



2023 RES Reform Bill Overview

The priority is to fix the fundamental flaw in Vermont's 2015 Renewable Energy Standard by bringing sufficient new renewables online to help Vermont get to a 100% renewable energy future and to help Vermont meet its greenhouse gas reduction goals.

This can be done by:

- Replacing the current renewable energy purchasing requirement with one capping energy purchases from existing renewable sources at 40% by 2035
- Increasing the existing 10% in state renewables purchasing requirement to 20% by 2030 and 30% by 2035
- Create a new "new renewable energy" purchasing requirement of 30% new renewables of any size from within New England by 2035.

In addition, RES reform needs to include:

1. Ending the use of unbundled RECs from older vintage out-of-state large hydro to align Vermont with the RPS' of other New England states
2. Phasing out REC eligibility of electricity generation that is harmful to human health or produces greenhouse gases
3. Ensuring the PUC regularly consults with the Environmental Justice Advisory Council and Interagency Environmental Justice Committee established by Vermont's Environmental Justice Law in designing Vermont's renewable energy programs.
4. Creating new procurement programs to ensure Vermont can affordably meet its Tier 2 goals: a change to net metering to be on-site, creating a feed-in tariff for all non-net metered projects up to 1.5MW, and a Standard Offer style reverse auction for projects from 1.5 MW – 5 MW
5. Clarify the aesthetic criteria used in the Section 248 Certificate of Public good process to ensure predictable and timely approval of renewable energy projects
6. Direct the PUC to develop rules that guide and support the development of community solar