Climate Change and the Maryland 4th District Congressional Race

Before You Vote:

Learn Where the Candidates Stand on Global Warming and Clean Energy

Ahead of the April 26th primary, the CCAN Action Fund asked all the candidates for Congress in Maryland's 4th District (your district) to respond to a survey about global warming and clean energy. Several responded, providing the answers below that we hope will help voters like you understand their positions.

Here's how to use this survey: For your convenience, we have included clickable links to the answers to every question from every candidate. ***Just follow the grid below and click on the check mark, question mark, or "X" beside each candidate's name to see their verbatim answers.*** We have divided the candidates into two categories. The first set of candidates presently hold elected office or have in the past. The second set have not held elected office before.

CCAN Action Fund is the sister organization of the Chesapeake Climate Action Network. Our mission is to educate voters on the candidates' policy views on climate and energy. We do not endorse candidates.

Learn where and how to vote here.

Name and party	Years in elected office	Supports Clean Power Plan?	Supports action on methane gas?	Supports "cap and dividend"?	Supports clean energy tax credits?	Supports federal/state action?	Supports real bipartisan action?	Fought for these bills as an elected lawmaker
Currently serves in elected office								
Anthony Brown (Democrat)	16	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Maryland Offshore Wind Act
Joseline Peña-Melnyk (Democrat)	13	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Clean Energy Jobs Act of 2016 Clean Energy Advancement Act of 2015 Protect our Health and Communities Act of 2015 Opposed adding waste-to-energy to the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard, 2011 Transportation Projects - Bicycle and Pedestrian Access - Funding and Reporting, 2010
Glenn Ivey (Democrat)	8	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	None
Has not served in elected office								
Warren Christopher (Democrat)	-	✓	✓	✓	?	✓	✓	No prior office
Terence Strait (Democrat)	-	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	No prior office

See next page for a list of all candidates for Congress in Maryland's 4th District

***Here's a list of all the candidates for Congress in Maryland's 4th District, including those who did not respond to this survey. Websites are provided so you can learn more.**

Robert "Bro" Broadus - Republican, www.justiceandliberty.us
Anthony Brown - Democrat, www.anthonybrown.com
Rob Buck - Republican
Warren Christopher - Democrat, www.warrenchristopherforcongress.com
Kamesha T. Clark - Green, www.kameshaclark.com
Matthew Fogg - Democrat, www.MatthewFoggforCongress.com
Glenn Ivey - Democrat, www.iveyforcongress.com
George McDermott - Republican, www.secretjustice.com
Joseline Peña-Melnyk - Democrat, www.joselinepenamelnyk.com
Terence Strait - Democrat, www.straitforcongress.com
David Therrien - Republican, www.therrienforcongress.com

ANTHONY BROWN

1. In June 2014, President Obama and EPA announced the Clean Power Plan. The rule establishes the first-ever national standards to limit carbon pollution from power plants. Until this rule, existing power plants were not limited in the amount of carbon they could release. On August 3, 2015, the Clean Power Plan became final. Earlier this year, the Supreme Court halted implementation of the Clean Power Plan while legal issues are decided by the courts. What is your position on the Clean Power Plan? Do you think it should be strengthened? Weakened? More or less left the same? Please explain your answer.

I support the Clean Power Plan. Carbon pollution is the biggest driver of climate change and power plants are the largest major source of carbon emissions in the U.S. The Clean Power Plan sets achievable standards to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 32 percent from 2005 levels by 2030. Reaching these goals will also result in 30 percent more renewable energy generation in 2030, thereby creating tens of thousands of jobs and lower costs of generating and delivering renewable energy. Reaching these goals will protect the health of Americans and save the average American family on their energy bills. The main concern that I have, and that should be adjusted, is to ensure that states with higher targets for emission reductions and higher renewable goals than the Clean Power Plan should either be incentivized to maintain those higher targets and goals or prohibited from reducing their targets and goals.

2. On August 18, 2015 the Obama Administration proposed the first methane pollution standards for new and modified oil and gas facilities, a rule that will blunt the projected growth of methane emissions leakage from the industry. On March 10th, the Administration announced that it will also draft regulations to limit methane emissions from existing oil and gas facilities. Pound for pound, methane gas traps more than 80 times as much heat on our planet in the short term than carbon dioxide does. What is your opinion of the Administration's proposed methane rules? Do you think they should be strengthened? Weakened? More or less left the same? Please explain your answer.

I support the Obama Administration's proposed methane pollution standards for new and modified oil and gas facilities. The Administration set an ambitious but achievable goal to cut methane emissions from the oil and gas sector by 40–45 percent from 2012 levels by 2025. Methane is the second biggest driver of climate change, after carbon dioxide and the oil and gas industry released more methane than any other industrial source in 2013 through leakage and venting at every step of operations from production to distribution of fossil fuels. On a 20- year timescale, methane is 87 times more powerful as a greenhouse gas. The main concern that I have, and that should be addressed, is that the proposed rule only affects newly constructed and modified oil and gas sources. The myriad existing oil and gas sources that are the sources for methane pollution remain unaffected. The EPA is required under the Clean Air Act to promulgate emission guidelines for the reduction of methane from existing sources in conjunction with these new source standards.

3. "Cap and dividend" is a carbon-reduction policy tool that would set a steadily declining cap on the total amount of U.S. carbon pollution that can be released into the atmosphere. Any company that extracts new fossil fuels from the ground or imports them into the U.S. would have to buy a permit at a federally-organized auction for every ton of carbon dioxide those fossil fuels will emit into the atmosphere. All of the money raised would then be returned in equal amounts—through a quarterly "dividend"—to every U.S. resident with a valid Social Security number. What is your position on implementing a cap-and-dividend policy in the U.S? Please explain your answer.

