



March 26, 2012

The Honorable Thomas M. Middleton
Finance Committee
3 East, Miller Senate Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: SB 237 - Maryland Offshore Wind Energy Act of 2012 - Oppose

Dear Senator Middleton:

SB 237 alters the Maryland renewable energy portfolio standard program to include 2.5% or less energy derived from offshore wind energy. The bill also proposes use of the Offshore Wind Renewable Energy Credits (OREC) pricing schedule. OREC price schedule must not exceed \$200 per megawatt hour in 2012 dollars.

We are concerned that the residential rate limit of \$2.00 per month will result in an unbalanced financial obligation from non-residential and commercial customers. Such a burden would likely strain businesses financially while they are trying to support Maryland's economy through providing jobs, goods and services.

For these reasons above, The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce asks that your committee give this bill an unfavorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Michael McMullin'.

Michael McMullin
President
Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

CC: Senator Joseph M. Getty
Delegate Susan W. Krebs