

ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
c/o Department of Environmental Services
2100 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 705
Arlington, VA 22201
May 28, 2013

Mr. Walter Tejada, Chair
Arlington County Board
2100 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 300
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Chairman Tejada:

The Arlington County Environment and Energy Conservation Commission (E2C2) wholeheartedly urges the Board's approval of both the Community Energy Plan (CEP) and the accompanying CEP Implementation Framework. These two documents present a clear path for reducing our community's vulnerabilities associated with its current use of energy. The CEP provides a well thought-out roadmap – based on over three years of substantial Arlington citizen and business leader input – that fills a critical void in our current Comprehensive Plan and complements other aspects of the Comprehensive Plan, such as transportation planning. The CEP addresses every major use of energy: non-residential building, residential buildings, transportation, and County uses. The solutions proposed have been implemented elsewhere with cost savings and would be transformational at the County level.

By approving the CEP and incorporating it into the County's Comprehensive Plan, you will be establishing yourselves as visionary leaders who charted a bold, balanced, cost-effective, and very achievable path representing Arlington citizens' wishes that will provide benefits with each step of its implementation for years to come. Benefits of the CEP include, but are not limited to greater energy security, improved public transportation, cleaner air, lowered more manageable, stable business costs, and improved quality of life. We anticipate these benefits will spur economic development and attract new businesses associated with the energy sector, providing additional jobs in the County.

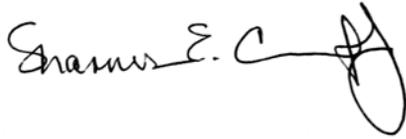
Conversely, failing to implement an energy plan will mean that Arlington's citizens and businesses remain vulnerable to energy supply price shocks and energy supply interruptions, our roads will become more crowded with gasoline-consuming cars, and our buildings much more expensive to operate, while failing to address sustainability and climate change issues.

E2C2 desires a clear role and mandate to work with the Board and County staff to implement the CEP. We believe the County should find a way to leverage the Commission's considerable technical and policy expertise while finding additional means of ensuring broad community engagement and ownership of the Community Energy Plan and its Implementation Framework. E2C2 can assist implementation of the CEP by:

- identifying policy needs at the State and local level
- participating in energy project development to align projects with County goals
- developing capital markets funding options
- conducting other project reviews to maximize consistency with the CEP
- aiding progress tracking to ensure desired outcomes are met

We stand ready to help!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shannon E. Cunniff". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "S" and "C".

Shannon E. Cunniff
Chair