

# *The Fastest way to Maryland's Clean Energy Future*



## **Help us get Smokestacks out of Maryland's "Renewable" Energy Mix**

WHEREAS, the people of Maryland pay more for state-mandated "renewable" energy, expecting to be getting wind and solar power, but are largely just getting polluted, with a majority of this power coming from smokestack industries; and

WHEREAS, Maryland ratepayers have paid well over \$125 million to subsidize trash incinerators, landfills, paper mills, tree burners, and other polluters in the name of renewable energy, even though these are worse for the climate than coal; and

WHEREAS, 83% of the "renewable" energy serving Maryland's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) has come from other states, as far as Wisconsin, Illinois, and Tennessee, much of this being dirty energy; and

WHEREAS, 59% of the "renewable" energy serving Maryland's RPS in 2016 which actually came from within Maryland's borders came from the state's two trash incinerators; and

WHEREAS, the trash incinerator in Baltimore is the city's largest air polluter by far, contributing to asthma, cancer and many other health problems, and the trash incinerator in Montgomery County is the county's second largest air polluter; and

WHEREAS, trash incineration disproportionately impacts communities of color, especially African-Americans, and is a matter of environmental racism, and these other polluting industries disproportionately impact low-income communities; and

WHEREAS, failure to remove dirty energy sources from the state RPS allows hundreds of millions in ratepayer dollars to flow to dirty energy sources in the coming decade, helping keep them operating, and that this totaled \$47 million in 2015 and is rising rapidly; and

WHEREAS, in New Hampshire, the closure of a trash incinerator was attributed, in part, to the industry's failure to secure renewable energy credits in their state RPS law; and

WHEREAS, The RPS Cleanup Bill would ramp up clean energy faster than any other proposal being put forward in Maryland, by creating a vacuum that will have to be quickly filled by wind and solar power within a few years;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the undersigned organization supports:

- removing combustion technologies from the state Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) law, with a priority on immediately disqualifying trash incineration, including refuse-derived fuel (RDF), and
- prioritizing this RPS clean up before or concurrent with any expansion of RPS percentage requirements.

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Geographic Scope:  National Organization  State / Regional  County  Local

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_