



KEEPING CURRENT

WITH **MARYLANDERS FOR RELIABLE POWER**

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www.mdforreliablepower.com

ELECTRICITY ALPHABET SOUP

This is the first of a series of features designed to de-mystify some of the common acronyms in the electricity industry.

PJM: PJM Interconnection is a regional electricity organization that manages a 13-state transmission system, which includes Maryland and the District of Columbia, and a wholesale electricity market. Federally regulated, PJM is based in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, and directs North America's largest centrally dispatched control area. Its members include power generators, transmission owners, electricity market distributors, power marketers and large consumers. PJM operates the transmission grid and coordinates the buying, selling and delivery of the wholesale electricity grid. PJM also conducts a regional planning process for generation and transmission to ensure the reliability of the system. PJM operates the largest competitive wholesale electricity market in the world. Beginning as a three-utility system -- the first continuing power pool -- PJM has grown to its current 500 members with a broader mission required for the management of a complex electricity system. To learn more, visit www.pjm.com.

TRANSMISSION LINES SCHEDULES UNDER REVISION

In late December, PJM Interconnection (see above) released information that has affected the schedules for regulatory review of two transmission lines previously recommended by PJM. Preliminary analyses conducted by PJM to update its Regional Transmission Expansion Plan (RTEP) indicate that demand for electricity has slowed. As a result, PJM advised that the date additional transmission capacity is required will be later than 2014, the date initially used by utility companies in planning both the PATH line and the MAPP line.

The utilities building these lines have therefore requested revision of procedural schedules for the regulatory reviews necessary to obtain approval from the Maryland Public Service Commission. When PJM releases its 2010 RTEP analysis in June, it will propose new in-service dates for these projects. Although the transmission projects will not be needed as soon as originally thought, PJM has repeatedly confirmed the need for the projects. Infrastructure improvement is important as part of Maryland's multi-pronged approach to energy policy as these improvements work in conjunction with the state's ongoing efforts to increase renewable generation and to enhance demand-side management programs.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

It appears this year will be filled with fast-paced developments surrounding reliable electricity. MDRP members – now more than 100 strong – will be updated through this newsletter. In 2010, our organization will focus on the critical role reliable electricity plays in our regional and national security. The connection between public safety – emergency response and transportation systems – and electricity is obvious. But dependence on electricity by the most essential and sophisticated defense and security systems in the National Capital Region is less appreciated. Maryland's economic future is expected to improve as employment and housing statistics recover. Total electricity consumption is predicted to grow 1.9% in 2010 ([according to the EIA](#)). More attention will be paid to developing renewable sources of electricity, closer to its users, but our region's electricity production from renewable sources continues to be less than five percent of the total supply.

JOIN THE MDRP SPEAKERS' BUREAU

MDRP is looking for members interested in carrying the reliable power message to organizations throughout the state. MDRP has provided programs attended by over 1,000 Maryland civic leaders over the past year. There are no better messengers than MDRP members. MDRP will provide a PowerPoint presentation, handouts, any on-site assistance needed and reimbursement for mileage. As we schedule presentations, your help is needed to make the most compelling case for reliable electricity. If you'd like to be part of this effort, contact dsiebert@artemisgrp.com or call Debbie Siebert at 410/295-9550.

MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

A listing of proposed Energy-related legislation in the 2010 Maryland General Assembly as of January 20, 2010

[SB 23](#)- Energy Companies-Net Energy Metering-Credit Transfers, Sponsor- [Senator Alexander Mooney](#)
Authorizes specified not-for-profit customers to transfer all renewable energy generation credits from net energy metering to specified properties; and requires the Public Service Commission to adopt specified regulations.

[SB 50](#)- Electric Companies-Net Energy Metering, Sponsor- [Senator Alexander Mooney](#)
Repeals a limitation on the period of time that a specified eligible customer-generator may accrue specified generation credit; repeals a limitation on the time that a specified electric company is required to carry forward a generation credit or a negative kilowatt-hour reading; requiring a specified electric company to carry forward a specified generation credit until specified events occur; etc.

