of "solar

**Heating Systems** 

water heating system" for

purposes of the renewable

energy portfolio standard to

include systems that consist

solar thermal collectors under

of specified concentrating

specified circumstances.

#### **2014 Sustainable Communities Tax Credit Program - Extension** and Alteration

**Extending and altering the Sustainable Communities** Tax Credit Program; providing for a tax credit for the rehabilitation of small commercial properties: repealing a tax credit for qualified rehabilitated structures; altering the tax credit for high performance

http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2014RS/chapters\_ noln/Ch\_601\_hb0510T.pdf

# **2014 Maryland Clean Energy Center- Green Bank Financing Study**

Directs the MCEC to study gaps in the marketplace, identify the potential to develop green bank financing, and recommend an implementation strategy based on identified need.

http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2014RS/ chapters\_noIn/Ch\_365\_sb0985T.pdf

# 2014 Agriculture - Easements - Renewable **Energy Generation Facilities**

Authorized the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation to amend an easement to authorize the landowner to use the land subject to the easement for renewable energy generation.

http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2014RS/chapters\_noln/ Ch\_287\_sb0259T.pdf

#### 2004 RPS bill

The 2004 Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) set the stage for much of the future sustainable energy legislation over the past decade. The RPS set a certain percentage of renewable and/or clean energy that had to be sold by electricity suppliers in the state. Maryland is one of many states that use this policy tool to spark the growth of renewable energy facilities. One of the key features of the Maryland RPS was the separation of energy sources into Tier 1 and Tier 2.

Tier 1 sources were generally defined at the time as sources that had no or very little emissions and very little environmental impact, and were industries that were not yet established in Maryland. Tier 1 included wind, solar and sustainable biomass. Black liquor, a byproduct of paper manufacturing, was also inserted into Tier 1 by the legislature.

Tier 2 included Municipal Solid Waste Incineration (MSW) and large scale hydro power.

The RPS set an Alternative Compliance Payment (ACP) for entities that did not meet the standards. The ACP is meant to allow market forces to play a role by giving electricity suppliers flexibility in how they meet the standard. The ACP acts as a price ceiling for RECs.

The original RPS legislation in Maryland started slowly and ramped up over time to max out at 7.5%. This means that 7.5% of electricity sold to consumers in the state must come from renewable and/or clean energy sources.

http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2004rs/bills/hb/

# 2006 RPS Expands to Include Solar Carve-Out

In 2006, the legislature amended the RPS to create a so-called "Solar Carve-Out" for solar energy within Tier 1. The solar carve out effectively created a new tier for solar, with its own alternative compliance payment and own percentages.

http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/webmga/frmMain. aspx?vs=2006rs/billfile/sb0175.htm

## **2008 Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative**

Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Act

Established the Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Program and Fund (SEIF) managed by an appointed board and administered by the Maryland Energy Administration. This legislation structured the collection formula and codified the terms of the Alternative Compliance Payments (ACP) collected, as well as the allowed uses for and formula for distribution of the funds collected.

http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2008rs/chapters\_noln/ch\_127\_

http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/webmga/ frmMain.aspx?ys=2011rs/billfile/hb1223.htm

2010

# Also enacts Tax Credit for EV **Recharging Equipment**

**Infrastructure Task Force Created** 

**2011 Electric Vehicle** 

http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2011rs/ chapters\_noIn/Ch\_402\_hb0163T.pdf

# **2012 RPS Geothermal Heating**

Specifying that energy generated from a geothermal heating and cooling system is eligible for inclusion in meeting the renewable energy portfolio standard.

http://mlis.state.md.us/2012rs/billfile/SB0652.htm

#### 2012 RPS Renewable Energy **Credits-Qualifying Thermal Bio**mass Systems

Allows energy from a specified qualifying thermal biomass system to be eligible for inclusion in meeting the renewable energy portfolio standard, restricted incineration from the types of eligible technologies, and specifically identified poultry litter with associated bedding as a qualified feedstock

http://mlis.state.md.us/2012rs/billfile/ HB1339.htm

# 2013 School Buildings -**Solar Technology - Design Development Documents**

Requiring the Board of Public Works to adopt regulations requiring design development documents for the construction or renovation of school buildings to include specified information relating to the use of solar technology; requiring the Interagency Committee on School Construction to submit a report on the use of solar technologies in specified public school construction and renovation.

http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2013RS/ bills/hb/hb0103f.pdf

## 2014 Clean Energy Loan Programs -**Private Lenders - Collection of Loan Payments**

Establishes a regulatory framework for the implementation of Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) loans. Allows a private lender to provide capital for a commercial loan provided under a local clean energy loan program; providing that, with the consent of any holder of a mortgage or deed of trust on the property, a county or municipality may collect loan payments owed on a commercial loan to a private lender or to a county or municipality through a surcharge on a property owner's property tax bill.

http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2014RS/chapters\_noln/ Ch\_472\_sb0186T.pdf

# 2014 Electric Vehicles and Recharging **Equipment - Rebates** and Tax Credits

http://mgaleg.maryland. gov/2014RS/chapters\_noln/ Ch\_360\_hb1345E.pdf

2022

Projected Renewable Energy Goal By The Year 2022 >