I support the implementation of a cap-and-dividend policy in the United States. A cap-and-dividend policy will not only address squarely the pressing problems of global warming and energy independence, but also

strengthen the economic well-being of American families. By achieving these goals in a way that is fair and transparent, it will maximize the prospects for securing durable public support for a policy that weans the U.S. economy from dependence on fossil fuels.

4. The "Production Tax Credit" (PTC) and "Investment Tax Credit" (ITC) are the premier federal tax incentives to promote renewable energy. Both of these credits were recently renewed and extended, however their value is scheduled to decrease over time. What is your position regarding renewal and extension of the PTC and ITC? Please explain your answer.

I support the renewal and extension of the PTC and ITC. As a member of the House of Delegates, I supported Maryland's Clean Energy Incentive Tax Credit, enacted in 2006, which offers Marylanders a state income tax credit for electricity generated by qualified resources. This credit is available to individuals and corporations that build and generate electricity from qualified resources operational on or after January 1, 2006, but before January 1, 2016. As a member of Congress, I would support ending fossil fuel subsidies and reinvesting the savings in a long-term extension of the Production Tax Credit and Investment Tax Credit. These credits are critical to a healthy wind industry, and make rooftop solar installations affordable for homeowners and businesses. Congress regularly lets the credits expire, leading to a boom-bust cycle of development that hurts job creation and investment.

5. State governments have played a large role in advancing climate change and clean energy policies. What state climate change/clean energy policies do you think have been the most effective? Do you have a position on climate change/clean energy policies Maryland should adopt? Finally, how do you think the federal government should work with states in its response to climate change? Please explain your answers.

Maryland has been a leader in advancing climate change and clean energy policies. Under the O'Malley Brown Administration, Maryland developed a Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan that encompasses more than 150 programs and initiatives that will result in an estimated $1.6 billion in economic benefits, support more than 37,000 jobs, and positively impact public health, the Chesapeake Bay and promote renewable energy. The goal of reducing emissions 25 percent by 2020 is attainable by strengthening and building on current programs, such as the Maryland Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard, EmPOWER Maryland, Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), Maryland Clean Cars Program and by incorporating new cutting-edge technology and strategies to improve energy efficiency of our buildings and transportation systems, develop renewable energy sources, promote more compact "smart" growth, increase use of transit and reduce transportation fuel consumption. The Plan also includes improvements in recycling and waste diversion to save energy and improvements to the management of agricultural and forest ecosystems to capture more carbon. The Plan was intended to be a living strategy that will be continuously refined and improved upon as new innovations and strategies are discovered and better data on what works best becomes available. In 2016, Maryland should extend the Clean Energy Incentive Tax Credit, renew the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act and the goal of continuing to increase renewable energy generation, and pass legislation that would increase Maryland's RPS to 25% by 2020 and then 40% by 2025.

6. The United States can do more to address climate change by making meaningful long- term investments in carbon-reducing technologies. Gridlock in Washington has largely prevented Congress from taking substantive steps to tackle the problem. Would you work to build consensus in Congress to pass climate change legislation? How have you demonstrated your ability to build consensus in the past?

I would work to build consensus in Congress to pass climate change legislation. I have a proven track record on building consensus both as a member of the House of Delegates and as Lieutenant Governor. In the House of Delegates, Speaker Busch assigned me the task of building consensus on medical malpractice and tort reform which resulted in legislation supported by both the trial lawyers and health providers, including

physicians and hospitals. As Lieutenant Governor, after the murder of my cousin Cathy, Governor O'Malley assigned me the task of building consensus on giving judges greater authority to order domestic abusers to surrender their firearms which resulted in legislation supported by both Democrats and Republicans after failure to pass the legislation for ten (10) years in Annapolis. Again as Lieutenant Governor, I led the effort to build consensus on improving our public-private partnership program to enable the delivery of projects such as the Purple Line and Red Line which had the support of labor, the development community, environmental groups and local government.

7. Can you describe examples where you showed legislative leadership on climate change and clean energy issues? Please provide details of your personal involvement in your examples.

As Lieutenant Governor and a former leader in the House of Delegates, I served as the point person on many significant legislative initiatives for the O'Malley Brown Administration. While Governor O'Malley was the public face of our climate change and clean energy agenda, I engaged the members and leadership in the House and Senate to build consensus and advance our agenda. For example, I worked with the Maryland Legislative Black Caucus to build support for The Maryland Offshore Wind Act by creating a Clean Energy Task Force to assess the viability of Clean Energy certificate programs and terminal degree programs within Maryland's Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and another that set up a small and minority business fund to help businesses and firms get ready to participate in this emerging industry. I believe that consensus can be achieved around every issue, and it is the responsibility of members of Congress to achieve it.

8. How long have you held elected office in Maryland? What office(s) did you hold?

I have held elected office for sixteen (16) years in Maryland, eight (8) as a member of the House of Delegates where I served in leadership as Vice Chair of the Judiciary Committee and Majority Whip, and eight (8) years as Lieutenant Governor where I was a partner in the O'Malley Brown Administration that made considerable progress in advancing climate change and clean energy legislation and initiatives to include: the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act of 2009 and the Climate Action Plan of 2013; the 2008 EmPower Maryland program to reduce our energy consumption 15 percent per capita by 2015; Maryland's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) to 25% by 2020; and the Maryland Offshore Wind Energy Act of 2013, creating an incentive system to develop wind energy off the coast of Ocean City within the next 5 years.