[SB 193](#)- Dorchester county-Electric Transmission Privilege Tax, Sponsor- [Senator Richard Colburn](#)
Authorizes the County Council of Dorchester County to impose a tax on the privilege of engaging in the transmission of electricity in the county using specified long distance, extra-high voltage electric transmission lines; providing that the tax is the product of multiplying the miles of specified electric transmission lines and a base rate and the voltage carrying capacity of specified electric transmission lines; authorizes the county council to set the base rate; provides for the use of the proceeds of the tax; etc.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

For a complete list of members, visit www.mdforreliablepower.com.

Maryland Minority Contractors Association, Inc., based in Baltimore, was founded in 1977 for the advancement of minority and women contractors. The 84-member organization provides technical assistance, communications and networking, programmatic and development information. It also monitors legislation, regulation and programs affecting minority businesses. Shirley Thompson is MDRP liaison and may be reached at mmca.inc@gmail.com.

APPI Energy (Affiliated Power Purchasers International) is an independent energy consulting firm providing energy procurement and management services to more than 2500 clients from its headquarters in Salisbury and its other offices in Baltimore and Detroit. Among its clients are businesses, governments, educational institutions and non-profit organizations. The company was formed in 1996. MDRP's liaison is Maggie Rose mrose@appienergy.com.

The **Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce** was founded in 1966 and numbers more than 700 members. The Towson-based organization's core programs are business advocacy, education and marketing. Chamber CEO and President Keith Scott is MDRP's contact at kscott@baltcountychamber.com.

Brian Boru Pub and Restaurant is a recent addition to Anne Arundel County's dining options. Offering "classic Irish fare," the Severna Park establishment opened two years ago and is one of the Irish Restaurant Company's family of restaurants. Anthony Clarke is liaison with MDRP and may be reached at antoclarke@aol.com.

Homes For America is a non-profit housing development organization based in Annapolis whose mission is rental housing, home ownership, resident services and technical and development assistance. Trudy Parisa McFall is chairman of the board of directors and liaison with MDRP. She is at trudy@homesforamerica.org.

Rotary Club of Baltimore City was chartered in 1912. Its current president, Mary Anne Rishebarger, represents the club to MDRP. Contact her at mar4mcs@aol.com.

Galway Bay Irish Pub and Restaurant is a longtime favorite dining destination because of its location, steps from the State House, U. S. Naval Academy and St. John's College. Another of the Irish Restaurant Company's group, the restaurant's liaison to MDRP is Anthony Clarke at antoclarke@aol.com.

Bob Hall, LLC, is a family-owned Anheuser-Busch InBev distributor in Upper Marlboro. The company employs approximately 100 people and serves customers in Prince George's, Charles, Calvert and Montgomery counties. MDRP's liaison is Pam Finlay at pamelac@katcefbrothers.com.



FLASHES FROM THE WIRE

[Electricity Sellers Start to Polish Their Pitches](#)

Baltimore Sun, 12/23/09

[Utility Company Files New Application for PATH Project](#)

Frederick News-Post, 12/23/09

[Report Details Off-Shore Wind Potential in Maryland](#)

North American Wind Power, 12/23/09

[Desert Vistas vs. Solar Power](#)

New York Times, 12/21/09

[Allegheny Power Customers Can Buy Wind Energy](#)

Cumberland Times-News, 12/17/09

[The Grid](#)

Denver Post, 12/13/09

CONSERVATION TIP

Reduce your electricity bills by as much as 10 percent by unplugging appliances or switching devices off at the power connection point when not in use.

Source: <http://www.greenlivingtips.com>

SHOCKING FACT

Less than five percent of the nation's 144 million electric meters were being used for smart grid functions in 2008, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) reported. Only about one percent of the new meters were providing some kind of time-based electricity rates to customers -- an essential component of the smart grid vision.

Source: FERC

