

## CALVERT COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

175 Main Street Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678 410-535-1600 • 301-855-1243 www.calvertcountymd.gov Board of Commissioners Christopher J. Gadway Earl F. Hance Mike Hart Kelly D. McConkey Steven R. Weems

February 23, 2022

## VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Calvert County Senators and Delegation

Re: SB528 – Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022

Senators and Delegation:

We write to express our opposition of SB528 – Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022. We oppose this legislation based on the lack of consideration given to the presence of nuclear going forward and its impact on Maryland residents and small and large businesses alike.

As written, SB528 fails to acknowledge the vital role of nuclear in achieving the proposed goals set forth. The bill simply assumes the uninterrupted operation of Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant (CCNPP) through the end of the existing operating licenses – Unit 1 (2034) and Unit 2 (2036). Without the contributions of nuclear, Maryland cannot reasonably meet its emissions targets on the timeline outlined in this legislation.

From an economic standpoint, if CCNPP ceases to operate and is removed from Maryland's energy portfolio, energy costs would increase by in excess of \$45 million dollars; those costs would naturally and unfairly be absorbed by all Maryland citizens and businesses. Further, if Maryland increased the already aggressive renewable portfolio resource requirement (*Maryland currently requires a specific percentage of energy sod by utilities come from renewable energy*) to replace CCNPP with renewable (wind, solar), it may cost Maryland citizens almost \$900 million over a 10-year period. Finally, if CCNPP ceased operations, Maryland would lose 15 million megawatt-hours of clean energy – more than 80 percent of Maryland's carbonfree clean energy - and 40 percent of the state's energy overall. Nuclear must be considered when considering SB528.

The clean, reliable and affordable energy production from Maryland's nuclear resources cannot be replaced overnight, and we request your opposition of SB528 until nuclear and creation of an environment favorable to nuclear expansion be considered in any emissions reduction plans.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact County Administrator Julian M. Willis at 410-535-1600, extension 2202, or Deputy County Administrator Linda Vassallo at 410-535-1600, extension 2483. Thank you for your urgent consideration of our position regarding this important bill.



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Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Earl F. Hance, President

Steven R. Weems, Vice President

Christopher J. Gadway

Mike Hart

Kelly D. McConkey

Kelly O. M. Conkey

Attachment as noted above.



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Maryland Relay for Impaired Hearing or Speech: 1-800-735-2258