

Attachment C: Information about Virtual Power Plant (VPP) pilots under development in Maryland

What is a Virtual Power Plant?

A Virtual Power Plant (“VPP”) is a group of home energy devices that work together to support the electric grid. These devices can include home batteries, electric vehicles, and other technologies that can vary when they use or discharge electricity. Instead of one large power plant, a VPP brings together many smaller energy resources discharging energy in unison.

Is there a VPP initiative in Maryland?

VPP programs are under development, but not yet open for enrollment. Maryland electric utilities in some service territories are designing VPP pilot programs that may allow customers with eligible home batteries and other devices to participate. When the grid needs additional support, a participating battery may be asked to provide power to the home, reduce the amount of electricity it takes from the grid, or send electricity to the grid. The exact rules will depend on your service area utility’s VPP program.

MEA may reach out to prior Residential and Commercial Energy Storage program participants to communicate when VPP programs become available in Maryland.

Why participate?

Participating in a VPP can provide benefits to both you and the electric grid. **Customers may receive compensation for allowing their battery to provide valuable grid services, depending on your service area utility.** VPP participation can also help make better use of existing electric grid infrastructure and support Maryland’s transition to a cleaner energy system.

Grid connected does not mean automatically enrolled in a VPP

Your battery must meet the requirements of the utility's program, and you must choose to participate. Before enrolling, make sure you understand how often your battery may be used, how you will be compensated, and how participation could affect the amount of energy available for backup power during an outage.

Learn more about VPP activities in Maryland at <https://psc.maryland.gov/news/2026/psc-advances-virtual-power-plants-and-grid-modernization/>.