



Maryland's Statewide Brownfield Conference  
Toward Beneficial Reuse

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*Land Restoration Program*  
*The Voluntary Cleanup Program*  
*(VCP)*

**RENEWABLE ENERGY SITING AND  
DEVELOPMENT**



## RENEWABLE ENERGY SITING AND DEVELOPMENT

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Maryland's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) requires 50% of overall electricity generation sales in Maryland to be met by renewable energy resources by 2030 including a solar carve-out at 14.5% by 2028.

Governor Hogan created a Renewable Energy Development and Siting (REDS) Task Force by Executive Order in August 2019 to examine Maryland renewable energy siting issues with a focus on minimizing siting of utility-scale solar on farmland and maximizing renewable energy projects on Brownfield sites.

During the REDS Task Force, the Maryland General Assembly passed an Administration bill in the 2020 legislative session (Senate Bill 281) to encourage renewable energy development on Brownfield sites. The bill provided a fee waiver for application to Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) for developers to locate clean or renewable energy projects on degraded lands, such as Brownfields. A VCP participant developing an eligible property that will be used to generate at least 2 MW per year of clean or renewable energy would save at least \$6,000 for the initial application fee, and possibly more if subsequent applications are submitted for the same development project.

On October 8, 2021, the proposed regulations were published in the Maryland Register. Public comments were accepted through November 8, 2021.



# Benefits of Using Brownfields Sites for Renewable Energy Projects

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## Reduced Cost of Development

Brownfield sites usually have:

- Existing infrastructure-electric, water and sewage, roads
- Access to the electric grid
- Large flat areas suitable for solar, wind, geothermal or biomass plants-using such sites reduce site preparation costs
- Acquisition costs or leases may be lower than other sites

## Available Incentives

- Waiver of VCP application fee (once regulations are approved-anticipated late 2021)
- Tax Incentives
- Brownfield redevelopment grant opportunities



# What is Clean Energy?

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Clean Energy can include:

- Solar photovoltaic technology
- Solar heating
- Geothermal
- Wind
- Biorfuels
- Ethanol
- The Ocean, including energy from waves, tides, currents and thermal differences

# For Further Information:

**Land Restoration Program  
Voluntary Cleanup Program  
Check out the Website!  
[mde.maryland.gov](https://mde.maryland.gov)**

## **Select Land-then Land Restoration**

**Browse the Complete list of Brownfield and VCP Resources and Factsheets!**

Or visit

<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/LAND/MarylandBrownfieldVCP/Pages/Renewable-Energy-Siting-and-Development.aspx>

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