JOSELINE PEÑA-MELNYK

1. In June 2014, President Obama and EPA announced the Clean Power Plan. The rule establishes the first-ever national standards to limit carbon pollution from power plants. Until this rule, existing power plants were not limited in the amount of carbon they could release. On August 3, 2015, the Clean Power Plan became final. Earlier this year, the Supreme Court halted implementation of the Clean Power Plan while legal issues are decided by the courts. What is your position on the Clean Power Plan? Do you think it should be strengthened? Weakened? More or less left the same? Please explain your answer.

I have a solid record during my nine years in Maryland's General Assembly of voting in support of environmental stewardship. I received a 100% rating from the League of Conservation Voters, and the endorsement of the Sierra Club in prior campaigns. I have fought for environmental protection, including supporting renewable energy production, pollution reduction and protecting the Chesapeake Bay.

I co-sponsored legislation to reduce the state's greenhouse gas emissions 25% by 2020, which at the time it passed was one of the strongest laws in the nation. However, the science is clear that the world must avoid warming of greater than two degrees Celsius. The corresponding emissions reductions from developed nations to lead the way must be aggressive. While the President's Clean Power Plan is a good start, we will need further climate action, and Congress must be a part of the solution. For example, Congress can work to end fossil fuel subsidies, put a price on carbon pollution, establish a national Renewable Energy Standard, and make investments in clean energy deployment. Given the scale of the climate crisis, we need an all hands on deck approach to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The EPA can play a critical role, but we also need leadership from Congress.

2. On August 18, 2015 the Obama Administration proposed the first methane pollution standards for new and modified oil and gas facilities, a rule that will blunt the projected growth of methane emissions leakage from the industry. On March 10th, the Administration announced that it will also draft regulations to limit methane emissions from existing oil and gas facilities. Pound for pound, methane gas traps more than 80 times as much heat on our planet in the short term than carbon dioxide does. What is your opinion of the Administration's proposed methane rules? Do you think they should be strengthened? Weakened? More or less left the same? Please explain your answer.

The Administration's proposed rules are a good first step. They are part of the President's Climate Action Plan and essential to cutting methane emissions from the oil and gas sector by 40 to 45 percent from 2012 levels by 2025. We should implement these rules, but also must recognize that we cannot only regulate methane emissions from new sources, but must also reduce emissions from existing and abandoned oil and gas wells to get a handle on the problem.

3. "Cap and dividend" is a carbon-reduction policy tool that would set a steadily declining cap on the total amount of U.S. carbon pollution that can be released into the atmosphere. Any company that extracts new fossil fuels from the ground or imports them into the U.S. would have to buy a permit at a federally-organized auction for every ton of carbon dioxide those fossil fuels will emit into the atmosphere. All of the money raised would then be returned in equal amounts—through a quarterly "dividend"—to every U.S. resident with a valid Social Security number. What is your position on implementing a cap-and-dividend policy in the U.S? Please explain your answer.

Cap and dividend sounds like a smart way to use market forces to control carbon emissions, while returning the funds raised to U.S. residents who will pay the higher costs of using fossil fuels.

Including a cost for carbon emissions into the price of fossil fuels will incentivize efficiency measures and encourage greater clean energy investments. I could support a policy such as this, provided the implementation details are sensible.

4. The "Production Tax Credit" (PTC) and "Investment Tax Credit" (ITC) are the premier federal tax incentives to promote renewable energy. Both of these credits were recently renewed and extended, however their value is scheduled to decrease over time. What is your position regarding renewal and extension of the PTC and ITC? Please explain your answer.

We should renew and extend the PTC and ITC. These tax incentives are essential to the expansion of renewable energy and the steady development of the solar and wind industries in the United States. The stop and start nature of the ITC and PTC in the past has caused a boom and bust cycle that discourages investment in US clean energy manufacturing and causes those employed in the industry to lose their jobs. We've got to transition our energy infrastructure towards renewables and the PTC and ITC are important tools that help clean energy technologies reach scale and lower costs.

5. State governments have played a large role in advancing climate change and clean energy policies. What state climate change/clean energy policies do you think have been the most effective? Do you have a position on climate change/clean energy policies Maryland should adopt? Finally, how do you think the federal government should work with states in its response to climate change? Please explain your answers.

State programs that encourage energy efficiency, promote clean energy such as with Renewable Portfolio Standards, and place a price on carbon emissions, such as with the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, have been good steps, but they must be strengthened to address the climate crisis. Maryland should be doubling its Renewable Portfolio Standard, cleaning up the RPS to get trash incineration and black liquor out of it, and doubling its Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act Target for 2025. The federal and state governments should work together to create markets for clean energy technologies so they can advance, be produced at lower cost, and compete with old, polluting technologies that still dominate. In addition to a price on carbon, we can make investments in clean energy and energy efficiency, such as re-building our schools to incorporate energy efficient technologies that reduce emissions and reduce school operating costs – while at the same time creating needed jobs. The federal government can help accelerate these changes by supplementing state and local budgets for schools/education. Why not do a "Race to the Top" style program for greenhouse gas reductions by schools, states, or local governments?

6. The United States can do more to address climate change by making meaningful long- term investments in carbon-reducing technologies. Gridlock in Washington has largely prevented Congress from taking substantive steps to tackle the problem. Would you work to build consensus in Congress to pass climate change legislation? How have you demonstrated your ability to build consensus in the past?

In Congress, I will continue to push for policies to make the United States a global leader on clean energy and environmental protection, including climate change legislation, while working to fend off bad policy from those that would undo the progress we've made so far. As a Maryland legislator I have been the lead sponsor of over 50 bills that have become law. I have been this effective by working as a convener; bringing people from all perspectives together to work through an issue to find reasonable compromise positions. I also work my bills hard, getting bill text drafted early, recruiting sponsors, and rallying stakeholder and community support for action.

