



2024 MACo Fall Symposium:

21st Century Energy: Discussions on Maryland's Renewable Energy Future

Date: Wednesday, October 30, 2024 | **Time:** 9:30 am - 3:00 pm

Location: Newton White Mansion 2708 Enterprise Rd, Mitchellville, MD 20721

In recent years, the mounting threat of climate change has pushed Annapolis policymakers to adopt aggressive measures aimed at accelerating Maryland's shift to 100% renewable energy. Simultaneously, they've pursued ambitious conservation and preservation goals to safeguard the state's natural resources. These overlapping, and sometimes conflicting, policies have placed significant pressure on local leaders and communities. This symposium will bring together experts to explore the core principles of renewable energy policy, tackle the challenges faced by state and county policymakers, and chart a course toward more harmonious progress as Maryland addresses the climate crisis.

Moderator: The Honorable MC Keegan-Ayer, Council Member, Frederick County

9:30 am – 9:45 am	Check-in and Coffee – <i>Coffee and Beverages Sponsored by Power Partnership</i>
9:45 am – 10:00 am	Welcome and Introductions: The Honorable Jolene Ivey, Council Chair, Prince George's County
10:00 am – 11:00 am	Back to Basics: Foundations of Renewable Energy Recent discussions in Annapolis on renewable energy have heavily focused on solar power, but the renewable energy landscape is vast, offering diverse options suited to various climates and terrains. This session will lay the foundation for the entire symposium, providing a comprehensive overview of the basic concepts of renewable energy. Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evie Schwartz, Special Projects Manager, Maryland Energy Administration• Stefano Ratti, Chief Executive Officer, Chaberton• Brian Megali, Director of Clean Energy Policy, Constellation
11:00 am – 11:15am	Break
11:15 am – 12:15 pm	Solar Solutions: A Peak at Legislation on the Horizon For years, stakeholders in Annapolis have wrestled with solutions to address the biggest challenges surrounding renewable energy. The 2024 legislative session began with high hopes but ended without a resolution. Since then, key stakeholders have been developing legislation that acknowledges Maryland's competing goals and paves the way for achieving them. Join us to hear directly from the people in the room as they reveal what's shaping up to be the brightest bill of 2025. Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Josh Feldmark, Senior Vice President, CI Renewables• Dom Butchko, Director of Intergovernmental Relations, MACo• Bob Sadzinski, Director - Power Plant Research Program, Department of Natural Resources

12:15 pm – 1:15 pm **Lunch**

1:15 pm – 2:15pm **Two Things Can Be True at Once: Balancing Maryland’s Climate Goals**

Maryland is a small state with big goals. A key challenge for implementers is balancing the state's strong commitment to conservation and preservation with the demands of development, renewable energy initiatives or otherwise. Achieving these goals will require collaboration, compromise, and innovation among stakeholders. This session will delve into the complexities and opportunities of navigating Maryland's intersecting policies.

Speakers:

- Lucy Bullock-Sieger, Vice President of Strategy, Lightstar
- Paul Pinsky, Director, Maryland Energy Administration
- Rachel Jones, Director of Government Relations, Maryland Department of Agriculture
- Mike Wilkins, Director of Development Review and Planning, Frederick County

2:15 pm – 3:00 pm **More Than Producing Electrons: A Look at Foundational Energy Infrastructure**

While generating new power is crucial to Maryland’s transition to 100% renewable energy, other critical pieces of the energy puzzle demand attention. Issues like battery storage, data centers, EV charging infrastructure, rising demand, and transmission are just a few of the challenges that must be tackled. This session will dive into these often overlooked, yet vital, aspects of the energy landscape, exploring the less obvious hurdles that need to be addressed for a successful transition.

Speakers:

- Jason Stanek, Executive Director of Governmental Services, PJM Interconnection
- Kelly Schulz, Chief Executive Officer, Maryland Tech Council
- Tiffany Green, Fire Chief, Prince George's County
- Chris Conklin, Director – Department of Transportation, Montgomery County

3:00 pm **Adjournment**

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