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 Washington, DC 20009
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Interviews: 947 registered voters
 Dates: October 18-27, 2019

FINAL

Study #12511
 Sierra Club Maryland Survey
 October 2019

46 Male
 54 Female
 [109]

Please note: all results are shown as percentages unless otherwise stated.

S1a. Are you currently registered to vote in Maryland?

Yes	100	CONTINUE	
No	-	TERMINATE	[140]
Not sure	-		

S1b. First, does anyone in this household work for the news media, for a market research firm, or actively in politics for a political party or as a campaign worker?

No	100	CONTINUE	
Yes	-	TERMINATE	[141]
Not sure	-		

S2. Regardless of how you may be registered, which of the following best describes where you stand between the two political parties?

Mostly Democratic	38		
Leaning Democratic	9		[144]
Completely independent	22		
Leaning Republican	9		
Mostly Republican	18		
Not sure	4		
Total Democratic	47		
Total Republican	27		

S3. For statistical purposes only, and to ensure that we have a representative sample, would you please tell me your age?

18-24	7		
25-29	10		[145-146]
30-34	7		
35-39	10		
40-44	7		
45-49	9		
50-54	9		
55-59	9		
60-64	9		
65-69	7		
70-74	4		
75 and older	11		
Not sure/refused	1		

S4. Again, for statistical purposes only, are you from a Hispanic, Latino, or other Spanish-speaking background? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "NO, NOT HISPANIC" OR "NOT SURE/REFUSED," ASK:)** To ensure that we have a representative sample, what is your race—white, black or African American, Asian, or something else?

White	61	[149]
Black/African American	27	
Hispanic.....	4	
Asian	2	
Other	4	
Not sure/refused.....	2	

1. Do you think that, going forward, electricity in Maryland should be generated...?

More from renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar.....	70	[150]
More from fossil fuel energy sources, such as coal and natural gas.....	16	
Not sure	14	

2. I am going to read you a proposal related to energy and electricity here in Maryland.

Maryland must, by law, work to reduce pollution that causes climate change. To help meet that law, Maryland power plants pay a fee based on the amount of pollution they create. There is a proposal to use a portion of the money collected from the pollution fee to help move, or transition, the state off its six remaining coal power plants. Estimates range from forty to eighty million dollars to be used for three primary purposes: to increase energy from wind and solar, to provide job retraining and financial support for laid-off workers from closed coal power plants, and to provide economic support to communities where coal plants close.

Do you favor or oppose this proposal? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "FAVOR" OR "OPPOSE," ASK:)** And would you strongly (favor/oppose) this or somewhat (favor/oppose) it?

Strongly favor	41	[153]
Somewhat favor.....	29	
Somewhat oppose.....	6	
Strongly oppose.....	10	
Not sure.....	14	
Total Favor	70	
Total Oppose	16	

3. When Maryland replaces its remaining coal power plants and transitions to renewable energy sources, what effect do you think it will have on each of the following areas? Would it have a positive effect, a negative effect, or no real effect either way in this area?

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY POSITIVE EFFECT

	Positive Effect	Negative Effect	No Real Effect Either Way	Not Sure	
Air and water quality	74	5	15	6	[155]
People's health.....	71	7	17	5	[158]
Efforts to reduce climate change.....	69	6	19	6	[156]
Jobs and the economy	51	21	19	9	[154]
The cost of electricity.....	43	30	13	14	[157]
The reliability of the electricity system.....	41	19	25	15	[159]

4. I am going to list some actions Maryland could take as it switches off coal as an energy source. For each of these actions, please tell me whether you think it is very important, pretty important, just somewhat important, or not that important.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY VERY OR PRETTY IMPORTANT

	Total Very/ Pretty Important	<u>Very Important</u>	<u>Pretty Important</u>	<u>Just Somewhat Important</u>	<u>Not That Important</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>	
Providing paid job training and healthcare to workers who lose their jobs when coal power plants are phased out.....	83	69	14	10	3	4	[160]
Ensuring that local residents and workers have a say in which areas they receive assistance, in the development of transition plans, and in deciding how funds are used to support communities where coal power plants are being phased out	75	55	20	16	5	4	[162]
Providing additional state funding to communities where coal power plants are being phased out in order to make up for the tax revenue those communities are losing	72	47	25	17	6	5	[161]
Providing incentives for developing clean energy in places where coal power plants are being phased out, such as tax incentives for solar and wind companies to come to Maryland **	71	51	20	16	10	3	[167]
Renovate and re-use coal plants for more sustainable uses *	60	39	21	23	10	7	[163]

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS A/B/C).

