



To Whom It May Concern:

Please include these comments in the August 21, 2024 Mitigation Working Group's meeting records.

In a CNBC article, These 10 U.S. states are America's least-prepared for climate change and extreme weather by Scott Cohn, 26 July 2024 as seen at <https://www.cnbc.com/2024/07/26/10-us-states-worst-prepared-climate-change-extreme-weather.html>, Maryland is ranked in the ten worse states for climate change.

The key points of the article are:

Opinions about climate change may vary, but the costs of climate-related damage — and insuring against it — are a fact of life.

Because of that, companies take climate risks into account when deciding where to locate.

CNBC considers sustainability and resilience in the annual America's Top States for Business competitiveness rankings.

But these ten states have work to do. America's Top States for Business Competitiveness Report ranks Maryland in the top 10 for businesses to avoid because of these scores:

Infrastructure: **Maryland got 188 out of 425 points (Top States Grade: C-)**

Climate Extremes Index (**National Average is approx. 33%): Maryland's is 62.44%**

Percentage of Properties at risk in Maryland is **97%***

Percentage of Renewable Energy in Maryland: **18%**

* Not included is farmland acreage lost to saltwater intrusion into groundwater.

The two states tied for worst prepared for climate change extreme weather are Louisiana and New Jersey.

Louisiana's Ratings

Infrastructure Score: 179 out of 425 points (Top States Grade: D+)

Climate Extremes Index: 48.6%

Properties at risk: 100%

Renewable Energy: 6%

New Jersey's Ratings

Infrastructure: 211 out of 425 points (Top States Grade: C+)

Climate Extremes Index: 62.44%, which is the same as Maryland.

Properties at risk: 97%, which is the same as Maryland.

Renewable Energy: 12%

Ratings Explained

Infrastructure data used by CNBC is from the Site Selectors Guild, the CoStar Group, US Dept. of Labor, factors of business funding incentives for credit, certified development sites, infrastructure condition of

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transportation, utility reliability, condition of drinking and waste water systems; and risks of drought, flooding, wildfires and extreme weather conditions.

Climate Extremes Index data used by CNBC is from NOAA at <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/monitoring/cei/> .

Properties at Risk historical data used by CNBC is from First Street Foundation at <https://firststreet.org/> .

Renewable Energy data used by CNBC are from official State information sources and US Energy Information Administration at https://www.eia.gov/state/seds/sep_prod/SEDS_Production_Report.pdf .

In review, Maryland matches the worst state, New Jersey, in Climate Extremes Index and Properties at Risk categories and has a worst grade in infrastructure. Republican Gov. Hogan's past administration's corrupting influence on the Maryland Commission on Climate Change (MCCC) did not serve Maryland's citizens and got Maryland's its State to Avoid business rating at the same. What would be the most cost effective Maryland climate change pollution reduction action that MCCC should recommend? It should be Maryland's climate change public service announcements must say, "Vote only for candidates that are recommended by credible, non-profit environmental organizations such as the League of Conservation Voters or the Sierra Club."

Now the Commission on Climate Change is finally considering a carbon fee when in May of 2018 this working group saw Climate Xchange's An Analysis of Impacts on Households at Different Income Levels from Carbon Pollution Pricing in Maryland slideshow. This working group paid Energy and Environmental Economics, Inc. (E3) to simulate the effects of carbon pricing and they produced the Maryland Pathways Policy Scenario 3: Carbon Price Scenario that was presented on Nov. 13, 2018 to this Mitigation Working Group. The climate pollution that carbon pricing would have avoided from then to now is attacking us in unstable food production price hikes, increases in heat related illnesses and diseases, escalating civic resilience project bills coupled with decreasing agricultural land values. The list goes on as so will MCCC's submission to utilities, dark money financed astroturf groups and real estate lobbyists. The next recommendation for the Maryland Commission on Climate Change to kill is the recommendation for attentive people to abandon Maryland with their money while they still can.

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