**State Legislative Update**

**3/15/2012**

**District of Columbia**

**Community Renewables Energy Act of 2012**

* Sponsors: Alexander, Cheh
* Status: **Introduced March 6**
* Enables energy customers to subscribe to Community Energy Generating Facilities.

**Virginia**

**HB129 – Purchases from Net Metering Sellers**

* Sponsor: Kilgore
* Status: House: Passed 2/6 (97-Y, 0-N, 1-A)

Senate: **Continued to 2013** by Cmte on Commerce and Labor (13-Y 2-N 1-A)

* Letter of support submitted
* Authorizes Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) between customer-generators and the third-party owners of renewable energy Net Energy Metering (NEM) systems.

**HB 1177 – Virginia Energy Plan Objectives**

* Sponsor: Watson
* Status: House: Passed 2/6 (95-Y 2-N)

**Senate: Passed 2/27/2012 (39-Y 0-N)**

**Awaiting Governor’s signature**

* Adds two items to statement of energy policy objectives
  + Ensuring adequate supply and Virginia-based production capacity
  + Minimizing the Commonwealth’s exposure to price volatility through greater energy independence

**Maryland**

**HB 108 / SB 340 – Vehicle Laws – Stopping, Standing, Parking in Plug-In Vehicle Charging Stations**

* Sponsor: Raskin
* Status: House: Hearing 3/7 in Environmental Matters

Senate: **3/12 Reported out of Judicial Proceedings (36 Y-10 N); Amendments made on the floor**

* Prohibits a conventional vehicle from stopping, standing or parking in a marked plug-in-vehicle charging station.
* Amended to add that: (1) EVs must be plugged into the charging station while parking there, and must vacate the spot upon full charge; and (2) any fees collected will be distributed to the state Transportation Trust fund. It is now up for a floor vote in the Senate.

**HB 441 / SB 237 – Maryland Offshore Wind Energy Act of 2012**

* Sponsors: The Speaker (By Request - Administration) and Delegates Hucker, Barnes, Barve, Bobo, Cardin, Frush, Hubbard, Jones, Mizeur, Ross, Stein, and Waldstreicher
* Status: House: Hearing 2/23 in Economic Matters

Senate: Hearing 2/14 in Senate Finance

* Letter of support submitted
* Alters Maryland’s RPS requirement to include offshore wind energy carve-out (ORECs); includes price controls.

**MD HB 864 / SB 595 - Community Energy-Generating Facilities and Net Energy Metering**

* Sponsors: Stein, Clippinger, Barkley, Cardin, Feldman, Healey, Hucker, Jameson, Lafferty, Morhaim, and Ross
* Status: House: Hearing 3/8 in Economic Matters

Senate: Hearing 3/6 in Senate Finance

* Letter of support submitted
* Excludes community generators of on-site renewable from the classification of “electric company” and allows them to participate in net metering contracts.
  + Up to 1,500MW of capacity from community generators
  + Each generator up to 2MW capacity
  + Biomass, micro CHP, solar, fuel cell, wind, or closed conduit hydro

**HB 628 / SB 688 – Street Lighting – Purchase of Equipment by Local Government**

* Sponsor: Carr
* Status: House: Hearing 2/23 in Economic Matters

Senate: Hearing 3/8 in Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

* Letter of support submitted
* Establishes rules by which a local government can condemn and purchase utility-owned streetlights at fair market value

**HB 1280 / SB 997 – Public Utilities – Electric Vehicle Users and Charging Stations**

* Sponsors: McHale and Malone
* Status: House: Hearing 3/15 in Economic Matters

Senate: Hearing 3/20 in Finance

* Letter of support submitted
* Exempts plug in vehicle charging stations from being considered as electric utilities

**HB 1279 / SB 998 – Motor Vehicle Administration – Plug-In Vehicles – Disclosure of Public Information**

* Sponsors: Malone and McHale
* Status: House: Hearing 2/14 in Environmental Matters

Senate: Hearing 3/20 in Senate Finance

* The motor vehicle administration would be allowed to disclose the address of owners of plug-in vehicles to utility companies for planning purposes

**HB 1088 – Electricity and Gas – Energy Efficiency On-Bill Financing Program**

* Sponsors: Kramer, Arora, Barkley, Carr, Frick, Kipke, Luedtke, B. Robinson, Rudolph, Summers, and Valderrama
* Status: House: Hearing 3/9 Economic Matters
* Letter of support submitted
* Establishes an on-bill efficiency finance program for residential and commercial properties

**HB 995 – Maryland Energy Administration – Sustainable Energy Regulated Entity Program**

* Sponsors: Niemann
* Status: House: Hearing 3/8 Economic Matters
* Creates loan program for energy efficiency upgrades that is managed through assessments. These assessments stay with the property, like a lien, but don’t take precedence over a mortgage. Potential to sidestep PACE complications.