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THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY Annapolis, Maryland 21401 EASTERN SHORE DELEGATION

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April 18, 2025

The Honorable Wes Moore Governor of Maryland State House 100 State Circle Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Governor Moore,

The Eastern Shore Delegation respectfully requests your veto of HB1036 - Public Utilities — Generating Stations — Generation and Siting (Renewable Energy Certainty Act).

House Bill 1036 establishes unreasonable requirements for the construction of energy storage devices and solar energy generating stations and strips elected officials of their responsibility to manage land use decisions at a local level in relation to construction and development of these large solar projects.

While we understand that our State has goals to achieve, we would ask you to think about what would actually happen in our region of the State should you not veto this Legislation. If you do not take action to halt this legislation we are going to have a destructive proliferation of solar projects on prime agricultural land. Members of the Eastern Shore Delegation do not believe when the General Assembly created solar production goals that it was ever contemplated that such a damaging burden would be placed on the Eastern Shore to meet those ambitions. Yet here we are in HB 1036.

The Eastern Shore's number one industry is Agriculture and poultry production. Every other secondary and tertiary industry in our region is founded upon, and exist because of, our leading industry; Agriculture. The farmland under attack in this legislation represents the work and labor of Eastern Shore men and women owned family farms. These families have lived on the Eastern Shore for generations and established their livelihoods on a humble industry that has fed our State well. And so, while the 5% is just one number in a Bill, please consider testimony coming from our Counties that 5% is equal to 5 to 7 thousand acres of land per county. This is a massive taking of land we depend upon for our livelihood as a region.

If this legislation is enacted, it will cause permanent devastation to our region's industry, which is Agriculture. The Eastern Shore Delegation respectfully requests a veto of House Bill 1036.

Sincerely,

Christopher T. Adams