



2023 RES Reform Bill Overview

[H.320](#) would reduce greenhouse gas emissions throughout Vermont and the rest of New England because it fixes the fundamental flaw in the 2015 Renewable Energy Standard by bringing sufficient new renewables online while getting Vermont to a 100% renewable energy future.

H.320 creates three “buckets” of required renewable energy purchases:

- Capping energy purchases from existing renewable sources at 40% by 2035 to replace the current “Tier 1” renewable energy purchasing requirement
- Increasing the existing 10% in state renewables purchasing requirement to 20% by 2030 and 30% by 2035
- Creating a new “new renewable energy” purchasing requirement of 30% new renewables of any size from within New England by 2035

In addition, H.320 will:

1. End the use of unbundled renewable energy credits from older vintage out-of-state large hydro to align Vermont with the renewable portfolio standards of other New England states
2. Create strict new air quality standards for any new biomass electricity facilities in Vermont
3. Ensure 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. Direct the PUC to create new procurement programs to ensure Vermont can affordably meet its in-state renewable energy goals:
 - change net metering to be on-site only;
 - create a feed-in tariff for all non-net metered projects up to 1.5MW; and
 - and create a standard offer style reverse auction for projects 1.5MW-5MW
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