



MARTIN O'MALLEY
GOVERNOR

STATE HOUSE
100 STATE CIRCLE
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401-1925
(410) 974-3901
(TOLL FREE) 1-800-811-8336

TTY USERS CALL VIA MD RELAY

Chesapeake Crescent Initiative

REMARKS BY GOVERNOR MARTIN O'MALLEY

Washington, D.C.
July 21, 2010

AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY

It is great to be here. I especially want to thank Herb Miller, George Vradenburg and everyone with the Chesapeake Crescent Initiative for your leadership in advancing science, security, and skills and education throughout our region – the critically important ingredients for job-creation, prosperity, and progress. We're joined today by Malcolm Woolf of the Maryland Energy Administration, John Ratliff, my policy advisor, and Abby Hopper, my Energy Advisor.

We're urgently focused in Maryland on creating jobs, saving jobs, and improving the conditions that allow businesses large, medium, and small, to create and save jobs. And I know this is your focus for our region as well.

Since January, in the State of Maryland we've been able to create 40,000 jobs at a rate that's more than double the national growth rate. But none of us are out of the woods yet – not in Maryland, not in Virginia, not in DC. These continue to be very tough times, and so everything we do continues to boil down to creating and saving jobs.

Innovation – and green innovation in particular – is a critically important piece of our job-creation puzzle. To give you just one example: we were able to convince GM to build their next electric drive motor in Maryland, which will bring more than 800 direct, indirect, and induced jobs to our State. That's first and foremost a win for jobs and our economy. It's also a win for GM and their consumers. And it's a win for our planet as well.

One of the great ironies of these times is that is the very challenges we face with respect to global climate change – along with so many others of those big scary “globals,” global terror, global

recession, etc. – the immensity of these problems is driving innovation in every sphere of education, science and technology.

And as this organization so rightfully reminds us, these are the very endeavors that we in this region are able to count among our greatest job-creating (and planet saving) strengths. Because of this, while some states and regions find themselves at the edge of a cliff, we in the Chesapeake Crescent are at the precipice of greater job-creation and prosperity, driven by brilliant science, innovative technology, and remarkable discoveries that will transform for the better, the way we feed, fuel, and heal this world of ours.

In deference to the focus of today’s meeting, I wanted to briefly share with you a few thoughts on “fueling” – specifically what we’re doing in Maryland to advance green energy and innovation, and how we are working together with our partners in the region.

ADVANCING GREEN INNOVATION

It’s been our experience that the things that get counted and watched, are the things that get done. So we’ve set some big goals in our State,... goals like creating, saving, and placing our fellow citizens in 100,000 green jobs by 2015,... goals for reducing our carbon footprint and energy consumption,... and goals for increasing our renewable energy portfolio standard 20% by 2022.

In our recent national history, job growth in the green economy has been about two and a half times faster than job growth overall. In Maryland it’s one of the primary sectors we’re targeting for job-creation. To further green job creation, we’re working to attract green businesses to our State, and we’re helping our own businesses go green.

And, we’re investing in the most important ingredient for job growth and innovation: the talents, skills, and education of our people. Because of record investments we’re making in the toughest of times, we’ve been able to build in Maryland what Education Week magazine says are the nation’s #1 best public schools. And with no increase in college tuition at our public colleges and universities for four years in a row, we’ve made college education more affordable for more Maryland families.

We are reinvigorating STEM education – science, technology, engineering, and math. We are working to implement environmental literacy into K-12 curricula. We are working with our community colleges to help them offer green skills training. And together with our partners in Labor, we’re creating green apprenticeships and skills training initiatives.

Advancing green innovation is a multi-front war. One of these fronts is automobiles, where we’ve passed Clean Cars reforms and tax-credits for plug-in cars. In addition, we are building dozens of

electric vehicle charging stations around Maryland to attract and support the emerging electric vehicle industry.

We're also working to strike better balances between roads and rail by moving forward with the Purple Line in Greater Washington and the Red Line in the Baltimore Area. And we're putting a statewide emphasis on Transit Oriented Development – promoting public transit, easing traffic congestion, and creating new opportunities for job creation.

Another important front is energy for homes and businesses – where we've created tax incentives and grant initiatives to help families and businesses go green.

To help school systems get more out of every dollar they invest – and to advance our goals for green innovation and job creation – we've established LEED silver standards for school construction. That's a big deal when you consider the \$1.3 billion we're investing in new construction. As we move forward, we want to double Energy Service Contracts for our schools in which contractors install things like energy efficient windows and lights, and our schools use their energy savings to finance these upgrades.

And through an initiative we call Project Sunburst, we are leveraging federal dollars to put solar panels on 31 government buildings – allowing us to create as many as 250 new jobs, and tripling the amount of solar currently on our grid.

These are a few of the things that we're working on in Maryland. As we move forward, we know our greatest job creating potential is strengthened by our ability to work with partners across our state borders – and the Chesapeake Crescent's BEST Consortium proposal is a great example. We believe that working together, we can leverage a \$130 million federal investment into billions of dollars economic activity, spurred by green innovation.

To give you one final example before I close: Governor Markel of Delaware and I have asked President Obama to join our states in a power purchase agreement for offshore wind energy which could create as many as 15,000 clean energy jobs. By combining our market power with the federal government, we can create the economies of scale necessary to attract manufacturers of offshore wind equipment and installation vessels – thus creating jobs and fueling economic growth.

CONCLUSION

It's been said that "Sustainability is about stabilizing the currently disruptive relationship between earth's two most complex systems – human culture and the living world" The magic of these times, is that by stabilizing this once disruptive relationship, we are actually creating a new harmony between the health of our planet, and the health of our greatest job creating engines.

Thanks again for the opportunity to join you here,... and for everything you're doing to move our region forward; forward for jobs, forward for innovation; forward for a cleaner, greener, more sustainable future.