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORMS D/E/F).

5. If an elected official SUPPORTED this proposal to move Maryland off of coal as an energy source and provide assistance to affected workers and communities, would this make you feel more favorable or less favorable toward that elected official, or would it not affect your opinion either way?

More favorable.....	57	[168]
Less favorable	11	
No difference either way	26	
Not sure.....	6	

6. Maryland has six remaining coal power plants whose production of electricity has decreased in recent years as renewable energy has been used more. As of right now there is not a specific schedule for phasing out these coal power plants. Would you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose setting a schedule for when coal power plants should close?

Strongly favor	37	[169]
Somewhat favor.....	32	
Somewhat oppose.....	10	
Strongly oppose.....	11	
Not sure.....	10	
Total Favor	69	
Total Oppose	21	

7. Now I am going to list some sources of energy that Maryland could use to replace its use of coal power plants. For each please tell me whether you would feel very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable toward Maryland using that energy source to replace its use of coal?

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY VERY OR SOMEWHAT FAVORABLE

	Total Fav	Total Unfav	Very Fav	Some-what Fav	Some-what Unfav	Very Unfav	Not Sure	
Solar	86	10	62	24	5	5	4	[170]
Wind +++	86	9	57	29	4	5	5	[208]
Land-based wind ++	80	15	46	34	7	8	5	[177]
Offshore wind +.....	76	15	43	33	8	7	9	[173]
Natural gas from fracking.....	37	52	16	21	22	30	11	[171]
Buying electricity from other states that still use fossil fuels, including coal, oil, and natural gas from fracking to generate electricity	32	64	12	20	25	39	4	[172]

+ Asked of one-third the respondents (FORMS A/D).
 ++ Asked of one-third the respondents (FORMS B/E).
 +++ Asked of one-third the respondents (FORMS C/F).

8. As you may know, there is a process for drilling for natural gas that is called fracking. Fracking is not allowed in Maryland, but Maryland could purchase fracked gas from other states as we move off of coal for electricity. Would you prefer that Maryland use only renewable energy sources to replace coal or that Maryland use renewable energy sources AND fracked gas bought from other states to replace coal?

(IF RESPONDENT SAYS "NOT SURE," ASK:) Well, if you had to choose, which way do you lean?

Prefer that Maryland use only renewable energy sources to replace coal	64	[211]
Prefer that Maryland use only renewable energy sources to replace coal (lean)	3	
Prefer that Maryland use renewable energy sources AND fracked gas bought from other states to replace coal	26	
Prefer that Maryland use renewable energy sources AND fracked gas bought from other states to replace coal (lean)	1	
Not sure	6	
Total Use Only Renewable Energy Sources	67	
Total Use Renewable Energy Sources AND Fracked Gas	27	

FACTUALS: Now I am going to ask you a question for statistical purposes only.

F1. What is the last grade that you completed in school?

Grade school.....	-	[221-222]
Some high school.....	2	
High school graduate	21	
Some college, no degree	17	
Vocational training/2-year college	8	
4-year college/bachelor's degree	24	
Some postgraduate work, no degree	3	
2 or 3 years' postgraduate work/master's degree.....	17	
Doctoral/law degree	4	
Not sure/refused.....	4	

F2. Is anyone in your household a current or retired member of a labor union?

Yes	13	[223]
No.....	84	
Not sure.....	3	

PARTY REGISTRATION FROM VOTER FILE

Democratic	55	[236]
Republican.....	25	
No party affiliation.....	19	
Other	1	