December 5, 2023

The Honorable Wes Moore  
Governor  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1925

Dear Governor Moore,

As grassroots and business leaders representing hundreds of thousands of people in Maryland, we are writing to congratulate you and your agency staff on a very impressive first year of achievements on clean energy. Your actions are putting Maryland among the climate leadership ranks of states like New York, California, and Washington state. But in order to secure Maryland as a true national leader on climate change, ambitious actions to achieve our goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 60% by 2031 need to be taken. Specifically, Maryland needs the plan and resources to meet our goal. We are asking you to issue a strong climate plan and to commit to a funding mechanism that provides significant resources in order to “get it done by ’31.”

Already, under your leadership, Maryland has made historic investments in offshore wind, sped the transition to electric vehicles, made community solar a permanent program, installed leaders committed to climate action in the state agencies and at the PSC, and much more. These actions have brought the promise of new union jobs to our state, eased the burden of air pollution, and helped low and moderate income Marylanders benefit from solar power. Thank you for fighting to enact meaningful policies that benefit everyone.

We also congratulate you and the staff and leadership at the Maryland Department of the Environment for what we expect will be a comprehensive plan to ensure Maryland reduces climate pollution by 60% by 2031. For Maryland to secure our position as a national climate leader, this administration must also ensure the investments and actions needed to achieve Maryland’s 2031 mandate are in place. Commitments, promises, and unfunded recommendations, regardless of how bold they are, will simply not be enough. A fully enacted and funded plan will make Maryland the undisputed national leader in tackling the climate crisis and the myriad inequities it exacerbates, including health disparities and poverty. We are therefore urging you to provide a strong climate plan and funding mechanism that will “get it done by ’31.”

President Biden has shown through the Inflation Reduction Act that betting big on investments in clean energy and health materially improves lives, builds a cross-cutting coalition of support, and pays financial dividends. The Inflation Reduction Act is bringing $250 billion in new US manufacturing investments, helping the average household save $516 a year on energy costs, increasing EV sales by 63% in 2023, and already causing measurable reductions in air pollution. The Inflation Reduction Act unites labor, environmentalists, health advocates, anti-poverty leaders, and did not trigger the grassroots opposition that typically accompanies a President’s flagship policy achievement. We urge you to follow President Biden’s successful example and make spending on clean energy and health a centerpiece of your policy agenda.

We are all eager to support your climate leadership and are counting on you to roll up your sleeves and get it done by ‘31.
Signed,

Advance Maryland
Annapolis Green
Audubon Mid-Atlantic
Baltimore 350
CASA
Cedar Lane Environmental Justice Ministry
Center for Progressive Reform
Chesapeake Climate Action Network
Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility
Chesapeake Solar and Storage Association (CHESSA)
Climate Communications Coalition
Climate Law & Policy Project
Climate Reality Greater Maryland
Earthjustice
Elders Climate Action Maryland
Elders for Climate Action
Environment Maryland
Friends of Sligo Creek
Green Sanctuary, Unitarian Universalist Church of Silver Spring
GRID Alternatives Mid-Atlantic
Howard County Climate Action
Indivisible HoCoMD
Institute for Market Transformation
Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake
Interfaith Power & Light (DC.MD.NoVA)
Maryland League of Conservation Voters
Maryland Legislative Coalition
Maryland Legislative Coalition Climate Justice Wing
Maryland Ornithological Society
Maryland PIRG
Mizrahi Family Charitable Fund
Mobilize Frederick
Oceanic Network
Policy Foundation of Maryland
Rebuild Maryland Coalition
Safe Skies Maryland
Sierra Club Maryland Chapter
The Nature Conservancy, Maryland/DC Chapter
Towson Therapy Group
Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland
Waterkeepers Chesapeake