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## RENEWABLE ENERGY CREDITS SALES BENEFIT MARYLAND JURISDICTIONS



Renewable Energy Credit (REC) is a tradeable certificate of proof that one mega-watt hour of electricity has been generated by a renewable energy source or facility. RECs may be traded separately from power generation. By allowing RECs to be traded separately, renewable energy buyers can support the production of renewable energy, regardless of the location of the facilities producing the energy.

The Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority sells RECs on behalf of its Member Jurisdictions and other Maryland jurisdictions. The Authority has several years of experience in certifying and marketing RECs produced from waste-to-energy facilities and landfill gas-to-energy facilities.

—  —  
REC's provide the  
financial help non-fossil fuel  
generated energy needs  
to be competitive.

—  —  
Since 2007, the Authority has generated over  
\$3,057,000 in revenue from selling RECs.

There are two markets for RECs: a voluntary market driven by consumers who want to reduce their environmental footprint and a compliance market driven by state regulations. Most of the RECs the Authority sells are to the compliance market. Approximately 23 States have Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS) that require electric utilities to supply a certain percentage of their electricity from renewable sources. A utility can meet its state standards by physically generating the renewable energy, making alternative energy compliance payments, or purchasing RECs from a renewable energy generator.

For any questions regarding  
Renewable Energy Credits,  
please contact the Authority  
at (410) 333-2730.



*Representative pictures of the solar panels as they will be installed at the landfill.*

# PROGRESS UPDATE

## FOR THE HOWARD COUNTY SOLAR PROJECT AT NEW CUT ROAD LANDFILL

**C**onstruction for the Solar Project at the New Cut Road Landfill began with conduit installation at the adjacent Worthington Elementary School during the 2010 winter break. This conduit will enable the school to accept power from the Solar Project when it is completed.

Design work for the landfill portion of the Solar Project is underway and installation of the photovoltaic panels is anticipated to start in the spring after appropriate approvals from various state and local permitting agencies are received. As previously reported, the Authority received a SunBurst Grant from the Maryland Energy Administration to buy down the per kWh cost of the electricity generated by the Solar Project.

The Solar Project is a cooperative effort among the Howard County Board of Education, the Howard County Department of Public Works and the Northeast Maryland Waste Disposal Authority. SunEdison was selected to design, finance, build and operate the array through a competitive

procurement process. The Solar Project is currently designed at 450 kWDC or 375 kWAC, which means there will be approximately 2,000 American-made photovoltaic panels in the array. The array will produce approximately 573,000 kWh of electricity in the first year of operation and supply a

✂

**The array will produce approximately 573,000 kWh of electricity in the first year of operation.**

✂

substantial portion of the approximately 600,000 kWh of electricity the school uses in a given year.

The Solar Project is another example of how the Authority provides service to our members and helps them maximize uses of existing solid waste assets. This is the second solar project that the Authority has developed on behalf of a Member Jurisdiction. The Authority has also developed three landfill gas-to-energy projects for members and currently

markets renewable energy credits and manages steam/electricity sales for two waste-to-energy facilities.

For more information on the Landfill Solar Project please contact Andrew Kays at 410-333-2730.

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# AUTHORITY PARTICIPATES IN GOVERNOR'S SUSTAINABILITY FORUM



**O**n Friday, January 7, 2011, citizens, activists, and local, state and federal government representatives from across the state gathered at Chesapeake College in Wye Mills, MD for the third of five forums being held at the onset of Governor O'Malley's second term. The goal of these forums is to gather input from various stakeholders with respect to the Governor's fifteen strategic goals (<http://www.stateat.maryland.gov/gdu.asp>).

Dr. Barbara Viniar, Chesapeake College President, welcomed the gathered parties and highlighted some of the ways that the college was growing to meet the challenges and demands of a greener economy. Of particular interest was the Center for Leadership in Environmental Education (CLEEn), which is being developed at the college to demonstrate renewable energy technologies and provide training opportunities for those interested in environmental careers.