There are many areas where greater consensus could be built around pro-environment issues. For example, the impact of extracting and burning fossil fuels disproportionately injures communities of color, dirtying the air and water and harming public health. This is especially relevant to Maryland, where greater than 85% of Marylanders live in areas that are classified as failing to meet air quality standards. As a result of this

failure to hold polluters accountable, 20% of Baltimore City youth under the age of 18 have asthma, more than double the national average. According to the most recent report by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, 79,347 adults in Prince George's County have lifetime asthma, and in Anne Arundel County 53,611 residents. We can do a better job explaining to communities of color that they would benefit from environmental protection measures and that transitioning to greater efficiency and clean energy can create much-needed jobs.

7. Can you describe examples where you showed legislative leadership on climate change and clean energy issues? Please provide details of your personal involvement in your examples.

I've been willing to oppose bad laws and policies even when they were supported by the political establishment. For example, I opposed Maryland's InterCounty Connector toll road and opposed adding trash incineration as a Tier 1 energy source in the Renewable Portfolio Standard. I support the Purple Line, and I was lead sponsor of a law that requires Maryland's DOT to give greater consideration to pedestrian and bicycle access in its road planning. To reduce burning fossil fuels we must encourage mass transit and walkable communities, we also must push electric vehicle infrastructure, starting with developing robust charging networks in major urban areas. Federal policy that encourages parking garages, office buildings, and shopping centers to incorporate electric vehicle infrastructure is needed. I've also supported forward thinking environmental policies such as placing a moratorium on fracking and co-sponsoring the Maryland Clean Energy Advancement Act of 2015 to get 40% of our energy from renewable sources by 2025.

8. How long have you held elected office in Maryland? What office(s) did you hold?

I have served as Delegate to the Maryland General Assembly, representing parts of Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties for nine years. Before that, I served four years on the College Park City Council.

GLENN IVEY

1. In June 2014, President Obama and EPA announced the Clean Power Plan. The rule establishes the first-ever national standards to limit carbon pollution from power plants. Until this rule, existing power plants were not limited in the amount of carbon they could release. On August 3, 2015, the Clean Power Plan became final. Earlier this year, the Supreme Court halted implementation of the Clean Power Plan while legal issues are decided by the courts. What is your position on the Clean Power Plan? Do you think it should be strengthened? Weakened? More or less left the same? Please explain your answer.

I believe we need to address climate change now by supporting EPA's proposed new carbon emissions standards. As we grapple with the immediate and long term impacts of global climate change the United States has the moral obligation to act now. Cutting carbon emissions while cleaning the air we breathe and the water we drink aren't just priorities, they are absolute necessities. Punishing polluters as I have done in the past while working in good faith with local farmers and business owners is key to preserving the health of our environment. We can reward environmental stewardship and punish those who break the law without burdening our families. Maryland is already feeling the ill effects of climate change. Rising water levels and warming water temperatures are negatively impacting biodiversity. Natural treasures are struggling to survive. In light of this crisis, the Obama administration has taken a bold step forward in tightening carbon emissions standards. We need to stand by this monumental step and ensure Congress does not delay or reduce the rule's scope. Instead of putting the health of our families at risk, proposed regulations on air quality will clean our air, reduce carbon emissions that contribute to global warming and keep us healthy.

And though I support the flexibility states are provided to achieve their goals for carbon emissions reductions, I am concerned that the lack of renewable energy and efficiency targets for States will pose a serious barrier to progress on reducing carbon emissions in the future. Florida and other Gulf states with all of their coastline, are noticeably absent from even voluntary commitments to meet renewable energy or efficiency targets.

2. On August 18, 2015 the Obama Administration proposed the first methane pollution standards for new and modified oil and gas facilities, a rule that will blunt the projected growth of methane emissions leakage from the industry. On March 10th, the Administration announced that it will also draft regulations to limit methane emissions from existing oil and gas facilities. Pound for pound, methane gas traps more than 80 times as much heat on our planet in the short term than carbon dioxide does. What is your opinion of the Administration's proposed methane rules? Do you think they should be strengthened? Weakened? More or less left the same? Please explain your answer.

Curbing methane pollution is a critical step in addressing climate change. On a per pound basis, we know methane is far more damaging to the climate and air quality than carbon dioxide. Regulating carbon dioxide while ignoring methane pollution would be an incomplete approach to addressing climate change. By targeting oil and gas companies Obama is going after the lowest hanging fruit and the largest contributor to methane emissions in the United States, which is an important step in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and addressing climate change. However, globally, we know livestock and agriculture are responsible for the largest emissions of methane. We will need to develop an approach that reduces or captures methane produced by livestock both in the US and abroad. Germany has experienced success converting methane into biogas while in the US investments in technology to capture methane in livestock manure and landfills are making headway. We need to support these efforts, but we must also examine if we need regulations in livestock feeding practices and manure management that could facilitate methane capture and conversion

processes to ultimately reduce methane emissions from the agricultural industry.

3. "Cap and dividend" is a carbon-reduction policy tool that would set a steadily declining cap on the total amount of U.S. carbon pollution that can be released into the atmosphere. Any company that extracts new fossil fuels from the ground or imports them into the U.S. would have to buy a permit at a federally-organized auction for every ton of carbon dioxide those fossil fuels will emit into the atmosphere. All of the money raised would then be returned in equal amounts—through a quarterly "dividend"—to every U.S. resident with a valid Social Security number. What is your position on implementing a cap-and-dividend policy in the U.S? Please explain your answer.

