



MARYLAND LEAGUE
OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

Statement by Maryland League of Conservation Voters regarding Gov. Martin O'Malley signing SB 690- "Waste-to-Energy Bill"

Annapolis, Maryland (May 19, 2011) -The Maryland League of Conservation Voters restated its opposition to SB 690 ("Waste-to-Energy Bill") and its disappointment in Gov. Martin O'Malley's signing of the bill into law.

Deputy Director of the Maryland LCV, Jen Brock Cancellieri said that, "we're disappointed in this announcement and the step backwards it represents. The intention of the Renewable Portfolio Standard is to promote new, clean energy and all the positives that flow from renewable resources like wind and solar energy."

The Governor cited the "aggressive goal" of acquiring 20% of Maryland's energy from renewable sources by 2022 as a justification for allowing the burning of trash and renewables to be considered as a "Tier I source" of energy. However, by allowing this type of activity to be counted as a renewable resource, it makes the goal of acquiring 20% renewables by 2022 through true, clean energy sources like wind and solar energy more difficult to achieve.

At this time, with the recent missed opportunity to bring clean, Offshore wind to Maryland and the subsequent jobs that that action would have been produced, it is especially disheartening to circumvent the original intention of the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard.

The Maryland League of Conservation Voters will continue our efforts to promote true clean energy sources and we were glad to see the Governor restate his support bring Offshore wind to Maryland.

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Founded in 1979, Maryland League of Conservation Voters (LCV) is non-partisan, 501 (c)(4) known as the political voice for the environment. We have since grown to a full-time, staffed organization that is governed by a volunteer board of directors. Maryland LCV is best known for our comprehensive yearly scorecard that evaluates the environmental votes of individual state legislators. We also grade the environmental record of the Governor. In addition, we regularly alert the public and the media of key actions of elected officials and closely monitor agencies and executive appointments.