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Farmworker Support Network \* Clean Yield Asset Management \* Comfort International \* Community  
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The Green Mountain Maple Sugar Refining Company \* Trillium Digital Marketing \* Trillium Hill Farm  
Troy Mills Hydroelectric \* Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility \* Vermont Creamery  
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VHB \* Village Square Booksellers \* VSECU \* Wally's Place \* Waste Free Earth \* Waterbury LEAP  
Watson Research \* WEG Electric Corp

Dear State Officials,

As members of the business community that drive Vermont's economy, we write to express our strong support for requiring 100% renewable energy by 2030. Climate change presents the greatest threat to the people, environment, and businesses of Vermont. Immediate action is necessary and also offers the greatest sustainable economic opportunity in history. As we move to decarbonize heating and transportation in Vermont, we must expand our reliance on clean, local renewable energy in order to fully realize the

opportunities of a modern and resilient climate economy.

**To fully address the realities of the climate crisis, Vermont needs a resilient, reliable, and renewable local energy system. We embrace a 100% renewable energy standard that supports significant expansion of renewable projects built in Vermont by Vermonters.**

A fully transformed clean energy economy offers tremendous opportunity for entrepreneurship, agriculture, good-paying jobs and improved equity. Billions of dollars are currently paid to foreign and other out-of-state sources to import dirty fossil fuels. Those dollars should remain in the local economy where they will put Vermonters to work, lower energy costs long term, and generate prosperity for the state.

Thousands of schools, towns, businesses, non-profits, and homeowners now benefit from investing in their own renewable energy thanks to net metering. Many of us are renewable energy customers who have chosen to make an investment in a more resilient and energy-independent future for Vermont. Many of us are part of the expanding renewable energy supply chain in Vermont that includes manufacturers, contractors, and other value-added businesses who benefit from a robust clean energy sector in Vermont.

Unfortunately, at a time when many other states are implementing 100% clean energy standards, Vermont's laws have failed to keep pace, putting our state and our companies at a competitive disadvantage. The current Renewable Energy Standard unintentionally inhibits local economic and climate progress by limiting local (in-state) renewable energy generation to just 10% of Vermont's needs. We must do better.

We ask you to enact a 100% Renewable Energy Standard in order to grow Vermont's economy, cut climate pollution, and ensure that Vermont meets its commitments. Bold legislative action is needed this year to build an equitable and prosperous future for all Vermonters. Only through improving the integrity, transparency, and effectiveness of Vermont's Renewable Energy Standard can we create the resilient energy system that our businesses and communities need.

Sincerely,

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