I think it's important that we place a price on carbon through a Cap and Trade system. I support the inclusion of consumers into such a system as well through a Cap and Dividend system. I am also very open to discussions as to what should be done with the dividend payments - should they go to everybody with a social security number, ratepayers only, or should the dividend be directed to support investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy? I think ultimately, the goal is to reduce carbon emissions as much as we can and as fast as we can, while promoting investments in energy efficiency and renewables. That being the case, a Cap and Dividend bill like that of the Cap and Dividend Act would receive my vote.

4. The "Production Tax Credit" (PTC) and "Investment Tax Credit" (ITC) are the premier federal tax incentives to promote renewable energy. Both of these credits were recently renewed and extended, however their value is scheduled to decrease over time. What is your position regarding renewal and extension of the PTC and ITC? Please explain your answer.

We need to extend and expand both the Production and Investment Tax Credit for renewable energy projects for the long term. These credits support good paying American jobs that cannot be outsourced. They are critical in addressing climate change. They encourage energy diversity, which can result in consistent and lower overall costs for consumers minimizing the impact of price spikes that often gouged ratepayers. These credits also encourage energy independence, which is important to undermine the influence of adversarial petro-states like Putin's Russia. I will be a strong leader in the fight to extend and expand these credits. The solar credit, for example, should be expanded so funding begins at the time of construction rather than when a system comes online. In general, we must make a concerted effort to support all renewables in order to reach the Obama administration's target 28% of U.S. capacity coming from renewable energy by 2030. Investments in the green energy economy will not only produce a wealth of jobs, it will save our planet.

5. State governments have played a large role in advancing climate change and clean energy policies. What state climate change/clean energy policies do you think have been the most effective? Do you have a position on climate change/clean energy policies Maryland should adopt? Finally, how do you think the federal government should work with states in its response to climate change? Please explain your answers.

In Maryland, the Chesapeake Bay remains our greatest natural resource and we must do everything within our power to protect it. According to experts, the greatest threat to the Bay is pollution, primarily from agriculture. Farms account for 41% of the pollutants currently entering the bay. We understand that farmers provide vital services to our communities, so we must work together to find a solution. We need to continue to endorse agricultural Best Management Practices and reward farmers who are taking initiatives under the MACS program. Farmers who enact BMP's will see improved water quality and efficiency, which will improve their production and lower their costs.

I believe New York State's Green Bank is also a model for how we can bring public- private partnerships to bear in the fight against climate change. Leveraging public dollars to attract private capital to develop clean energy projects will create jobs, drive innovation and reduce carbon emissions. Whether or not a Maryland Green Bank operates as an independent entity of the State or as an extension of the Department of Energy, Maryland Energy Administration or Department of Business is a matter for debate, but ultimately, financing

Green projects with public and private dollars makes sense.

Another issue regarding the Bay is the Conowingo Dam. The sediment buildup behind the dam is a ticking time bomb. While we in Prince George's County may not think it will affect us, the amount of sediment, if forced over and into the Bay, will certainly affect our fisheries and waterways. First, we must find a cost and energy efficient solution to this issue as it will affect all Marylanders and many surrounding states. We need to enforce environmental restrictions on Exelon's new contract, requiring the maintenance of the sediment. Second, we can look to other coastal states like Oregon who have imposed the strictest toxicity regulations on their waterways in order to maintain a quality of life that should be expected by any American. Introducing toxicity regulations would mean holding all Marylanders and everyone else who benefits from the Chesapeake Watershed accountable for the health of our waterways.

Also, the Chesapeake Bay region, with its high agricultural density, has the potential to use discarded farm materials like manure and chicken litter for energy production.

Renewable energy plants that use animal waste will not only limit the amount of pollutants that reach the bay, they could provide a new source of revenue and affordable phosphorus-free fertilizer for our struggling family farms. Congress must pass legislation to enable states and private industry to come together and fund innovative environmental solutions like these.

We need to understand that taking action now will prove beneficial to all our futures; providing affordable energy, fertile soil, healthy fisheries, clean water, and a healthy environment for our children.

As for the Federal Government's role, I believe the Federal Government, should require state specific carbon emission and renewable targets, and provide states the flexibility to meet those targets. The Federal Government, through tax credits that encourage energy efficiency and a system of cap and trade or cap and dividend, will encourage an environment where green energy investments by both the public sector and private sector may flourish. The Federal Government can also establish and distribute grant funds to states for projects that will help them reach their goals.

6. The United States can do more to address climate change by making meaningful long- term investments in carbon-reducing technologies. Gridlock in Washington has largely prevented Congress from taking substantive steps to tackle the problem. Would you work to build consensus in Congress to pass climate change legislation? How have you demonstrated your ability to build consensus in the past?

Absolutely. In a House dominated by radical Republican extremists I will have two goals in mind as I fight to secure our future from the devastating impacts of climate change.

First, is to preserve the progress we have made. We can't give an inch and we can't lose ground. If you look at the steep drop in renewable investments during periods where tax credits for these projects were allowed to lapse, you can see how fast progress can be reversed by inaction. Second, to build consensus on continuing progress I will work across the aisle and with business interests to secure further investments in renewable technologies that not only benefit our environment, but make good business sense. Tax incentives that encourage companies to be more energy efficient or that partner public dollars with private investment are ideas that I believe will have appeal

7. Can you describe examples where you showed legislative leadership on climate change and clean energy issues? Please provide details of your personal involvement in your examples.

