# RE: Industry Support for Robust Renewable Energy Policy for Pennsylvania

Dear Governor Shapiro and Members of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and the Pennsylvania Senate,

Advanced Energy United, American Clean Power Association, Mid-Atlantic Renewable Energy Coalition (MAREC Action), Pennsylvania Solar Center, and the Pennsylvania Solar & Storage Industries Association (PASSIA) along with nearly 100 of the undersigned renewable energy trade and advocacy associations, renewable energy businesses, and companies supporting the renewable industry support significantly expanding the state's renewable energy goals in the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards (AEPS). Pennsylvania has dropped to 50th in the nation for growth in renewable energy since 2013. Virginia, New Jersey, and New York each have an installed capacity of over 5,000 MW of solar capacity, whereas Pennsylvania has only 1,195 MW. Expanding the AEPS renewable energy goals is a commonsense and achievable approach to reduce energy costs for consumers, create jobs, and spur economic development, while pursuing a diversified energy strategy.

We strongly encourage you to vigorously support an AEPS expansion that includes:

- An increase to the existing renewable energy goals in Tier I of the AEPS to at least 30% by 2030 without changing the qualified resources for this tier, while recognizing the need for ongoing growth of clean energy beyond 2030;
- An increase to at least 14% in-state solar that treats in-state utility-scale, community solar, and distributed solar appropriately to adequately grow these various market segments with the least impact to consumers;
- Prevailing wages for projects that are greater than one megawatt (MW) to align with the updated federal tax credits included in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).

We support the expansion of existing Tier I resources in the AEPS to at least 30% renewables by 2030 with at least 14% in-state solar, because it offers these benefits:

- Results in 60,000+ direct family-sustaining jobs<sup>1</sup>;
- Addresses potential power sector reliability concerns by ensuring a vibrant and dynamic renewable energy market in Pennsylvania;
- Provides the state with a proven carbon reduction strategy to address carbon emissions and promote climate resilience in the electricity sector;
- Ensures Pennsylvania is a leading electricity generation exporter to meet growing electricity demand;
- Mitigates the impacts of unpredictable and volatile fuel prices through resource diversification, as renewable energy provides stable pricing and solar works best during peak demand, resulting in lower wholesale prices for consumers;
- Leverages the availability of federal programs for renewables and battery-storage, authorized by the IRA, which attract investors and in turn, attract billions of dollars in economic development activity to the state; and
- Addresses the rapidly declining price of alternative energy credits (AECs) which jeopardizes Pennsylvania's current renewable energy investments.

Reference: Finding Pennsylvania's Solar Future Plan]https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Energy/OfficeofPollutionPrevention/SolarFuture/Pages/Finding-Pennsylvania%E2%80%99s-Solar-Future.aspx

Our companies and organizations are eager to invest billions of dollars in Pennsylvania. We thank you for your consideration of these important issues to capitalize on this moment to add tens of thousands of jobs, reduce electricity rates for all Pennsylvanians, and ensure we have adequate electricity resources to meet our needs. We look forward to working with you to ensure Pennsylvania seizes its clean energy potential.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Bibby, Advanced Energy United (United)
Moira Cyphers, Director, State Affairs, American Clean Power (ACP)
Evan Vaughan, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Renewable Energy Coalition (MAREC Action)
Sharon Pillar, Founder & Executive Director, Pennsylvania Solar Center
Ron Celentano, President, Pennsylvania Solar & Storage Industries Association (PASSIA)

### About Advanced Energy United (United)

Advanced Energy United educates, engages, and advocates for policies that allow our member companies to compete to power our economy with 100% clean energy. We work with decision makers at every level of government as well as regulators of energy markets to achieve this goal. The businesses we represent are lowering consumer costs, creating thousands of new jobs every year, and providing the full range of clean, efficient, and reliable energy and transportation solutions. The U.S. market for advanced energy products and services reached nearly \$375 billion in 2022. Together, we are united in our mission to accelerate the transition to 100% clean energy in the United States. For more information: https://advancedenergyunited.org/

