



ALLEGANY COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
& COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

701 Kelly Road, Suite 400 • Cumberland, Maryland 21502

MEMORANDUM

TO: David Eberly, County Administrator

FROM: Jeffrey Barclay, Economic Development 
Angie Patterson, Planning 
Greg Hildreth, G.I.S. 

SUBJ: Solar Review Committee Recommendation

DATE: September 30, 2015

The Solar Review Committee has completed its evaluation of the proposals received in response to our RFP regarding the construction and operation of Solar Photovoltaic Systems in Allegany County. It is our recommendation that Allegany County enter into a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Urban Grid for a period of 25 years. Urban Grid offered a professional and transparent written proposal with competitive terms that earned them an invitation to be interviewed along with three other top contenders. Their continued professionalism and consistency throughout the interview process confirmed them as our top choice for this project.

Urban Grid offered the lowest price for a full maintenance (turn-key), zero escalation option at \$0.059/kWh. The zero escalation option ensures that Allegany County will be paying a flat rate of 0.059/kWh for the duration of the 25 year PPA. The zero escalation approach includes a slightly higher initial rate but far greater savings over the life of the PPA. Zero escalation also ensures that Allegany County will continue to enjoy savings even if the market rate for electricity experiences low or negative growth for a portion of the PPA. Urban Grid provided a realistic preliminary design aimed at offsetting power consumption at our wastewater treatment plants via net metering while taking a conservative approach to panel layout with respect to known restrictions at each proposed site. As a bonus, Urban Grid has also agreed to assist Allegany County in prioritizing which meters to offset in order to maximize the savings provided by the PPA and to use local labor when possible for construction and maintenance.