As State's Attorney for Prince George's County I cracked down on polluters for illegal dumping and took on builders who were putting our waterways at risk in order to make a quick buck. The first advisory committee I assembled in my campaign for Congress was our environmental advisory committee chaired by senior members of the Sierra Club and leaders in the environmental movement like Van Jones, former Special Ad-

visor on Green Jobs in the Obama Administration. My commitment to the health of the environment is clear. In Congress, I will be a strong leader in the fight to clean our air, our water, and address climate change with meaningful legislation.

8. How long have you held elected office in Maryland? What office(s) did you hold?

I was State's Attorney for Prince George's County for 8 years.

WARREN CHRISTOPHER

1. In June 2014, President Obama and EPA announced the Clean Power Plan. The rule establishes the first-ever national standards to limit carbon pollution from power plants. Until this rule, existing power plants were not limited in the amount of carbon they could release. On August 3, 2015, the Clean Power Plan became final. Earlier this year, the Supreme Court halted implementation of the Clean Power Plan while legal issues are decided by the courts. What is your position on the Clean Power Plan? Do you think it should be strengthened? Weakened? More or less left the same? Please explain your answer.

According to President Obama, in the speech given on August 3, 2015, "our power plants are the source of about a third of America's carbon pollution." We must take action to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide emitted in the atmosphere. I, therefore, support President Obama's Clean Power Plan.

For too long has Congress has been reticent to act on this issue. As a result of this inaction, asthma and heart attacks have increased, and natural disasters have become common place. Therefore, if the President has the power to reduce poor health outcomes, I support his action.

Media outlets, to include 'The Guardian,' have called this plan the strongest action by any president on this matter. Additionally, input was requested from business and other stakeholders, to ensure the requirements could be met and would not cause an undue burden; this is the way government should do business. That is why, at this time, I believe this program should be implemented as it is currently drafted and investigate the outcomes.

2. On August 18, 2015 the Obama Administration proposed the first methane pollution standards for new and modified oil and gas facilities, a rule that will blunt the projected growth of methane emissions leakage from the industry. On March 10th, the Administration announced that it will also draft regulations to limit methane emissions from existing oil and gas facilities. Pound for pound, methane gas traps more than 80 times as much heat on our planet in the short term than carbon dioxide does. What is your opinion of the Administration's proposed methane rules? Do you think they should be strengthened? Weakened? More or less left the same? Please explain your answer.

Whenever I sit down with my staff to talk policy, I always ask one question. What is the desired outcome? If the desired outcome is to reduce emissions and ultimately reduce climate change, then we must take action now. Although this is not necessarily an ideal position for the administration to take, I believe in the importance of incremental change and therefore I do support the President's actions.

I look at this piece as a part of the whole. I look at what the President has done overall on the issue of climate change and see this as a "move the needle" moment. Moreover, I believe in the value of feedback loops and evaluation. Let us implement this program, and review the outcomes of a holistic approach. If we see a positive change, and there is room for improvement at a later date, then I support further action.

3. "Cap and dividend" is a carbon-reduction policy tool that would set a steadily declining cap on the total amount of U.S. carbon pollution that can be released into the atmosphere. Any company that extracts new fossil fuels from the ground or imports them into the U.S. would have to buy a permit at a federally-organized auction for every ton of carbon dioxide those fossil fuels will emit into the atmosphere. All of the money raised would then be returned in equal amounts—through a quarterly "dividend"—to every U.S. resident with a valid Social Security number. What is your position on implementing a cap-and-dividend policy in the U.S? Please explain your answer.

I support Cap and Dividend or other Cap and Trade policies. I believe it is important to use a market mechanism to ultimately reduce carbon emissions into the atmosphere. More than cap and trade, I support specifically the cap and dividend approach. We must support policies which accomplishes two important goals--putting money in the hands of our residents, and the reduction in greenhouse gases.

This is the perfect example of an issue which was, and might still be bi-partisan because these types of policies have supporters from every side of the political spectrum. President Obama has supported a Cap and Trade program as well as Senator McCain and former Senator Lieberman, a Republican and an Independent, respectively. The addition of a dividend system is hugely important because it takes action against climate change, without getting bogged down in debates about "big government" or who should receive financial support. If this approach allows us to take action sooner, rather than later, I support it.

I am running for Congress because I choose to believe we can make a difference in people's lives. Whether it is ultimately increasing positive health outcomes, bolstering our national security, or helping our residents afford to pay their utilities through the cap and dividend approach--I will always fight for our residents once elected to the House of Representatives.

4. The "Production Tax Credit" (PTC) and "Investment Tax Credit" (ITC) are the premier federal tax incentives to promote renewable energy. Both of these credits were recently renewed and extended, however their value is scheduled to decrease over time. What is your position regarding renewal and extension of the PTC and ITC? Please explain your answer.

Tax credits work. They change consumer behavior, and as a result yield positive outcomes. I have learned over my many assignments, and positions, feedback and assessment are vital to the success of any operation. This instance is not any different. Once elected, I will request my team investigate these tax credits to see how successful they have been, how we can ensure they are assisting the American people, and how we can best leverage the resources of the federal government to increase the number of renewables. We must look to the evidence to see what makes the most sense. As a member of Congress, I will have access to that information and I will work to achieve a greener, more prosperous country for Prince George's and Anne Arundel County, for Marylanders, and for the United States of America.

5. State governments have played a large role in advancing climate change and clean energy policies. What state climate change/clean energy policies do you think have been the most effective? Do you have a position on climate change/clean energy policies Maryland should adopt? Finally, how do you think the federal government should work with states in its response to climate change? Please explain your answers.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, Maryland has eight "candidate" landfills for which methane can be extracted. Using methane from landfills is a great resource which will ultimately reduce overall carbon consumption and emissions. This is one action Maryland could take which it has yet to accomplish. Two of these candidate landfills are in or near the district.

