(4) METHANE FROM THE ANAEROBIC DECOMPOSITION OF ORGANIC MATERIALS IN A LANDFILL OR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT;

(5) GEOTHERMAL;

(6) OCEAN, INCLUDING ENERGY FROM WAVES, TIDES, CURRENTS, AND THERMAL DIFFERENCES; ~~AND~~

(7) A FUEL CELL THAT PRODUCES ELECTRICITY FROM A TIER 1 RENEWABLE SOURCE UNDER ITEM (3) OR (4) OF THIS SUBSECTION; *AND*

(8) A SMALL HYDROELECTRIC POWER PLANT OF LESS THAN 30 MEGAWATTS IN CAPACITY THAT IS LICENSED OR EXEMPT FROM LICENSING BY THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION.

~~(J)~~ ~~(L)~~ *(M)* "TIER 2 RENEWABLE SOURCE" MEANS ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF ENERGY SOURCES:

(1) HYDROELECTRIC POWER OTHER THAN PUMP STORAGE GENERATION;

(2) ~~THERMAL DECOMPOSITION~~ INCINERATION OF POULTRY LITTER, *IF THE MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION AND THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE DETERMINE THAT THERE IS A SUFFICIENT QUANTITY OF POULTRY LITTER AVAILABLE FOR THE ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF ANY EXISTING AND OPERATING ENTITY THAT IS SITED ON THE DELMARVA PENINSULA AND THAT, AS OF JULY 1, 2004, PROCESSES AND PASTEURIZES CHICKEN LITTER AS FERTILIZER*; AND

~~(2)~~ (3) WASTE–TO–ENERGY.

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(A) IT IS THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO:

(1) RECOGNIZE THE ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL, FUEL DIVERSITY, AND SECURITY BENEFITS OF RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES;

(2) ESTABLISH A MARKET FOR ELECTRICITY FROM THESE RESOURCES IN MARYLAND; AND

(3) LOWER THE COST TO CONSUMERS OF ELECTRICITY PRODUCED FROM THESE RESOURCES.

(B) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT:

(1) THE BENEFITS OF ELECTRICITY FROM RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES, INCLUDING LONG–TERM DECREASED EMISSIONS, A HEALTHIER ENVIRONMENT, INCREASED ENERGY SECURITY, AND DECREASED RELIANCE ON AND VULNERABILITY FROM IMPORTED ENERGY SOURCES, ACCRUE TO THE PUBLIC AT LARGE; AND

(2) ELECTRICITY SUPPLIERS AND CONSUMERS SHARE AN OBLIGATION TO DEVELOP A MINIMUM LEVEL OF THESE RESOURCES IN THE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY PORTFOLIO OF THE STATE.