

# MARYLAND



## Compatible Energy Siting



### What is the Maryland Statewide Compatibility Energy Siting?

The Maryland Statewide Compatible Energy Siting project is led by the Maryland Department of Commerce to coordinate and balance two major assets and priorities in the State — renewable energy development and the sustainability of military missions. The project will also review the State's existing renewable energy projects permitting process and develop recommendations on how to incorporate military compatibility into that process.

#### This project will:

- 1 **Assess** the current renewable energy siting process in the State of Maryland;
- 2 **Create** a transparent, mutually beneficial web-based energy siting mapping tool for developers, the military, state and local agencies, and other stakeholders; and
- 3 **Provide** recommendations that will both streamline the siting process, proactively identify potential adverse impacts on military installations early, and develop recommendations on how to incorporate / facilitate military compatibility into the process.

### Project Goals

- ◆ Promote compatible growth and development
- ◆ Facilitate and streamline renewable energy development
- ◆ Protect military readiness
- ◆ Achieve State of Maryland clean energy goals
- ◆ Sustain economic prosperity
- ◆ Protect public health and safety

### Why is Compatible Energy Siting Important?

Both renewable energy development and military readiness are high priorities for sustaining the State of Maryland's environmental and economic health.

Energy development is an important opportunity for the State of Maryland as underscored by the 2019 General Assembly Senate Bill 516 mandate and the Clean and Renewable Energy Standard (CARES) Act to **increase the State's renewable energy portfolio so that 100 percent (100%) of energy consumed in Maryland be generated from renewable energy resources by 2040.**

The military also plays a major role in Maryland's economy and provides a wide array of mission support for the nation's defense. According to the Fiscal Year 2016 Economic Impact Analysis of Maryland's Military Installations, **the military supported more than 370,000 jobs throughout the state, contributed \$57.5 Billion to the state's economy, and provided \$22.1 Billion in employee compensation.** Military contributions accounted for approximately 15 percent (15%) of Maryland's total gross domestic product.

**Compatible siting of energy projects is important to prevent impacts on military testing and training activities. Those impacts can be wide-ranging and may include the following.**



**Radar viewshed and line-of-sight interference from wind turbines**



**Low-level flight obstructions associated with vertical energy structures such as solar towers and wind turbines**



**Electromagnetic interference from high voltage electrical transmission lines**



**Glint and glare associated with solar photovoltaic arrays or solar towers near military airfields**

## Project Benefits

The Maryland Compatible Energy Siting project will benefit a diverse set of stakeholders.

- ◆ **Energy Developers.** The project will help developers save time and money in providing up front information and coordination resources to guide and optimize project siting.
- ◆ **State Agencies.** The project will help agencies meet Maryland's clean energy goals by supporting early coordination and engagement.
- ◆ **Local Governments.** The project will assist with timely reviews and coordination of energy development projects and help reduce potential compatibility conflicts with military operations.
- ◆ **Military Installations.** The project will facilitate early reviews of energy development impacts on military activities and operations throughout the state to preserve and sustain military readiness.

**For more information, contact:**



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## Project Study Area and Location of Military Installations in Maryland