There are a few actions the State of Maryland has taken to address climate change which has been particularly effective. I think the State's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan is well put together and comprehensive. Once elected to Congress, I will put the lessons I learned from my experience as a Senior Policy Adviser at the Federal Emergency Management Agency into action. I believe leaders at all levels will need to work cooperatively to ensure we secure communities and reduce carbon emissions.

There are many ways the federal government can work with the states and localities. Whether it is through the use of block grants to secure at-risk communities, or tax incentives, among others, we need to partner with leaders at all levels to get this mission accomplished.

6. The United States can do more to address climate change by making meaningful long- term investments in carbon-reducing technologies. Gridlock in Washington has largely prevented Congress from taking substantive steps to tackle the problem. Would you work to build consensus in Congress to pass climate change legislation? How have you demonstrated your ability to build consensus in the past?

As a senior military officer, I worked with and oversaw Democrats, Republicans, and Independents alike. In Congress, like the army, I want to accomplish our mission for the American people; I know I have the skills and experience to accomplish this goal. In the army, I knew when we had a good plan, we would achieve our mission, and I know that with the message of investment, I will be able to work across party lines to increase the number of renewable technologies in Congress and decrease the usage of fossil fuels.

Firstly, we have to make the argument, as the Center for American Progress has done, that investment in renewable energy is an investment in jobs. We can create millions of net new jobs, by transitioning our country to a green economy. In the long-run, this is one of the best outcomes. We ultimately reduce unemployment, reduce the national debt, fill the coffers of government and create access and opportunity. All-the-while we increase positive health outcomes and make our country more secure through the reductions in droughts, and forest fires, etc.

Secondly, we will have to invest in career and technical education for our workforce. This investment will allow our children to meet the needs of industry when they get out of school, and allow our current workforce to transition to green-collar jobs.

Words are powerful. If we want to create a better future for our country, we have to not only come up with good ideas, and talk about them in ways that make our ideas palatable to our constituents, but communicate them to our colleagues across the aisle as well in ways that will help my future Republican Colleagues in their districts as well. We do this when we talk about targeted investments, which in the long-run, achieve the goals we share in common--goals like reducing the long term debt, etc.

7. Can you describe examples where you showed legislative leadership on climate change and clean energy issues? Please provide details of your personal involvement in your examples.

As senior leadership in both the Department of Homeland Security and the Military, I have led on climate change issues. Firstly, at the Department of Homeland Security, I led the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Strategic Foresight Initiative. My task was to help FEMA's senior staff and emergency managers determine the appropriate or necessary action to respond to future catastrophic events in our country. One of the primary considerations in this endeavor was the effects of climate change. We investigated the effects of drought in the Midwest, rising sea levels on the coasts and the lack of precipitation in the North. We worked to combat the effects of climate change and mitigate future negative outcomes on our nation's ecosystems.

Additionally, as a Lt. Colonel stationed at the Pacific Command, I was the Executive Officer for Commanding General. During this time, I demonstrated leadership as we brought new military equipment, specifically Striker vehicles, to Hawaii. At that time, I worked direct with the command's legal team and the Department of the Army's legal office to resolve issues concerning military equipment and construction. Because such heavy vehicles had never previously been stationed on Hawaii, I led in the development of environment impact studies. In this instance, I was the Commanding General's representative with the legal teams.

8. How long have you held elected office in Maryland? What office(s) did you hold?

Although I am a retired Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army, and a former Chief of Staff at the Department of the Interior, I have not yet held office in Maryland. I am currently seeking to become the next Representative for Maryland's 4th Congressional District. I believe we need a fresh face and an infusion of

new ideas on the national scene.

I have extensive leadership experience with over 30 years of experience. As a leader in the military, I brought home all of my troops home alive. As a leader at the Department of the Interior's Business Center, I brought efficiency and productivity to the organization. Now I look to Congress as an opportunity to better the lives of our citizens here in Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties and once again serve our country.

TERENCE STRAIT

1. In June 2014, President Obama and EPA announced the Clean Power Plan. The rule establishes the first-ever national standards to limit carbon pollution from power plants. Until this rule, existing power plants were not limited in the amount of carbon they could release. On August 3, 2015, the Clean Power Plan became final. Earlier this year, the Supreme Court halted implementation of the Clean Power Plan while legal issues are decided by the courts. What is your position on the Clean Power Plan? Do you think it should be strengthened? Weakened? More or less left the same? Please explain your answer.

The Clean Power Plan needs to be strengthened quite a bit. The current goal of cutting power emissions 30% below 2005 by 2030 may slow the global warming process, but it won't stop or reverse it, which are the goals that we should be aiming for. A major criticism of the plan that I have seen from others is that it is a trivial improvement over the current rate of adoption of cleaner technology. Additionally, the plan operates on the expectation that coal and natural gas will remain the largest energy producers in the country. Any long term energy plan must include the eventual transition to 100% renewable energy generation.

2. On August 18, 2015 the Obama Administration proposed the first methane pollution standards for new and modified oil and gas facilities, a rule that will blunt the projected growth of methane emissions leakage from the industry. On March 10th, the Administration announced that it will also draft regulations to limit methane emissions from existing oil and gas facilities. Pound for pound, methane gas traps more than 80 times as much heat on our planet in the short term than carbon dioxide does. What is your opinion of the Administration's proposed methane rules? Do you think they should be strengthened? Weakened? More or less left the same? Please explain your answer.

I believe the new methane rule is an important step in the fight against global climate change. Given that methane is so much more effective at trapping heat than carbon dioxide, it is important that we keep emissions to a bare minimum. I lack the technical expertise to know exactly what practical targets are, but I do know that as technology advances, the standards energy producers are held to must keep up. It is too important to the future of our planet to just assume they will adopt cleaner technologies as they become available.

