



MARYLAND COMMISSION  
ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Serena McIlwain, Chair

# **The Just Transition Employment and Retraining Working Group - November 2024 Updates**

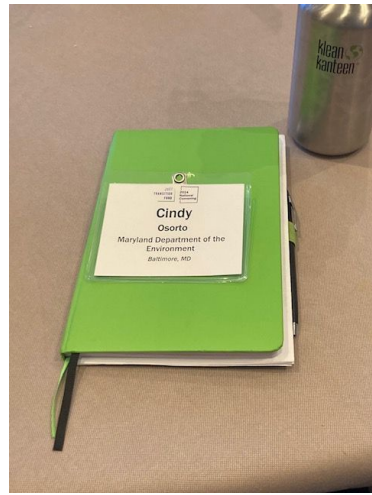
Presented by Cindy Osorto, Chair of the JTWG

November 15, 2024



# Agenda

- Introduction and Updates, Presentation by Cindy Osorto and Stephanie Vo, University of Maryland
- EmPOWER History, 2024 Updates, and Future Opportunities, Presentation by Erin Cosgrove, Esq., NEEP
- Study Update, Presentation by Jamie Lopp, NREL
- Public Comment



# JTWG and MCCC Recommendation Updates

- Three out of four recommendations put forward by the JTWG were approved by the MCCC:
  - Support labor best practices,
  - Support a Green Jobs outreach campaign, and
  - Invest in expansion of workforce models programs
- Final recommendation to be discussed by the MCCC on 11/19: Support the 7 Just Transition Principles

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# Maryland Energy Administration Incentives

- **OPEN Energy Innovation Program** | *Application period begins in FY25*
  - Funding for outside-the-box clean energy projects outside the range of MEA's existing programs
    - FY24's awards will cut GHG emissions by > 2,200 metric tons when implemented
- **Decarbonizing Public Schools Program** | *Applications due 01/31/2025*
  - > \$33 million to help local education agencies incorporate clean energy and energy efficiency measures into MD public schools
    - The average net-zero energy school saves about \$100,000 annually





# BGE's Department of Energy Grant

BGE has been selected for up to **\$50 million** in grant funding from the U.S. DOE's Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP) Program. Initiatives from the proposed BGE Interconnection Readiness and Deployment of Storage (BIRDS) program include:

- Deploy 11MW scalable battery energy storage
- Amplify foundational monitoring and control through substation upgrades
- Enable up to 3MW customer-owned solar, storage, & EV charging stations
- Encourage adoption through community partnerships with Open Works, Howard County, and Civic Works
- Promote workforce development in distributed energy resources



# Next up: EmPOWER Maryland

