

# Reclaim Renewable Energy Act (HB220/SB10)



Maryland created the Renewable Portfolio Standard to increase the amount of renewable energy on the grid, to deliver long-term decreased emissions and a healthier environment. Utilities subsidize renewable energy through this program increasingly over time.

**Trash incineration is among the dirtiest ways to produce electricity.** Incinerators emit more greenhouse gas emissions per unit of electricity produced than *any* other power source, even coal plants. Incinerators emit mercury and lead into the air nearby communities breathe, which are not safe for human exposure at any level.

Subsidizing trash incineration isn't getting Maryland electricity that delivers decreased greenhouse gas emissions or a healthier environment. But **Maryland is wasting a lot of money profiting trash incinerators**, because right now, trash incineration counts as "renewable" in the RPS.

When Maryland passes the **Reclaim Renewable Energy Act**, those funds will be available to support *real* renewable energy. Either:

*Utilities will buy Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) to replace the ones they had been buying from incinerators, supporting more renewable energy projects.*

**OR**

*Utilities will pay Alternative Compliance Payments into the Strategic Energy Investment Fund, which state law reserves for low-income renewable energy projects.*

*We're wasting more and more money over time subsidizing trash incineration:*

**2020: \$11.5 million**

**2021: \$14.9 million**

**2022: \$24.7 million**

**2023: \$24.3 million**

**More money for renewable energy. No money out of the state budget.**  
**Pass the Reclaim Renewable Energy Act.**

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