3. "Cap and dividend" is a carbon-reduction policy tool that would set a steadily declining cap on the total amount of U.S. carbon pollution that can be released into the atmosphere. Any company that extracts new fossil fuels from the ground or imports them into the U.S. would have to buy a permit at a federally-organized auction for every ton of carbon dioxide those fossil fuels will emit into the atmosphere. All of the money raised would then be returned in equal amounts—through a quarterly "dividend"—to every U.S. resident with a valid Social Security number. What is your position on implementing a cap-and-dividend policy in the U.S? Please explain your answer.

A cap and dividend policy is a step toward sustainable energy, but is not as strong as other alternatives. The "pollution permits" would drive up energy costs, but those revenues would be better spent on developing alternative energy sources. Returning the revenues to the general population would simply subsidize the increased costs. Using them, instead, to subsidize the development of renewable energy sources would do more to push comparative costs down and achieve the overall goals of the program. Alternatively, the funds from a carbon tax could be used to fund cleanup efforts for the pollution that is already contaminating the environment.

4. The "Production Tax Credit" (PTC) and "Investment Tax Credit" (ITC) are the premier federal tax

incentives to promote renewable energy. Both of these credits were recently renewed and extended, however their value is scheduled to decrease over time. What is your position regarding renewal and extension of the PTC and ITC? Please explain your answer.

The United States has a long history of subsidizing various energy industries. The American Chemical Society has published a report that oil and natural gas received nearly $5 billion per year from 1918-2009. In comparison, nuclear power received approximately $3.5 billion per year from 1947-1999 and renewables received less than $500 million per year from 1994-2009. If we are to become energy independent and live in a sustainable way, we need to make the investments necessary to fully transition to renewable energy sources. That means reinstating the Production Tax Credit and keeping the Investment Tax Credit strong enough to be effective. Given the necessity of making that transition, the subsidies to renewable energy sources should not only reach parity with fossil fuels, but should exceed them.

5. State governments have played a large role in advancing climate change and clean energy policies. What state climate change/clean energy policies do you think have been the most effective? Do you have a position on climate change/clean energy policies Maryland should adopt? Finally, how do you think the federal government should work with states in its response to climate change? Please explain your answers.

I am unfamiliar with policies that have been enacted around the country, but I have personal experience with some of Maryland's policies that I think are making a difference. Various tax credits that incentivize installation of energy efficient appliances and rooftop solar help people afford them that otherwise would have trouble doing so. Renewable portfolio requirements for energy companies are driving the adoption of cleaner energy as well. Some of those credits come from energy companies purchasing credits from individuals with rooftop solar, but the balance comes from actual alterations in how they produce power. Moving forward, these portfolio requirements should get higher, with an end goal of 100% renewable power generation. Extension and expansion of tax credits and grants should also be part of the plan.

Each state has a unique combination of renewable resources, and the federal government should work with the states to determine how to best make use of them and what programs would most effectively incentivize their development. Solar power is pretty universal, but some states are going to be more able to make use of things like wind, geothermal, or tidal energy, and our federal energy plan should include those variations. Part of the plan also has to be transitioning our transportation system as much as possible off of fossil fuels. A large limitation on the adoption of electric cars, for example, is the lack of infrastructure for recharging on the road. You can find an abundance of gas stations no matter where you go. Charging stations may never be quite that ubiquitous, but you should be able to take a road trip and not worry about your battery running out.

6. The United States can do more to address climate change by making meaningful long- term investments in carbon-reducing technologies. Gridlock in Washington has largely prevented Congress from taking substantive steps to tackle the problem. Would you work to build consensus in Congress to pass climate change legislation? How have you demonstrated your ability to build consensus in the past?

Absent majorities in both houses including a supermajority in the Senate, you have to work to build consensus in order to get anything accomplished. A large part of that process is simply changing the terms of the conversation. We have only recently gotten Congress to admit that climate change is even a real thing, though they stopped short of admitting that human activity is a major contributor. Even that obstacle is slipping though, as opposition is now framed in terms of monetary cost and lost jobs instead of whether it is even possible to do anything. I believe that by moving the conversation to focus on energy independence, national security, and the human costs of inaction as sea levels rise and major metropolitan areas are devastated, we can win that conversation.

Although consensus building was a large part of what I did in student government while I was in college, including the process of drafting of a new constitution and writing bylaws, my largest and most contentious example is much more recent. When I started working at Census, they had instituted a new program for hiring employees. There were several problems with the program, and it was generally disliked by both new employees and management. I was invited to be part of a team to fix the program, and worked with both groups to make improvements that would meet the needs of all stakeholders. This included completely redoing the onboarding training for new employees and establishing a dedicated office to run the program, which had originally been a collateral duty for HR employees working in recruiting and outreach. Although the redesign process was eventually taken over by management and HR, we were able to accomplish quite a bit in terms of improving how the program was designed and run.

7. Can you describe examples where you showed legislative leadership on climate change and clean energy issues? Please provide details of your personal involvement in your examples.

I have never held elected office before. However, I do have one thing that I believe will serve better than experience on this issue. Being relatively young myself, I expect to live long enough to see many of the catastrophic impacts of climate change if we do not change course. Many people currently in Congress simply do not have the same sense of urgency, and are willing to take half measures that merely slow the problem instead of reversing it. The idea that the well-being of future generations should be sacrificed in the name of profits is simply not acceptable.

8. How long have you held elected office in Maryland? What office(s) did you hold?

This is my first time seeking elected office.