

The State of Maryland

Executive Department

EXECUTIVE ORDER

01.01.2023.07

(Rescinds Executive Order 01.01.2019.08)

(Amends Executive Order 01.01.2023.06)

(Reinstating Executive Order 01.01.2018.08)

Leading by Example in State Government

- WHEREAS, The State of Maryland is a national leader and has taken unprecedented steps to address climate change and promote sustainability;
- WHEREAS, Maryland, with 3,100 miles of shoreline, is the fourth most vulnerable state to suffer the effects of sea-level rise associated with climate change;
- WHEREAS, Rising sea levels and increased storm intensity could have devastating and far-reaching impacts on the Atlantic coast and the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem that affect the environmental, recreational, and economic benefits enjoyed by Marylanders and visitors;
- WHEREAS, Reducing greenhouse gas emissions in State operations results in positive environmental and health benefits for all Marylanders;
- WHEREAS, The State recognizes the importance of State government to lead by example in achieving the ambitious greenhouse gas reduction goals adopted by the State;
- WHEREAS, The State recognizes the large impact that the Maryland Department of General Services (DGS) has on sustainability and greenhouse gas reductions in State government operations;
- WHEREAS, The effort to reach net zero statewide greenhouse gas emissions by 2045 should be factored into all State government plans and operations;

WHEREAS, State agencies should play a leading role in achieving the State's greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

A. There is an energy-savings initiative with the goal of, by Fiscal Year 2031, reducing energy consumption in State-owned buildings by 20 percent compared to a Fiscal Year 2018 baseline.

B. The Maryland Green Building Council shall update the High-Performance Green Building Program to ensure that all new buildings and major renovations subject to the Program align with the State's goal to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045.

C. DGS shall identify potential candidates for energy savings performance contracts at State-owned facilities, and agencies shall provide onsite support to work with DGS at facilities that DGS identifies as suitable candidates.

D. Each year, DGS shall analyze all State-owned buildings to identify the buildings with the highest energy use per square foot and the greatest greenhouse gas emissions.

E. Audit.

(1) Each year, DGS shall conduct an energy and greenhouse gas emissions audit of at least 2 million square feet of State-owned buildings.

(2) The audit shall include best practices and identify low-cost measures for increasing energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

(3) A copy of the audit shall be provided to the head of each unit of State government that occupies the space audited.

F. Each unit of state government that occupies the space audited shall, to the fullest extent practicable, implement the measures identified in the audit.

G. For one year following such implementation, DGS shall monitor the unit's energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, track any changes resulting from the measures, and calculate any savings on energy costs and or reductions in emissions.

H. Utility Database.

- (1) Reductions in energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the energy-savings initiative shall be recorded in a Comprehensive Utility Records Management Database (the "Utility Database").
- (2) Each unit of State government shall, each month, or upon request, provide DGS with access to available data about its facility and copies of the unit's utility bills.
- (3) DGS shall report to the Governor's Office annually on each unit of the State government's data compliance.
- (4) DGS shall gather the data and information necessary to fully populate, update, and maintain the Utility Database.

I. All units of State government shall, in support of their core missions, implement projects and initiatives to conserve energy and reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

J. Provisions promoting the State's energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals shall be included in requests for proposals that:

- (1) Are made after the date of this Executive Order;
- (2) Are for the leasing of space to the State; and
- (3) Would obligate the State to pay the utility bills for the leased space.

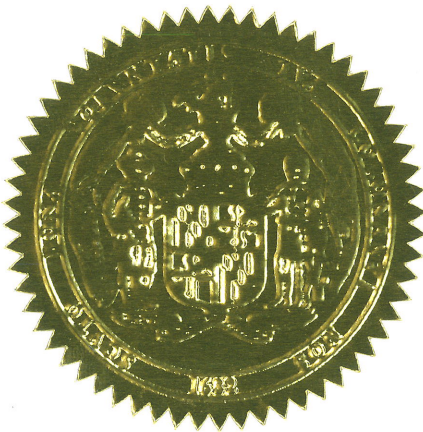
K. DGS shall report to the Governor each fiscal year on the State's progress toward achieving the 20 percent reduction goal.

L. Executive Order 01.01.2019.08 is hereby rescinded.

GIVEN Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, in the City of Annapolis, this 19th Day of May 2023.



Wes Moore
Governor



ATTEST:



Susan C. Lee
Secretary of State