

# FALSE SOLUTIONS IN DELAWARE

**False solutions:** Market-driven or sector-specific climate mitigation approaches and specific fuels or energy sources that do not address the root or structural causes of climate change and environmental injustice.

The presence of false solutions is evident in climate mitigation and energy policies in Delaware. Examples include the inclusion of dirty energy sources in its Renewable Portfolio Standard and incentives for the production of renewable natural gas from poultry waste. While there have been significant barriers to more ambitious renewable energy investments led by traditional utilities, in January 2022, Delaware Electric Coop announced a plan to purchase power from seven new utility-scale solar farms in 2024. In addition, a cumulative health impacts proposal would consider existing environmental impacts and social vulnerability in areas of proposed plants.

## Delaware False Solutions Policies and Projects

Name	Description	False Solution
Climate Action Plan (2020)	Plan for greenhouse gas mitigation and climate adaptation measures. Mitigation strategies include expanding clean and renewable energy, energy efficiency measures, transition to EVs, reducing non CO <sub>2</sub> GHGs, and forest-based carbon offsets.	Carbon offsets, net-zero buildings, renewable natural gas, biomass, hydropower
Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS)	Adopted state by state, the RPS requires that a specific portion of utility-sold electricity comes from 'renewable' resources. Fuels considered renewable vary from state to state.  Delaware's RPS includes false solutions such as biomass, hydroelectric, and anaerobic digestion.	Biomass, fuel cells using non-renewable fuels, landfill gas, and anaerobic digestion
Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)	A regional cap and trade program that establishes a price on power plants' greenhouse gas emissions and market-based mechanism for trading allowances in the electricity-generating sector.	Cap and trade
BioEnergy Devco Renewable Natural Gas Plant	A proposed \$60 million anaerobic digestion system to convert poultry waste to RNG. The company acquired the facility through a \$7 million deal with Perdue Farms.	Renewable natural gas
CleanBay Renewables Renewable Natural Gas Plant	A proposed RNG plant with a 15-year agreement with BP to sell the RNG	Renewable natural gas
Tree for Every Delawarean Initiative (TEDI)/1 Trillion Trees Initiative (1t)	Pledge that supports the 1 Trillion Trees initiative's global goal to conserve, restore, and grow one trillion trees by 2030 globally	Tree planting and conservation / carbon offsets

