



“When we think of climate change, we think of it — this is a case where conscious and convenience cross paths, where dealing with this existential threat to the planet and increasing our economic growth and prosperity are one in the same. When I think of climate change, I think of — and the answers to it — I think of jobs...You know, we can put millions of Americans to work modernizing our water systems, transportation, our energy infrastructure to withstand the impacts of extreme climate.” – President Joe Biden, January 27, 2021

Via Email: Muriel.Bowser@dc.gov

The Honorable Muriel E. Bowser
Mayor of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20004

April 22, 2021 – Earth Day

RE: Thank you Mayor Bowser for the District of Columbia’s Building Energy Performance Standards (BEPS)

Mayor Muriel Bowser:

We the undersigned organizations and individuals are writing to you on Earth Day to express our sincere appreciation for your leadership and support in making the District’s Building Energy Performance Standards (BEPS) a central element of our city’s climate crisis plan.

The timing could not have been better as our new President of the United States, Joseph Biden, is calling for the upgrade of four million commercial buildings across the country to improve

energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and create at least one million new jobs in construction, engineering, and manufacturing.

Because you acted in 2018 and made BEPS real, the District is poised to repair the building infrastructure we have and is fully aligned with the energy efficiency goals of the Biden Administration. With your decision to make efficiency of our built environment a priority, you are creating the infrastructure necessary to optimize our city's solar buildout and energy transformation. BEPS makes solar better!

Your example has inspired others. New York City, Saint Louis, and Washington state have followed your example. Like the District, Montgomery County is now developing their own building energy performance standards. The District will benefit from our shared experiences and there is no reason why our region could not be a leader in growing a strong, clean, and efficient energy economy. Your efforts have made this possible.

All District residents deserve the benefits that energy efficient infrastructure can bring to our communities. Healthy buildings and lower energy costs are something all residents deserve. That is why it's so important for all of us to keep moving this policy forward.

We know your commitment to DC Building Energy Performance Standards is strong. We hope you realize how proud we all are of how your agency, the DC Department of Energy and Environment, is working hard to fully implement your vision.

We will always support your focused and strong implementation of this critical climate crisis policy.

Sincerely,

Chris Weiss
Executive Director
DC Environmental Network (DCEN)

Catherine Plume
Chapter Chair
Sierra Club, Washington DC Chapter

Cliff Majersik
Senior Advisor
Institute for Market Transformation (IMT)

Lara Levison
Energy Committee Chair
Sierra Club, Washington DC Chapter

Howard M. Crystal
Legal Director | Senior Attorney
Energy Justice Program
Center for Biological Diversity

David Murray
Executive Director
**Chesapeake Solar & Storage Association
(formerly MDVSEIA)**

Stephanie Klein
DC Field Organizer
**Moms Clean Air Force DC Chapter
& Green Building Advisory Council**

Ari Eisenstadt
DC Conservation Advocate
Audubon Naturalist Society

Ivan Frishberg
Director of Impact Policy
Amalgamated Bank

Mike Ewall, Esq.
Executive Director
Energy Justice Network

Larry Martin
GRID2.0 Working Group

Nicole Whalen
CEO & Founder
Green Compass

Elijah Perry
Interim Executive Director
GRID Alternatives Mid-Atlantic

Marchant Wentworth
Wentworth Green Strategies

Linda VerNooy
Labor Action Team Co-Leader
Citizens' Climate Lobby

Charles Olsen
Executive Assistant & Special Projects Coordinator
Chesapeake Climate Action Network

Nina Dodge
John Macgregor
DC Climate Action

Gene Solon
Southwest Community Activist

Kathy Chiron
President
League of Women Voters

350 DC

Cc: DC Council, DOEE