Dr. Don Boesch, President of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, gave the keynote address at the morning plenary session. Dr. Boesch addressed his significant time in the arena of Chesapeake Bay health and restoration. He urged participants to think beyond traditional boundaries of economics, environment, and social solutions to current problems to more integrated solutions that will broadly benefit society.

The approximately 750 forum participants

then split into smaller break-out groups to discuss the following four topics and, within each topic, what the O'Malley Administration could do to facilitate improvements within the Administration's overall goals.

- ▶ Bay Restoration
- ▶ Clean Energy/Climate Change (focus on off-shore wind power)
- ▶ Smart Growth
- ▶ Resource Based Industries

The afternoon session brought all participants back together for a discussion lead by the Governor. The moderators of each breakout group presented a summary of the discussions to the larger gathering. Individual stakeholders also had the opportunity to speak regarding the challenges and opportunities highlighted in the discussions. The overarching position of the forum was that investment should be made in technologies that ensure stable, environmentally sustainable economic growth. To that end, many individual speakers asked the Governor to help streamline existing regulations to ease the development of sustainable technologies and practices, focus investment in emerging technologies and increase educational efforts regarding sustainable development.

For more information on the Authority's efforts to support economic and environmental sustainable practices such as composting, solar power, renewable waste-to-energy, landfill gas-to-energy and recycling contracts, please call 410-333-2730.



## MONTGOMERY COUNTY TRANSFER STATION TO BE AWARDED VPP STAR RECOGNITION

**T**he Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) will award its Voluntary Protection Program Star Recognition (VPP) to the Montgomery County Transfer Station and its operator, Covanta Montgomery, Inc., in ceremonies this spring. VPP is a program designed to promote excellence in safety and health management systems by recognizing facilities that have implemented outstanding health and safety programs approved by OSHA. This recognition is the first awarded to a transfer station in Maryland and recognizes Covanta's continuing commitment to providing the safest work environment possible.

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY RRF TO SELL ELECTRICITY TO PPL ENERGYPLUS

**P**PL EnergyPlus, LLC offered the highest price to purchase the electricity generated at the Montgomery County Resource Recovery Facility in Dickerson, MD starting in July 2011. Through this one year contract, PPL will pay an estimated \$15.5 million to the Authority for the electricity that will be generated at the RRF. All revenues are applied to offset the expenses of the RRF.

# EPA'S LANDFILL METHANE OUTREACH PROGRAM 14TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

On January 19th and 20th, the EPA's Landfill Methane Outreach Program (LMOP) held its 14th Annual Conference and Project Expo at the Hilton in Baltimore, MD.

Presentations highlighted the latest developments in landfill gas-to-energy projects, including cogeneration facilities, projects with low landfill gas generation and the latest in siloxane sampling and analysis. One of the main topics discussed both days was how to successfully procure, evaluate and develop a landfill gas-to-energy project. Speakers included leading experts in the landfill gas-to-energy arena who provided important information to those considering development of a project.

This year, one of the Authority's Member Jurisdiction's facilities was featured in a presentation. Mr. Mehal Trivedi, along with Joe Ventre from Energenics, presented lessons learned in successfully developing a landfill gas-to-energy project in Frederick County, MD. The presentation discussed failed procurement attempts and key changes in the procurement and development process that resulted in the successfully operating and revenue generating facility.

In conjunction with the conference, LMOP hosted a Project Expo featuring information about a number of landfills that have strong potential for developing gas-to-energy projects and landfills that already have

exceptional projects in place. The Expo also featured numerous exhibits from industry consultants and vendors and provided numerous opportunities for networking.

Many presentations from this and previous conferences can be found online at [www.epa.gov/lmop/conf/index](http://www.epa.gov/lmop/conf/index)



*Mr. Mehal Trivedi of Frederick County, MD presenting at LMOP*



## WASTEWATCH

Tower II – Suite 402, 100 S. Charles Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2705  
(410) 333-2730 / Fax: (410) 333-2721  
E-mail: [authority@nmwda.org](mailto:authority@nmwda.org)  
Website: [www.nmwda.org](http://www.nmwda.org)

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