#### About American Clean Power Association (ACP)

The American Clean Power Association (ACP) is the leading voice of today's multi-tech clean energy industry, representing over 800 energy storage, wind, utility-scale solar, clean hydrogen and transmission companies. ACP is committed to meeting America's national security, economic and climate goals with fast-growing, low-cost, and reliable domestic power. https://cleanpower.org/

## **About Mid-Atlantic Renewables Energy Coalition Action (MAREC Action)**

MAREC Action is a coalition of utility-scale solar, wind, and battery storage developers, wind turbine and solar panel manufacturers, and public interest organizations dedicated to promoting the growth and development of renewable energy in the Mid-Atlantic region. We offer expert guidance and advocacy on policy and regulatory issues, as well as a unified voice for the industry. Members of MAREC Action value a voice and seat at the table in industry discussions. For more information: <a href="https://marec.us">https://marec.us</a>

### **About Pennsylvania Solar Center**

The Pennsylvania Solar Center is a nonpartisan, nonprofit 501c3 organization that works to expand the benefits of solar energy to all Pennsylvanians. We work to Transform, Education, and Advocate through our GET Solar technical assistance program to help non-residential entities to go solar, through strategic statewide communication and outreach campaigns, and advocacy to advance robust solar policies. The PA Solar Center co-leads the Renewables Work for PA coalition of more than 70 renewable energy companies working in the state to expand renewable energy. For more information: www.pasolarcenter.org.

#### About Pennsylvania Solar & Storage Industries Association (PASSIA)

PASSIA is the Pennsylvania division of the Mid-Atlantic Solar & Storage Association (MSSIA), which is dedicated to advancing solar energy and energy storage as the primary energy sources in the Mid-Atlantic region, to create a sustainable energy future for all segments of the population while generating economic growth and high-quality jobs. MSSIA accomplishes it's mission by researching, designing and advocating for policies to grow solar energy to be a major part of our future energy supply; to educate the public and policy-makers on the facts of solar energy and to remove barriers that hinder solar development; to promote local solar R&D and solar manufacturing; to assist in designing policies and infrastructure that supports solar on the local, state, and regional level; to develop solar electric and thermal energy as a significant portion of the energy supply mix; to work in tandem with municipalities and local government to utilize and support rapid adoption of solar energy; and to provide real-time data and real world evidence that demonstrates the value of solar energy to the regional electric grid and its role in combating climate change. For more information: <a href="https://mssia.org/">https://mssia.org/</a>.

Name Position Company

Daniel Camacho CEO Abender Corporation

Annika Colston Founder and CEO AC Power LLC

Michael Andrew Wall CEO Ad Energy

Ampliform (Pennsylvania-headquartered

Senior Manager development firm)

Bryan M. Wehler President & CEO ARM Group Enterprises Inc.

Eitan Anouchi President AYA Instruments Inc

Sel Edor General Manager, Renewables BAI Group LLC

Benjamin Zook Innovator Belmont Solar

Tim Dertzbaugh SVP Birch Creek Development

James Noden CEO Bright Eye Solar LLC

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Angela Fryer	Marketing Director	IronRidge
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Alyssa Edwards	Senior Vice President, Government Relations and Environmental Affairs	Lightsource bp
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Andrew J. Melman	President	Melman Security & Communications Corp
Tyler Moore and Matthew Moore	Owners	Moore Energy LLC
Alex Hurst	President	MVE Group
Brendan Canavan	Vice President	Navisun
Christopher Fisher	Co-owner	O'Donnell Solar Co.
Ila Gillenwater	VP of Sales	Opal Energy Group
Joseph Coyle	Owner	Open Sky Energy
Seth Wilmore	Chief Development Officer	Oriden (PGH-based development company)
Ryan Barnett	SVP, Policy & Markets	Palmetto Solar
Dale H Good	CEO/President	
Christopher Gage	CEO/President	Paradise Energy Solutions, LLC
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