



# Mountain Maryland Energy Advisory Committee (MMEAC) Committee Responsibilities

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## **MMEAC Charge:**

Garrett County has a long history of energy production due to the presence and abundance of a variety of natural resources. Traditional resource extraction has played a significant role in the county and has provided much needed sources of revenue that continue to support needs of the county and its citizens. This tradition will likely continue but there are a host of additional opportunities that can be investigated to support diversification in energy production that could benefit the county and its citizens. A long-term focus and commitment to exploring all available energy production avenues, while identifying and mitigating potential risks, represent the charge of the Mountain Maryland Energy Advisory Committee.

In addition, the Mountain Maryland Energy Advisory Committee members will generate and document program and policy suggestions that will allow the Garrett County Board of Commissioners to explore a broad-based portfolio approach with an emphasis on guiding energy sector growth while maximizing jobs and other economic benefits while mitigating any negative effects.

## **The Approach:**

The committee will use community input, expert presentations, and other research to develop a comprehensive document that can be leveraged to coordinate, manage, and focus energy development. This committee work product will include specific policy recommendations for the Garrett County Board of Commissioners to consider. The committee will explore opportunities in all energy sectors, including traditional and renewable approaches, as well as explore incentives and programs at both the county and state levels to help guide each sector's growth in a responsible way.

## **The Timeline:**

With the help of a consultant, Downstream Strategies, LLC, this committee will complete its work through a series of committee-only working meetings, public meetings, and community outreach within 18 months.

## **The Consultant:**

Downstream Strategies offers environmental consulting services that combine sound interdisciplinary skills with the core belief in the importance of protecting the environment and linking economic development with natural resource stewardship.