

Maryland Commission on Climate Change
Scientific and Technical Working Group
Recommendations for the Commission's 2017 Annual Report

1. The Commission on Climate Change urges the Maryland Congressional delegation to place a high priority on ensuring that climate change science and research and development of energy technologies are adequately funded and implemented by the Federal government.
2. The Climate Action Plan required by the GGRA of 2016 should not only include actions to close the gap to achieve a 40 percent reduction in emissions, but should be based on longer-term strategies needed to achieve carbon neutrality over the decades subsequent to 2030.
3. Through the STWG, the Commission should identify critical uncertainties in and methods to improve the estimation of greenhouse emissions from forests, agriculture, wetlands and waterways.
4. Changes in greenhouse gas emissions associated with population growth and expanded land development should to be better taken into account in projecting growth in emissions that must be offset to achieve the GGRA goal.
5. The Commission on Climate Change encourages and supports collaborative efforts in forecasting future emissions in order to provide a more dynamic basis for evaluating public policy options that achieve the needed greenhouse gas emission reductions together with other social and economic objectives.